

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC HEARING
JULY 6, 2020**

A public hearing of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, July 6, 2020 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan utilizing teleconferencing/social distancing guidelines.

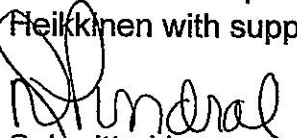
The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board members were introduced and responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Mattila, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 5 guests present.

Supervisor Heikkinen thanked all for attending. He stated the purpose of the public hearing was to inform the public and take comments regarding USDA Funding for a \$50,000 grant application to purchase an Emergency Services vehicle (excavator) for watermain and aging line repairs. With the excavator, employees will be able to respond immediately to emergency repairs on aging water lines, and sewer lines, thus enabling the Township to control costly contractor repairs. This in turn will allow the Township to more efficiently operate, key to controlling increasing water costs. Supervisor Heikkinen again emphasized keeping the waterlines operating is crucial to the safe provision of water to the population of Adams Township, Village of South Range, City of Hancock as well as Portage Charter Township.

Public hearing turned over for comments from the public.

- 1) Question raised if water rates would be raised as a result of this excavator purchase. Supervisor Heikkinen stated there would be no substantial water rate increase, but rates will be increasing in small increments annually due to EGLE recommendations. He stated the excavator would also allow employees to perform lagoon maintenance instead of contracting out the work, another potential cost that wouldn't be passed onto consumers.
- 2) Question on service maintenance on equipment. Supervisor Heikkinen reported service is part of the purchase agreement.

With no further questions or comments, a MOTION to adjourn at 6:10PM by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Trustee Keranen. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting Adjourned.


Submitted by:
Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
July 6, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Adam Township Board was held instituting mandated teleconferencing/social distancing guidelines on Monday, July 6, 2020 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10PM. Pledge of allegiance was recited. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Mattila, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen and Clerk Pindral. There were 5 guests participating.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the minutes of the June 1, 2020 Monthly meeting, and June 1, 2020 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- John Haeussler, representing Houghton County Land Bank Authority, stated the land bank has a property in Trimountain on 6th Street with no buildings on it. The land bank supports productive use of property and informed the Township about the Trimountain property in an attempt to have a positive outcome and get it back on tax toll. It has potential recreational value as playground or add residential value to homes next door.
- Glenn Anderson, representing Houghton County Recreational Authority, stated the Authority was established to provide a uniform voice for area recreation. Townships and cities are being invited to join the Authority currently comprised of WUPPDR, KEDA, the visitors Bureau, and the Franklin Township. No millage required. Would like Adams Township to provide voting member.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Flyer is being inserted in the tax bills being sent out to give information on serious damage to the sewer systems because of disposable wipes being flushed. Cost of damages incurred will be passed on to property owners.
- Thank-you letter received from KEDA for payment of dues.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Review of financial reports for June 2020. MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the June 2020 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes with Trustee Mattila abstaining from vote on invoices from Mattila Rock and Dock/Superior Sand and Gravel. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Trustee Mattila reported in June there were 5 medical calls and 3 fire calls. Reports the tanker was brought to Iron Mountain for repairs.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor report was reviewed. Supervisor will be meeting with the assessor on June 5th. AMAR review started today. 6 MTU students have been hired to update tax cards by taking pictures, remeasuring property lines, etc. Anticipate completion by end of July. Two resolutions reviewed: One to provide written procedures for real and personal property tax exemption, and AMAR Real Estate Exemptions Procedures on local unit. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Mattila to approve Resolution 2020-07-01: To Provide Written Procedures for Real and Personal Property Tax Exemptions. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Keranen to approve Resolution 2020-07-02: Procedure/Application for Exemption from Property Taxes. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.


CEMETERY REPORT: Cemeteries are being upkept and looking good.

BUSINESS – OLD/UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Chris Holmes stated he has met with Supervisor Heikkinen and Water Supervisor Cline to discuss to scope of water improvement project. The smaller motors, which runs the most, will be swapped out and spare sent out for rebuild. These smaller, high pressure pumps can be swapped out by Township employees with exception to the electrical components. This is a cost saving move which will result in no pumps included in project. Also discussed possibility of shortening the length of line to be replaced. No DNR easements are needed. Loan rates have decreased, which is also being factored in. Loan application is 85% complete, waiting on numbers from the Village of South Range, commercial versus household use. Application will be submitted by August 1st. Work will be done on design throughout the winter with project ready to roll in 2021. Worst case scenario would put construction in 2023.
- UPEA scanned in maps of pipes/valves and updated spreadsheets. Records on file dated 1994.
- No update from Circle Power.
- After discussion, it was decided to not rent Township hall due to social distancing mandates and Covid concerns.
- Trustee Mattila stated he was contacted by Jim Pintar about the Township moving the Honor Roll in Painesdale. Lawyer Mackey reported he had sent Mr. Pintar information regarding ownership of property the Honor Roll is currently on.
- Houghton County Road Commission will be contacted regarding road damage being incurred due to increased traffic due to flood closure repairs.
- Bumps on street by Catholic Church on Erickson Drive still have not been smoothed out. Chris Holmes will talk with Siler.
- Census Bureau stated the return rate for Adams Township residents is currently 52.8%.
Reminder to complete the 2020 Census!!

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:38PM by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
July 6, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, July 6, 2020 via mandated social distancing guidelines/teleconferencing at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Mattila, Trustee Keranen and Clerk Pindral. Also present were Don Cline and Chris Holmes.

- Don Cline stated EGLE is issuing more requirements. Stated violation with no #24 screen on outflow at pumping station. An eye wash and shower has to be installed at pumping station. There is an issue with the chlorine scales at the plant necessitating adjustments to be done daily. Replacing is approximately \$2,500.00.
- Don stated with the township purchasing a backhoe, they are able to perform more repairs without hiring a contractor. An excavator would be even more versatile. Hydrants were flushed with five leaks popping up. He requested the Township invest in a HydroVerge, which would allow hydrant flushing with no leaks as well as utilizing it as gate valve exercising tool. The valve needs to be exercised annually. Don thanked the Board for upgrading equipment, but stated there is still more work to be done.
- Reported employees are installing isolation valves whenever possible on dead end loops.
- Scheduled to take D3 water exam on July 23 unless again rescheduled due to Covid concerns. He will plan to take both D exams in November if need be.
- Lagoons have all been discharged (5 days early). Don stated he may do two discharges in spring and two in fall to prolong life of lagoons. There is a seized valve on lagoon #1, and they are in the process of fixing it.
- Five water lines were repaired in Baltic, and one in Trimountain on 6th Avenue. Fire hydrants are being replaced on Baltic St and Douglas in Painesdale.
- Questions voiced on blacktop patching in Baltic and Seeberville in Painesdale. Don stated the employees could do it utilizing a compactor. Trustee Mattila stated to contact Bacco regarding obtaining blacktop material from plant before it shuts down.

With no other business before the board, a MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Mattila to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:10P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:



Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk