

The regular monthly board meeting for the Township of Wright was held on Thursday, March 13, 2008 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, Lois Hills, and Fred Horwath. Bill White was absent.

There were a total of eight citizens present at the meeting that included Christie Cook, Chuck Meade, Maxine Vanlerberg, Jeff Gier, Keith Brown, and three W.H.S. government class students.

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

BALANCE ON HAND, FEBRUARY 29, 2008	
<u>WRIGHT TOWNSHIP</u>	
Checking Account	\$ 2,897.35
Money Market Account	\$262,687.50
<u>SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND</u>	
Flagstar Checking	\$ 1,185.39
O & M Checking	\$ 27,546.83
Special Assessment – Money Market	\$209,907.76
<u>WRIGHT-WALDRON FIRE & AMBULANCE FUND</u>	
Checking Account	\$ 605.32
Money Market Account	\$195,240.51
Statement Savings	\$ 22,072.31

The meeting was opened for public comment. There was none offered.

Keith Brown representing U.S. Congressman Tim Walberg was present. His main objective is to keep the lines of communications open. He addressed current issues on 1) the Farm bill, 2) the Energy bill, and 3) the Education A+ bill. He also, presented a copy of Walberg's 2007 annual report and offered an opportunity to ask questions.

Jeff Gier reported on the Lime Lake/Prattville Sewer project.

- The man holes are having lots of water in them. They need to be kept cleaned out. He priced a 2" Trash Pump, gas-powered from USA Blue Book at a cost of \$2000.00. Fred & Roger thought a pump could be purchased elsewhere such as Tractor Supply, for a lot less money. He will check prices at other places.
- He reported that at this time there are 35 property owners that are not hooked up to the sewer system, and 28 of those property owners have not obtained any permits or done anything regarding hooking up to the sewer system. He inquired as to those not hooked up to the sewer do we need to begin imposing penalties according to the Sewer Use Ordinance.

- He presented information on the MISS DIG System as last month's meeting for our consideration. MISS DIG is a utility communication system that helps persons digging to comply with State Law (Public Act 53) which required notification of utilities before they excavate, tunnel or discharge explosives 3 full working days before starting a project. There is a one-time Data Processing Fee of \$290.00, and a monthly MISS Dig membership fee. The monthly fee is \$16.30, which is invoiced annually, an annual total of \$195.60.

Board Member, Connie Strong made the motion, supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to approve to enter into a membership agreement with MISS DIG System, Inc., a utility communication system that helps persons digging to comply with State Law (Public Act 53) which required notification of utilities before they excavate, tunnel or discharge explosives 3 full working days before starting a project; and to pay the one-time Data Processing Fee of \$290.00. *(A copy of the MISS DIG System, Inc. membership agreement is available upon request.)* The motion was approved.

Supervisor, Fred Horwath read a letter he received from Feller, Finch & Associates. The letter was regarding the \$11,621.75 they charged for additional assistance to obtain Service Agreements and Property access rights for grinder pump stations. They consider this work an additional service beyond their basic scope of services. They claim that the Attorney requested that they develop and pursue these service agreements with each property owner around Lime Lake/Prattville so that the Township had formal acknowledgement by each property owner served regarding where their well was located and where each property owner would like its grinder pump located.

USDA Rural Development did not approve Feller, Finch & Associates, Inc. Engineering Amendment No. 3, which was increasing the Engineering Agreement \$11,621.75 for *"Additional assistance to obtain Service Agreements and Property access rights for grinder pump stations"*, letter dated May 30, 2007. Rural Development expressed on several occasions that the service agreements were unnecessary and would be an inappropriate use of Rural Development funds. Matters were further complicated when the services were provided prior to discussing it beforehand with them.

Christie Cook suggested we contact Attorney, Dan Boyd, and have him send a letter to Feller, Finch & Associates concerning this matter.

Maxine Vanlerberg, County Commissioner, announced that she is not running for re-election, although she will be finishing her term. She has taken a new job position with the Community Action Agency. She reported that the Court House elevator construction project is near completion. She explained that Sheriff's Department is currently using the "Omni Drug Team". Forfeitures now go to the State of Michigan. They are proposing to form their own team. Forfeitures then would go to the County. At this time the Animal Control Ordinance is in the process of being updated.

Also, Maxine Vanlerberg relayed that the Community Action Agency (CAA) has a program for low income people for financial assistance with home heating costs. Also, the CAA has an income tax preparation program that is free to individuals with an income of \$40,000 or less. She also explained the new "2-1-1" program that went into effect recently. It connects people with important community services and volunteer opportunities.

