

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – January 8, 2020 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; County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R/Sunset Lk Assn; Gasser, P&R; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes with a time correction; meeting began at 5:00pm not 6:00pm. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of December 2019 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 100,429.28
Sewer Fund:	\$ 75,850.58
Water Fund:	\$ 309,222.06
Road Fund:	\$ 84,811.71
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Stafford was present and stated that the county budget was passed with approving \$2500 for WUPPDR, \$10,000 for the ICECA and \$15,000 for MSUE/4-H All amounts were below requested amounts and previous support. /During the reorganizational meeting Sharon Leonoff was voted Vice Chair. / Oberlin asked Stafford how these underfunded organizations would go forward. Stafford commented that the community has really stepped up to support the ICECA. There will be a 4-H meeting on Thursday, January 9 so he’ll see what their plans are.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated gave board members the draft of the 3-year road plan which will be subject to change, and bidding results each year. 2020-PAVE-Larson Rd, Demboski Rd (portion of), Sunset Lk Boat Launch Park Area; GRAVEL-10,000 gravel – Ponozzo Rd; 2021-GRIND & PAVE -E. Lk Emily Rd, PAVE- Thunander Rd, Section 14 Rd; 2022-GRIND & PAVE- Kofmehl Rd (8/10’s mile shared with Stambaugh Twp), Passamani Rd, PAVE-Wagner Lk Rd.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There were 0 new permits issued. One application waiting on return. No new zoning questions. ZA was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar is closed. Permits issued to date in 2019=19. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk. / He would also like to do a Permit Amnesty letter to residents that should have gotten permits and didn’t. There would be a “window of time” that they could request the permit and pay the fee without penalty. After that, there would be fines accordingly. He is going to investigate the cost of the mailing.

ZONING UPDATE

Township Hall Foundation - Nothing new to report.

TWP HALL FOUND.

Sewer System Sump Pump Audit – Supervisor Oberlin stated that he is working with the Township Attorney to draft a letter to residents. Golas asked if there was anything the lake Assn could do? There was discussion about education. Maybe some residents don’t know that sump pumps cannot be directed into the sewer system.

SEWER SYSTEM AUDIT

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin read the highlights of the report which were that Personal Property statements were mailed on 1/7/2020 and are due by 2/20/2020. Also, small business personal property tax exemption forms last year will not need to file again this year. This is the first year they will not have to refile.

ASSESSOR REPORT

BATES TOWNSHIP

January 8, 2020

Page Two

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Board Budget Workshop date – The board will hold a budget workshop at the Bates School on January 22 at 5:00 pm, at which time the board members can look at the building.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

UPSET – A motion was made by Oberlin to support with \$500. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

UPSET

Sewer Ordinance/Sewer Shut Off – There have been some Resident requests to stop paying for sewer that they don't use. Oberlin will do more research; however, the board is inclined to continue as before. If the line runs through the property and is an available utility, there will be a monthly charge.

SEWER ORDINANCE

Park Host Position – Treasurer Nelson created an ad that will be posted on campground sites to secure 2020 park hosts. The Board will wait a few weeks to see if there is any response before publishing ads.

PARK HOST

Bates Township Center/Board Meetings – Tabled until further notice.

BATES BOARD MTGS

MERS – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that there have been some inquiries from MERS regarding employee new hires. She feels that while employees should have a retirement benefit, MERS is a deal with the devil and should be avoided at all costs. She will research the original enrollment and Supervisor Oberlin will gather the information to do an opt out resolution if one hadn't already been done. County Commissioner Stafford pointed out that MERS has Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Program.

MERS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Benson stated that there is a water leak there he is actively trying to find. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that she got an inquiry into the Bates School from the 4-H Sharp Shooters. The board was uncertain that they could offer a permanent type space. More research will be done, and Benson-Stafford will ask the Sharp Shooters to look over the space. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – The new signage should be ordered to be install in April and Benson stated that we need to find a golf cart or something for the hosts.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Mike Golas stated that the ICRC has done a super great job of plowing. Also, maybe they should think about a snow fence on the east end of Sunset Lake (Soderquist/Blank property). During drifting it has gotten down to barely one lane. Oberlin will talk to the RC.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICRC Public posting of meetings for 2020.
- The Reporter solicitation. No action taken.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 5:26pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – February 12, 2020 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 Public Works Superintendent Benson; County Comm Stafford; Gasser, P&R; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of January 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 126,705.09
Sewer Fund:	\$ 78,369.70
Water Fund:	\$ 322,227.05
Road Fund:	\$ 118,626.57
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Stafford was present and stated that the county board approved a countywide GIS system that will be handled by Coleman Engineering. They will start by “addressing” and then they enter plat information. There will be a committee formed and Stafford was looking for a participant from the Township to join the committee. The Township will also be contacted about releasing its data to the county system. Oberlin asked if the County intends to charge the municipalities if the county maintains the data. Stafford did not know.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- A motion was made by Oberlin to crush 10,000 tons of gravel for next fall at a cost of \$5.28/ton for \$52800. The County will spread it. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Oberlin stated that the County is almost finished with Ponozzo Rd and it’s possible that Perch Lake Rd will be done in the future. / He stated that he did talk to the ICRC about a snow fence on the east end of Sunset Lake Rd.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There was 1 new permit issued. No new violations. A few new inquiries. ZA was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar is closed. Permits issued to date in 2020=1. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Township Hall Foundation - Nothing new to report.

TWP HALL FOUND.

Sewer System Sump Pump Audit – Supervisor Oberlin stated that he is working with the Township Attorney. Atanasoff had indicated that the Township might have to go to court for a blanket search warrant. Atanasoff suggested the Township try to initially pinpoint specific homes.

SEWER SYSTEM AUDIT

Park Host Position – There was one applicant. When Oberlin tried to discuss the position, the applicant has not responded. / It was also mentioned that perhaps a riding lawnmower without a deck could pull the trailer that the hosts use to collect garbage.

PARK HOST POSITION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

MERS – The Township has provided a Defined Benefit “Cadillac” retirement program for a previous (now retired) employee. It would cost \$225000 to buy the township out of that obligation. Instead a motion was made by Oberlin to change our program to a Uniform 457 Retirement plan. Employees can opt in or remain out. They can choose a Roth or Traditional IRS with contributions through payroll. Township does not have to contribute. Program has no fees to the township. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Benson-Stafford wanted it on record that MERS is a deal with the devil. Her yes vote is only because the Township could not afford the \$225000 to buy out the Defined Benefit program and be done with MERS. The previous Board of Trustees that put the MERS plan in place could never have guessed how future participation in MERS would strap the municipality as it has done across the state.

