

WWTP Funding Status

Congressman Bart Stupak advised the City of Negaunee that the \$575,000 2002 Congressional Appropriation request was approved in the Energy & Water Appropriation Bill; this is helpful, but it's NOT the end of the WWTP financing road.

The City of Negaunee gives a HUGE "THANK YOU" to OUR Mi U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, Congressman Bart Stupak and their staffs for all their help in securing this 2002 Congressional Appropriation.

Negaunee will be requesting another \$2.5 million for FY04 Congressional funding, if funded, along with the local matches from all sources including WWTP bonding, it will bring the City of Negaunee's total available funding at 82.66% of the \$10 million estimated WWTP costs.

2003 Road Construction/Future Projects

RAIL STREET: This upgrade will include a pavement improvement, widening of the road and sidewalk improvements.

PRINCE ST: The Prince Street (Royal subdivision area) contract will be bid for summer 2003 construction/paving.

CROIX STREET FUTURE PLANNING NEEDS: The City Council has prioritized Croix Street as a "High Priority" road project.

City Mini-Grants

In 2003, the City will award beautification grants, up to \$2500 per grant for a total of \$20,000, to City of Negaunee's service clubs, neighborhood groups and individuals for volunteer beautification efforts on land owned or leased by the City to promote making a "positive difference" in the City of Negaunee. Applications and project guidelines can be picked up at the City Treasurer's office. An original application and one photocopy needs to be submitted to the City Manager's office by 5:00 p.m. April 25, 2003.

New Mayor and Council members seated

Following the November 2002 city election, Mr. Peter Dompierre was elected Mayor and Mr. Kimme Peterson and Mr. Steve Perucco were elected to the City Council.

City Employee Retirements/New Employee's Hired

In the City of Negaunee police department, there were two officers leaving city employment in the past year, Sgt Norman Foster retired and school officer, Ted Raymond, left city employment. One (1) new officer, patrolman Joe Brogan, was hired. Through attrition, the City of Negaunee reduced the size of the department by one officer (total of 10) and still provides 24/7 police coverage. Congratulations to these former and current police department employees for their dedicated public safety service provided to the City of Negaunee's residents and general public.

City Manager's Report

FY 02-04 Citywide budget impacts:
The City of Negaunee faces some critical and difficult decisions in the next few years to maintain services, without raising rates or taxes.

Sewer rate increases are not yet "out of the question" if the City is not continually-successful in getting continued congressional funding for the \$10.0 million EPA/MDEQ-mandated WWTP improvements to protect the environment and to meet the federal pollution control standards. This will be a major "driver" in future City budgets.

Fiscally, the City of Negaunee's funds are currently in good fiscal condition, but are faced with continuing challenges. There are fiscally prudent, solid fund balances in the City's General, Electric and Water and Sewer Fund(s). The general fund can be rapidly depleted if major "transfers out" to fund projects occur in FY03. The FY02 City audit report, due soon will verify these comments.

Citywide, significant economic pressures are anticipated to continue from rapidly rising health insurance costs, loss of State Aid due to the general economic downturn, fuel/heating cost increases, etc. These are similar negative impacts as all Negaunee

households face. City staff, including all union and non-union personnel are entering into a dialogue to reach an agreement in FY03 to help to control the health costs, and the City Council is interested in creating other revenue enhancements to continue the service levels that Negaunee citizens have been accustomed to and need. Specifically, the City of Negaunee has an opportunity to create new revenue streams from: New development(s) along the US-41/BR28 corridor(s), vacant, previous CCI-owned lands, future historic downtown mining history-related development (DDA),

Teal Lake Estates developments; the proposed KBIC Casino development at the Old Marquette County Airport site can be both a revenue enhancer and a cost savings to city sewer rate payers as KBIC continues to pay their "fair share" pro-rata costs for sewer services to the casino site.

Electric Department
Wholesale Electric Power Rates

The City of Negaunee purchases wholesale electric power solely from UPPCO and distributes retail electricity to its Negaunee customers. Currently, the City of Negaunee is in year 7 of a ten-year wholesale power agreement with UPPCO. The UPPCO contract began October 01, 1996 and it expires October 01, 2007.

UPPCO is concerned over the future exorbitantly high wholesale power rate increases to Negaunee, unless the City's wholesale power rate is re-negotiated with smaller annual increases from 2003-2007. Clearly, phasing in relatively small annual percentage electric rate increases now versus getting a huge wholesale electric rate increase in 2007 is a trade-off. It is your City Manager's opinion that this is in the long-term interests of the City of Negaunee's Electric Utility and city residents.

Also, City staff is implementing a City Council-approved policy of joining the American Transmission Company, ATCLLC, to leverage Negaunee's future electric power position. It needed to get a MI law passed permitting investing in ATCLLC. This MI law required forming and joining an Upper Peninsula Public Power Agency, UPPPA.

Finally, the UPTDU/City consultant advises: "It appears the City of Negaunee electric utility will see an increase in its net income as a result of this transaction (joining ATCLLC/UPPPA). The increase will vary depending on the level of cash invested."

Let Runs and Thaws

In 2002-03, there have been 116 let runs and 115 thaws total this winter season, along with two (2) water main breaks.

