

The regular monthly board meeting for the Township of Wright was held on Thursday, January 9, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building.

The Supervisor, Fred Horwath, called the meeting to order.

The meeting was opened with reciting of the pledge of allegiance and with prayer offered by Board Member, Lois Hills.

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

There were a total of seven citizens present at the meeting that included Skip Linden, Ken Ottinger, Christie Cook, Duane and Betty Keeling, John Tanner, and Maxine Vanlerberg.

Board Member, Bill White made the motion, supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman to approve the minutes of last month's meeting, and accept the treasurer's report as printed. (*Treasurer's report follows.*) The motion carried.

<b>BALANCE ON HAND, DECEMBER 31, 2002</b>	
<b><u>WRIGHT TOWNSHIP</u></b>	
Checking Account	\$ 114.85
L.I.P. Account	\$ 3,664.11
Sewer Fund Savings	\$ 849.80
Flagstar Money Market	\$253,909.86
Flagstar Checking	\$ 1,010.37
<b><u>WRIGHT-WALDRON FIRE &amp; AMBULANCE FUND</u></b>	
Checking Account	\$ 171.08
L.I.P. Account	\$111,575.68
Statement Savings	\$ 13,459.97
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 21,040.19

The meeting was opened for public comment with no comment being offered.

One bid estimate was received for work to be performed on the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building to bring it in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The requirements were determined by the Accessibility Site Survey. The bid received was from Myrl Meller Construction Company, Inc. for the total amount of \$2,564.87.

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Bill White to accept the bid of \$2,564.87 from Myrl Meller Construction Company, Inc. to make the required improvements to the Wright-Waldron Municipal

Building to comply with the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The motion carried.

Christie Cook, RCAP, commented that the Wright Township Transition Plan, Program Accessibility - ADA, Title ii, Section 504 Rehabilitation Act, should be reviewed annually.

Christie Cook reported that the Engineering firm, Feller and Finch have been in the area doing work, and Fred Horwath reported that Feller and Finch wants Attorney Boyd to start the easements.

Christie Cook announced there will a Bean Creek Watershed Planning Committee meeting on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building.

Betty Keeling reported that Wright Township is first on the list for financial assistance from Hillsdale Geographic Information Systems Group (GIS) for digitize mapping of our parcels. We have approximately 1350 parcels and the cost for this project is expected to be about \$4725.00.

The Board of Review is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.; and Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a vacancy for a Board of Review member.

The preceding resolution was offered by Board Member, William White and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "Aye" - Fred Horwath, Lois Hills, Connie Strong, Roger Zimmerman, and William White. "Nay" - none.

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

### **POVERTY GUIDELINES RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is within the purview of the township board; and

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under Public Act 390, 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390, 1994, Wright Township, Hillsdale County adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contact, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
- 6) The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of board of review.
- 7) Any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

Maxine Vanlerberg, our district's County Commissioner, elected on November 5<sup>th</sup>, reported that she has been sworn in. Ken Lautzenheiser was elected Chairman and Alice Britton was elected Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. She stated she was appointed the Chairperson of the Human Services Committee.

The Township's annual joint meeting with the Road Commission has been scheduled for Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 p.m. at the Road Commission office.

Bill White reported he contacted Attorney Boyd for him to review the proposed Fire and Ambulance Agreement. Boyd had a question on a couple of items which Bill couldn't answer. Bill presented those questions which were answered satisfactorily. Otherwise it was Boyd's opinion the agreement looked good.

Board Member, Bill White made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong to pay the bills submitted for payment, a total of \$4,923.85 from the General Fund and a total of \$9,878.00 from the BAN Sewer Fund. (*A listing of the bills is available upon request.*) The motion carried.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

The meeting was immediately reopened for a forgotten item of business.

Board Member, Bill White made the motion, supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to approve the proposed Fire and Ambulance agreement. The roll call vote was Bill White - yes, Connie Strong - no, Roger Zimmerman - yes, Lois Hills - yes, and Fred Horwath - yes. (*A copy of the agreement is available upon request.*)

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Bill White to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

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Lois J. Hills  
Wright Township