MERS

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

**ATTORNEY
REPORT**

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin read the highlights of the report which were the hours of the Board of Review meetings: Tuesday, March 3 at 1:00pm is the Organizational Meeting; Wednesday, March 11 from 9:00-3:00 & Friday, March 13 from 3:00-9:00pm. / Her report included an overview of the function of the Board of Review.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Poverty Exemption Guidelines – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to adopt the US Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2020. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

**POVERTY
EXEMPTION
GUIDELINES**

Huntington Water Loan Payoff – A motion was made by Nelson to amend the 2019-2020 budget for account 591000009 known as the 2007 Water Debt Retirement Fund, and to allow the payoff of the water loan with a payment in full of \$61222 by March 1, 2020. The fund balance for the earmarked account is currently \$68918.05. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**HUNTINGTN
BANK WATER
LOAN
PAYOFF**

Township Building(s) Appraisals – A motion was made by Oberlin to hire and Michigan licensed Appraiser to provide appraised valuations of the hall/shop and the school (separately). Estimated appraisal cost of \$2000. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPRAISALS

Assessors Supplemental Contract Payment – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to authorize the contract payment of \$900 to be paid to Treasurer Nelson, as directed by Assessor Erhart. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, abstain; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Motion carried.

**ASSESSORS
SUPP
CONTRACT**

Board Salary Resolutions – All Board Members declined any request for a salary increase.

**BOARD
SALARY
RESOLUTION**

2020-2021 Budget – A motion was made by Franzene to approve the 2020-2021 budget prepared at the January 22nd workshop, for the 30-day public review period. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**2020-2021
BUDGET**

Budget Hearing – The Budget Hearing meeting will be held at 5:30pm on Wednesday, March 11th at the Bates Township Hall. Public welcome. Clerk Benson-Stafford will post and publish the meeting date.

**BUDGET
HEARING**

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Presidential Primary Election – Benson-Stafford reminded all that the election will be held Tuesday, March 10th. Polls are open from 7:00am-8:00pm. Anyone that is interested in an absent voter ballot should contact the Clerk for an application.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**–Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Benson stated that the water leak from the previous month was found in a seasonal home on US2. The basement filled with water, extensive damage. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – A motion was made by Nelson to approve a payment of \$432 to various counties to acquire death certificates of people buried in the cemetery for our records. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried. / **School** – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that the Sharp Shooters will begin renting in March at the school in Room 107. One night a week/\$50-month. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Gasser asked about the water infiltration culvert on Sunset Lake Rd.
- Clinton Otto complained about his water bill usage. He states that he is running a small pencil size stream of water. This is an unauthorized let run. PW Benson will check the water pit meter for accuracy. If he continues the let run, he will be responsible to pay the bill.

CORRESPONDENCE

- The Reporter solicitation. No action taken.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:01pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – March 11, 2020 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 Public Works Superintendent Benson; County Comm Stafford; Larry Nelson, PC; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC; Mike Golas, P&R/Sunset Lk Assn; Gasser, P&R; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of February 2020 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; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 167,793.00
Sewer Fund:	\$ 81,890.41
Water Fund:	\$ 250,570.29
Road Fund:	\$ 157,110.93
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Stafford was present and stated that the county board meeting was postponed from March 10th to March 17th due to the election.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to approve the following projects: Dust Control \$12,000; Larson Rd \$60,000; Boat Launch \$30875. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Ponozzo Rd gravel crushing for \$58000 had already been approved at a previous meeting. Demboski Rd may be on hold, we will wait and see how the budget holds. Up. / Mike Golas questioned if there was a decision from ICRC for next year regarding the snow fence on Sunset Lake Rd by the Soderquist Farm. Schmidt encouraged Supervisor Oberlin to continue to ask the ICRC for that for next year.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There were 0 new permits issued. No new violations. A few new inquiries. Waiting on one application. ZA was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar is closed. Permits issued to date in 2020=1. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Township Hall Foundation - Nothing new to report.

TWP HALL FOUND.

Sewer System Sump Pump Audit – Supervisor Oberlin stated that he would be mailing the sewer audit letter out to approximately 290 sewer customers within the week. Attendees made some comments about what information to include in the letter.

SEWER SYSTEM AUDIT

Park Host Position – Mike Golas questioned if this needed to be a 7 day a week job. Oberlin stated yes, for cleaning/restocking supplies reasons. No new applicants so far. Treasurer Nelson stated that she thought the Township might have to do a paid ad. / It was also suggested by Mike Stafford that the boat wash have a gate. Once you wash your boat, you receive a token to lift the gate. No action taken.

PARK HOST POSITION

NEW BUSINESS

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

BATES TOWNSHIP

March 11, 2020

Page Two

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin stated that BOR was today from 9-3 and will be held Friday from 3-9. Assessor Erhart would like to start holding office hours at the township one day a month for a couple of hours to coincide with the Treasurer’s “collection schedule.” A start date has yet to be determined.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Presidential Primary Election Results – Clerk Benson-Stafford gave an overview of the results and thanked the Election Inspectors for doing such a great job.

**ELECTION
RESULTS**

Zoning Permit One Time Amnesty Program – Supervisor Oberlin was exploring the possibility of this program. He stated people are building without permits. The program would have a start and end date. It would save people building without a permit from receiving fines. Treasurer Nelson thought it was a good idea. The Board can think about it. Tabled until the next meeting.

**ZONING
PERMIT
AMNESTY
PROGRAM**

Employee-Appointed Wage Reviews – Clerk Benson-Stafford reminded that no Board Members asked for a salary increase this year or last year. Supervisor Oberlin stated that he would like to see a cost of living increase to the employees because they did not get an increase last year either. Benson-Stafford stated that she would like to see an increase in the Election Inspector Chairperson wage because the “reporting” responsibility is important as well as overseeing the flow of the election. A motion was made by Franzene for the following increases: PW Benson from \$25/Hr to \$25.75/Hr; Part time \$15.75 to \$16.25; Meter Reader from \$15 to \$15.50/Hr; Election Chairperson from \$13 to \$15/Hr. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**EMPLOYEE
WAGE
REVIEW**

Public Meetings – Clerk Benson-Stafford presented the notice of the 2020-2021 fiscal year meeting dates. A motion was made by Franzene to approve the Public Meeting Schedule for the 2020-2021 year. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried. (Copy of meeting schedule attached to these minutes.)

