

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP  
MONTHLY MEETING**

July 12, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were numerous guests in attendance. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the minutes of the June 7, 2021 Monthly Hearing, and June 7, 2021 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Due to the number of guests Supervisor Heikkinen stated Kevin Mackey, Township Attorney, would speak regarding the wind turbine project being planned for Adams Township by Circle Power. Mr. Mackey stated he has been involved since the potential project started in 2013. Reiterated the Township has no zoning therefore utilized police policy for ordinance to protect constituents. State law requires 15% renewable green energy not including hydropower. Wind turbines have been subsidized by the federal and state government, and that is where the pressure to stop turbines needs to be applied. He stated it would be about a year and a half to get zoning in place in Adams Township, and it cannot zone to exclude. Lawyer Mackey stated he would take questions and speak with any of the public immediately following the meeting tonight to allow the Board to conduct meeting. Commissioner Glenn Anderson stated 2018 tax law changed resulting in tax credit ending date of 12/31/2021. He compared wind turbines to cellphone towers. He stated Circle Power has attended meetings, not hiding out. Options include land owners could possibly negotiate with Circle Power to buy out at fair market price. Stated the Township could do a millage to buy a bond for wind rights, which would be costly. Supervisor Heikkinen took to the floor to address the public concern. Emphasized contrary to rumor, no permits have been issued and no permit fees (15,000/per turbine) have been received. He stated engineering/construction oversight costs are taken from the permit fees and Township would have to refund any balance. The Township has also stipulated a bond on each tower as to not get left with the expense of scrapped turbines. Discussion regarding any impact on property tax revenue the Township would feel as a result. He discussed options with Houghton County officials. A Township nonbinding referendum could be planned to have residents give a yes/no vote to give direction to the Board. Supervisor Heikkinen asked Chris Moore, Circle Power, for updates at the meetings, not answer questions. Chris Moore stated he is willing to do a walk-through presentation of the process with anyone who asks. He stated the wind energy company does not clear-cut forest, only the area around the turbine and installs security fencing. They improve existing temporary roads but will widen to 60 feet when installing turbine. He stated 2023 is current timeframe to have first operational wind turbine. Chris Moore stated he will email the spreadsheet with projected property tax figures to the Township, which can be made available on website. Guardians of Keweenaw Ridge spokesperson, Jim Mihelcic (sp?), stated the group has hired a firm to support making the wind turbine project difficult. There will be a public meeting "one week from Friday" at the South Range Elementary School. He invited Board members to attend to hear what the expert has to offer. Their hope is to work with the Board, assisting as able. Other guests had questions and Lawyer Kevin Mackey reiterated he will answer questions from anyone outside after tonight's meeting. Supervisor Heikkinen thanked all for attending and voicing their concerns.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- The engagement letter for the Rukkila/Negro audit has been signed and returned. Christine Smigowski will be auditor and tentatively starting the audit around July 26.

- Regarding the annexation of the property to Village of South Range, a MOTION to approve the PA425 Agreement Resolution made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen. Roll Call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- MTA "Principles of Governance" regarding rules of integrity for elected officials was reviewed with each board member signing

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Review of financial reports for June 2021. Treasurer Immonen stated the Flagstar CD was erroneously entered twice and she will have the auditor make the correction. MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept the June 2021 financial reports with the understanding of the correction to be made. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** There were 9 medical calls and 0 fire calls. P. Nettell reported the new fire truck was in the South Range July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Assessor report for month of June reviewed. Supervisor Heikkinen reported the time change of 1-2PM Board of Review (for corrections only) is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>.

