

The regular monthly board meeting for the Township of Wright was held on Thursday, October 11, 2007, 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, Fred Horwath, and William White.

There were seven citizens and guests present at the meeting including Rich Chudey, Skip Linden, Christie Cook, Jeff Gier, John Rice, Maxine Vanlerberg, and Robert Godfrey.

The motion was made by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman, and supported by Board Member, William White 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 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2007		
<u>WRIGHT TOWNSHIP</u>		
Checking Account	\$	1,972.36
LIP Account	\$	213,244.21
Sewer Fund Savings	\$	866.86
<u>SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND</u>		
Flagstar - Construction Account	\$	49,211.42
Operating & Maintenance Checking Account	\$	10,144.93
Special Assessment Money Market Account	\$	170,971.69
<u>WRIGHT-WALDRON FIRE & AMBULANCE FUND</u>		
Checking Account	\$	465.40
LIP Account	\$	162,903.25
Statement Savings	\$	21,301.04

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

Christie Cook, RCAP, requested that a time be set up for working on the "Vulnerability Assessment and Emergency Plan" (VA/ERP) as required by USDA. Roger Zimmerman and Jeff Gier will meet with Christie to work on the VA/ERP on Friday, October 26th at 1:00 p.m.

Jeff Gier reported that the construction of the utility building for the sewer project has begun, although there has not been a closing on the property yet.

John Rice from the Health Department reported that 100 property owners has applied and paid for permits at this time. Twenty inspections have been completed. He brought a well permit application for the utility building property that needs to be completed and submitted with a check for \$220.00. He discussed a variance that will be needed. The standard distance from a sewer line is 75 feet. We will need a variance for 45 feet.

Jeff Gier reported that 94 property owners are connected to the sewer system at this time. There are 66 property owners not connected.

It was discussed with John Rice what the procedure would be for those who are not connected by the December 1st deadline. He recommends seeking an alternate approach rather than condemning the property. It was asked if the amount for the homeowner to connect to the sewer system could be assessed to their property taxes. This matter will need to be checked into. If the property owner won't allow inspector in the house, then it will need to be condemned.

County Commissioner, Maxine Vanlerberg, explained about the grant funding the County receives through a program of the Community Action Agency. The County receives \$225,000.00 for two years. The current money is depleted. The next time they are scheduled to receive this grant money is in April 2008. The county is seeking a method to aid those needing and qualifying for financial assistance in the Lime Lake/Prattville sewer district. The County has approved to set aside \$90,000.00 for Lime Lake/Prattville sewer district. They may be allowed to get this money immediately (not sure when money would be released), which would be deducted from the \$225,000 expected in April 2008.

County Commissioner, Maxine Vanlerberg reported on the Court House elevator construction project and other Court House renovation repairs.

Road Commissioner, Robert Godfrey, reported that next week the Road Commission will begin their winter hours; the County now has a tree trimming crew; all County bridge construction projects are completed; most road projects are completed; and currently they are painting lines on the roads and hope to have it completed by November 1st.

Jeff Gier conveyed that a color for the utility building needs to be chosen. He expressed his desire to have a restroom consisting of a toilet and sink, and in-floor heat installed in the building. He didn't have a cost for the in-floor heat, but a bid is being prepared. It was the consensus that the building be white with black accent trim; and also to install a bathroom and in-floor heat.

Jeff Gier relayed his suspicion that Nick & Toni Heidelberg at 13778 Prattville Road have connected to the sewer system but they have not applied for any permits or been inspected. Originally they had stated to Jeff that they would not hook up to the system. The County Building Inspector has been notified and is aware of the situation.

Correspondence was received from Phil Stancil from Great Lakes Geophysical, Inc. wishing to conduct a geophysical survey and is requesting permission to cross the tract of land: 20 Acres of the south ½ of the west ½ of the N.E. ¼ section 14 – Wright Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

The motion was made by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Lois Hills to not allow or grant permission for Great Lakes Geophysical, Inc. to cross the tract of land: 20 Acres of the south ½ of the west ½ of the N.E. ¼ Section 14 – Wright Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan. The motion carried.

A Land Division Application was received from Assessor, Ben Wheeler for consideration. Property Owner Information: Eva C. Briskey Trust, Southern Michigan Bank & Trust, Trustee
Location of parent parcel to be split: 1254 Seely Road, Waldron, MI
Parent parcel number: 30-17-026-400-003-26-81
Description of the division(s) being proposed: 2 – Number of new Parcels; Intended use: 1.) Residential 1.23 acres 2.) Agricultural 58.77 acres; Each proposed parcel, if 10 acres or less, has a depth to width ration not greater than 4 to 1; Each parcel has a width of 322.59, and Each parcel has an area of 165.98.

