

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
March 6, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, March 6, 2023 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. Meeting started with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 12 guests participating.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Monthly meeting and February 6, 2023 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- P. Nettel inquired when Iroquois Street will be paved. The gravel patching from the waterline repair did not hold up well during the winter. Also, the repair job on Hubbard Street. Supervisor Heikkinen will talk with D. Cline.
- R. Paavola asked how to resolve the delinquent water bill on the half house at 44423 16th St in Baltic. He stated the current owner is willing to sell to him with a quit claim deed and asked if the delinquent water could be waived. The Township lawyer and the Treasurer will check into legal options.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. V. Kanthak of PM&S thanked the Board for allowing them to scan the historical documents. Placemats were made out of some of the old blueprints as a fundraiser, and he presented samples to the Board. M. Prast joined him in requesting access to Township property by the Lot 28 old water tank to remove debris and brush. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to grant access to PM&S to remove the vegetation and debris on Lot 28. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. PM&S would also be interested in future dialog in acquiring Lot 28 for the purpose of preserving the water tank and surrounding structure.
2. A Houghton County Hazard Mitigation Plan on the Bill Nichols Trail was developed to allow for FEMA Funding Grant on failed drainage locations. After reading the full resolution to the public, a MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept Resolution 2023-03-06A Resolution of Support Re: MDNR Grant Application for Hazard Mitigation Funding. Roll Call, all Ayes. Motion carried. MOTION was made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept Resolution 2023-03-06 Resolution to Adopt the Houghton County 2020-2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Invoice received from Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) for annual dues in the amount of \$300.00. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to approve payment of \$300 for annual dues to KEDA. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated he met with the Township Auditor. The remaining American Rescue Monies must be moved from the General Fund to Wholesale and Retail Water to await incoming invoices. They also discussed repair and replacement accounts in the Sewer accounts. Auditor will make the required journal entries before the fiscal year ends. Supervisor Heikkinen then inquired if there were any questions/concerns regarding the February 2023 Financial reports, and if none asked for a motion to approve. MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept the February 2023 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes. Motion approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

There were 19 medical calls and 3 fire service calls since last report. Discussions have been had with Moyle Company regarding the site for the new fire hall but no definite purchase agreement has been made. Supervisor Heikkinen strongly stressed cost must be kept as low as possible to stay under the 1 to 1 .5 million projected. Explanation of UPEA fees per job type.

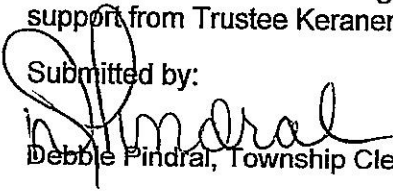
ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor Report for February reviewed. Reminder of upcoming BOR.

BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Chris Holmes reported no updates regarding RD funding on water project. No update of easements on trail.
- Martha Dugdale presented the draft of Adams Township Recreation Plan. MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept the Recreation Plan as written and schedule the 30-day public hearing for May 1st at 5:45PM. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Notice will be published in local newspaper, as well as the Township website and Facebook page. Acreage has been donated to Jeffers High School and they are working with the planning commission on development. Martha inquired if the Board would pay for her to attend the MTA Zoning Class at a cost of \$250.00. MOTION by Clerk Pindral with support from Trustee Keranen to send Martha to the MTA Zoning Class at MTU Great Lakes Resource Center. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated a request from Stanton Township to contribute \$9000 towards replacement of their recreation center floor not available in budget at this time.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated MTA Par Plan of Directors is looking for members.
- Truck bid for white GMC pick-up opened. Bid of \$1,111.01 awarded to Tammy Pindral.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:40PM 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
March 6, 2023

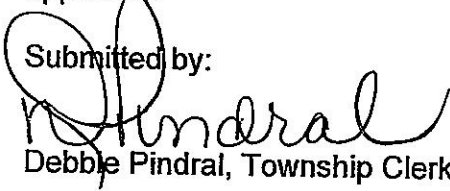
The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, March 6, 2023 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:50PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, Trustee Eister, and Clerk Pindral.

