

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – February 14, 2018 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; ZA Oberlin; Larry Nelson-PC; Jim Stolberg-WICFD; Mike Golas & Mike Stafford-Parks & Rec; Margee Brennan in for County Commissioner Brennan; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

Minutes were approved as read. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s report for the month of January 2018 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Franzene. All Ayes. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

MINUTES

General Fund:	\$ 171,051.85
Sewer Fund:	\$ 107,371.96
Water Fund:	\$ 352,101.30
Road Fund:	\$ 127,958.38
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – (Comm Brennan was absent.) Margee Brennan presented the report. The Board approved an agreement with Aspirus Hospital for countywide ambulance service. There will be a garage on the east and west sides which will make a response time of 15 minutes or less. / There were no applicants to fill the County Parks & Rec Committee vacancy. Residents in the Twp are encouraged to apply. / The County approved a budget for MSU for \$32000. This is an important program for Iron County and includes 4-H even though membership has gone down. / At the meeting there was a presentation by UPSET & Communities that Care (Paul Cleath). Cleath presented data on the Iron County 2017 Risk & Protective Factor Community Assessment Report. Results were very disturbing. Maybe invite Cleath to a Township meeting. / The State is paying for new voting equipment to be used beginning August 2018. / The update on the logging project at Larson Park is that it is 50% completed. The selective cut will be completed by August.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated that there is nothing new to report. The 3 year road plan was submitted but was the same as discussed last year with carryover of Section 16 & 22 Rds.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin gave his report. There was 1 new permit issued, 3 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 2018 = 1. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Master Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Dave Gutowski worked extensively reviewing the plan and incorporating the changes discussed at the last PC meeting. Oberlin will review and get the changes to WUPPDR. Mike Golas requested that the public comments on the Master Plan become a part of the permanent minutes.

MASTER PLAN

Paint River Acreage – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Township now has the deed and Rich Sloat can begin working with volunteers to clear the downed trees and brush. Hannula Insurance provided a liability waiver for the volunteers to sign. Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that she wanted to be sure that there was not going to be any clear cutting to protect the privacy of the homeowners on the other side of the river. Oberlin said that it will be a clearing of “downed trees and brush only.” Mike Stafford stated that it should also be noted that Sloat is very environmentally friendly.

PAINT RIVER ACREAGE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Bates School Acquisition – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the closing took place at 9:00am this morning and the Township has now acquired the building. Three companies have been contacted or roof estimates. There was a building inspection done and is available for public review. So far the renters will remain and there has been no notice on when the Hospital plans to vacate.

BATES
SCHOOL
ACQUISIT.

MDNR Rec Plan – A motion was made by Franzene to adopt the Recreation Plan Resolution for 2018-2022 with the changes that were noted at the public hearing. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REC PLAN

Park Ordinance – Action tabled until next meeting. Mike Golas requested a rough draft of the proposed changes.

PARK
ORDINANCE

Water System Capital Improvements Plan/ DEQ Mandate – A motion was made by Supervisor Oberlin to adopt the Capital Improvement plan done by GEI. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. This is a state mandated plan that must be in place which is an inventory of the current water system and a plan of 5 year and 6-20 year plan of upgrades and changes. Per Water Superintendent Benson we are in good shape with a majority of the water system being newer than 1994.

WATER
SYSTEM
CAPITAL
IMPROVE
PLAN

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY
REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent. Supervisor Oberlin read her report. The report included the March BOR dates as well as a request to adopt the 2018 Federal Poverty Exemption guidelines. A copy of the Assessor's report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ASSESSOR
REPORT

March Board of Review Dates – The Organizational Meeting will be Tuesday, March 7, 2018 at 1:00PM. BOR meets Tuesday, March 13th from 9-3pm and Thursday, March 15th from 3-9pm.

MARCH BOR
DATES

2018 Federal Poverty Exemption Guidelines – A motion was made by Nelson to adopt the 2018 Federal Poverty Exemption Guidelines. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

2018
POVERTY
EXEMPTION
GUIDELINES

MDNR Trust Grant Application – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to approve fees for GEI up to \$3000 to complete the application. The project will be the Paint River boat launch and no more than 3 primitive campsites. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MDNR TRUST
GRANT APP

Bates Township Legacy Book – Clerk Benson-Stafford would like to explore the option of having the Bates Legacy Book 1885-1985 scanned and posted to the website for public review. The Board gave comments on the cost effectiveness of trying to reprint the book. The original data is not in the Township's possession and many of the original photos were loaned to the Township by local families and then returned. Clerk Benson-Stafford will try to bring some options to the next board meeting.

BATES TWP
LEGACY
BOOK

UPSET – In view of Iron County's extreme opioid epidemic a motion was made by Benson-Stafford to contribute \$500 to the organization. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. UPSET's requests are every 2 years.

UPSET

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Bates Twp Cemetery Ordinance – There was a review of the cemetery ordinance. Some of the dates/fees were obsolete since December 13, 1989. A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt the ordinance with the changes. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Clerk Benson-Stafford will provide Attorney Atanasoff with a copy for review and then publish the ordinance.

CEMETERY
ORDINANCE
CHANGES

Budget Workshop – The Board will meet on Monday, March 5th at the Bates Twp hall at 5:00pm for the workshop.

BUDGET
WORKSHOP

Budget Hearing – The Bates Twp Board will hold a Budget Hearing on Monday, March 19th at 5:00pm at the hall.

BUDGET
HEARING

Bates School Maintenance Person – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Dane Shovald who has been the maintenance man at the school for many years made a proposal to continue doing the building/boiler inspections on a daily basis for \$25. There is no operator engineers licensing required. He has the experience. It's a low pressure boiler and an annual state inspection is required. A motion was made by Bobnock to approve the \$25/for one hour daily inspection. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BATES
SCHOOL
MAINTEN.
PERSON

Board Salary Resolutions – There was extensive discussion about raises and experience as well as what other municipalities do. A motion was made by Franzene to adopt a resolution that effective April 1, 2018 the Clerk's salary will be \$26000. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, abstain. Motion carried. The Supervisor declared the motion adopted. / A motion was made by Franzene to adopt a resolution that effective April 1, 2018 the Supervisor's salary will be \$21000. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, abstain. Motion carried. The Supervisor declared the motion adopted. / A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt a resolution that effective April 1, 2018 the Treasurer's salary will be \$25327.20. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, abstain. Motion carried. The Supervisor declared the motion adopted. / The Trustee's salaries will remain the same.

SALARY
RESOLUTION

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall/Shop–Nothing new to report. / Water – Nothing new to report. / Sewer – The sewer motors that were refurbished are now back in the townships inventory. The Township probably saved about \$20,000 by reworking the old motors. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- A Resident asked if Enbridge notifies the Township whenever they do work on the pipelines. Oberlin responded no.
- Mike Golas asked if there was any more thought on the street lights? He would like to see the light turned off at the park boat landing. He stated that people like to watch the northern lights from the park and the light is a problem. There are concerns that there are drug deals happening at the boat launch.
- A Resident asked if a copy of the Treasurer's report can be available for the public. Clerk Benson-Stafford said yes and that Treasurer Nelson can handle that.

CORRESPONDENCE

-

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 8.02pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 @ 6:00 PM.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____