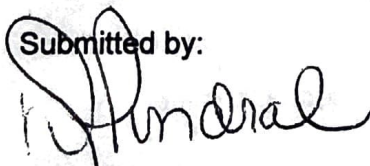
**CEMETERY REPORT:** Supervisor Heikkinen reported the cemetery workers will be working M-TH for a 32-hour week starting July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:**

- Chris Holmes stated he would like to schedule a meeting with the DNR regarding the easement request. Lawyer Mackey, Don Cline if available, and Supervisor Heikkinen will also participate. He inquired if the Township has received formal notification of receiving the \$50,000 emergency vehicle grant. Nothing received, therefore he will call next week.
- MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to approve the UPSET West Pledge year 2 of \$2000 and extend said pledge to 2025. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- UPPCO has sent information about the dangers of generators in homes as well as possible fines that could be incurred. SEMCO has also emphasized the importance of calling 811 before beginning construction of any type.
- Annual dues in the amount of \$200 to Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce are due. Clerk Pindral stated Workman's Comp insurance rates are impacted by membership. MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to pay \$200 Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce dues. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- David Fox arrived late and voiced his opposition to wind turbines.
- Chris DeForge thanked the Board for the oiling the road in Baltic but stated it is a waste of monies as it isn't performing as expected. She also asked permission to look at painting pickleball lines in the ice rink to play inside during inclement weather. Supervisor Heikkinen expressed the stipulation of a responsible adult supervising at all times. She will contact Heather as to a time when she can get inside to look.
- Heather stated the address for the Township website has changed. It is now: [upadamstownship.com](http://upadamstownship.com) She will be ordering new business cards for the Township with the new address.
- Heather reported that Dave Hanshaw has offered to do supervising at the Baltic Ice Rink due to previous person having moved.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 8:12PM 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  
July 12, 2021

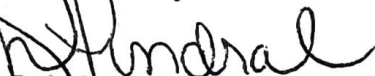
The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:46PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen, Clerk Pindral, and Office Manager, Heather Platzke. Don Cline was absent with excuse.

- Supervisor Heikkinen stated Travis Cline is scheduled to take the S4 exam Wednesday, and Don Cline is scheduled to take the D3/D2 license exam. He was approved by appeal to take the D2 exam. He is considering taking both exams. Should have results in 45 days.
- Supervisor Heikkinen reported Terry Wiitala has passed his 90-day probation period.
- Supervisor Heikkinen praised the guys and Heather on all the projects they are taking on and completing. Recently employees have fixed the U-Haul/Frito-Lay 'daisy chain' connections. All have their own shut-off valves.
- Most of the manholes in Painesdale have been cleaned out with the Vac-truck. The truck is beneficial in draining water leak pooling also. Demonstrating that it is saving the Township money.
- Reported the 'holder' that cuts the grass inside the lagoons has died. The new lawn mower can't get close enough. Don will be looking for a replacement. Trustee Eister stated engines can be found, and suggested Don call him for more information.
- The five hydrants ordered have arrived, bring the total to 10 ready to get installed.
- Chris Holmes reported the Township did receive approval on the \$50,000 grant for the fire truck. No formal approval letter received yet. Chris to call RD and check on.
- Heather reported on the new website address: [www.UPadamstownship.com](http://www.UPadamstownship.com).
- Heather also reported Dave Hanshaw has offered to do supervising at the Ice Rink.
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With no other business or comments before the board, a MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:21P.M. Roll call, all ayes.  
Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:



Debbie Pindral,  
Township Clerk

# NOTICE

Adams Township

Election Committee Meeting

July 12, 2021

Immediately following the regularly  
scheduled 6:00PM Township  
Meeting/Wholesale Water Meeting

Posted 7/8/21

  
D. Pindral, Clerk

A meeting of the Adams Township Election Committee was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, and Clerk Pindral.

Clerk Pindral nominated the following as election inspectors for the August 3, 2021 election:

Torey Dugdale, Election Chairperson (D)

Kathy DeForge, Back-up Chairperson (D)

Margaret Burkman (R)

Marti Rashleigh (R) – AVCB/Receiving Board

Jean Stevens (R)

Gail Mickalich (D) – AVCB/Receiving Board

Nancy Tinsley (G) – AVCB/Receiving Board Back-up

Deborah Paavola (D)

MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Supervisor Heikkinen to support and approve the above election inspector nominations. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

Public accuracy test is scheduled for Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 2PM.

With no other business before the board. MOTION by Clerk Pindral with support from Supervisor Heikkinen to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

  
Debbie Pindral,

Township Clerk