

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – February 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Helgemo called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with Supervisor Helgemo; Clerk Moncivais, Treasurer Franzene, Trustees Bobnock and Wodzinski present. Also in attendance were Sewer/Water Dept Konoske (Benson not required to be there); Assessor Nelson, ZA Stowell; Attorney Atanasoff; Jon Oberlin, ZBA; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC; Marian Volek –The Reporter; Residents. Constable Demboski and Commissioner Wills were absent.

ATTENDEES

Bobnock moved to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2010 regular meeting. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of January was submitted. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 47,444.78
Sewer Fund:	\$ 89,169.70
Water Fund:	\$ 291,713.22
Road Fund:	\$ 145,946.44
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

GUEST COMMENTS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Rogers Blacktop Road – Nothing new to report.

West Iron County Middle School – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Authority has met with UP Engineers about a feasibility study of the school. You must have this done to get any kind of grant money. It is agreed that the building must be filled with tenants quickly. Global North is still a possibility.

WIC MIDDLE AUTHORITY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell stated that he issued no permits and no violation letters in January. He received a copy of the site plan from the Federal Aviation Administration on the existing tower located in Bates. Clerk Moncivais has a copy of the monthly report on file.

Lift Station Projects – There was much Board discussion about the sewer system that is approx. 30 years old. Supervisor Helgemo stated that estimates show that replacing all pumps, valve, ball checks, piping and having help with installation the project could run approximately \$180,000. The Board in years past had explored another project that would bring the sewer system to the corner of US 2 and Bates Amasa Rd. However it would not be cost effective at this time for a \$750,000 project. The Board is trying to avoid any rate hikes to users. A motion was made by Bobnock to go forward with the process of exploring the cost of engineering and available grant money sources for a project of approximately \$180,000. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

LIFT STATION PROJECT

Road Renewal Millage - The Board approved the ballot language in January. Clerk Moncivais will make sure that County Clerk Luhtanen has everything she needs to go forward with the ballots. Clerk Moncivais will work on a newsletter to send to residents about the accomplishments since this road millage came into effect and let residents know that this is not a new millage but a renewal.

2 MILS ROAD RENEWAL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONT'D)

Rural Development – Supervisor Helgemo stated that Brenda Stevenson from RD would like a withdrawal request from the township for the pre engineering project from last year.

Parks Farm Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo talked with Doug Tomasoski and he is aware of the problem on Parks Farm Rd. He wouldn't make any promises but they will try to do something about the poor condition of that 2 mile stretch this year.

PARKS FARM
ROAD

Bates School – It appears that WIC Schools will be facing some additional budget cuts this year. It appears that part of the plan is to close the Bates School. Supervisor Helgemo stated that the township will have to be prepared because it's possible we may get it back. The Board would like it back as it appears that it was always supposed to revert back to Bates Township if it was no longer to be used for a school.

BATES
SCHOOL

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff received a letter from Michelle Halley the Attorney representing the Perch Lake Owners Assn. She was seeking a letter from Bates Township joining in the opposition of the mining near Perch Lake. Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Board has already done on record opposing mining in that area from the start. Helgemo stated that he believes the Board's position is that we're not opposed to mining but the Board is opposed to mining in that specific area. He also stated that the Board will address each area as it comes individually. / In another matter ZB Chairman Don Autio has found more corrections necessary for the Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Board will look at it then it will come to the Board for final approval, and then be published. Autio met with Bldg Codes Anderson who told him that over 120' must have a bldg permit. In a prior meeting the Board said we would follow the states standard. / Preliminary work will begin to change over from a Zoning Board to a Planning Commission.

Water main Break – There was a 4" main break on Sunset Lake Rd. With the recent work needed on this and the lift station the Board told the two employees each get a good pair of hip boots. The hip boots will be township property and will hang in the shop when not in use.

WATERMAIN
BREAK

Save A Heart AED Donation Request – A motion was made by Wodzinski to donate \$500 to Save A Heart towards the purchase price balance of the 17 new defibrillators. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. The City of Iron River is getting a grant for 55% of the purchase price.

AED
DONATION

Zoning Board / Planning Commission – Supervisor Helgemo stated that before July 1, 2011 the Zoning Board will have to become a Planning Commission. Clerk Moncivais provided a sample of the Ordinance to establish a New Planning Commission and Transfer Zoning Authority. The ordinance should be modified to suit our township's need. It will be passed, published and take effect after 60 days. Although no specific action was taken Helgemo will get a copy to ZB Chairman Autio to review. The Board hopes to take action on this during 2010.

PLANNING
COMM.

Iron County EDC – The Board had originally approved this payment on June 11, 2008. The invoice was just received so payment will be made.

ICEDC
SUPPORT

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

BOR Dates – Per Assessor Nelson the Organizational Mtg will be Tuesday March 2nd @ 9am. Public Review Meetings will be Monday March 8 from 10am-12noon and 1pm to 5pm. Also, Tuesday March 9 from 2pm to 5pm and 6pm to 9pm. Clerk Moncivais will have the dates published.

Budget Hearing – Just a reminder that the Budget Hearing will be at 5:30 at the township hall Wednesday March 10, 2010.

Summer Help – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he wasn't sure if there would be any workers from the Michigan Job Works program this year but we can look into it. It's a good way to free up Konoske/Benson to get other work done.

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Water - There was another break on US2 to Andreski Plat. It is the 4th one this year. We can't keep repairing the breaks. Attorney Atanasoff suggested getting notice to those residents that would be affected by the waterline abandonment. Former Supervisor Schmidt reminded the Board that in the past we gave 2 years notice. Action was tabled until next month. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

- Basement Buddies Donation Request – Not a community request. No action taken.

INVOICE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Bobnock to pay the township invoices. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Wodzinski. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – March 10, 2010 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____