

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, May 10, 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 & Yvonne Andersen, ZBA & 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 Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 231,017.66
Sewer Fund:	\$ 150,271.43
Water Fund:	\$ 380,782.43
Road Fund:	\$ 160,195.93

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the County had bid \$135000 to get Gogebic's 911 which they had about three years ago. Gogebic chose to stay with Negaunee's bid at \$111000's. Iron County spends about \$500,000/year in wages for 911 Dispatch. If IC contracted out for this service, they could save almost \$400,000/year. / Vernon Jones is retiring as Emergency Manager. / Stafford made the board aware that the state is trying to take away local control of gravel mining which would affect the Iron County Road Commission.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Oberlin stated that Stambaugh Twp would hold a vote on 5/10/2023 as to if they would agree to participate in Andreski Plat phase 1 which is proposed at the first ¾ mile. We may have to borrow from the general fund to do dust control. A motion was made by Oberlin to approve the Andreski Plat project contingent upon Stambaugh Twp's participation. Supported by Adams. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Benson-Stafford said that Bates should still do dust control because to not do it, would not be fair to the residents that will never get blacktop. / Oberlin stated that he would attend a Crystal Falls Twp board meeting to try and get them on board for phase 2 of the Andreski Plat project.

ROAD PROJECTS

Dust Control – A motion was made by Franzene to approve dust control. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DUST CONTROL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart gave her monthly report. /March BOR went well. / All required year end documents have been submitted to the County and State. / There is only one Bates Township property on the foreclosure list. / In 2022 there were 139 parcels that had transfer of ownership. Some were within a family; some were into a Trust. It was a variety of scenarios. (A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.)

ASSESSOR REPORT

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton stated that the PC met and will include the MCL # for the 300' notification requirement in the Bylaws. / The ZBA denial has been appealed to the circuit court. / He stated that there have been 10 new permits issued so far this year. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

WIDL Report – Trustee Adams said there is nothing new to report.

WIDL

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Brennan said they are looking for volunteers for the rummage sale. They are looking for donations. There will be a food truck on site. / They have an Attorney that volunteered to write a Sparks grant application, the township will have to sign off on that. / People have been generous with their can donations.

**BHPS
UPDATE**

Roadside Cleanup – Oberlin thanked the volunteers.

**ROADSIDE
CLEANUP**

Water/Sewer Shop Addition– Tabled until next month.

**SHOP
ADDITION**

NEW BUSINESS

Memorial Day Ceremony – Ceremony begins at 8:00am at the cemetery. The BHPS will host the continental breakfast. They will also be selling their promotional items.

**MEMORIAL
DAY**

Water System Public Letter – Benson explained the annual water system reporting procedures and the letter that was mailed to water system customers.

**WATER
SYSTEM
LETTER**

DIISD Lease Bates School – A motion was made by Franzene to do a 5-year lease. Supported by Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

DIISD LEASE

Park-Campground Opening – The Park Host will be coming on Friday. Restrooms are unwinterized. Park is open.

PARK HOST

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – A motion was made by Adams to approve the purchase of water valve marker supplies, approximately \$500. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** –Nothing new to report. / **School** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Yvonne Anderson thanked Benson for explaining the water system reporting procedures.
- Jim Brey thanked the Board for proceeding with the Andreski Plat Road project.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA

INVOICE APPROVAL

Trustee Franzene made a motion to pay the township invoices. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Adams, 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 7:14pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Date Approved: _____