

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
January 10, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, January 10, 2022 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 16 guests participating via in-person/zoom.

MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the minutes of the December 6, 2021 Monthly Meeting, and December 6, 2021 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE:

- C. Markham commented on errors he felt were made by Circle Power in the television story, ie, tower height. He also addressed/questioned the Board regarding Molpus selling acreage across from the Northern Hardwoods, if a setting for a wind turbine? Supervisor Heikkinen stated the Board was informed it was being developed as a log yard and stated the township assessor would have information regarding the land being removed from CFR status.
- M. Dugdale questioned timeline for Chris Moore to hold public informational meeting regarding the wind turbine farm. Questioned why some meetings do not reflect any statements made by Circle Power.
- J. Mihelcich, Secretary for Guardians of Keweenaw Ridge, questioned the promises of revenue for the school district as any revenue generated by Circle Power is offset/negated by other revenue. (Note: Some of Mr. Mihelcich comments were inaudible to get on record). C. Moore responded that per student funding will be the same; Revenues from Circle Wind will decrease the school debt which is currently paid by Township residents. Circle Wind is proposing to sign a contract that will promise payment in lieu of taxes over the 25-30yr project.
- Supervisor Heikkinen addressed the public stating the Township lawyer was absent to answer some questions. Lots of unanswered concerns. Stated the Board is very receptive to a Townhall meeting with include State and Federal officials. Elected officials have not responded to requests for assistance from the Township. Next plan is to move forward with the zoning ordinance the Planning Commission has drafted. Public hearing will be held to get resident input regarding the Windfarm. Still discussed sending a survey to registered voters in the Township to get more feedback. Currently some correspondence received from the public is for the wind energy and some against.
- G. Anderson, County Commissioner, encouraged the Township to hire a planning consultant. Encouraged a referendum to let Adams Township residents decide.
- M. Manderfield stated the Township has more power/authority than they realize. Everyone has to work together, light zoning gives local authority.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Supervisor Heikkinen stated he has reviewed the General Fund budget. Income to adjust: CFR taxes increase \$17,100

Metro Act increase \$2,50

Fire Fund Grant of \$50,000

Reimbursements increase \$1,600

Insurance claim increase \$3,600

Expenses That need to be adjusted include:

Board Printing/Publishing increase of \$2200

Building & Grounds Operating Supplies increase of \$200

Other Activities Other Funds increase of \$400

Workman's Compensation increase \$200

Insurance increase of \$4000

American Rescue Act Bonus Pay increased \$1,375

American Rescue Drinking Water Infrastructure increase \$10,594.

MOTION to accept income/expense adjustments to budget made by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Review of December 2021 financial reports.

MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the December 2021 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Minutes of the last Commission meeting were presented to and read by Supervisor. Supervisor Heikkinen then stated all the minutes of the Planning Commission are available on the Township Website: [www,UPadamstownship.com](http://www.UPadamstownship.com) Minutes of the monthly meetings are also published on the website. The Planning Commission is soliciting a budget and funds from the Board for per meeting diem, educational needs, etc. Supervisor Heikkinen stated general fund will pick up expenses to date and that a budget will be included for the FY 2022/23.

Correspondence received from the State of Michigan congratulating the Township on receiving eligibility for Charter Township status based on 2020 census. Clerk Pindral is checking into the process and whether it is a positive move. (NOTE LATE ENTRY: State of Michigan retracted the eligibility status stating documents were mailed in error).

CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING: Reporting date is still fluid, but reiterated the agencies need to have multiple people on record for reporting purposes. Treasurer is the Account Administrator and will be the Authorized Representative for Reporting/Point of Contact for Reporting. Supervisor Heikkinen appointed Clerk Pindral as back-up. Motion by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Eister to approve appointment of Coronavirus Funding Reporting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: There were 17 medical calls and 2 fire calls in December. Yearly totals: 20 Fire calls and 167 medical calls in 2021. Building a new fire hall is in investigative stage. Request utilizing some Covid Relief monies for FD/EMT bonus. Need a list of names of Fire Volunteers and EMT. Trustee Eister will contact Annette Butina for list. It is was reported that some fire hydrants are buried under snow and need to be cleared out by employees.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor report for December reviewed. March 8 will be BOR organizational meeting. BOR for residents to make corrections is scheduled for March 14th from 3-9PM and March 15 from 9AM-3PM.

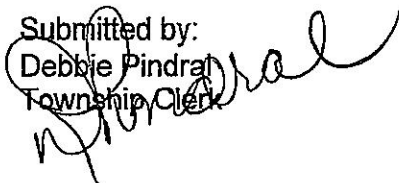
BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Chris Holmes stated the water project design is 60-70% complete. He met with Don Cline for comments. No word received from Rural Development on loan funding. Pipe availability is 3-4 months out which will have significant impact on project timeline. Bid will determine when shovels are in the ground.
- DSMI has rumblings that there could possibly be State or Federal assist with funding. Federal focus is currently on lead in water.
- Ice Rink is now open. Volunteer must be present for rink to be open. Schedule unknown.
- Congratulations extended to Travis Cline as he has passed his latest State exam. Both Travis and Terry will continue with testing for licenses in 2022, some in May, others in November.
- A new trailer to haul lawn mowers and snow blowers requested. Estimate is approximately \$1400 from Tractor Supply to be paid across all accounts. MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to approve the purchase of a new trailer for approx. \$1400 from Tractor Supply. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- Next phase of pumping station pole barn is to be insulated with closed cell spray foam at estimated cost of \$15,000 for 40x40 building. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Eister to approve insulating the pole barn at approx. est. cost of \$15,000. Roll call, all ayes. Moton carried. Pole barn will be the workshop as well as equipment storage.
- Public encouraged to contact legislators to “get involved” in the Adams Township wind turbine issues.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:37PM by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk



ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
January 10, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, January 10, 2022 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:41PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen via zoom, and Clerk Pindral, Chris Holmes, UPEA. Water Dept Supervisor Don Cline was absent with excuse.

- Travis Cline passed his State Exam and turned in a copy of license to receive his pay increase.
- Discussion regarding water let-run. Concerns regarding let runs also affecting lagoons by additional filling up. Currently due to the rock in Baltic preventing mainlines to be buried deeper, it is the only town that let-runs are allowed, IF the water dept. office is contacted first. Heather and Don are working on an official township-wide let-run policy that will be in effect by Fall 2022.
- Discussion on the feasibility of building a new fire hall/community center on Township property in Baltic, thus consolidating the Atlantic Mine and Painesdale fire buildings.
- Chris Holmes reported there is still talk from DNR of the Township obtaining new easement for water project and remove old water lines. This is not an acceptable option. Chris will forward the email to EGLE to get opinion.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated there will be budget adjustments to Wholesale Water and Retail water to adjust for salaries. Contract labor line will be adjusted down. Employees have been very successful is performing repairs/work with very little contract labor costs.

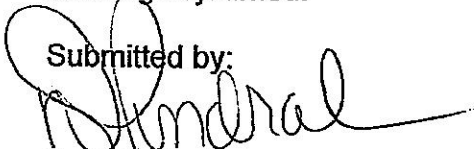
MOTION by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Trustee Eister to leave wholesale water meeting and enter into executive session at 8:10PM to discuss personnel issues. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Trustee Eister to leave executive session at 8:30PM and return to wholesale water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

Wholesale water meeting readjourned at 8:30PM. Supervisor Heikkinen stated the personnel issues and pay issues were still being discussed, and will continued to be discussed after research at future meeting.

With no other business or comments before the board, a MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:31P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk