

The regular monthly board meeting for the Township of Wright was held on Thursday, January 8, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building.

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

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, Fred Horwath, Lois Hills, and William White.

There were six citizens and guests present at the meeting that included Skip Linden, Rich Chudey, Leroy Morr, John Tanner, Ray Saneholtz, and Jim Marry.

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

BALANCE ON HAND - DECEMBER 31, 2003

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP

Checking Account	\$ 3,699.86
LIP Account	\$ 48,070.18
Flagstar Checking	\$ 1,352.84
Flagstar Money Market	\$ 83,830.71
Sewer Fund Savings	\$ 855.01

WRIGHT-WALDRON FIRE AND AMBULANCE FUND

Checking Account	\$ 29.78
LIP Account	\$129,434.92
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 21313.50
BOL Statement Savings	\$ 15,145.99

The meeting was opened for public comment.

Supervisor, Fred Horwath read a letter from Attorney, Daniel Boyd, regarding the progress being made in obtaining the necessary easements for the Prattville-Lime Lake Sewer system. At this time 177 easements have been sent and of those, 74 have been signed and returned. In his review of the law for the sewer project's use of Drain Commission and Road Commission easements indicates that the Township will need to obtain the Commissions' respective approvals before using the right of ways to install the sewer lines and/or pumping stations, etc. It his opinion that a mailing should be made by the Township with the assistance of Feller Finch to all of the property owners in the proposed Prattville-Lime Lake sewer district. This mailing should include specifics regarding the system to be installed as well as the reasons why the State or Federal government and their respective agencies are mandating this system, so that people will understand that the Township has little choice in constructing and implementing this system.

Ray Saneholtz, Engineer from Feller Finch & Associates, Inc. responded to the issues addressed in Attorney, Dan Boyd's letter. Ray provided a sample of the mailing he has generated for each individual property owner that includes a drawing showing the location of the house and other features with the proposed location of the grinder pump station and pressure service line to serve their property.

The mailing along with the individual maps for each property owner will include a cover letter including specifics regarding the system to be installed as well as the reasons why the this system is being mandated. This mailing should be sent within a week. Also, an Informational meeting concerning the Lime Lake-Prattville sewer system project was scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 19th at 7:30 p.m. at the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building.

Jim Marry, a landowner on Prattville Road, stated his opinion of the project and he was not approving an easement on his property.

Ray reported that he has been in contact with the Drain Commission and the Road Commission. He shared that the sewer project cost at this time is estimated to be thirty per cent (30%) higher than original estimated cost. Currently work is being done on preparing the assessment roll.

The motion was made by Board Member, Connie Strong, and supported by Board Member, William White, to grant approval and sign the Hillsdale County Grading Permit Application seeking to obtain Soil Erosion Permits for the new wastewater treatment plant – Contract A, and for the sanitary sewer collection system – contract B as prepared by Steven J. Darmofal, Engineer from Feller, Finch & Associates. Roll Call vote: William White – yes, Connie Strong – yes, Roger Zimmerman – yes, Lois Hills – yes, and Fred Horwath – yes. *(A copy of the permits are on file with the clerk.)*

. At the time of application for a Soil Erosion permit major projects are required to submit a Performance Guarantee or Resource Remediation Fee. A Performance Guarantee is a monetary guarantee of the proper completion and stabilization of the project. Applicants for major projects are required to submit the amount of \$500.00 per acre disturbed. Monies are held until the completion of the project, and release once the site is stabilized and permanent Erosion Control Measures are functioning. The Resource Remediation Fund is a non-refundable fee that is charged in lieu of a Performance Guarantee. It is equal to 5% of the Performance Guarantee for the project.

This Performance Guarantee would be \$9000.00 and the Resource Remediation fee would be \$450.00 for the new wastewater treatment plant – Contract A; and the Performance Guarantee would be \$3000.00 and the Resource Remediation fee would be \$150.00 for the sanitary sewer collection system – Contract B..

The motion was made by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to pay the Resource Remediation Fee of \$450.00 for the new wastewater treatment plant – Contract A; and the \$150.00 for the sanitary sewer collection system – Contract B rather than the Performance Guarantee. The motion carried.

The Township's annual joint meeting with the County Road Commission has been scheduled for Thursday, January 22nd at 8:00 p.m. at the Road Commission Office.

Information was received from the Hillsdale County Ambulance Association concerning the distribution formula for 2004 and the remaining balance for 2003 for ambulance services. It will remain the same as previous years. The Wright-Waldron Ambulance service receives 11%. Their 2004 allocation is \$26,620.00 and the 2003 remaining distribution is \$1430.00.

A letter was received from Hillsdale County Equalization Director, Nicolas Wheeler, informing us of some of the projects they are currently working on.

- Potential of updating the spring 1995 fly-over of the digital ortho photography.
- Charles McKeown hired as Land Use/GIS Agent for Michigan State University Extension. He is currently working on producing CD's for those units that have had their parcels digitized or that are in the process of digitizing.
- Considering putting on a Board of Review class for local Board of Review members.

Connie Strong reported that a Board of Review class has been scheduled for February 26th.

A letter was received from Renee Batt, Executive Director for Domestic Harmony, thanking us for supporting Domestic Harmony. They are requesting as we prepare our budget for the next fiscal year that the Township consider contracting with Domestic Harmony once again.

Clerk, Lois Hills provided Income and Expense Financial reports for the General Fund and the Sewer Project Fund. She submitted proposed budget modifications for the fiscal year, April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.

The motion was made by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to amend the budget in the amount of \$4009.00 as proposed. (*A listing of the budget modifications is attached.*) The motion carried.

Connie Strong attended the county MTA meeting on January 7th. She reported that state revenue sharing will be cut 5.1%. Our estimated state revenue for the next fiscal year is \$80,557. Also, she announced that free Radon gas testing kits are available at Hillsdale MSU Extension office for residents who want to pick one up.

The motion was made by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, and supported by Board Member, William White, to pay the bills submitted for payment, a total of \$7,100.15 from the General Fund, and a total of \$22,479.00 from the BAN Sewer Fund. (*A listing of the bills is available from the Clerk.*) The motion carried.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Lois J. Hills
Wright Township Clerk

**BUDGET MODIFICATIONS, JANUARY 8, 2004
FOR FISCAL YEAR, APRIL 1, 2003 to MARCH 31, 2004**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT	Y.T.D. ACTUAL	RECOMMEND INCREASE	RECOMMEND DECREASE	NEW BUDGET
209-702	Assessor Wages	250.00	280.00	30.00		280.00
209-800	Assessor Services	3500.00	4792.15	1500.00		5000.00
210-800	Attorney Services	0.00	45.00	45.00		45.00
215-800	Clerk Services	0.00	259.00	259.00		259.00
215-900	Clerk Advertising	100.00	164.10	100.00		200.00
247-703	Board of Review Taxes	75.00	75.01	1.00		76.00
247-860	Board of Review Travel	0.00	10.00	10.00		10.00
247-900	Board of Review Ad	50.00	56.46	10.00		60.00
253-726	Treasurer Supplies	1100.00	1770.50	900.00		2000.00
253-800	Treasurer Services	400.00	420.00	20.00		420.00
253-955	Treasurer Miscellaneous	0.00	75.00	75.00		75.00
276-702	Cemetery Wages	350.00	425.00	75.00		425.00
299-910	Insurance	13000.00	13964.00	964.00		13964.00
735-801	Sanitation Activities	0.00	20.00	20.00		20.00
	INCREASE – TOTAL BUDGET CHANGES			<u>4009.00</u>		
890-000	Contingency Fund	10000.00	0.00		4009.00	5991.00
	DECREASE – TOTAL BUDGET CHANGES				<u>4009.00</u>	