

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – January 12, 2011 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 Wodzinski and Bobnock were present. Also in attendance were ZA Stowell; Assessor Nelson; W/S Dept Konoske (Benson not required to be there); Attorney Atanasoff; Residents. Constable Demboski and Commissioner Wills were absent.

ATTENDEES

Attorney Atanasoff stated that he wanted to correct what he said to the Board at the last meeting. The cemetery or private burial ground must be a “maximum” of 1 acre and not a “minimum” that he had told the board. Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2010 regular meeting with Clerk Moncivais making a correction to Atanasoff’s statement. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 87,222.52
Sewer Fund:	\$ 75,729.76
Water Fund:	\$ 251,783.02
Road Fund:	\$ 148,387.47
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

GUEST COMMENTS

Parks Farm Road – Wayne Koski was present. He stated that the Bates Township portion of the road is in terrible shape and he wants to know who is responsible for it. It’s only getting worse and he’s wondering what will be done. Supervisor Helgemo stated that it’s the county’s responsibility to rebuild the road. Bates can try to do dust control again this year.

PARKS FARM ROAD

SPECIAL PROJECTS

WIC Rec Authority Millage Language – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Rec Authority is asking for another vote. He stated that recreation is a big part of the programs for the adults and summer youth. The money will go to the rec committee for programs and not the building. The programs that are currently available have a nominal cost. There were a couple of errors published in The Reporter. The EDC is still fully supporting the Windsor Center. The millage that is being requested is NOT \$50/\$1000. Some of the public comments are that the center needs better signage. There is a banner coming soon that advertises office/retail space for lease. Community support is needed in order to get grants. Helgemo stated that this is a good positive thing for the community. Resident Jim Stolberg said that these things need to stop falling on the local tax payers shoulders. He agreed though that the success of the building can’t be done overnight and it will take time. A motion was made by Bobnock to adopt the resolution for the millage request to be placed on the upcoming ballot. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

WINDSOR CENTER

Sewer Lift Station Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated that there were some stands needed to complete the project. A motion was made by Wodzinski to have Raymond Metal make the stands at a cost of \$840. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SEWER LIFT STATIONS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Water Project – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he doesn't think the project will go forward. The interest rates have already been raised, he learned that it was probably not a good idea to bid out the engineering; the township would probably have to raise water rates which the Board does not want to do. He stated that everything has been done as far as paperwork. We'll just wait to hear the terms. If the USDA terms aren't acceptable we won't go forward. The application will be good for 2 years.

WATER PROJECT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell stated that he issued 0 permits and 0 violations for December. He submitted his 2010 year end report which was 30 Zoning Permits issued, 10 Violations were issued, 20 revisits on old violations and 1 private cemetery lot. Clerk Monicvais will keep a copy of the reports are on file.

ZONING UPDATE

Passamani Rd Waterline – The three homes that would be affected by the abandonment of the line were present at the meeting. There was an exchange of information. Some options were that they could do their own wells, share a well or possibly run their own line to hook up into the township line. It is no longer cost effective for the township to service the line. The township recently had to fix approximately 5 leaks on that portion of line. The residents agreed to explore their options and the issue is tabled until the next board meeting with no official abandonment announced yet.

PASSAMANI RD WATERLINE

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff only had the correction to the information that he had given the Board last month regarding private cemetery acreage requirements. They must be a maximum of 1 acre and not a minimum as he had stated.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Planning Commission Compensation Terms – Compensation terms will be tabled until after the Boards budget workshop. Supervisor Helgemo wanted to clarify the remaining time left on the terms of the members currently serving on the various boards. Planning Commission is: Gasperini-2 yr; Barry-1 yr; Kniivila-2 yr; Oberlin-3 yr; Basso-3 yr. Zoning Board of Appeals is: Oberlin-3 yr; Pozniak-2 yr; Holm-1 yr; Linna-2 yr.

PLANNING COMM. TERMS

Zoning Board of Appeals Member Change - Clerk Moncivais will place an ad for a new Zoning Board of Appeals member that will have a 3 year term. Deadline for the applications will be February 8th at 5PM.

CALL FOR ZBA MEMBER

Board Members Budget Workshop Date – The Board will have its workshop on Wednesday, February 16th at 4:30PM.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Board Salary Resolutions – Clerk Moncivais asked to start the discussion. She stated that she loves this job. She is proud of all the Board's over the past 10 years since she first started when Bob Nelson was the Supervisor. She stated that each Board has worked hard for the township. Sometimes throughout the years the Board took a raise and sometimes not. She stated that with the economy the way it was and everybody is having tough times. She doesn't want a raise. Franzene agreed – no raise for her this year either. Wodzinski said that he was fine. Bobnock said that he was fine too. Helgemo stated that he agreed. People are really struggling and times are hard. He didn't want a raise either. We're all in this together.

BOARD SALARY RESOLUTION

WUPPDR – A motion was made by Moncivais to support the Heritage Trail - US 2 corridor up Hwy 141 as a recognized landmark. For tourism purposes this will make the route eligible for grants as a Michigan scenic route. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

WUPPDR

Wells Fargo – A representative made a presentation to Treasurer Franzene about doing automatic withdrawals from customer's accounts for utility bill payments. The Board took no action and does not wish to participate at this time in such a program because the township would have to pass on the extra fees/costs to the residents. A motion was made by Helgemo to not implement this program at this time. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

WELLS
FARGO BANK
W/DRAWALS

Board of Review Seminar – A motion was made by Moncivais to pay the expenses of the BOR members that would want to attend. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Monicvais, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BOR
SEMINAR

Bates Township Rec Committee – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the draft is ready. He went to the county board meeting to see if they would be interested in a collaborative project with the township in regards to the Paint River lots. Helgemo stated that he would hate to see them sold off. Maybe there could be a primitive campground there. Wodzinski stated that he would object to noise, garbage, and unruly campers. Helgemo said that the county said to bring ideas to them.

BATES REC
COMMITTEE

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Water – Nothing new to report. / Sewer – Supervisor Helgemo stated that Gendzwill is going to clean out some of the hardwoods around the lagoon. The township will receive a small return on this. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – The park is now closed and winterized. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – February 9, 2011 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____