Clerk, Lois Hills submitted for review Financial Reports of the Township's Income and Expenses to date – Actual versus Budget, for the General Fund and the Sewer Enterprise Fund for the current fiscal year, April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. Also, she submitted proposed budget changes for the General Fund to amend the budget for the current fiscal year, April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

Board Member, Lois Hills made the motion, supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to amend the General Fund budget in the amount of \$456.38 as proposed. The budget modifications details are listed in the table below. The motion was approved.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET MODIFICATIONS, March 13, 2008 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
257-801	Assessor – Contractual	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,350.60	\$ 350.60		\$ 12,350.60
247-900	Board of Review – Ad.	75.00	107.70	32.70		107.70
253-800	Treasurer – Services	445.00	455.00	10.00		455.00
262-860	Election – Travel	34.25	46.75	12.50		46.75
262-726	Election – Supplies	0.00	.58	.58		.58
253-850	Treasurer – Telephone	500.00	545.74	50.00		550.00
	INCREASE – TOTAL BUDGET CHANGES			\$ 456.38		
890-000	Contingency Fund	\$ 30,539.12			\$ 456.38	\$ 30,082.74
	DECREASE – TOTAL BUDGET CHANGES				\$ 456.38	

A proposal to increase the annual salaries of the township’s elected officials, mileage reimbursement, and special meeting rate was submitted as follows:

Supervisor	\$ 5,520.00	(\$ 460.00 monthly)
Clerk	\$ 9,600.00	(\$ 800.00 monthly)
Trustee	\$ 1,920.00	(\$ 160.00 monthly) each
Treasurer	\$14,400.00	(\$1,200.00 monthly)
For Business miles driven: 50.5 cents per mile		
For Attending Special Meetings: \$ 20.00		

Fred Horwath commented that he would like to see the Clerk’s Salary increased to \$850.00 per month, \$10,200.00 annually.

Connie Strong provided information from Jefferson Township and Pittsford Township on their elected official salaries.

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to approve the increase in township officials salaries as listed below, to increase the mileage reimbursement for business miles driven to 50.5 cents per mile, and to increase the Special Meeting fee to \$20.00 per meeting. The motion was approved.

Supervisor	\$ 5,520.00	(\$ 460.00 monthly)
Clerk	\$10,200.00	(\$ 850.00 monthly)
Trustee	\$ 1,920.00	(\$ 160.00 monthly) each
Treasurer	\$14,400.00	(\$1,200.00 monthly)

The budget for the Township's General Fund for estimated Revenues and proposed Expenditures for the fiscal year, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, was presented for consideration, review, discussion, and input. The total of estimated Revenues is \$234,000.00. The total of proposed Expenditures is \$302,000.00.

The budget for the Township's Sewer Enterprise Fund for estimated Revenues and proposed Expenditures for the fiscal year, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, for the Debt Retirement was presented for consideration, review, discussion, and input. The total of estimated Revenues is \$94,000.00. The total of estimated Liabilities is \$24,000.00. The total of the proposed Expenditures is \$210,000.00.

The budget for the Township's Sewer Enterprise Fund for estimated Revenues and proposed Expenditures for the fiscal year, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, for the Operating and Maintenance was presented for consideration, review, discussion, and input. The total of estimated Revenues is \$42,554.00. The total of the proposed Expenditures is \$42,554.00.

Board Member, Connie Strong made the motion, supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, to adopt the Revenue and the Expenditure Budget for the General Fund for fiscal year, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009. (*See Attachment # 1 - Revenue and Attachment # 1 - Expenditure for a copy of the General Fund budget.*) The motion was approved.

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong, to adopt the Revenue and the Expenditure Budget for the Sewer Enterprise Fund for fiscal year, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, for the Debt Retirement and Operating and Maintenance. (*See Attachment # 2 – Sewer for a copy of the Sewer Fund budget.*) The motion was approved.

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Lois Hills, to approve for payment the bills submitted for payment, a total of \$2,840.25 from the Sewer Operating and Maintenance Fund. (*A listing of the bills is available upon request.*) The motion was approved.

As part of the preauthorized debit process, Principal on Loan 92-03 - \$9,000.00 and Interest - \$10,178.75; Principal on Loan 92-05 - \$15,000.00 and Interest - \$17,084.37 were paid on March 1, 2008.

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong to pay the bills submitted for payment, a total of \$5,384.03 from the General Fund. (*A listing of the bills is available upon request.*) The motion was approved.

Board Member, Roger Zimmerman made the motion, supported by Board Member, Connie Strong to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Lois J. Hills
Wright Township