**PUBLIC
MEETINGS**

Township Property Sale Resolution – A motion was made by Supervisor Oberlin Nelson to adopt a resolution giving the Township Board the authority to sell township property. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

**TOWNSHIP
PROPERTY
SALES
RESOLUTION**

Financial Institution Deposit Resolution – A motion was made by Supervisor Oberlin to adopt a resolution to continue to keep/use the accounts that the township currently has through the Miners State Bank. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

**DEPOSIT
RESOLUTION**

Treasurer/Credit Card Information – Treasurer Nelson has been exploring this again. The current offer would have a \$75 monthly charge to the township. Oberlin stated that he doesn’t want to see any charge for the township. Mike Stafford said that maybe PayPal is the way to go. The Board mentioned raising utility rates to provide the service. No action taken. Tabled until the next meeting.

**CREDIT
CARD
PAYMENTS**

2007 Water Dept Retirement Fund – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to have Treasurer Nelson close this account and put the remaining funds of \$7696.05 into the water reserve. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**CLOSE BANK
ACCOUNT**

Full time Employee – The Board discussed hiring a second full time Employee that could be mentored in public works department. The Employee would have to become certified in water/sewer. PW Benson has a few years before retirement but stated that now is the time to start training someone because there is so much knowledge that needs to be transferred. Benson will work on a job description. Tabled until next meeting.

**FULL TIME
EMPLOYEE
HIRE**

BATES TOWNSHIP

March 11, 2020

Page Three

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Utility Rates – Supervisor Oberlin said that he liked what another municipality does which is their Accountant recommended an ordinance that allows for a cost of living rate increase every year. Clerk Benson-Stafford said that it would be too confusing if utility bills were dollars and cents instead of a flat fee. People will spend \$5.00/day on a cup of coffee but won't water a \$1 or \$2 monthly rate increase. Tabled until next meeting.

**UTILITY
RATES**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Benson stated that he has been working with Clinton Otto on the meter readings to see if the meter is defective. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Supervisor Oberlin stated that there was a confidential inquiry into whether the township would be interested in selling the school. The Township did have appraisals done on the school and the shop/hall. No action taken. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

CORRESPONDENCE

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:27pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, April 8, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – April 8, 2020 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 & Trustee Franzene were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford, & Larry Nelson, PC. Trustee Bobnock & Assr Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of March 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Supervisor Oberlin to accept the report. Supported by Clerk Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 191,827.35
Sewer Fund:	\$ 88,899.44
Water Fund:	\$ 267,113.79
Road Fund:	\$ 199,658.04
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford said the county board meeting is April 14th. The courthouse is closed to the public due to COVID-19.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There were 0 new permits issued. He is waiting for one application. A few new inquiries. He will be sending out several letters for junk car violations. ZA was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar is closed. Permits issued to date in 2020=1. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Public Works Job Description- Public Works Superintendent Benson created a Job Description. A motion was made by Oberlin to publish a Help Wanted ad for a position to be mentored in the public works department. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

PW JOB DESCRIPTN

Paint River Project – Bid opening was held on Thursday, April 2nd at 2:00pm. Supervisor Oberlin stated that there were two bids received. FAI @ \$66452.00 and Carey Construction @ \$88323.00. Today an email was received by Clerk Benson-Stafford from the DNR Grants Management Section indicating that they were “pausing deliverables and payments associated with projects. No action taken at this meeting until it is determined that the DNR will be funding their portion of the project going forward.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin stated that BOR went well. They saw 32 petitions. / Erhart is proposing a complete re-appraisal of the Agricultural Class, work to be done this year and implemented for the 2021 roll. / She made some changes to the Land Division form and is looking for authorization to use the new format. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Sewer Lift Station # 3 / Vortex Sewer Motors – The estimate for the cost of these motors was not received. No action taken. Tabled until the next meeting.

SEWER LIFT STATION 3

Sewer Line Replacement / Rogers Location 3rd & 4th St – Supervisor Oberlin reviewed the time and materials estimate of \$2500. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to go forward with the project. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SEWERLINE ROGERS LOC

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Tunnel Vision Annual Lift Station Maintenance – A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to authorize the maintenance at an estimated annual cost of \$4600. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Utility Rates – There was discussion again about increasing rates that have remained the same for nearly 18 years. The sewer infrastructure needs upgrades. No action taken.

**SEWER
MAINT.**

Tunnel Vision CCTV Inspection – Not needed. No action taken.

CCTV

2016 Chev Brakes – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the back brakes will be done on the truck. No action necessary, this is a maintenance item.

**TRUCK
BRAKES**

UP Rodeo – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to approve the \$50 contribution. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

UP RODEO

Cemetery Death Certificates – A motion was made by Oberlin to authorize a budget of \$475 to obtain these necessary records to complete the Townships files. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**CEMETERY
RECORDS**

Sunset Lake Boat Launch Road Prep Work – Supervisor Oberlin explained the necessary prep work needed for the project. A motion was made by Oberlin to approve the estimate of G & G Service Center for \$3320. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Also, the lake portion of the boat launch project will proceed this spring weather permitting.

**BOAT
LAUNCH**

Laminator – Clerk Benson-Stafford was authorized to purchase an inexpensive laminator to be used for multiple department documents.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Clerk Benson-Stafford gave the report that the schools are now closed for the year. The DIISD is allowing one to two teachers into the building at a time as part of the social distancing guidelines. Both Spring A Roo and Inclusion Dance classes are done for the remainder of the year. Inclusion Dance was wondering about a storage fee. Benson-Stafford said that last year Spring A Roo stored their equipment for free and recommended the same for ID. / Inclusion Dance has an opportunity to have a “dance floor” installed in Room 105 at the school and would like the Township’s permission. Benson-Stafford will get more details. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

CORRESPONDENCE

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Franzene. The meeting adjourned at 7:07pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – May 13, 2020 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 & Trustee Franzene were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC; Larry Nelson, PC; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Gasser, P&R; Residents. Trustee Bobnock & Assr Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of April 2020 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; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 176,986.75
Sewer Fund:	\$ 92,424.05
Water Fund:	\$ 280,528.37
Road Fund:	\$ 199,690.86
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated that he was unable to attend the County meeting on May 12th. He heard that Pentoga Park was going to be closed for the season. He was going to get more information on that because Oberlin stated that he heard the matter would be revisited in June.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Ernie Schmidt, ICRC was present. He stated that there are funding cutbacks due to COVID. The chip seal funding match that the RC does with the Townships will not happen this year. There will not be any crack filling and the RC will not be hiring college students this summer. He stated that road restrictions will be lifted later in the week in the southern townships.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There were 2 new permits issued. He is waiting for several applications. He is planning to send out several letters for junk car violations, however the recycling center is closed due to COVID, so he has put the letter writing on hold for now. ZA was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar is closed. Permits issued to date in 2020=3. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Sewer Lift Station # 3 / Vortex Sewer Motors – Benson, Public Works presented the estimated for new Vortex Motors. A motion was made by Oberlin to purchase two new motors & parts for \$11501. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Clerk Benson-Stafford pointed out that the only thing that should be going into sewers is human waste and toilet paper. Not wipes, not paper toweling, not feminine hygiene products. The Township needs to get that word out. The things that should not be disposed of in the sewer are ruining the sewer motors. Nelson said that she could put a notice on the water bills.

