

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC HEARING
JUNE 7, 2021**

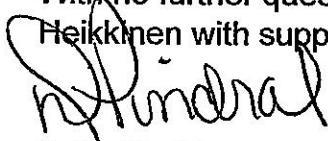
A public hearing of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, June 7, 2020 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan for the purpose of discussing a PA425 Resolution with the Village of South Range

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. The Board members were introduced and responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 18 guests present and 3 guests participating via Zoom.

Supervisor Heikkinen thanked all for attending. He stated the purpose of the public hearing was to inform the public and take comments regarding a PA425 Resolution with the Village of South Range for Dollar General in regards of contract of condition of Transfer of Property to build their store. The public has 30 days to voice opposition and present to the Village of South Range. The property referred to is a small parcel between Mountain View Mortuary and Range Auto Body on M-26. The Village of South Range will supply sewer and water utilities. There will be no income lost by the Township as the parcel will be subject to Village of South Range property taxes as well as Township property tax

Public hearing turned over for comments from the public, with none forthcoming.

With no further questions or comments, a MOTION to adjourn at 6:08PM by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Trustee Eister. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting Adjourned.



Submitted by:
Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
June 7, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held instituting mandated teleconferencing/social distancing guidelines on Monday, June 7, 2021 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09PM immediately following the PA425 Public Hearing. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 21 guests participating. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the minutes of the May 3, 2021 Monthly Hearing, and May 3, 2021 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Don Jarman voiced his concerns regarding property values decreasing due to wind turbines. Objected to the carbon footprint of turbines as well as damage to roads, substation heavy and no local jobs provided. He cited his experience with wind turbines at previous home outside of Michigan.
- Bill Manderfield stated his agreement with Mr. Jarman regarding decrease in property values. He also expressed concerns on the environmental aspect and effect on bird population. Suggested watching "What's Wrong with Wind and Solar" on YouTube (<https://youtube.com/RqppRC370gl>)
- Jennifer Sleeman inquired into what benefits the Township will gain. Inquired on decommissioning plan, and if ordinance will be followed especially the bond that needs to be in place.
- Lawyer Kevin Mackey asked to speak and stated there is no zoning in Adams Township or in Houghton County as whole. He was instrumental in working with the Board to draft the Wind Turbine ordinance in 2013. The ordinance was written to make the community safe. Mr. Mackey stated the federal and state representatives voted subsidies into place to encourage green energy. He strongly encouraged the public to contact their Federal and State representatives and voice their objections on subsidies being used for wind turbines.
- Chris Moore stated the private landowners signed on for the wind turbines, and Circle Power is following the requirements set forth by the government as well as Adams Township ordinance. He stated the company has not yet broken ground on turbines but is still in investigation/testing stage. He stated the name of the project is the Scotia Project and backed by Amber/Hunt Co as investor. He suggested watching the Stanton Township webinar: <https://stantontownship.com/public-notice> a free webinar on the local impacts of wind energy projects in western U.P.
- Doug W. questioned the feasibility of the cost of a lawsuit and legal precedent set versus loss of local property values, loss of tourism, etc. Unidentified person suggested contacting the KBIC Tribe over ceded territory, and hunting/fishing rights under the 1842 Treaty.
- Supervisor Heikkinen thanked all for attending and voicing their concerns. He reiterated there will be a townhall meeting at a future date when Covid restrictions are lifted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Annexation of property to South Range, which was discussed at public hearing held earlier this evening.
- Charter is announcing franchise rate increases effective June 2. All services are increasing. Their office in Houghton is now closed.
- City of Houghton will be holding a meeting on June 22 to discuss proposed ordinance changes to property along Houghton Canal. Public invited to attend.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Review of financial reports for May 2021. MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept the May 2021 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes. Motion

carried. There has been no new information on when the Township will receive the American Rescue Act monies.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: There were 9 medical calls and 0 fire calls.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor report for month of May reviewed. Board of Review (for corrections only) is scheduled for July 20th. Supervisor Heikkinen will verify correct time with assessor.

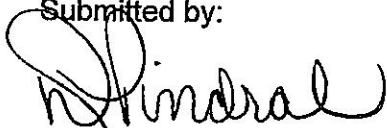
CEMETERY REPORT: Mountain View Cemetery has 8 burials in May.

BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Chris Holmes stated no news to report on Wholesale Water improvement project. He plans to meet with Don Cline and go over plans. FYI: Don stated the DNR plans to put 6" of gravel this summer on the Nichols trail which lies directly above the main water line being replaced in improvement project. No update on grant for Fire Truck.
- The agreement has been signed with Houghton County Road Commission to grade and apply calcium chloride to the roads previously done as well extra footage in Baltic. Cost will go from \$1,750 in 2020 to over \$4,000 in 2021. Supervisor Heikkinen reported general public can pay the Road Commission to have private areas done.
- Michigan Township Association annual membership fee is due. Cost is \$1,082.56 for general membership. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to pay MTA Membership fee of \$1,082.56. Roll Call, all ayes. Motion passed.
- UPSET of Marquette is asking for monetary support. Supervisor Heikkinen stated his belief that the Township was in year two of a three year contract with local UPSET team. Clerk Pindral to check into.
- Heather Platzke stated the current provider of Township website will only support paid websites, therefore current site will end on June 30th. Heather will migrate to new provider and post updated address.
- Clerk Pindral stated the Township has an ordinance for Solar but no permit. Lawyer Mackey will develop a permit and present for next meeting.
- Supervisor Heikkinen reminded the Board to review the current Personnel Handbook and submit suggestions to Clerk Pindral for updating.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:27PM by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:



Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
June 7, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, June 7, 2021 via mandated social distancing guidelines at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. Also participating was Don Cline and Heather Platzke.

- Don Cline stated the VAC truck is working well, few adjustments/repairs troubleshooted by employees. Cleaned 54 manholes and found 9 plugged. Painesdale is almost complete, then will concentrate on Atlantic Mine.
- The heating/dehumidification system should arrive by Friday. Will install then continue work/painting on the pumphouse.
- Lagoon discharge was completed a few weeks ago without problem. Need to check on the State changing the lagoons to dams, and any regulation changes.
- Don stated he is working to get SEMCO and Spectrum lines run to pumphouse. Spectrum wants to go down the guardrail.
- Reported on "off" days employees are working on the fencing at lagoons, lots of grass mowing. Requested the purchase of a 52/54 cut mower to facilitate efficient mowing at lagoons as well as building grounds. Abe Supply bid \$5700 but needs to order with no delivery date guaranteed. Wards bid \$5,500 and has one ready to deliver. MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to purchase mower from Wards with stipulation of immediate delivery. Roll call, All ayes. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Heikkinen thanked Heather on her hard work in collecting delinquent accounts. Currently have only 8 delinquent accounts on the books.
- Question on when Township audit will be performed due to the sudden death of Debbie Bradford, Auditor. Due to stringent Rural Development guidelines, it must be complete before 9/30/21. Treasurer Immonen will call Negro/Rukkila Agency and inquire.

With no other business or comments before the board, a MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:21P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:



Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk