

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – June 8, 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 present. Also in attendance were Water/Sewer Konoske (Benson not required to attend); ZBA Stowell; Constable Demboski; Attorney Atanasoff; Residents. Commissioner Wills was absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2011 regular meeting. Supported by Bobnock. 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:	\$ 160,309.05
Sewer Fund:	\$ 60,490.21
Water Fund:	\$ 240,860.56
Road Fund:	\$ 143,076.50
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

GUEST COMMENTS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Blacktop Project - Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Chicagon Mine Rd project is done except for the shouldering. The estimate came in around \$20,000 lower than expected. Also the ICRC admin fee may be reduced to a flat fee. The back Township hall parking lot will be done around the 17th. The Township received a very nice complimentary thank you email from a resident on Wildwood Lake stating that the Board had done a great job on a limited budget making great infrastructure improvements and that the blacktopping jobs were great. (Clerk has a copy of the email on file.)

BLACKTOP PROJECT

Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Dust Control would be done next week. Franzene and Bobnock asked if Parks Farm Rd would be included. Helgemo also mentioned that for many years Bates Township has put dust control down on Andreski Plat Rd in areas that were not Bates Township. This year we won’t be doing that. Those residents may want to contact their municipalities about handling that.

DUST CONTROL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell stated that he issued 2 permits and there were no violations. He stated that the horse violation from last year has been taken care of. The horses have been moved and there is a garden in their place. Also a mobile home on Bates Amasa Road has finally been moved out. Clerk Moncivais will keep a copy of the reports are on file.

ZONING UPDATE

Township Hall Maintenance – There were bids received for both the hall flooring and the hall roof projects. After some discussion due to budgetary constraints a motion was made by Wodzinski to return the sealed bids to the respective bidders with a letter stating that the township had decided to put the projects off until maybe next year. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

HALL MAINTENANCE BIDS

General Operations Millage Renewal – The Board determined that they will put the renewal request on the November ballot. A motion was made by Franzene to table any further approval of the ballot language until the next meeting. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MILLAGE
RENEWAL

MERS – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he and Clerk Moncivais have a meeting on June 21st with a MERS representative to see what the townships options are with regard to withdrawing from their program. He wanted to make it clear that it would have no effect on employee Konoske's benefits. It's just that Mr. Konoske will be retiring and whatever action the township might take affecting the future with regards to new hires must be taken now.

MERS

Sunset Lake Boat Wash – Supervisor Helgemo stated that this has been the worst year so far for getting people to comply with the boat wash rules at the park. Park Host Elmo concurred. Elmo spoke with DNR Wicklund and Helgemo spoke with DNR Paiter. Helgemo did talk with Tom Kniivila of the Sunset Lake Assn to see what they could do about volunteering to enforce the boat wash rule. Trustee Wodzinski stated that the township can do its best but they can't be there 24 hours. The township has worked diligently to enforce this rule to help preserve the lake but ultimately it is the home owners around the lake who benefit and should participate in the protection of the lake. No action taken. Tabled until the next meeting.

SUNSET
LAKE
BOAT WASH

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff stated that he had a request from the Planning Commission to do a little research on long range plan formats. Helgemo stated that he doesn't want to put money into that. He asked Clerk Moncivais to see what type of format information the township already has available. Also he noted that the MTA has lots of free information that the Planning Commission could retrieve them.

Cemetery/Veteran Memorial Project – Buzzy Stoychoff was present and stated that he had been working on and researching a Veterans Memorial for the cemetery for a few years now. He was wondering why he wasn't mentioned on Memorial Day. Clerk Moncivais apologized that she neglected to mention his name to the crowd at the Memorial Day Ceremony this year as a contributor. Since Austin Atanasoff is working on this as his Eagle Scout project it was decided that Mr. Stoychoff, Austin, Mike Henschel and Supervisor Helgemo will have a meeting to plan the project. Stoychoff has done a lot of research and will have a wealth of knowledge to contribute.

CEMETERY
VETERANS
MEMORIAL

Cemetery/Veteran Memorial Project – It was noted that the township had received a monetary donation for the project and that many others had expressed an interest in donating. As part of his Eagle Scout project Austin will do a newsletter for Treasurer Franzene to include in the tax billings requesting donations. All donations will be run through the township's general fund with a special earmark for this project only.

VETERANS
MEMORIAL
DONATIONS

Summer Tax Collections - A motion was made by Wodzinski to have Treasurer Franzene collect summer taxes for the schools on behalf of Bates Township at the same fee that she has been paid for this duty the past several years. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried

SUMMER TA)
COLLECTION

Flag Donation – The Township received a flag donation from the family of Sgt. Alfred Martinson, US Army Air Corps 1944-1946. The family's wishes were that the township flies the flag on occasion as needed. (The flag was donated in a wooden flag box.) Supervisor Helgemo stated that Clerk Moncivais had a good idea with suggesting that some type of display case be put on the wall in the township hall for such items. He also has a photo to donate. Moncivais will research the cost of a case. Tabled until next meeting.

VETERAN
FLAG
DONATION

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Bates School – Supervisor Helgemo stated that there is a real possibility now that the School will eventually come back to Bates Township. The school Board has decided to take the 5th & 6th grades out this year but they will keep the building one more year and try to rent a few more of the rooms. The biggest obstacle is the roof because the school board had received a \$150,000 grant to repair the roof but the grant money was used at the schools in old Stambaugh. Franzene stated that there would not be a problem filling it. It is more user friendly than the Windsor Center. Helgemo stated that the Windsor Rec Authority has their hands full and they wouldn't take on another building. Something for the Bates Board to think about. No action taken.

BATES
SCHOOL

Kofmehl Road Speed Limit – Resident Glenn Lunn turned in a petition to Supervisor Helgemo. Supervisor Helgemo reminded the public that the township cannot enforce the speed limit. A review of some of the signatures may indicate that some residents are Stambaugh Twp residents. A motion was made by Franzene pass a resolution of support of the resident's concerns and the enforcement of the speed limit. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried. Clerk Moncivais will to a letter to the Michigan State Police and the Iron County Sheriff's Dept and pass along copies of the petition.

KOFMEHL
ROAD SPEED
LIMIT

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Water – Konoske stated that next year the board may want to consider a new roof on the Chicagon Mine well house. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – July 13, 2011 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____