

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – June 9, 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; Zoning Administrator Stowell; Marian Volek – The Reporter; Attorney Atanasoff; Residents. Constable Demboski and Commissioner Wills were absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2010 regular meeting. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 130,343.80
Sewer Fund:	\$ 94,093.05
Water Fund:	\$ 258,449.31
Road Fund:	\$ 192,082.54
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

GUEST COMMENTS

US 2 Waterline Leaks – Residents came to voice their concerns. Supervisor Helgemo stated that the township usually gives 2 years free water when a line is to be abandoned so that Residents are given time to save up and install a well. The township doesn’t know if it can wait two years because there were already 6 breaks that past winter. There was much discussion about the situation. All residents affected were concerned because they are not in a financial position to put in wells. There was discussion about a community well. Schmidt asked about including the line in the upcoming water project, however Helgemo stated that the cost would be about \$165,000 for 2700’ and was just not possible. Jeff Bal from AECOM suggested that the residents look into Rural Development loans specifically for this purpose. No action was taken. The township just wanted the Residents to be aware that there is a problem that needed to be addressed.

US 2
WATERLINE
ABANDONMT

Invasive Water Species – Resident Golas mentioned that there would be a meeting in Watersmeet on June 21 to discuss the problem.

INVASIVE
SPECIES

Sunset Lake – A resident from Sunset Lake voiced concerns and presented a letter of complaint along with photos about the unsightly shoreline/boundary line of another resident. ZA Stowell assessed the situation and the debris is really a beached “dock.” Although the township really has no jurisdiction over this matter the township will write a letter to the Resident to ask if they would please do something to clean up the area a little bit. It was also mentioned that the same Resident has some trees that are over growing the property boundary lines and could become dangerous.

SUNSET
LAKE
COMPLAINT

Rogers Location Alley Abandonment – Resident Fritsche asked the township if they would consider abandoning the alleyway between him and Lewis’s. There was some discussion about abandoning two other portions of alleyways between 1st and 2nd Street. A motion was made Wodzinski for the township to write a letter to all Rogers Location residents to inform them of the possible alley abandonment and maybe a meeting to discuss the issue. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

ROGERS
LOCATION
ALLEY
ABANDNMT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Proposed Water Project – UPEA was on hand to review the details of the proposed water project. They stated that the township should get a letter of obligated funds or eligibility by mid July. They stated that the application has more project than budget. This way there are deductive alternatives if bidding climate is very competitive.

PROPOSED
WATER
PROJECT

West Iron County Middle School – A Rec Authority is being formed and they will try to get a ½ mil to support the gym, first floor and auditorium. A motion was made by Moncivais to appoint Helgemo as the representative on the Rec Authority from Bates Twp. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

REC
AUTHORITY

Sewer Lift Station Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the financing is in order. The parts should arrive sometime in July.

SEWER LIFT
STATION
PROJECT

Blacktop Projects – Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo outlined the upcoming projects. He stated that dust control was done and cost \$9467.

BLACKTOP
PROJECT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell stated that he issued 3 permits. He attended 2 zoning schools and 2 zoning meetings. 1 garage permit was denied and there were no zoning ordinance violations issued. Clerk Moncivais has a copy of the monthly report on file.

ZONING
UPDATE

Bates Township Sign – Clerk Moncivais the sign is being worked on. Nothing new to report at this time.

BATES
TOWNSHIP
SIGN

St Germain Blasting – The inspection was done and there were several recommendations. The immediate recommendations were for exterior maintenance. A motion was made by Franzene to get the work done this year at a cost of \$3800. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

TANK
INSPECTION

Summer Youth Workers – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the township is also getting 2 Michigan Works summer youth workers. There is plenty of work and projects. There was some discussion about maybe putting a youth worker at the boat wash for a few peak hours on weekends.

SUMMER
YOUTH
WORKERS

Zoning Ordinance – A motion was made by Franzene to adopt the Zoning Ordinance with the new and corrected language. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Attorney Atanasoff will email a summary to the Reporter for publishing. The changes will go into effect 30 days from publication.

ZONING
ORDINANCE
CORREC-
TIONS

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Supervisor Helgemo had a conversation with Mike Henschel of VFW 3134. Attorney Atanasoff also did some research and there is a statutory obligation for the cemetery to have veteran markers/flags at the grave sites. Clerk Moncivais stated that it would be around \$5000. There was some discussion that maybe this could be an Eagle Scout project. There are 87 veterans in the Bates Cemetery. Action tabled until the next meeting.

BATES
CEMETERY
VETERANS

Iron County Fair Book Ad – A motion was made by Moncivais to do the ad for \$85 to help support the event. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

IRON CTY
FAIR BOOK
AD

NEW BUSINESS (CONT'D)

Summer Tax Collection – A motion was made by Moncivais to have Treasurer Franzene collect summer taxes on behalf of Bates Township for the schools. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SUMMER TAX
COLLECTION

Iron River Twp Waterline – A motion was made by Wodzinski to have Bates Twp send a letter to Iron River Twp resident Sprinkles and Iron River Twp that we'll be happy to work with them but we are going to abandon the line that goes to the Sprinkle residence. This is Iron River Twp's jurisdiction. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

IRON RIVER
TWP
WATERLINE
ABANDONMENT

Senior Centers – A motion was made by Bobnock to send a letter to the Iron County Board of Commissioners stating that Bates Twp feels that our millages portion should go to support the Iron River Senior Center. We do not feel that our residents will go to Alpha or Crystal Falls. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

IRON RIVER
SENIOR CENTER

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Water – Konoske stated that about 1/2 of the connections are done on Kofmehl Rd for the Stambaugh Twp residents that will be hooked up to Bates water. Konoske also stated that it is possible that a PRV isn't working properly. Jeff Ball offered that there is a potential problem. There was some discussion about parts. No action taken. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the DNRE mandated playground improvements are just about completed. Park Host Elmo stated that it is a challenge to get some people to wash their boats. Supervisor Helgemo stated that he caught someone going directly to the water and made them go back and wash their boat. Helgemo told Elmo that he doesn't want his to have any physical confrontations. Franzene suggested that he write down dates and time of violators. Resident Golas stated that other lakes have complained about the same individual violator. Perhaps the situation will be corrected. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

- ICRC Blacktop Contracts were received and signed by the Board.

INVOICE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Franzene 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 7:56 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – July 14, 2010 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____