SEWER LIFT STATION 3

Public Works Job Description- Oberlin stated there were 4 applicants. Due to COVID the Township is unsure of its budget currently. Oberlin will reach out to the applicants and let them know that this matter is tabled until the June meeting.

PW JOB DESCRPTN

Paint River Project – Nothing new to report. Project is on hold due to COVID. Oberlin will reach out to GEI for an update.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Assessor Report – On April 27th Re-appraisal questionnaires were sent to all properties identified as Agricultural on the tax roll. Assessor Erhart will begin office hours on the third Tuesday of each month from 9-11am (same as the Treasurer’s collection date), as soon as the COVID restrictions are lifted. She has updated her mailing address as POB 264, Iron River, MI 49935 A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Land Division Application - Assessor Erhart made some changes to the application. A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt the land division form as revised by Erhart in 2020. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried. / A copy of the form has been added to the Township website.

**LAND
DIVISION
APPLICATN**

Memorial Day Ceremony – The Township was informed that the Veterans were suspending their ceremonies due to the Governors Stay Home order which was in effect. It was decided that Bates Township would cancel its ceremony and continental breakfast this year, for the same reason. / PW Benson & Franzmeier put in the new bricks that were received for the Veterans Memorial. / Thank you to John Franzmeier for volunteering his time and materials in making the “sitting bench” for the Veteran’s Memorial. / It was also noted that Steven & Mary Buzzell donated \$96 to be used toward the continental breakfast in honor of Evelyn Javoroski’s 96th birthday. Evelyn hosted the event for many years. A thank you letter will be sent to the Buzzell’s and Evelyn. / Clerk-Benson Stafford would make sure that a cancellation notice was published.

**MEMORIAL
DAY
CEREMONY
CANCELLED**

May Township Roadside Cleanup Day – Supervisor Oberlin stated that this date would be cancelled this year due to the Governor’s Stay Home order. Perhaps the Board will revisit the idea in the fall.

**CLEANUP
DAY
CANCELLED**

Bates Park-Sunset Lake – Due to the Governor’s Stay Home orders, the park will remain closed until further notice. The Board will discuss this again at the June meeting and formulate a plan for the potential reopening.

**PARK/CAMP
GROUND
CLOSED**

Utility Customers NSF Checks – There are some chronic NSF check writers. Treasurer Nelson was given the authority to write letters to these individuals stating that the Township requires cash or money orders; personal checks will no longer be accepted.

**CUSTOMER
NSF CHECKS**

June 10th Cemetery Tour – Clerk Benson-Stafford wanted to acknowledge that Dale Safford who conducts these tours, died rather unexpectedly. Just days before she passed, Dale emailed to apologize that she would not be able to do the Bates Tour this year. / It was also noted that Ed Benson and his wife Hydee have done hundreds of hours of research on the burials in the Bates Cemetery. Safford and the Benson’s were able to share information that helped the Township and the Find A Grave website that Safford was maintaining. / It was noted that with all the information/knowledge that Ed & Hydee Benson have, perhaps they would consider holding a tour later this year, at which Dale could be acknowledged.

**CEMETERY
TOUR
CANCELLED**

BSA Software Upgrade/Harris Cancellation – The Clerks payroll software will be discontinued at the end of 2020 and the Treasurer’s current utility program is obsolete. New software upgrades are being researched. Action tabled until the next meeting.

**BSA
SOFTWARE**

Sunset Lake Boat Launch – PW Benson stated that he is waiting to hear from Golbach.

**BOAT
LAUNCH
REPAIR**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that the school will not reopen for the balance of the 2019-2020 year. / Connors Sports Flooring will be putting in a new “dance floor” in Room 105 for Inclusion Dance. There is no cost to the Township. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- A Sunset Lake/Noren Road Resident was present and was asking about he procedure to obtain a permit to build a deck. Supervisor Oberlin will help him with that.
- A Resident was asking about the sale of the Mapleton. It is now under new ownership, and it has been said that they will be a coffee house serving breakfast and lunch. They should open sometime this summer.

CORRESPONDENCE

INVOICE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Franzene to pay the township invoices. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Unanimous. Motion carried. / It was noted that the ICECA invoice will be held for another month, to see what their economic development plan is going forward.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Franzene. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, June 10, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – June 10, 2020 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 & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Larry Nelson, PC; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Jane Adams, BOR; Monica Franzmeier, Elections; Residents. Assr Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of May 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 164,275.10
Sewer Fund:	\$ 93,522.08
Water Fund:	\$ 296,863.56
Road Fund:	\$ 201,251.42
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated that the courthouse reopened to the public today. Pentoga Park will be opened beginning Friday, with restrooms open. / He stated that there will be a millage for 911 on the August ballot. The millage is to replace the \$2.75/per line, per phone surcharge. / He stated that Paul Schuytema from the ICECA has accepted a position out of the area and has moved. Erika is part time. LeeAnn is laid off with no plans to bring her back. The organization is going to try and focus on tourism and helping businesses.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated that Larson Road will be done this year as well as the gravel on Ponozzo Rd and the boat launch repair. No other projects are scheduled for this year.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There were 7 new permits issued. He is waiting for several applications. The ZBA met and reconsidered a Morrison Creek appeal which was granted. He is planning to send out several letters for junk car violations, however the recycling center is closed due to COVID, so he has put the letter writing on hold for now. The bar has been sold and is not open. Permits to date in 2020=10. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Public Works Job Description- Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Board will hold off another month until we can get a better idea of the financial future.

PW JOB DESCRIPTN

Paint River Project – Nothing new to report. Project is on hold due to COVID. Rich Sloat and volunteers are going to proceed with building one primitive hut.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

Bates Park-Sunset Lake – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to open the campground, with no showers. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried. / The Board will check with Emily Nelson (last year’s janitor to see if she will clean this summer.)

PARK CAMPGND

Park Signage – A motion was made by Franzene to purchase the park signs from the quote last October. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Two cemetery signs will be added with “no plantings allowed.”

PARK SIGNAGE

Sunset Lake Boat Launch – PW Benson stated that the project would begin near the end of the month.