- Discussion regarding the Paavola Water bill scenario and future implications. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister "That if purchased within 45 days of notice, purchaser must pay all property taxes including delinquent water and sewer on tax bills. Current water and Sewer to be dismissed. If not purchased within 45 days of notice, purchaser will pay all water and sewer charges". Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Treasurer Immonen will tabulate charges and contact Mr. Paavola.

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 8:10P.M. Roll call, all ayes, Motion approved.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral, Township Clerk

Annual Meeting of the
Electors of Adams Township

The annual meeting of the electors of Adams Township was held on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 5:30PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan.

Electors present were: Tracy Immonen, Paul Eister, and Diane Keranen

Board members present were Gerald Heikkinen and Debbie Pindral.


Supervisor Heikkinen motioned to accept the minutes of the March 24, 2022 Elector Annual Meeting; Clerk Pindral seconded the motion. Motion carried

Supervisor Heikkinen reported the state of the Township is in good financial condition. State Revenue Sharing funds received were slightly higher than anticipated. Wholesale Water Project to upgrade main water-line is still in limbo, waiting on Rural Development approval. Township instituted an online payment system which has been well received. MPower utility software has been instituted and is saving the Township time and money.

Supervisor Heikkinen stated board salaries will remain the same this year:

- Salary of supervisor will be \$12,000 annually
- Salary of clerk will be \$12,000 annually
- Salary of treasurer will be \$12,000 annually
- Salary of trustees will be \$2,400 annually

Supervisor Heikkinen motioned to adjourn the annual electors meeting; Seconded by Clerk Pindral. Meeting adjourned at 5:35PM.



Debbie Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

Adams Township
Budget Hearing

The annual budget hearing of Adams Township was held on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 5:35PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan.

The following Board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Gerald Heikkinen, Clerk Debra Pindral, Treasurer Tracy Immonen, Trustee Diane Keranen and Trustee Paul Eister.

On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister the minutes of the March 24, 2022 budget meeting were reviewed and approved, all ayes, and motion carried.

On a MOTION from Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen, the board accepted the 1.05% tax for FY 2023/24 as set by the State of Michigan; all ayes, and motion carried.

Baltic Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen presented 2022/23 final budget for approval. He reported anticipated major expenses to be the two generators for lift stations in Baltic at a cost of \$52,000. The generators are ordered. Increased salaries needed for the sewer system cleaning via VacTruck. On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Clerk Pindral the board accepted the amended 2022/23 budget activity level with total income of \$50,675.00 and expenses of \$40,150.00. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Clerk Pindral the board accepted the proposed 2023/24 budget activity level with total income of \$50,000.00 and expenses of \$46,450.00. Roll call vote, all ayes motion carried.

Trimountain Sewer:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported one generator needed in Trimountain at a cost of \$26,000. Utility bills have increased greatly. Sewer system needs cleaning therefore salaries added in 23/24 for this. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2022/23 budget at the following activity level: Income \$60,675.00 and Expenses at \$42,550.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2023/24 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$60,000.00 and expenses \$53,800.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Painesdale Sewer Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated each sewer fund paid \$625.00 towards camera purchase in 22/23 Manholes need to be lowered in several areas. Final cleanup of system needed. Lagoon fences finalized. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Clerk Pindral to approve the 2022/23 budget at the following activity level: Income \$83,625.00 and Expense at \$59,100.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Clerk Pindral to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$83,000.00 and expenses \$75,150.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Atlantic Mine Sewer:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated a lot of manhole covers need to be lowered. System needs cleaning. Salaries increased in 23/24 for this. Need to check on continued infiltration into system. Sewer and Water needed for new fire hall. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2022/23 budget at the activity level with the following charges: Income \$82,910.00 and Expense at \$62,350.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2023/24 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$82,300.00 and expenses \$76,750.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Retail Water Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported employees have completed the construction of an equipment trailer for water repairs. Fixed a lot of water issues throughout the Township without utilizing contract labor. Moved all Rescue Monies from General Fund to Retail Water before end of this fiscal year. \$103,000 was moved and it will be used to pay for meters. \$124,000 remains of \$136,600 to pay for new meters. Paid \$12,000 for parts in 22/23. Paid \$13,000 for camera out of Retail Water in 22/23. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2022/23 budget at the following activity level: Income \$299,753.00 and Expense at \$271,200.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$270,750.00 and expenses \$267,100.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