The resolution was offered by Board Member, William White, and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman to approve the Land Division application as submitted for Eva C. Briskey Trust by Southern Michigan Bank & Trust Trustee. Location of parent parcel to be split: 1254 Seely Road, Waldron, MI. Parent parcel number: 30-17-026-400-003-26-81. Description of the division(s) being proposed: 2 – Number of new Parcels. The roll call vote was William White – yes, Connie Strong – yes, Roger Zimmerman – yes, Lois Hills – yes, and Fred Horwath – yes. The resolution was declared adopted.

A notice was received inviting us to the Michigan Department of Transportation annual Traffic Summit for Hillsdale County. It is to be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at Emery Park Community Center at 2121 Lewis Emery Drive, Hillsdale, Michigan.

Wright Township is scheduled to be the host at the November Hillsdale County Chapter Michigan Townships Association meeting. The host township is responsible for sending notices, planning a program, chairing and recording the minutes, and providing refreshments. The meeting is November 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Michigan State Cooperative Extension office at 20 Care Drive, Hillsdale. Christie Cook agreed to be the guest speaker and to speak about the Rural Community Assistance Program and the Wright Sewer.

Clerk, Lois Hills submitted for review a Financial Report of the Township's Income and Expenses to date – Actual versus Budget, for the General Fund for the current fiscal year, April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

Phil Rubley, CPA was unable to attend tonight's meeting. He is planning on attending the November meeting and making a presentation of the township's audit.

The Sewer Use and Operating Ordinance was reviewed relating to Sewer Service Bills, Payment of Bills, and Late Payment Penalties.

The motion was made by Board Member, Lois Hills, and supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman to rescind a portion of the motion made at the June 14, 2007 board meeting stating *"the due date to be set for the 5th of the following month," "and the late charge be set at three percent (3%) per month."* The guidelines in the Sewer Use and Operating Ordinance will be practiced. The Ordinance sets the payment of bills due and payable fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of the bill; and in the event the bill is not paid by the due date, a ten percent (10%) penalty will be added to the net amount of the bill. When the due date falls on a legal holiday, Saturday, or Sunday, the net amount will be accepted on the first business day following. Bills for sewer service shall be rendered quarterly and the quarterly rate to be set at \$66.00. See the "Sewer Use and Operating Ordinance" for more detailed information. The roll call vote was William White – yes, Connie Strong – yes, Roger Zimmerman – yes, Lois Hills – yes, and Fred Horwath – yes. The resolution was declared adopted.

A letter was received from Steven Darmofal from Feller, Finch & Associates. Pay request #9 for Anglin Civil Constructors – Contract A for work done through September 28, 2007 for the Wright Township – Lime Lake/Prattville Area Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project was submitted. With this request all items are complete as of September 28, 2007 with the exception of restoration work, which is considered to be 94% complete. With the approval of this pay request, the Township will still be holding retainage on the project in the amount of \$72,432.90.

Jeff Gier met Anglin on site on Friday, October 5, 2007, and completed the remainder of the restoration and seeding work to his satisfaction and completed a final signoff.

It appears that Anglin will be at Final Completion for next month's meeting. A final balancing change order between the Township and Anglin will need to be prepared to set the quantities of items installed on the project, set the final completion date, and resolve any outstanding issues surrounding completion dates and liquidated damages.

It appears the electrical line damage problem at Judy Marry's has been resolved.

The motion was offered by Board Member, William White, and seconded by Board Member, Connie Strong 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.

1. Jeff Gier (monthly operator salary)	\$	1,916.66
2. Consumers Energy	\$	10.59
3. Nextel Communications (Sprint)	\$	63.01
4. Etna Supply Company	\$	1,548.30
5. Spielman's Hardware & Garden Center	\$	103.62
6. Godfrey Bros. Inc.	\$	200.00
7. USDA – Interest Loan 92-03 (Bond #2) – reimbursement	\$	10,178.75
8. USDA – Interest Loan 92-05 (Bond #1) – reimbursement	\$	17,084.37
9. Anglin Civil Constructors, Ltd. (Contract A)	\$	35,262.34
Total	\$	<u>66,367.34</u>

The roll call vote was William White – yes, Connie Strong – yes, Roger Zimmerman – yes, Lois Hills – yes, and Fred Horwath – yes. The resolution was declared adopted.

Fred Horwath presented a proposal for a Oil and Gas Lease from Dakotah Oil on the township's wastewater treatment plant property for 20.03 acres located at "Township 8 South, Range 1 West, Section 14, Part of W2, NE4". The proposal is for a three-year lease and payment is \$100.00 per acre (\$2003.00). Fred will check with the Township Attorney and possibly see if can get more money.

Board Member, William White made the motion, supported by Board Member, Roger Zimmerman to pay the bills submitted for payment, a total of \$36,852.20 from the General Operating fund. (*A listing of the bills is available upon request.*) The motion carried.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

 Lois J. Hills
 Wright Township Clerk