

The regular monthly board meeting for the Township of Wright was held on Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building.

The Board Members in attendance were Connie Strong, Lois Hills, and William White. Board Members, Fred Horwath, and Roger Zimmerman were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Trustee, William White, in the absence of the Supervisor, Fred Horwath.

The meeting was opened with reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and with prayer offered by Connie Strong.

There were eight citizens and guests present at the meeting.

The motion was made by Board Member, Lois Hills, and supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to approve the minutes of last month's meeting and the treasurer's report as printed. (*Treasurer's report follows.*) The motion carried.

BALANCE ON HAND – JANUARY 31, 2008		
<u>WRIGHT TOWNSHIP</u>		
Checking Account	\$	8,258.28
LIP Account	\$	217,942.18
Sewer Fund Savings	\$	0.00
<u>WRIGHT-WALDRON FIRE & AMBULANCE FUND</u>		
Checking Account	\$	328.81
LIP Account	\$	179,179.57
Statement Savings	\$	22,072.31

The meeting was opened for public comment.

Richard Chudey commented that the O & M sewer bills were received late and didn't allow much time before the due date.

Judy Marry was questioning when the "electricity to her barn" was going to be fixed. Apparently the electrical box was ripped off the barn by Rothenberger during the construction of the sewer and she is claiming it has not been fixed. William White explained to her that Tri-County Light & Power Company did the repair as much as they were capable. They could not restore the power as it was because they found that the electricity was incorrectly hooked up on the "Consumers Energy side of the electrical meter", so therefore it is her responsibility to have the power hooked up correctly. It would be illegal for Tri-County to hook up her power in this described situation and to repair this described situation would not be sewer related.

Judy Marry also complained about the condition of the private roads at Lime Lake. Jeff Gier reported to her that the roads have been restored to the condition they were in when the sewer project started as required in the contract. The condition of the roads due to the heavy rainfall in not sewer related.

Bruce Caswell, State Representative from the 58th District, was present. He presented information on recent legislation and other current issues.

- He explained the "Prisoner Work Program". To hire prisoners for work in the township the cost is \$3.75 per hour per prisoner with a minimum of five.
- He explained the new legislation rearranging 911 emergency service fees. The new 911 provisions require all phone users to share equally in the cost of emergency.
- He addressed the issues for the need for new power plants in Michigan. He expects there are "big changes coming in electricity."

- He described the state's budget situation. Income tax was increased in 2007. His comment was "there is too much spending".
- He described a plan creating what he calls the "Michigan Fair Tax" which will probably be on the statewide ballot. It would eliminate current sales tax, personal income tax, business tax, personal property tax, 6 mill State Education Tax on business and sales on business purchases and replace them all with a simple retail tax. The retail sales tax rate would be 9.75%. It returns to families 100% of the sales tax up to the poverty level by monthly "prebate" payments to all households.

Jeff Gier submitted a MISS DIG System, Inc. agreement and other documents for our consideration. This agreement would cover the underground facilities for the Lime Lake/Prattville sewer.

1. There is a one-time Data Processing Fee of \$290.00.
2. There is a monthly MISS DIG Membership fee invoiced annually. The 2008 MISS DIG Billing Fee for us with a population of 0 – 5,000 is \$26.30 monthly (\$315.60 annually).
3. We may select the method to receive MISS DIG tickets so we can mark/stake our underground facilities, which our choice would be a.) Tickets can be received by E-mail.

A memo was received from Assessor, Ben Wheeler, urging us to adopt a resolution in regards to allowing residents to appeal by letter, current law allows non residents to appeal by letter, however excludes this right to resident property owners to also do so. Current law states that resident tax payers must appear in person. As in the past we have generally allowed residents to do it by letter, it is best that a resolution be in place prior to this March Board of Review.

The motion was made by Board Member, Lois Hills, and supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to adopt a resolution that the governing body, Wright Township, permit resident taxpayers to file a protest to the Board of Review in writing without personal appearance. Roll Call vote: Connie Strong – yes, Lois Hills – yes, William White – yes, Fred Horwath – absent, and Roger Zimmerman – absent.