Water Loss

Royal Subdivision and Teal

Through a constant water loss correction program, the City along with the assistance of Negaunee citizens was able to locate and correct major water leaks during 2002. This resulted in reducing the average 2002 water loss to 26% from 50% ---a remarkable improvement, but there's still room for improvement. Last month's water loss, before the recent water leaks and main breaks, was a 14% water loss.

Department of Public Works

In the past year the DPW blacktopped the following streets and alleys with hot mix:

Brown Ave.	118.61	tons
Healey Ave.	16.03	tons
Carr, Everett, Hungerford	43.14	tons
Pine St. (alley)	11.71	tons
Lakeview, Birch, Maas	24.13	tons
Healy Ave.	33.93	tons
Case St.	11.95	tons
Brown & Oak	12.07	tons
Buffalo Rd.	12.01	tons
Case (Catholic Church)	11.95	tons
Croix	75.06	tons
E. Co. Rd.	12.41	tons
Birch & Hungerford	11.71	tons
Iroquois & Chippewa	51.77	tons
Local St. (potholes)	11.98	tons
Woodland & Local St.	18.34	tons
Main St. alley	11.61	tons
Prince St. & alley	15.77	tons
TOTAL hotmix used	510.45	tons

An additional 86 tons of cold patch were used to fill potholes on Major and Local Street.

Police Department

During 2002 the department handled 2,143 incidents. These incidents included investigations of criminal sexual conduct, arson, assault, burglary, larceny narcotics violations, retail fraud, stolen vehicles, weapons offenses, trespassing, suicides and both general and medical assists. Officers made a total of 297 arrests, issued 312 parking citations, issued 389

traffic citations and 112 non-traffic citations. Of the total incidents handled annually by our officers, many do not require a citation or the arrest of an individual. Officers often work out mutual agreements between disputing parties, or assist residents with some type of need. The Negaunee Police Department has officers on patrol and available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. If you have questions or if something just does not “seem right” – whatever the reason, please call **911** and an officer will be sent to talk with you. Don’t wait until the next day. Our officers are here to serve the public and to protect your life and property. We all need to work together to make our community a safer place to live, work and play.

Garbage Pickup

North Country Disposal has taken over the City’s residential garbage pickup service contract.

Please have your refuse out for pickup by 7:00 am on pickup day. Actual pickup times during the day may vary depending on refuse volumes, weather conditions, equipment breakdowns, holidays and changes in drivers. For information or complaints call 346-4500.

RECYCLING

Recyclables listed below will be picked up if they are separated from the garbage and put out with the garbage on the designated pickup day. Please follow directions next to each item for preparation. No mingling of recyclables is allowed. If the recyclable items are not prepared properly, they will be left on the curb.

NEWSPRINT – Bundle and tie with twine or place in a paper grocery bag.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD – Break down boxes flat, bundle and tie with twine. Be clean and dry.

CLEAR GLASS – Rinse clean, remove caps and rings. Labels can be left on. NO window glass, light bulbs, ceramic mugs, dishes or pyrex.

PLASTIC – MILK CONTAINERS ONLY. Rinse clean, remove caps and rings. Labels can be left on.

PAPER – Computer, office stationery, junk mail and magazines. Bundle and tie with twine or place in paper/grocery bag. Do not mix with newsprint.

METAL FOOD CANS – Rinse clean. Labels can be left on. (Steel and tin cans are magnetic).

ALUMINUM – Pie tins, dinner plates, pots and pans, beverage cans, etc. Rinse clean. (Non-magnetic).

Site Plan Review

Just a reminder that no building permit, certificate of occupancy or zoning compliance permit shall be issued authorizing any development on a lot in the commercial or General Business District without first securing the approval of the Planning Commission of a site plan demonstrating that such proposed development will comply with all of the standards described in the City’s ordinances and zoning code. The City’s site plan application requires all documentation be turned in 10 business days prior to the Planning Commission’s meeting. Please note that the Planning Commission meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm in the Negaunee City Hall

CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Hall phone number: 475-7400

City Manager – Tom Manninen	ext: 11
Assistant Mgr. – John Tomaszoski	ext: 14
Accountant/Clerk-Joan DuShane	ext: 15
Treasurer – Linda Nicholls	ext: 16
Assessor – Bruce Waananen	ext: 13
Library – Kathy Thurner	ext: 18
Utility Billing – Joan Terzaghi	ext: 17
Police Dept. – Paul Waters	475-4154
Public Works – Dave Palmer	475-9991
Wastewater – Jim Lounds	475-9181
Fire Hall – Tom Gardyko	475-9811
Ice Arena	475-7900

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Recreation & Parks – 3rd Wed. 4:30 pm @ City Hall
 Planning Commission – 3rd Tues. 4:30 pm @ Ice Arena
 Commission on Aging- 4th Thurs. 10:00 am @ Senior Center
 Library/Cable Board – 3rd Tues. 4:00-4:15 pm @ City Library
 Housing Commission – 2nd Tues. 1:00 pm
 City Council Meeting – 2nd Thurs. 7:00 pm @ Senior Center
 Downtown Development Authority DDA-4th Thurs. Noon @ Ice Arena
 Police Retirement Board-3rd Wed. 10:00am @ City Hall