SUNSET LAKE BOAT LAUNCH

BATES TOWNSHIP

June 10, 2020

Page Two

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

BSA Software Upgrade – After further research and going through a webinar to learn about the programs and what the company has to offer, a motion was made by Oberlin to convert the township’s software utility and financial programs to BSA. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. The programs will not be switched until the end of the year or the beginning of 2021 due to the conversion process and business of the BSA.

**BSA
SOFTWARE
UPGRADE**

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

**ATTORNEY
REPORT**

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin read the Assessor’s report. The 2020 assessing database has been uploaded to the State for the AMAR review. / The July BOR is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22. / She would like her Field Notice posted on the bulletin boards and the website. / She is working on an Agricultural Reappraisal Project. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Audit Fieldwork – Clerk Benson-Stafford said audit fieldwork starts June 17 & 18.

AUDIT

Sunset Lake Dam – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Drain Commissioner Bill Cassagranda has taken boards out at the dam to lower the Sunset Lake water level. He states that it is about 6” too high. Cassagranda asked for matching funds and labor to fix the dam. A motion was made by Oberlin to match county funds up to \$1000 and manpower. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**SUNSET
LAKE WATER
LEVEL**

Tax Bills – Treasurer Nelson stated that she changed the tax bills payment address to the township hall.

TAX BILLS

Project Graduation – A motion was made by Bobnock to contribute \$50 as in years past. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PROJECT
GRADUA-
TION**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – One new tap in. / **Sewer** – Project is complete in Rogers Location. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – There is another potential renter for the coming school year. / Connors Sports Flooring will be putting in a new “dance floor” in Room 105 for Inclusion Dance. There is no cost to the Township. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

CORRESPONDENCE

- US Census – A letter that states that the Township has a 44% response rate and there are jobs available to work for the Census.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENTA motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, June 10, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – July 8, 2020 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 & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Larry Nelson, PC; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Jane Adams, BOR; Monica Franzmeier, Elections; Margee Brennan, ZBA; Assessor Erhart; Residents.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes with a corrected General Fund balance from the May minutes (\$156,412.32 to \$164,275.10). Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of June 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 154,984.03
Sewer Fund:	\$ 82,285.51
Water Fund:	\$ 308,990.49
Road Fund:	\$ 210,404.78
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated that it appears that there is not a COVID strain hotspot within the county, most cases have been the result of family visiting or occurred through travel. / He reminded that the 911 millage will be on the August ballot. The millage will replace the surcharge on telephones and in most cases should save residents money.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report. There were 5 new permits issued. He is waiting for several applications. The ZBA variance that was previously approved on Morrison Creek may not happen as one-part owner is refusing to sell. / He is planning to send out several letters for junk car violations, however the recycling center is closed due to COVID, so he has put the letter writing on hold for now. Permits to date in 2020=15. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Public Works Job Description- Tabled at this time due to uncertainty in State revenue sharing.

PW JOB DESCRIPTN

Paint River Project – FAI was the low bidder. Parks & Rec will review the bids and the project again. Franzene expressed concern about other township needs and maybe we want to wait on the project. There was discussion on how long do we have before we lose the grant; is there a possibility that the property will revert back to the county; Resident Jim Brennan mentioned that maybe the Township could get an extension from the state. P&R will meet and gather information to bring to the board.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

Sunset Lake Boat Launch – PW Benson stated that the concrete should be poured by Friday (10th) and then the slabs will be put in.

SUNSET LAKE BOAT LAUNCH

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

BATES TOWNSHIP

July 8, 2020

Page Two

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart stated that we passed the State of Michigan AMAR, which is the Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements, so we are all set for another 5 years. / She reminded that the July BOR will be held July 22 at 1:00pm at the hall. / She stated that the County will be foreclosing on one property in Bates Township on Gibbs City Rd. The Township will have first right of refusal. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**BACKHOE
REPAIR**

Backhoe Repair – There was discussion because the original repair was \$17000, and it was determined that the torque converter needed to be replaced for an additional \$3700 for a total of \$21000. It is a 1994 backhoe. It was cost \$65000-\$70000 for a used one with 1000 hours. One resident commented that there is no guarantee that a used one will be problem free. A motion was made by Franzene to approve the repair. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**–Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Backhoe** – See previous minutes. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / School – Supervisor Oberlin had a list of Township building options. There was discussion about the use of properties and/or sale of hall or school. A group of volunteers will form a committee: Krist Atanasoff, Ernie Schmidt, Margee Brennan, Mike Stafford, Mike Franzene. They will tour the school next week.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Mike Golas stated that Mike Henschel organized a Flotilla on Sunset Lake that happened July 4th. He said that it was great and really something to see.
- A Resident made a complaint about loud music on boats and was wondering if anything could be done about that.
- A Resident stated that the school and park have never looked so well maintained. Thank you to the Ed, John & Jim.
- There were comments about calls regarding the lake level being too high. Oberlin stated that Bates Twp has no authority over that. This is regulated by the County Drain Commissioner.
- A Resident made a complaint about some people using the fishing pier as their private party spot over the July 4th weekend.

CORRESPONDENCE

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – August 12, 2020 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 & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Jane Adams, BOR; Jim Stolberg, WICFD; Residents. Absent: Supervisor Oberlin; Assessor Erhart.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to appoint Trustee Franzene to oversee the board meeting in the absence of Supervisor Oberlin. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

Treasurer's report for the month of July 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 119,127.16
Sewer Fund:	\$ 86,201.86
Water Fund:	\$ 303,213.37
Road Fund:	\$ 204,194.11
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford gave a brief overview of a lawsuit regarding when a tax role foreclosure is sold by the County, any money beyond taxes/penalties now must be turned over to the former owner. Beware that every taxing agent involved will have to reimburse monies back to the retroactive date.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Larson Rd is being worked on and will be paved soon.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin was absent. No report.

ZONING UPDATE

Paint River Project – Robb Anderson with GEI was available for questions. The grant will expire May 2021. The project needs to be done this year. FAI was the low bidder and said that they will honor their bid of \$66452. Anderson stated that since we are getting closer to the end of the season, maybe the floating pier could go in next spring. A motion was made by Franzene to move forward with the project that was temporarily on hold due to COVID. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

BSA Fund Accounting Upgrade – Clerk Benson Stafford presented the bid for the server from PC Tech at \$5215. This will centralize the treasurer/clerk's computers into one server as recommended by BSA. A motion was made by Nelson to approve the purchase. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BSA SERVER

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but her report stated that there were 7 petitions at the July BOR. She will not hold office hours in July, but she will be back in the office for August. / John Pearson has applied for a land division on the Paint River parcel that he owns. His application was incomplete. She sent him a letter outlining the deficiencies. / A Resident questioned the purpose of the

ASSESSOR REPORT

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Assessor Report (cont'd) - agricultural reassessments. With the absence of Supervisor Oberlin and Assessor Erhart, the board answered the question with the knowledge they had. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

Sunset Lake Boat Launch – Pw Benson stated that the Vendor is supposed to come and cut off about 1'-2' because the apron incline is too steep. Waiting on paving.

