

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, July 12, 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, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson; County Comm Stafford; ZA Shankleton; Assessor Erhart; Margee Brennan, ZBA & BHPS; Sue Passamani, BHPS; Mike Golas, P&R; Residents.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer's report for the month of June 2023 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 214,074.77
Sewer Fund:	\$ 157,175.28
Water Fund:	\$ 392,664.53
Road Fund:	\$ 111,377.52

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the County meeting postponed to July 18th. / The only entrance to the County Courthouse & offices will now be through the south entrance which will have security personnel and a scanner.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Oberlin stated that Andreski Plat done. Waiting for invoicing. / Farhner information is tabled until the next meeting.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart stated that the Board of Review would meet Wednesday, July 19th at 9:30. / She requested a new computer (laptop) as the current township computer is from 2007 and has been failing. Clerk Benson-Stafford will get one ordered. / There was no paper report.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton stated the planning commission met July 10th for a special meeting. The board could not reach a consensus as to how many members to have on the Zoning Board of Appeals. / Re the ZBA variance denial of April 6th, there have been 11 letters in favor of the variance and 3 letters received opposing the variance. / 2 Violation letters have been issued and are under the 60-day warning. / 27 new permits have been issued to date. / He is waiting for several applications. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

WIDL Report – Trustee Adams said there are amazing programs available. / There have been 3794 digital checkouts so far this year. / There is now a new "quiet pod" that adults can reserve.

WIDL

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Sue Passamani gave a financial report. They made over \$3000 on the rummage sale and they are still selling items. / Bake Sale will be Saturday from 9-1 at Bigari Hardware. / Margee requested that the Board consider getting rid of the wooden chairs because they scratch the floors.

BHPS UPDATE

Water/Sewer Shop Addition– Franzene stated that he there were zero bids received. Contractors are so busy they are able to charge at least 25% more and they are still getting work. Franzene advised waiting until the fall to rebid this as a spring project.

WTR/SWR SHOP ADDITION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

ZBA Variance Denial /Atanasoff vs Bates Township – Attorney Statement – Oberlin read, as of 3:40pm today, the Bates Township Attorney states that they are reviewing information that they recently received from the opposing counsel. They will be reviewing the information and making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees in the coming days, at which time the Trustees can decide as to whether they will call a special meeting or make this an agenda item for the August 9, 2023, meeting.

**ZBA
VARIANCE
DENIAL
/ATANASOFF
VS BATES
TWP**

NEW BUSINESS

Cemetery Ordinance – Clerk Benson-Stafford provided the ordinance to the Zoning Administrator and the Board of Trustees for review for the next meeting. She is recommending more aggressive fines for illegal activities at the cemetery.

**CEMETERY
ORDINANCE**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – A motion was made by Franzene to approve an impeller order for the sewer lift stations at a cost of \$3400. Supported by Adams. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Gina Gollither asked how to get the speed limit lowered on Noren Rd. Oberlin stated that the ICRC would have a speed study done and there is a chance that the speed limit could increase. He redirected her to the ICRC.
- Jim Anderson wanted to say that Ed/Public Works Superintendent worked hard and diligently to resolve the sewer lift station problem. The Township is lucky to have him.
- Jim Anderson wanted to make sure that in the court case regarding the ZBA Variance Denial Request/Atanasoff vs Bates Township that the minutes would reflect that Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Township Board of Trustees are aware of the July 25, 2023 deadline and that they did not instruct the Township Attorneys to default on that deadline.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA
- 3 Resident Letters / RE: ZBA Variance Decision

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, August 9, 2023.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Date Approved: _____