Also, from Assessor, Ben Wheeler, a copy of Guidelines for Applicants Requesting Poverty Exemptions was received for our review and urging us to adopt it. It was developed to cover all aspects for the Boards of Review to make a decision in granting the Poverty Exemption. This includes the following: Guidelines (rules and instructions), Current Federal Poverty Guidelines, asset level test, and application in which the property owner fills in all applicable information.

The motion was made by Board Member, Connie Strong, and supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to adopt the resolution, "Guidelines for Applicants Requesting Poverty Exemptions". (*The complete document of "Guidelines" is available upon request.*) Roll call vote: Connie Strong – yes, Lois Hills – yes, William White – yes, Fred Horwath – absent, and Roger Zimmerman – absent.

A letter was received from Stacy Wables, Executive Director of Hillsdale County Domestic Harmony. They thanked us for supporting them in previous years. They provide services to victims of domestic violence and their families, as well as offer batterer's counseling to many assailants, and prevention education to many local high school students. They asked as we prepare our budget for the next fiscal year that we contract with them for the same amount (\$500.00).

The motion was made by Board Member, Connie Strong, and supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to support Domestic Harmony through the Purchase of Service Contract in

the amount of \$500.00 for the next fiscal year. (*The complete document of the "Contract Agreement" is available upon request.*) The motion carried.

For our perusal and input a copy of the current draft of the County's Dog/Animal Control Ordinance was sent to us by the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners. They have been working the last several months to update the Ordinance.

At our next meeting, March 13, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in addition to other regular business there will be a budget hearing. It will cover the proposed expenditures and the estimated revenues for the fiscal year, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 for the General Operating Fund and for the Sewer Fund.

Clerk, Lois Hills submitted Financial reports for Income and Expenses – Actual vs. Budget for fiscal year, April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 for review for the General Operating Fund and the Sewer Fund. Also, she submitted proposed budget changes for fiscal year, April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

The motion was made by Board Member, Connie Strong, and supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to accept the proposed budget changes for fiscal year, April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 as listed in the table below. The motion carried.

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS, FEBRUARY 14, 2007 FOR FISCAL YEAR, APRIL 1, 2007 to MARCH 31, 2008						
ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT	Y.T.D. ACTUAL	RECOMMEND INCREASE	RECOMMEND DECREASE	NEW BUDGET
266-800	Attorney – Services	\$ 0.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00		\$ 35.00
215-704	Clerk – Taxes	135.00	155.17	40.00		175.00
445-800	Drains	5,759.55	6,518.57	759.02		6,518.57
262-860	Election – Travel	0.00	28.25	34.25		34.25
262-703	Election – Taxes	0.00	2.61	2.61		2.61
262-702	Election – Wages	0.00	440.00	440.00		440.00
299-955	Miscellaneous	700.00	850.00	150.00		850.00
	INCREASE – TOTAL BUDGET CHANGES	6,594.55	\$ 8,029.60	\$ 1,460.88		\$ 8,055.43
890-000	Contingency Fund	32,000.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 1,460.88	\$30,539.12
	DECREASE – TOTAL BUDGET CHANGES	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 1,460.88	\$30,539.12

The 2007 Annual Report for the Waldron District Library was received and reviewed.

The annual joint meeting with the Hillsdale County Road Commission was held on Thursday, January 24th.

Cost estimates were received from the Hillsdale County Road Commission for projects suggested for the 2008 construction season.

- Old Field Brine: JLM Tank Truck Service – 40.0 miles @ 3,000 gallons/mile once – JLM's Price - \$367.50, Estimated Cost - \$14,700.00, HCRC Reimbursement to Twp - \$4,000.00.
23% Mineral Well Brine: Michigan Mineral Resources - 40.0 miles @ 3,000 gallons/mile once – MMR'S Price - \$450.00, Estimated Cost - \$18,000.00, HCRC Reimbursement to Twp - \$4,000.00.
23% Mineral Well Brine: Michigan Chloride Sales - 40.0 miles @ 3,000 gallons/mile once – MCS'S Price - \$480.00, Estimated Cost - \$19,200.00, HCRC Reimbursement to Twp - \$4,000.00.
- Description of Work to be performed: Spot gravel patching at various locations throughout the township.
500 cyd processed gravel at \$14.00/cyd – Estimated Cost - \$7,000.00 – Twp Share (50%) - \$3,500.00
1,000 cyd processed gravel at \$14.00/cyd – Estimated Cost - \$14,000.00 – Twp Share (50%) - \$7,000.00
- Burt Road from Waldron Road to Pittsford Road, a length of 2.93 miles. Description of Work to be performed: Paver patch, sealcoat, and add shoulder gravel. Estimated Cost - \$55,100.00 – Twp Share (50%) - \$27,550.00.
- Hartley Road from Pittsford Road to Lickley Road, a length of 0.96 miles. . Description of Work to be performed: Paver patch, sealcoat, and add shoulder gravel. Estimated Cost - \$34,500.00 – Twp Share (50%) - \$17,250.00.
- Lickley Road from Buckeye Road to Ohio State Line, a length of 1.37 miles - Description of Work to be performed: Sealcoat only. Estimated Cost - \$24,700.00 – Twp Share (50%) - \$12,350.00.
- Lickley Road Berm & Gravel: Prattville Road to Squawfield Road. (Addendum #1 – Work Order #2830) Original estimated cost - \$24,100.00; Twp Share (75%) - \$18,075.00. Additional cost: More ditching 3 crew days @ \$5.300; Total - \$15,900.00; Twp Share (75%) - \$11,925.00. 12 driveway culverts @ \$250; Total - \$3,000.00; Twp Share (75%) - \$2,250.00. Revised Estimated Cost: Total - \$43,000.00; Twp Share (75%) – 32,250.00.

Clerk, Lois Hills reported that she and D & B Billing have received telephone calls that the sewer bills mailed on January 25th were being received late with reports of them being received as late as February 5th. Also, D & B Billing made an error in the billing stating the bills were due 2/7, they should have been due 2/10. They allowed 12 days from the date of mailing rather than 15 days as stated in the ordinance.

Board Member, Lois Hills made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to waive any late fees on the sewer billing mailed, January 25th, until February 15th since the bills were received late and the wrong due date was used. The motion carried.

The motion was offered by Board Member, William White, supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to adopt a resolution to approve the Contract Change Order Number 2 for Anglin Civil Constructors, Inc. – Contract A. Description of Changes: Additional 12" D.I. Overflow Piping – Increase - \$1,482.00; Additional Rip Rap for Erosion Control – Increase - \$6,846.18; Liquidated Damages – Decrease \$ 8,328.18. There was no net change in the contract price. The contract price is \$1,448,676.00. Roll call vote: Connie Strong – no, Lois Hills – yes, William White – yes, Fred Horwath – absent, and Roger Zimmerman – absent.

The motion was offered by Board Member, Lois Hills, and seconded by Board Member, William White, to adopt a resolution to approve for payment the following bills and invoices relating to the Lime Lake/Prattville Sewer project from the Construction Account of the Sewer

Enterprise Fund contingent upon the approval of USDA Rural Development. Roll call vote: Connie Strong – no, Lois Hills – yes, William White – yes, Fred Horwath – absent, and Roger Zimmerman – absent.

- 1. Jack Anglin Civil Constructors, Ltd. – Contract A (payment #10 final payment) - \$72,450.90

Total	\$72,450.90
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Board Member, William White made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to approve for payment the bills as submitted for the sewer fund, a total of \$2,889.11. (*A listing of Sewer bills is available upon request.*) The motion carried.

Board Member, Lois Hills made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to pay the bills as submitted for payment, a total of \$5,362.58 from the General Operating Fund. (*A listing of bills is available upon request.*) The motion carried.

Board Member, Connie Strong made the motion, supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

 Lois J. Hills
 Wright Township Clerk