**SUNSET LAKE
BOAT
LAUNCH**

Cemetery Death Certificates – A motion was made by Nelson to approve the purchase of missing death certificates up to \$300. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CEMETERY

Building Committee Public Hearing – A reminder that the volunteer building committee is holding a Public Hearing on Wednesday, August 19th, at 6:00pm at the Township Hall.

**BUILDING
COMMITTEE**

Election Inspectors Hazard Pay – Clerk Benson-Stafford noted that many municipalities were paying hazard pay due to all the extra tasks that the inspectors must perform due to COVID. She asked that the board consider a stipend for the Inspectors the August and November elections. A motion was made by Franzene to approve a flat fee of \$30/per Inspector for each election. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ELECTION
INSPECTORS
HAZARD PAY**

School Yard/Resident Parking – There continues to be a resident on 1st street that continues to park his car under a tree in the school yard. It is in the school yard and is not in a designated parking area. A photo was provided to all board members. A motion was made by Nelson to put up a no parking sign. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**SCHOOL
YARD /
PARKING
VIOLATION**

Park Dumpster/Campground Garbage – There was discussion about illegal dumping into the campsite garbage receptacles and the dumpsters. / It was noted that the cleaning person would be leaving for college on August 17th. / There was discussion to close the park campground & restrooms right after Labor Day.

**PARK
DUMPSTER**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**–Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – PW Benson stated they are working on raising manhole covers. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Mike Golas talked about the pro bass tournament with a top prize of \$1400. / Fishermen from all over the UP and norther Wisconsin. He stated it was catch & release.
- Residents – There was discussion about a new build on Sunset Lake. Stanley Atanasoff stated that he gave the property owners permission to use his easement access until their road was built. / There were some questions as to who was complaining about the new build. The Board had no knowledge of any complaints but said they would ask Oberlin upon his return since he is the Zoning Administrator.

CORRESPONDENCE

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 6:54pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, September 8, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – September 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Jon Oberlin called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Jon Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson & Trustees Franzene & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Yvonne Andersen, Sunset Lk Assn VP; Margee Brennan, ZBA; Jane Adams, BOR; Residents. Absent: Assessor Erhart.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes from the previous month’s meeting. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of August 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 112,612.78
Sewer Fund:	\$ 89,604.56
Water Fund:	\$ 261,135.35
Road Fund:	\$ 203,758.49
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated there was nothing new to report at this time.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated that Larson Rd is just about done. Pw Benson said that there is an issue with one main value; waiting ICRC is waiting for signage. / Oberlin said that Ponozzo Rd gravel will be spread next year.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report with 10 permits issued in July/August. No zoning questions pending currently. He is planning to send out junk car violation letters but was on hold due to recycling yard being closed. Permits to date are 25. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk. / A Resident questioned if Oberlin was working with the Paquette property to get junk cars removed. Oberlin stated that he was not aware of that problem. That was being handle by previous Zoning Administrator Stowell. / A question was raised again about the number of propane tanks allowed on a property on Sunset Lake.

ZONING UPDATE

Paint River Project – The project has begun. FAI will start grading soon and hopefully paving before the snow comes.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but her report stated that there is some confusion on PRE’s. She gave a definition. There was information regarding the July and December BOR’s and their purpose. She gave an Agricultural Reappraisal Project report. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Township Hall Office Roof Bid – There were 3 bids received: 1 verbal-2 written. Verbal/Hohensee \$5500; Stik Bilt Construction \$4845; Oberlin-Franzene \$3900. There was some discussion about whether to have “board members’ do the project. The bid was not meant to undercut anyone but to save the township money. A motion was made by Oberlin to accept the Stik Bilt bid and they would complete the project by the end of September. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, abstain; Franzene, abstain. Motion carried.

OFFICE ROOF

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Planning Commission Appointment – One letter of interest was received from a qualified applicant. At the recommendation of Supervisor Oberlin, a motion was made by Nelson to appoint Krist Atanasoff to the Planning Commission. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PC APPOINT.

Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment – There was discussion as to whether the Township should revert to a 3 member ZBA instead of the current 5 member ZBA. Since there were two letters of interest received from qualified applicants, at the recommendation of Supervisor Oberlin, a motion was made by Oberlin to appoint Yvonne Andersen and Krist Atanasoff to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZBA APPOINT.

Zoning Board of Appeals Retro Appointment – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Margee Brennan had been appointed to the ZBA around January 2018. Brennan stated that her first hearing was the Detterbeck hearing. Oberlin requested that Brennan be appointed retroactively since there appeared to be no appointment in the minutes. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to appoint Brennan retroactively to January 2018. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZBA RETRO APPOINT.

Bates Park/Sunset Lake – The park will be closed on September 15th. The raft, and buoys are in. PW Benson says he will pull in the fishing pier near the end of September. / Supervisor Oberlin noted that Wildlife Unlimited has agreed to donate 50% of the cost of the new boat launch. They will also donate \$4500 towards a new boat launch dock in the spring.

BATES PARK/ SUNSET LK

Cemetery Decorations – Clerk Benson-Stafford will publish the cemetery decoration removal by October 1st ad.

CEMETERY

Payroll Tax Deferral – Clerk Benson-Stafford pointed out that it is the Employer's choice to defer. The Township will opt not to defer the taxes.

P/R TAX DEFERRAL

Public Works Interviews – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Jim Nelson/Meter Reader has retired. Trustee Franzene, Supervisor Oberlin and PW Benson will interview applicants for a new position and bring back recommendations to the Board. PW Benson asked the Board to keep in mind the knowledge and experience that current part time employee John Franzmeier has. Benson does not want to lose him.

