

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – December 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

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

Roll call was taken with Supervisor Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene and Bobnock were present. Also in attendance were Water/Sewer Superintendent Benson was called out on a local fire; ZA Oberlin; Larry Nelson-PC; Mike Golas-Sunset Lk Assn; Jim Stolberg-WICFD; Atty Atanasoff; Residents. County Commissioner Brennan was absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Franzene to approve the November minutes. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of November 2017 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 88,241.15
Sewer Fund:	\$ 106,514.94
Water Fund:	\$ 341,188.06
Road Fund:	\$ 126,856.23
Liquor Law:	\$

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Brennan was absent.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects / Gravel Project – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the invoice came in a little under the original estimated cost.

GRAVEL PROJECT

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin gave his report. There was 1 new permits issued, 2 permits out waiting for a return. No new violations. He was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar was closed. Permits issued to date in 2017 = 40. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk. / Resident Golas questioned whether a specific a Maple Syrup operation was in a commercial zone; Oberlin stated that it is considered agricultural and yes it is ok.

ZONING UPDATE

Master Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Planning Commission met on 12/11 to review the public comments about the Master Plan. There will be another meeting to continue reviewing all comments.

MASTER PLAN

- Paint River Acreage – Supervisor Oberlin stated that he and Clerk Benson-Stafford attended the recent ICBC meeting. **They accepted the Bates counter offer.** County Attorney Tinti will draft a deed with the new terms for the ICBC to sign. The County’s original terms were: Bates Township must spend \$20000 on improvements; the deadline for this is December 31, 2018; The County will retain timber rights in some specified areas of the acreage; the property must be maintained for public use; if these items aren’t handled by the deadline then the property will revert back to the County. **The new terms will be:** Bates Township will acquire the property with \$5000 required dollar amount for improvements which can be in-kind funds; A minimum deadline for some improvements will be December 31, 2019; The property will be improved/maintained for public use; The Township will have all timber rights; If Bates Township no longer wants to improve/maintain the property it will revert back to the County; The County will transfer ALL of Govt’ Lot 2 which includes the “boat landing area.”

PAINT RIVER ACREAGE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)**

Bates School Acquisition – There was some questions/discussion regarding the school's condition and how well it's been maintained. Supervisor Oberlin stated that there was no mention about problems other than it would probably need a roof soon. Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that the school's maintenance person Dane Shovald had given Benson/Public Works a tour and discussed maintenance and upkeep. Shovald had not indicated that there were any issues either, except for the roof. A motion was made by Bobnock to have the property inspected prior to closing. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BATES  
SCHOOL  
ACQUISIT.

MDNR Rec Plan – Still working with GEI. Nothing new to report.

REC PLAN

Park Ordinance – Action tabled until next meeting. Clerk Benson-Stafford will email information to Attorney Atanasoff for review.

PARK  
ORDINANCE

Splitting of Platted Lots Ordinance # 210 – Attorney Atanasoff was present to discuss the new ordinance proposal #210 Splitting of Platted Lots. Clerk Benson-Stafford questioned why in Section 3 the initial application is filed with the Clerk. Atanasoff stated that is for accountability reasons since the Assessors are Independent Contractors. A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt the ordinance. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE  
210-SPLIT  
PLATTED LOT

Alley Vacating Procedures Ordinance # 211 – Attorney Atanasoff reviewed the information with the Board and it was determined that this item would be tabled until the next meeting so that Atanasoff could add a "fee's" clause for the cost of any potential transfers.

ORDINANCE  
211 – ALLEY  
VACATING

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY  
REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but her report was presented by Supervisor Oberlin. December BOR had met on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. Eight petitions were discussed. / 2018 Personal Property Statements will be mailed to all businesses the first week of January. The State has directed municipalities not to include "exemption" forms with the statements. The exemption Forms 632 and Form 5076 will be available on the township website under Assessor. / Regarding Tax Preparation Additional Services Invoice of \$1300 (\$140 less than last year) Erhart asked that \$400 be given to Treasurer Nelson and \$900 to Erhart. A motion was made by Franzene to distribute the payment as requested. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, abstain. Motion carried by majority vote.

ASSESSOR  
REPORT

Water System Capital Improvements Plan/ DEQ Mandate – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Township received a letter from the State mandating that this plan be completed and that the original information that the Township received stating that it was not necessary due to our population was incorrect. A motion was made by Franzene to have GEI do the plan for a cost of \$1500. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

WATER  
SYSTEM  
CAPITAL  
IMPROVE  
PLAN

Employee Christmas Bonus – A motion was made by Oberlin to give Full time Employee Benson a \$150 Bonus and give the 2 Part time Employees Franzmeier and Nelson a \$100 Bonus. Same as last year. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE  
CHRISTMAS  
BONUS

**HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...**

There were no reports because Public Works Superintendent Benson was called out unexpectedly for a fire within the Township.

Hall/Shop – / Water – / Sewer – / Constable – / Cemetery – / Park –

**GUEST COMMENTS**

- Mike Golas asked if there was going to be any further discussions about street lighting. Supervisor Oberlin stated that the topic has been temporarily tabled pending further research.
- Jim Stolberg mentioned that the WICFD fire truck pumper # 2 needs to be replaced. Cost of a new truck is around \$500,000. This could be a problem. Repair parts are not available.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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**INVOICE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to pay the township invoices. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 @ 6:00 PM.

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Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_