

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, July 8, at 4:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Stafford called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Stafford, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson & Karnack; ZA Bofinger; Larry Nelson, PC; Sue Passamani, BHPS; IC Comm Judd; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous month’s meeting. Supported by Trustee Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Trustee Adams made a motion to accept the June 2026 Treasurers report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

General Fund: \$ 254,191.04
Sewer Fund: \$ 88,668.69
Water Fund: \$ 296,233.39
Road Fund: \$ 252,713.65

Invoice Approval

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

**INVOICE
APPROVAL**

County Commissioner Report – Comm Judd said there are still 2 proposals being reviewed for Cooks Run. Judd thought they both had good points, hoping somehow, they can be combined. / Announced that City of Iron River is now in their new city hall. / There is a new Vendor at the Chicagon Lake - Pentoga Park Store and it has been a good fit.

**COUNTY
COMM
REPORT**

ICECA Report – Absent.

ICECA

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Assessor Report – Supervisor Stafford read the report. / BOR scheduled for 9:30 on July 22nd. / 2 pending tribunal cases. / A third tribunal case was withdrawn by petitioners.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Zoning Administrator Report – ZA Bofinger stated there were 5 new zoning permits issued in May. / He has been addressing several blight violations. / He has been answering several questions/inquiries. / YTD 15 permits have been issued. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING
ADMIN
REPORT**

Planning Commission – Supervisor Stafford stated the master plan is out on public review. / The PC continues to work on the zoning ordinance. / The next meeting is August 3rd, 6:00pm, at the Windsor Center.

**PLANNING
COMM**

Road Projects- Supervisor Stafford said that the Rogers Avenue shoulder has washed out. The ICRC will repair that. / The gravel projects are delayed until August & September. / Dust Control is now scheduled for around July 13th due to Vendor equipment breakdowns.

**ROAD
PROJECTS**

Hall- Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – PW Karnack stated on June 15th there was a reconnect to a Forsberg Road curb stop. On June 23rd there was a reconnect to a Kohmehl Rd curb stop which is an interagency (COIR). This is good to have in the event of emergency. / The Kleimann well project is complete. / On July 9th they will eliminate an old water line & leak on Chicagon Mine Rd as well as running a new service. / **Sewer** – L/S#1 flowmeter quit working. He is working with the Vendor to find a solution. / **Cemetery** – Open for the season. / **Park** – Open for the season. / **School** – Nothing new to report. / **Paint River Boat Launch** – Trash receptacles have been pulled due to people using them to dump household garbage. This was not their intended use.

**HALL-SHOP-
WTR-SWR-
CEM-PARK-
SCH-PR BL**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (cont'd)

Windsor Center– Nothing new to report.

WINDSOR
CTR

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Sue Passamani stated they made over \$5000 on the rummage sale. / They will be at Rodeo Days for a fundraiser as well as they have their Dina Mia fundraiser in late August. / They started the new year at \$313,322, with the unofficial July total is \$332,000. / Due to the USDA process, the BHPS expects to advertise bids in September and break ground in April 2027.

BHPS

WIDL - Trustee Adams stated the meeting is next Monday. / For Rodeo Market Days the Friends of the Library will have a book sale. Hundreds of books available.

WIDL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Supervisor Statement – Supervisor Stafford stated he met with Bonnie-Park Campground Host to go over some park needs. He replaced dusk to dawn lights. He will pick up and deliver pea gravel. / Nicolet Sign is working on the new cemetery sign. / He will be meeting with the new insurance company that is taking over Hannula Insurance. / He handled a boundary complaint regarding a raft in the water. / The Board members, Ed and Nick participated in an AED training.

SUPERVISOR
STATEMENT

Forestry Plan – Mr. Van Oss had to postpone meeting.

FORESTRY
PLAN

NEW BUSINESS

Cemetery Tree Removal – Trustee Adams made a motion to accept the bid from MRS tree for \$1850 to remove some dangerous trees. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CEMETERY
TREE
REMOVAL

August Primary Election – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that Saturday, July 25th is Day 1 of 9 days of early in person voting. Polls will be open from 7:00am-3:00pm. Election Day, August 4th, polls will be open from 7:00am – 8:00pm.

AUGUST
ELECTIONS

GIS Mapping – Supervisor Stafford made a motion to approve the cost of up to \$1500 to have the GIS mapping corrections made to the properties on the east portion of Sunset Lake. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Nelson, yes; Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

GIS
MAPPING

GUEST COMMENTS

- Butch Dowgwillow spoke about his research into the Sunset Lake milfoil and EGLEs assessment and permitting process. /A new patch of milfoil was found on the west end of Sunset Lake also someone stole buoys that blocked a section of milfoil area.
- Sue Passamani asked about progress on Larson Park and asked Jesse Casari if he/his class could duplicate one of the deteriorating plaque at the park. Supervisor Stafford said that the Sheriff’s work van would be painting the posts. Trustee Adams was going to look into someone(s) that would paint/refresh the sign.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA Report

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:05pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, August 12, 2026.