

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Clerk Benson-Stafford called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Trustee Adams present. Also, in attendance were ZA Bofinger; Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R; Larry Nelson, PC; Merrie Gillaspie, ZBA; Margee Brennan, ZBA/BHPS; Sue Passamani, BHPS; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC; Residents. Supervisor Oberlin & Assr Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

Clerk Benson-Stafford made a motion to appoint Trustee Franzene as the meeting moderator, due to the absence of Supervisor Oberlin. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MEETING
MODERATOR**

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

MINUTES

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting for the audit presentation. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

**AUDIT PRES
MINUTES**

The Treasurer's report for the month of September 2024 was submitted. Clerk Benson-Stafford made a motion to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 188,093.61
Sewer Fund:	\$ 92,845.33
Water Fund:	\$ 392,028.10
Road Fund:	\$ 182,012.94

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated that the 2025 County budget was available for public review at ironmi.org. The next county board meeting will be November 12.

**COUNTY
COMM
REPORT**

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Clerk Benson-Stafford asked ICRC Schmidt for an update on the condition of a portion of W. Lake Emily Rd. Schmidt stated there is a beaver problem that is being addressed and that should resolve the problem.

**ROAD
PROJECTS**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but provided a report. / She is working on the annual land value analysis, economic condition factor studies and annual review of field inspections. / In the past month she has visited 21 properties with current year and past permits. / At present she is working on 14 current year permits, 30 follow ups (partial completion), and 18 flagged parcels, (flagged by property owner request or assessor noted.) / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Zoning Administrator Report – ZA Bofinger gave his monthly report. / He attended the planning commission meeting on October 8th. / He referred a land division request to Assr Erhart. / Answered zoning questions. / 13 permits have been issued to date and 1 in process. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING
ADMIN APPT**

Enforcement Officer – Mike Franzene said his committee is working on an Enforcement officer job description. Clerk Benson-Stafford said there is a grant opportunity to have a review of the zoning ordinance. No action taken. Tabled until the next meeting.

**ENFORCE-
MENT
OFFICER**

WIDL Report – Trustee Adams stated that October is a very busy month. / There are many great programs available.

WIDL

BATES TOWNSHIP

October 9, 2024

Page Two

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Sue Passamani said the scrap iron collection day was a success bringing in \$3481. / They are waiting to hear on a federal grant application that they worked on with Rep Bergman’s office. / An anonymous Bates resident will donate matching funds up to \$10,000 received during the month of November. / Bigari Hardware is a corporate sponsor and will hold a “round up” during the month of November. / After the election they will be reaching out to their contractors to get updated bids. / There are still upcoming fundraisers this year.

**BHPS
UPDATE**

NEW BUSINESS

General Election – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that Early In Person voting will begin at the township hall on Saturday, October 26th through Sunday, November 3rd, from 7:00am-3:00pm. Election Day is Tuesday, November 5 and polls are open from 7:00am-8:00pm.

ELECTION

Chicaugon Mine Rd Waterline – Trustee Adams made a motion to proceed with the repair/replacement of the waterline at an estimated cost of \$25,000. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**CHGN MINE
RD WTRLINE**

Shop Scanner/Printer – Trustee Adams made a motion to purchase a scanner/copier/printer for the shop at an estimated cost of \$500 plus installation. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**SHOP
SCANNER/
PRINTER**

Side x Side Tires – Clerk Benson-Stafford made a motion to purchase new tires at an estimated cost of \$731. Supported by Adams. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**SIDEXSIDE
TIRES**

Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer Education – Clerk Benson-Stafford made a motion to approve the attendance of the Treasurer & Deputy Treasurer to continuing education, at a seminar cost of \$294 plus mileage. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**TREAS
TRAINING**

Public Works Jackets – Treasurer Nelson made a motion to purchase replacement jackets for the public works employees at a cost of \$375. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PW JACKETS

Water Pump – Trustee Adams made a motion to purchase a water pump for the water/sewer departments at an estimated cost of \$1500. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**PW
WATERPUMP**

Truck Tires – Treasurer Nelson made a motion to approve the purchase of new truck tires for the Ford from Wyatts at an estimated cost of \$1350 followed up by an inspection and alignment at Town & Country. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**TRUCK
TIRES**

Pole Saw – Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the purchase of a pole saw from Bigaris at an estimated cost of \$200. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

POLE SAW

Iron River Twp Waterline-Treasurer_Nelson made a motion to move an account to inactive with no charges until Mr. Papadopoulos can determine if the waterline is salvageable or if he will need to put in a well. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. / This is a property in Iron River Twp and Bates supplies the water. The property was recently purchased by Mr. Papadopolous.

**IR TWP
WATERLINE**

BATES TOWNSHIP

October 9, 2024

Page Three

NEW HIRE – PW Benson introduced the new employee, Nick Karnack. Benson said he is excited to have him aboard and he comes with years of experience.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall- Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – PW Benson said that Oberstar came and did a repair on an earlier project. Benson said they also repaired another leak with no cost to the township. / **Cemetery** – Closed for the season. / **Park** – Boat launch will be out of the lake by November 1st. / **School** – See above. / **Paint River Boat Launch** – Boat Launch has been removed for the season.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Ernie Schmidt wanted an update on the school. Clerk Benson Stafford stated that the DIISD is not interested in purchasing it.
- Brett Smithson/ICECA – Stated they are ready to release the guidelines and application information for Round 2 of the Fast Track Grant Program.
- Tom Haight – Made some welcome suggestions such as, putting the planning commission meeting minutes on the website, giving a longer period of time for the notice of a public hearing regarding zoning and ordinance changes.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Date Approved: _____