

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 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, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson; ZA Shankleton, Sue Passamani, BHPS; County Comm Stafford; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC/WICFD; Mike Golas, P&R; Assessor Erhart; Residents. Absent: Treasurer Nelson.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Adams to approve the minutes from the previous month's meetings. Supported by Trustee Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer's report for the month of December 2022 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 141,615.63
Sewer Fund:	\$ 131,220.53
Water Fund:	\$ 339,581.66
Road Fund:	\$ 53,539.13

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated that the Mike Hedtke was recently appointed to the Iron County Medicare Board.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart stated that property assessments will be mailed in February. 7.9% is the consumer price index. Previous rates in years past were 1.5%. Last year it was 3.3%. This year will be 5%. / Tuesday, February 7th the BOR will have continuing education in Watersmeet via Zoom with the State Tax Commission. / Board of Review dates will be Tuesday, February 14th 3:00-9:00 and Wednesday 15th 9:00-3:00. The organizational meeting is February 9th 8:00-11:00am.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton stated that he has been working with compliance issues. / He made a correction to the permits to date which is 22 not 23. Six of the permits were for new home construction which adds to the tax base. / This year the planning commission adopted and changed 4 ordinances. / He will be completing his zoning certification in February. / Permits to date: 22. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

WIDL Report – A motion was made by Oberlin to appoint Trustee Adams to the WIDL Board for a 4-year term from 1/2023-12/2026. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. Adams stated that there are 88,562 items in the library, 46,864 were circulated as checked out, 222 in person events for a total of 5641 attendees.

WIDL

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Passamani provided a financial report. (A copy on file with the Clerk). The financials will be audited by Marcia Cornelia. Bob Berndt will replace Lesa Behling as a Director. There are three grants that they have applied for and are waiting for a response hopefully near the end of January. They have 192 brick orders to date.

BHPS UPDATE

Water Meter Reader – Newby did a good job and will continue reading meters.

WATER METER READER

UPEA Sewer Lagoon– Chris Holmes of UP Engineers will give a report to EGLE in February.

UPEA SEWER LAGOON

Bates Township Recreation Plan 2023-2027 - GEI – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to pass the Resolution of Adoption for 5 Year Recreation Plan. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REC PLAN 2023-2027

NEW BUSINESS

Board of Education – See Assessors report.

**BOR
EDUCATION**

Sand Spreader Attachment – A motion was made by Oberlin to approve the purchase of the sand spreader attachment for an estimated cost of \$403.00. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**SAND
SPREADER
ATTACH.**

Bates Amasa Rd Waterline Abandonment – Oberlin talked to both property owners, and they were aware that the abandonment could happen. Schmidt questioned as to whether the line was plastic down to the old Mathews homestead. PW Benson said there wasn't any indication that it was. Treasurer Nelson would have to do the letters, to the item was tabled until next month for further discussion.

**WTLINE
ABANDON-
MENT**

Board Budget Workshop – Date was set for Monday, January 23rd at 4:00pm.

**BUDGET
WORKSHOP**

State of Michigan – Metallic Minerals Exploration- Information was posted at the township. Shankleton contacted Keweenaw Land Association to discuss. Rich Sloat is looking into the matter.

**SOM-
EXPLORA-
TION**

BHPS letter- It was noted that a letter from the BHPS requested that the township provide a new furnace and hot water heater for the building upon its move. Oberlin stated that he could get a hot water heater for cost for whomever was going to pay for it, the township or BHPS. It was noted that the Township was going to do a new roof but not until the building was moved. There was no decision on the furnace.

**BHPS
LETTER**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – A waterline leak was repaired on Lake 15 Road. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** –Nothing new to report. / **School** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- ICECA – Smithson stated that WUPPDR has a MIHOPE Grant promoting energy efficiency of homes. It is income based. Applications online.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA -2022 Annual Report.
- BHPS December 16, 2022, letter

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Adams made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Supervisor Oberlin. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____