PW INTERVIEWS

WICPS Rent – WICPS asked for an exception on the August rent start date due to the \$1369 Fire alarm/smoke detector installations that they had to make to the school. A motion was made by Oberlin to make their rent start date September 1 instead of August 1. It was noted that school did not start until August 31. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

WICPS RENT

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – New water service put in on Shoquist Rd. / **Sewer** – PW Benson stated he is waiting for Tunnel Vision do come and do the wet well wash. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – The modification made to the new boat launch has made an improved difference. Next year the pavement will be redone. / **School** -The DIISD had to install a washer/dryer. The Township will charge an additional \$50/month for rent due to water & electric usage.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Jim Brennan wanted to acknowledge that the cemetery & school grounds look very good.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Pauline Benson/Election Inspector – Card of thanks to the Board for acknowledging the Inspectors hard work, and for the hazard pay. (Card on file with the Clerk.
- Fay Whitehead/Bates Resident – Letter of interest to become a BOR member. Action was tabled until the next meeting.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – October 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Jon Oberlin called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Jon Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson & Trustees Franzene & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Ron Ernie Schmidt & Ron Frailing, ICRC; Krist Atanasoff, PC & ZBA; Larry Nelson, PC; Margee Brennan, ZBA; Jane Adams, BOR; Residents. Absent: Assessor Erhart.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes from the previous month’s meeting. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of September 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 92,243.85
Sewer Fund:	\$ 80,602.51
Water Fund:	\$ 279,435.03
Road Fund:	\$ 203,451.96
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the 911 was going to be levied for the winter taxes but the state statues for changing surcharges can only be done once a year and that is July 1st. Therefore, 6 months of the surcharge will be subtracted from the millage and the remainder amounts to .732 mills for 2020 tax.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated that the gravel has been crushed and is ready for the ICRC to spread next year on Ponozzo & Winslow Lk Rds. They will spread it north and west.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report with 1 new permit issued. No zoning questions pending currently. There is a current violation with permit No 20 for a 12’ concrete patio with frost walls. The frost walls were put in at 14’ 9” so that the patio will be 2’ 9” oversized, violating the permit. As Zoning Administrator, Oberlin recommended that at minimum a fine should be assessed. / There was much discussion and Attorney Atanasoff was present to inform he Board of the options. Many Residents were present to voice their concerns and wanted the board to take action; some thought that the Resident is a chronic violator of zoning and permits and that he should be forced to remove the concrete structure as a penalty for violating the permit. Attorney Atanasoff stated that the options would be to revoke the permit; issue an order to correct and comply with a fine and daily penalty; stop work order should be done immediately. Attorney Atanasoff stated that because it is a violation of the permit, certainly it is appropriate to take action. Some Residents stated that he has done things to the landscape. Oberlin said that Jim Carron of the DNR and the Iron Soil & Water Conservation have red flagged him twice, but he continues to pay the fines and get those permits. The Township has no say over the landscape items. A motion was made by Nelson to issue the permit violation via registered certified mail, signature required, along with a \$750 fine and a \$200 per day fine if the \$750 fine is not paid within 10 days. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Permits issued to date are 26. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Paint River Project – PW Benson stated that people are complaining that they cannot drive down to the river. There was going to be a 6’ blacktop path but Benson & Mike Stafford spoke with the crew and the decision was made to pave the area 8’ wide. Benson stated that he spoke with Jim Carron/DEQ about doing a gravel drive to the river’s edge. We are waiting for approval.

**PAINT RIVER
PROJECT**

Public Works New Hire - Supervisor Oberlin stated that two good candidates had been interviewed. There was one more candidate to interview and he was hoping to have a recommendation for the board at the November meeting.

**PUBLIC
WORKS
NEW HIRE**

Park Restrooms – PW Benson-restrooms are closed/winterized for the season.

**PARK
RESTROOMS**

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

**ATTORNEY
REPORT**

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin reviewed the report. The Township had received a letter from the State indicating that the Township needed to take corrective action on our AMAR which we thought we had passed. After a further talk with the State, there was an error that the County needed to correct. Bates Township passed the AMAR with 100%. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

WIC Fire Board – Supervisor Oberlin stated that a letter was received, and the Fire Board was requesting an increase on the annual fee from \$19000 to \$22000. This would be the first increase since January 1993. The 1987 Ford pumper is failing certification tests and is 33 years old and needs to be replaced. There is a 1977 Chevy equipment van. The other three trucks are 2000, 2003 & 2007. They are well maintained but the hours of use add up. Ernie Schmidt from the WICFD stated that they are looking at a used truck, they cannot afford a half a million-dollar new truck. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to approve the increase as requested. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**WICFD
ANNUAL FEE**

Election Reminder – Clerk Benson-Stafford reminded that the polls will be open on Tuesday, November 3 from 7:00am – 8:00pm. If anyone needs an absent voter ballot application, they should get one as soon as possible. The hall will be all set up with PPE for those that would like to vote in person.

**GENERAL
ELECTION**

Building Committee Update / Survey – Supervisor Oberlin stated that there was a volunteer committee. Chairperson Ernie Schmidt said that they prepared a survey for the residents to answer to get the residents’ input. He presented the Board with an article for publication in the newspaper. There was some discussion as to why the township took the building back. Schmidt stated that there was another municipality that let their school be purchased by a private enterprise which ended up not taking care of the building and it eventually costed the municipality 1.5 million dollars to tear it down. A motion was made by Franzene to approval the article and survey which will be acceptable on the home page of the township website as well as copies available in a brochure box outside the township hall. There will also be a public service add on the radio and there will be a reminder placed on the utility billing. Supported by Benson-Stafford. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BUILDING
COMM./
SURVEY**

John Deere Backhoe – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Iron River Township got a great deal on a new backhoe, so PW Benson & Oberlin investigated it for Bates. A motion was made by Nelson to do a three-year lease w/warranty at \$66980, trading in the current backhoe with a value of\$20000. The lease can be paid off in advance without penalty. The lease will include 500 hours of free service. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BACKHOE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

PW Benson was absent and working on a bad lift station.

Hall-The new roof was replaced on the hall office. Ernie Schmidt asked about the gutters. Franzene stated that he hated to put them on the hall right now before winter. Mike Stafford said that he would be concerned about ice buildup. Margee Brennan said that she was worried about not doing anything. It was decided to wait until we have the survey results. /**Shop**–Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – There is a leaking roof drain. Markell will repair it at a cost of \$900-\$1000. They do a retrofit kit and they stated that the drains would be original to the roof. They should be cleared of leaves/debris about every 6 months.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Jenn Berlinski introduced herself as the Bates Township representative on the WID Library Board. She said the library adopted COVID policies that mirror the school policies. She was happy to answer any questions that anyone might have.
- Jim Brennan that regarding the Sunset Lake dam and the Drain Commissioner, that maybe there should be a special assessment for the Sunset Lake owners. He stated that the legal fees for the Indian Lk project were over \$50,000. He said to stay on top of it, fix it because the additional water will continue to erode it. Supervisor Oberlin said that the Township had been in touch with Bill Casagrande, the interim Drain Commissioner and that the Township had earmarked \$1000 towards materials and was willing to donate some labor towards a repair. The County was going to turn the Drain Commissioner tasks over to the ICRC. Ernie Schmidt said that the road commission does not have the resources to handle that. Mike Stafford thought it was going to be a one-year trial.