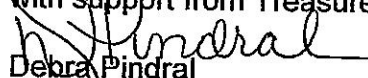
Wholesale Water Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated he hopes the water project will begin in 23/24. Land purchase, attorney fees, iron pipe purchase, and engineering fees all need to be paid back when project starts. Raised the water rate 10cents for wholesale water customers for 23/24. DNR applied for a grant to fix failing culverts/infrastructure along trail/water main. Budget is slim and will be closely watched. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2022/23 budget at the activity level with the following charges: Income \$421,050.00 and Expense at \$373,050.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2023/24 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$401,950.000 and expenses \$373,400.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

General Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported General Fund was paid back \$75,000 from Wholesale Water and \$25,000 from Retail Water for the VacTruck purchase. Ford Truck purchased in November put General Fund overspending on budget for 22/23. Also purchased Cat mini-loader for \$76,640.00. Will need BOR replacements for next January. State revenue was at an all-time high in 22/23. With 5-year plan in place we will begin to work on recreation grants. Fire Hall land will be purchased for \$50,000. Millage will begin in 23/24. Elections will be costlier due to new mandates. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2022/23 budget at the following activity level: Income \$402,725.00 and Expense at \$449,995.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$403,475.00 and expenses \$344,703.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

With no other budget business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15PM on a motion from Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen with all ayes, motion carried.


Debra Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

**Adams Township
Special Meeting**

A special meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Wednesday, March 29, 2022 at 6:15PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan.

A roll call with board members present was taken. Supervisor: Gerald Heikkinen, Treasurer: Tracy Immonen Clerk: Debbie Pindral, Trustee Diane Keranen, and Trustee Paul Eister. There were no guests present. Motion by Trustee Keranen, supported by Treasurer Immonen to accept the special meeting minutes of March 24, 2022. Roll call, all ayes. Motion accepted.

Resolution:

On MOTION by Clerk Pindral, supported by Trustee Keranen under the provision of the law and statute provided, the following resolution is hereby adopted by the Adams Township Board, Houghton County, Michigan in a meeting assembled this 29th day of March 2023 at the Township Hall in Baltic, MI.

Resolved:

That the Township Board of Adams Township, County of Houghton, State of Michigan does hereby establish that there will be one (1) regular monthly meeting held by the Adams Township Board as follows:

- All regular meetings will be held at the Township Hall in Baltic, MI.
- Meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month (unless posted), commencing at 6:00PM. Dates of the regular monthly meeting will be as follows: April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10 (Second Monday), August 7, September 11 (Second Monday), October 2, November 6, December 4, 2023, January 8 (Second Monday), February 5, and March 4, 2024. (Immediately followed by the Wholesale Water Board Meeting).
- The annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 5:30PM. Budget work sessions shall be set as needed at monthly meetings.
- Special meetings shall be called and held at the direction of the Adams Township Board with due and proper notice of such meetings.
- Meetings will observe Robert's Rules of Order, and will allow five (5) minute limit per individual of public comment before meeting.

MOTION by Immonen supported by Pindral, the board approved the depository of all the Township funds with Superior National Bank, Citizens Bank, Incredible Bank, Flagstar, M-Bank, Ontonagon Citizens State Bank, Range Bank, Huntington Bank and Miners Bank, and to keep them current and updated. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister with support from Keranen, the Board authorizes the Township to utilize electronic transactions in compliance with the written procedures and internal controls developed and adopted by the Treasurer as the Township's ACH policy. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen supported by Pindral, that Lawyer Kevin Mackey from Kevin Mackey Law will represent the Township as its attorney on month-to-month basis until notice and then to be determined at later date, with the option to consult with other attorneys more qualified on the subject in question. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Immonen, supported by Eister, the board appoint the Rukkila Negro and Associates CPA firm as auditors for the Township. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION made by Eister, supported by Keranen that the Adams Township Board be given authorization to borrow funds for the operation of the Fire Department, and for any other purpose deemed necessary for the operation of the Adams Township Board. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION made by Keranen supported by Pindral, that the Adams Township Board be given permission to lease, purchase or sell land, buildings and structures deemed by the Township Board for the operation of the Township Fire Dept, Recreation Dept, and for any other purpose deemed necessary for the operation of

Adams Township and at terms deemed satisfactory by the Adams Township Board. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral, supported by Keranen the Board adopted the following wages for employees. Roll call vote 4 ayes, Pindral abstained:

Don Cline/Travis Cline/Heather Platzke/Terry Wiitala/Jerry Wisniewski:

Range of 3-6.5% - dependent of financial situation of Township

Account/Payroll Manager	\$15.50/Hr
New Temporary/Seasonal with experience)	\$10.50/Hr (not to be less than current minimum hourly wage. Negotiable
Current Cemetery workers:	
Jim Malila	\$13.00/Hr
Robert Kukkonen	\$11.53/Hr
Board of Review	\$15.75/Hr
Election workers	\$15.75/Hr
Election chairperson	\$18.00/Hr
Deputy Clerk	\$15.00/Hr
Deputy Treasurer	\$15.00/Hr

Eligible Full-time Employees In-Lieu of Insurance Monthly Stipend \$150/Month

Mileage rate at current IRS rate – .655cents/mile

Wholesale Water Board \$60.00 month, not to exceed \$720.00 annually.

MOTION made by Eister with support from Keranen that LuAnn Hayrynen be continued as assessor with verbal contract continuation, and authorizing Supervisor Heikkinen authority to work out compensation of assessor contract. Roll call vote; four ayes, Pindral abstained. Motion carried.

Changes and adjustments are effective April 1, 2023.

MOTION by Pindral, supported by Keranen, the board appointed the following to their respective positions: Torey Kostamo, Deputy Clerk; Nancy Immonen, Deputy Treasurer. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen, supported by Pindral, the following cemetery rates will remain the same for Mountain View and Atlantic Mine:

Lot purchases: \$150.00 if ever a resident of the Township &
 \$250.00 non-resident – With the stipulation that due to decreasing space, lot sales in the Atlantic Mine cemetery are available to residents only. Non-resident burials shall be at Mountain View Cemetery in South Range.
 Free lot for Veteran if buried in Veterans plot. Sales of Veteran/Spousal Plots are \$150.00 but must pay for burial. Plus must pay VFW \$25.00 for stone lot marker.

Burials: Regular - \$250.00 everyone	Saturday rates: \$365.00	Sunday and Holiday - \$550.00
\$100.00 cremations	\$150.00	\$200.00
\$100.00 stillborns	\$150.00	\$200.00
\$700.00 disinterment	\$900.00	\$1,200.00

There will be NO unauthorized burials or cremations in either cemetery.

Any burials held from November 1st thru May 15th will be charged for any extra cost incurred in addition to the Township fee. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister, supported by Keranen, the annual street light assessment will remain at \$20.00 per PRE (excludes Village of South Range) per year. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Immonen, supported by Keranen, the board retained 1% administrative tax fee plus 3% penalty fee on property tax collection (with the current applicable non-sufficient funds fee) with charge to Adams Township School District \$2.50 per parcel. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen supported by Eister to continue to add delinquent water and sewage bills to the tax roll. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister, supported by Keranen to continue collecting special assessments excluding the Village of South Range, in the amount of \$40 per year per parcel for the Fire Dept. and 1st Responders. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen, supported by Eister, the board retained Hannula Insurance Agency for township insurance, with permission for Supervisor to investigate insurance options and financial advisors. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

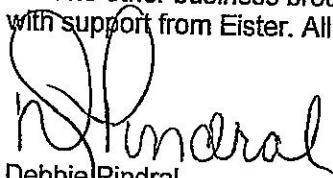
MOTION by Pindral, supported by Keranen, the retail water rates and sewage rates will increase 25cents after the 2000 gallon base with additional incremental increases, retaining the option to increase rates if necessary using proper notice and procedure. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral, with support from Keranen that the Treasurer, Clerk, Deputy Treasurer, and Office Manager, be authorized to sign checks on behalf of the Township. Mandate will require at least one of the signatures be either the Township Treasurer or the Township Clerk. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen, with support from Immonen to go into executive session at 6:35PM to discuss wages. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen with support from Immonen to leave executive session at 7:05PM, and return to special meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

With no other business brought before the Board, meeting adjourned at 7:08PM on a MOTION by Keranen with support from Eister. All ayes, Motion carried.



Debbie Pindral
Adams Township Clerk