

The regular monthly board meeting for the Township of Wright was held on Thursday, June 10, 2004 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, Fred Horwath, Lois Hills, Roger Zimmerman, and William White.

There were twenty-four citizens and guests present at the meeting that included Dan Boyd, Ray Saneholtz; Bruce Caswell, Maxine Vanlerberg, Brad Benzing, Christie Cook, Nick Wheeler, and Charles McKeown.

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

| <b><u>BALANCE ON HAND – May 31, 2004</u></b>    |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>WRIGHT TOWNSHIP</b>                          |               |
| Checking Account                                | \$ 434.76     |
| LIP Account                                     | \$ 146,258.60 |
| Flagstar Checking                               | \$ 19,369.91  |
| Flagstar Money Market                           | \$ 0.00       |
| Sewer Fund Savings                              | \$ 856.07     |
| <b>WRIGHT – WALDRON FIRE AND AMBULANCE FUND</b> |               |
| Checking Account                                | \$ 25.03      |
| LIP Account                                     | \$ 101,679.77 |
| Certificate of Deposit                          | \$ 61,360.68  |
| BOL Statement Savings                           | \$ 15,925.85  |

State Representative, Bruce Caswell addressed current legislation concerning moving the county property tax to the summer tax collection, increasing of the cigarette tax, and the partial birth abortion. He reported that constitutional sales tax is lower because sales are down. Legislation has been passed reimbursing the townships \$2.50 per parcel for collecting the State Education Tax (SET) on summer property tax bills where no other tax is collected on the summer tax bill. He commented that the state had to collect for six counties and it cost the state over \$5.00 per parcel to collect the SET.

The meeting was opened for public comment.

Brad Benzing is from Woodbridge Township and lives at 9425 Steamburg Road, Hillsdale. He is a Republican candidate for the office of County Commissioner for District 4, which includes Amboy, Camden, Woodbridge, and Wright Townships. He introduced himself, presented his background, qualifications, experience, and distributed his campaign literature.

John Tanner on behalf of the Community Health Agency presented a proposal to use the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building for the space needed to offer nutrition services for Women, Infants, and Children (W.I.C.). A W.I.C. team would be sent once a month to offer this service.

Leroy Morr complained that there was not enough gravel on Coman Road, and the ditches were not seeded after the ditching project.

Engineer, Ray Saneholtz, from Feller, Finch & Associates, presented an update on the Lime Lake/Prattville Sewer system project. At this time they are in the process of preparing the revised drawings with the changes requested by property owners. He stated the next step in the assessment proceedings is a meeting to be set up with Paul Wyzgoski from Dickinson Wright PLLC, for Bond Counsel Services; and Financial Advisor, Tom Traciak from ACI Finance, Inc.

Fred Horwath reported on a letter he received from the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). They had sent two letters to Ray Saneholtz of Feller, Finch & Associates and had not received a response to either of those letters at this point. This matter was discussed with Ray. Ray stated he is waiting on a letter from the Department of Agriculture before responding.

Ray stated he is hoping to advertise for bids on construction of the sewer system this summer yet and construction to begin in the late fall.

Several concerned people from the community were present and voiced their concern over the purchase of some property in Section 4, the corner of Tamarack Road and Tuttle Road, by a "Mega Farm". The Right to Farm Act supersedes the township's Intensive Livestock Farm Ordinance. It was recommended that they attend the Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan.

Attorney, Dan Boyd addressed the easements on the private drives at Lime Lake. There are 12-15 easements needed. He has gotten the results from the Title Company and now has an up-to-date title list.

A "Resolution of Necessity" is needed. The official wording will be prepared by Dan and incorporating the latest map. It will include 1) Determination of Necessity – Resolve problems of inadequate septic tanks and drainfield systems; 2) Set area affected – Attaching the latest map; 3) Give Dan Boyd Authorization to proceed.

The motion was made by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to adopt a "Resolution of Necessity" with the official wording being prepared by Attorney, Dan Boyd. (*The official wording of the resolution is attached to these minutes.*) Roll call vote: William White – yes, Connie Strong – yes, Roger Zimmerman – yes, Lois Hills – yes, and Fred Horwath – yes.

Christie Cook will set up a meeting with Paul Wyzgoski, Tom Traciak, Ray Saneholtz, and etc. as mentioned by Ray. She also offered her assistance in preparation of the "Resolution of Necessity".

County Commissioner, Maxine Vanlerberg, discussed the County's Building and Site Sinking Fund Millage Proposal which is on the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Primary Election ballot. It is for 0.5 mill for a period of 5 years, 2004 to 2008. It is to create a sinking fund for the construction, repair and maintenance of county buildings. He also reported on a meeting she attended at the sheriff's department concerning the possibility of money available from the federal government (\$500,000 available) through a land security grant for Hillsdale County for personal protection.

Nick Wheeler, Hillsdale County Equalization Director and Chairman of the Hillsdale County Geographical Information System (GIS) Committee, introduced Charles McKeown, Land Use/GIS Coordinator from Michigan State University Extension. They discussed the geo-referenced digital orthographic photos of the county, data sharing agreement, and price list. The fee distribution from revenue from the data sets will be as follows:

25% refunded to the local units of government on their equalization bills  
75% to the County of Hillsdale with the understanding that it will be applied as follows:

One third (25% of the total revenue) to the county general fund  
One third (25% of the total revenue) to the flyover escrow fund  
One third (25% of the total revenue) to the mapping office, and GIS program

Fred Horwath conducted a "Truth in Taxation" hearing on increasing property taxes. We were subject to this hearing since our tax levy total was more than one mill. He presented the Truth in Taxation computations. Our 2003 taxable value was 40,523,951. Our 2004 taxable value is 41,347,464. Our 2003 operating millage rate actually levied was 2.8256 mills (Allocated – 0.8540 and Voted Roads – 1.9716). The 2004 maximum allowable operating millage under Headlee and MCL 211.34 is 2.8256 mills (Allocated – 0.8540 and Voted Roads – 1.9716). The 2004 base tax rate without a hearing would be 2.7820 mills (Allocated – 0.8408 and Voted Roads – 1.9412). The proposed increase is for 0.0436 mills [1.57%] (Allocated – 0.0132 and Voted Roads – 0.0304) in the operating tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2004. The maximum revenue without Truth in Taxation is \$115,029 (Allocated - \$34,765 and Voted Roads - \$80,264). The revenue increase with a hearing is \$1,803.

The motion was made by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to increase the 2004 operating tax levies to the maximum allowable millage rate of 2.8256, an increase of 0.0436. (Allocated Operating is 0.8540, increasing 0.0132, and Voted Roads Operating is 1.9716, increasing 0.0304.) Roll call vote: Connie Strong – yes, William White – yes, Fred Horwath – yes, Roger Zimmerman – yes, and Lois Hills – absent.

A letter was received from the Hillsdale County Road Commission concerning the asphalt paving bids. There was a significant cost increase in the asphalt paving. The estimated paving costs have increased. An addendum was received for the Burt Road Asphalt resurfacing project. The cost of the project has increased the township's share (50%) \$2,100.00. The revised Township's estimated cost is \$84,450.00.

The motion was made by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman to approve the increase of the asphalt cost of \$2,100.00 for the Burt Road Asphalt resurfacing project. The motion carried.

The motion was made by Board Member William White and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman to pay the bills submitted for payment, a total of \$8,466.13 from the General Fund, and a total of \$4,690.00 from the BAN Sewer Fund. (*A listing of the bills is available upon request.*) The motion carried.

An invitation was received to attend the Hillsdale County Planning Commission Meeting to be held on Monday, June 21, 2004 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Intermediate School District at 310 W. Bacon Street in Hillsdale.

Permission was granted for the Soil Conservation District to hold an educational meeting in the Wright-Waldron Municipal Building.

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

The meeting adjourned.

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Lois J. Hills  
Wright Township Clerk

***ATTACHMENT TO THE JUNE 10, 2004  
WRIGHT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES***

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Township of Wright, Michigan has heretofore conducted surveys and investigations concerning the construction of a sanitary sewer system to solve the Prattville and Lime Lake area.

Whereas, such studies indicate that there exists a need for construction of a sanitary sewer system to address the inadequate and failing septic tank and drain field systems in the area of Prattville and Lime Lake.

Whereas, the Township of Wright has, after due consideration, determined that the property described in the attached map would be ideally suited for the construction of a sanitary sewer system; and

Whereas, the Township of Wright has attempted to purchase sewer easements with regard to the sanitary sewer system, hereinafter described property needed for a sanitary sewer system and,

Whereas, several of the owners of said property have refused to sell said easements to the Township of Wright.

NOW, therefore, the Wright Township Board does hereby resolve and declare that:

1. The acquisition and development of a sanitary sewer collection system and wastewater stabilization lagoon for the Prattville and Lime Lake

area to resolve ongoing pollution problems in the above mentioned area of the Township.

2. It is necessary to take and acquire the sewer easements to the following described property: See attached map.
3. The Township attorney for Wright Township, Daniel P. Boyd is hereby authorized and directed to institute the imminent domain proceedings pursuant to the MCLA Sec. 213.21 et seq; MSA 8.11 et seq. as amended, or pursuant to any other available condemnation statute for and on behalf of the Township of Wright, and said firm is hereby authorized and directed to institute said imminent domain proceedings for and on behalf of the Township of Wright, in the Circuit Court for the County of Hillsdale, to carryout the foregoing resolution into effect.

YEAS: William White, Connie Strong, Roger Zimmerman, Lois Hills and Fred Horwath.

NEAS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

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Lois J. Hills, Clerk