CORRESPONDENCE

-

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:33pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, November 11, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – November 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Jon Oberlin called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Jon Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson & Trustees Franzene & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Mark Bromley, ICECA; Yvonne Andersen, Sunset Lk Assn VP; Larry Nelson, PC; Margee Brennan, ZBA; Jane Adams, BOR; Residents. Absent: Assessor Erhart.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes from the previous month’s meeting. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of October 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 84,938.13
Sewer Fund:	\$ 83,705.68
Water Fund:	\$ 294,614.41
Road Fund:	\$ 149,412.16
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the new County budget for 2021 is out for public review and can be found on the County’s website. The next meeting will be December 15th.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report with 2 new permits issued. He met with two property owners to answer questions. / Violations: Mark Gasperini of 105 Noren Rd was issued a fine of \$750 due by October 27. After ailing to pay the fine on time, a \$200/day additional fine brings his total fine due to date of \$3550. After issuing a stop work order on October 8, on October 16th Oberlin was informed that the work was continuing. He visited the site and told the contractors there was a stop work order, which they were not aware of. Since that time, Mr. Gasperini has continued to violate the stop work order by working on the stopped project on his own. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Zoning Permit No. 20 Violation & Stop Work Order - Attorney Atanasoff gave a recap of the project and the violation. Mr. Gasperini has hired Attorney Roy Polich to represent him. There are three violations in play, the permit violation, the stop work order violation and the setbacks from the lakeside and the side lot. Benson-Stafford made a motion that the current violator cannot get any further permits until this current violation matter is resolved. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / There was additional discussion about a fence issue and the question was raised, why give permits if the constable cannot enforce them.

ZONING PERMIT 20 VIOLATION

MDNR Paint River Project – Robb Anderson/GEI Consultants presented the pay application to the board in the amount of \$48609.60. A motion was made by Oberlin to approve the request. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. As soon as the check clears it can be submitted to the State for reimbursement. The dock will not be installed this year, it will be installed in the spring. Also, the Township must purchase mandatory signage.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Public Works New Hire – Nothing new to report.

**PUBLIC
WORKS
NEW HIRE**

Building Committee Update / Survey – The survey was made available in paper copy by the backdoor of the hall as well as there were paper copies available on election day. Survey's will be collected until November 30th.

**BUILDING
COMM./
SURVEY**

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

**ATTORNEY
REPORT**

Assessor Report – Supervisor Oberlin read the report. December BOR will be held Wednesday December 16th. / Winter taxes will be set up and mailed before December 1st. / Supervisor Oberlin congratulated Jane Adams, BOR on her election win to be a Trustee. With that, Oberlin made a motion to appoint Faye Whitehead to a two-year term that would begin at the December BOR. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

ICECA – Mark Bromley – Mark introduced himself as the new Executive Director. He said he hopes to carry on the good work of Paul & Erica. He wants to continue to work closely with businesses and municipalities.

**ICECA/MARK
BROMLEY**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**–Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Lift stations have been cleaned out. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Leaking roof drain has been repaired.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Jane Adams commented that the elections were a lot of work and a lot goes on behind the scenes and that the Clerk and workers did a great job.
- Mike Golas mentioned that there is drainage issue with a ditch over by Lundberg's creek. Benson is aware and has talked to the ICRC about this.
- Margee Brennan thanked the Clerk and the Election Workers for a job well done. She is a County Board of Canvassers member
- Jim Andersen wanted to make sure that 105 Noren Rd will have to come into compliance with the ordinance.
- On behalf of the Board, Supervisor Oberlin thanked John Bobnock for his many years of service to the Township as a Board Trustee.

CORRESPONDENCE

-

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – December 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall (outdoors).

Supervisor Jon Oberlin called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Jon Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson & Trustees Franzene & Adams were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Larry Nelson, PC; Margee Brennan, ZBA; Residents. Absent: Assessor Erhart.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes from the previous month’s meeting with a correction made by Oberlin in “Guest Comments” regarding a drainage issue, not a leak. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of November 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 34,277.96
Sewer Fund:	\$ 84,085.26
Water Fund:	\$ 310,466.54
Road Fund:	\$ 131,851.91
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the next County meeting will be held outside and the topic is the budget for 2021.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report with 0 new permits issued. He met with one property owner to answer questions. / Violations: Mark Gasperini is still in violation of his permit. After a meeting with Gasperini, Atty Roy Polich with Oberlin and Twp Atty Atanasoff, no progress was made so papers are being prepared to take the matter to court. / Oberlin is compiling a list of junk car ordinance violators and letters will be sent soon. / Permits to date: 28. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

MDNR Paint River Project – Signage is in the works.

MDNR P R PROJECT

Public Works New Hire – There is another candidate that may be applying.

NEW HIRE

Building Committee Update / Survey – The Board received recommendations from the committee. The survey indicated that most people want the township to retain both the school and the hall. At this time, the township offices will remain at the hall. A motion was made by Oberlin to authorize Margee Brennan to investigate the possibility of putting the hall on the historical registry and what grants for building improvements might be available. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

BUILDING COMM SURVEY RECOMM.

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Assessor Report – No report received.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Paint River Project Grant Writing/Rich Sloat- Rich presented the Board with a proposal to write a grant for the primitive shelter part of the project. Currently there are some trees cut and the plan is to begin with two shelters. The grant is up to \$10000. Trustee Adams addressed concerns about a request for parking on Shady Lane as well as a request to have a path wide enough to drive into the shelters. A driveway in was never mentioned before. In the past it was understood that these were going to be shelters accessed from the river. There are concerns about people using the shelters to party. Franzene mentioned concerns about additional maintenance and garbage. Sloat stated that previously the Iron County Watershed and Rise Up had committed to helping to maintain the area for a couple of years. He was not sure if that was still the case. A motion was made to authorize Sloat to write the grant. Supported by Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PAINT RIVER
GRANT /
RICH SLOAT**

Employee Christmas Bonus – A motion was made by Oberlin to give Benson \$175 and Franzmeier \$125. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**EMPLOYEE
BONUS**

Sewer Lift Station Easement Access Changes – There is a request to change two easements: Stanley Atanasoff and KC Atanasoff. They will do the new driveways at their expense and their Attorney Steve Polich drafted the documents. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to have the Bates Attorney review the documents; if approved and/or changed and acceptable to the township, Supervisor Oberlin can proceed with signing. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**SEWER LIFT
STATION
EASEMENT
CHANGES**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**—Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – There was a window busted at the school. A repair estimate is forthcoming.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Welcome to Jane Adams as the new Bates Township Trustee.

CORRESPONDENCE

-

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____