

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
May 2, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, May 2, 2022 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09PM immediately following the Adams Township Planning Commission public hearing at 5:45PM to review and gather comments on proposed changes to Adams Township Land Use map (See website for minutes). Meeting started with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, and Clerk Pindral. Trustee Keranen was absent with excuse. There were 15 guests participating via in-person.

MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the minutes of the April 4, 2022 Monthly Meeting, and April 4, 2022 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- D. Mattila stated he had three questions for the Board: What equipment and how much monies have the Township spent/purchased in last two years; Were Bids taken; and What is the increase to Wholesale Water customers? Supervisor Heikkinen gave a verbal list of equipment purchased costing close to one-half million dollars with at least \$100,000 in grants. Purchases were justified by decrease in contract labor costs. Current employees have proven to be very competent in fixing leaks and such, eliminating contract labor. Bids were obtained if applicable. Wholesale Water rates were increased as of 4/1/22 ten cents per gallon to \$1.80 as suggested by Rural Development to buildup maintenance/breakdown funds. Retail water rates were increased a flat rate of \$1.00 across the board.
- T. Parolini asked the Board to consider donating for the South Range Fourth of July celebrations. She stated her research states township can donate if "a benefit to the community". Supervisor Heikkinen will check the budget.
- J. Sleeman asked for clarification if zoning replaces the Wind/Solar ordinances. Otherwise, they need updating. Inquired about the Township removing the equipment on Whealkate Bluff. Supervisor Heikkinen stated the equipment is on private property, Township has no authority. Supervisor Heikkinen instructed Lawyer Mackey to update both ordinances for June meeting. J. Sleeman stated the water pressure at her home is blowing the water heater pressure valve. D. Cline stated he will check into.
- D. Fox stated the road to Mountain View Cemetery is in terrible shape and requested the Township do something. Stated the Township has enough equipment and employees to fix. Supervisor Heikkinen and D.Cline stated the Township does not have paving equipment. Addendum: D. Fox added that he would like to end comment time restraint of 5 minutes, changing to whatever time it takes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Engagement letter received from audit agency Rukkila and Negro. Standard hourly rate and costs not to exceed \$13,800.00. Possible start in June done by September. Engagement letter signed and will be sent back.
2. MDOT is requesting an updated resolution from Board on who can be authorized for State Hwy permitting. MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to approve Resolution 2022-05-01 Performance Resolution for Municipalities authorizing Township Supervisor, Township Treasurer, Township Clerk and Township Engineer for the MDOT permitting process. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved. Clerk Pindral will submit to the State.
3. Correspondence received from Michigan Catastrophic Surplus with a refund check for \$2400 for vehicles that were insured during the period.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Supervisor Heikkinen inquired if there were any questions or issues regarding the financial reports for April. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the April 2022 financial reports. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved. Treasurer Immonen stated a new checking account must be opened for online bill payments. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Eister to open account at Miners State Bank with two signatures: Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Clerk, and Office Manager (one signature must be Treasurer or Clerk). Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved. Supervisor Heikkinen reported State Revenue sharing monies will show a small decrease due to 2020 Census showing a decline in population. Anticipate receiving about \$170,000 for the year.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

There were 9 medical calls and 2 fire calls since last report. Regarding proposed fire hall, UPEA Chris Holmes reported it is commonly done on a 30-year bond versus millage because millage revenue can fluctuate yearly. Recommends asking for full amount on a ballot due to inflation and financing. Because of Rural Development financing, it is mandatory to be BID out. There is a lot of work to do before it can get on the November ballot, at the earliest.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Board reviewed assessor report for April. The new assessor will hold office hours on Wednesday from 10AM-4PM.

CEMETERY REPORT:

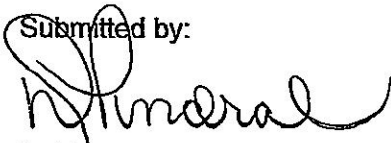
Cannot drive into cemetery yet due to snow/ice pile in front of gate, but walking in is an option. Jerry Wisniewski will assume sexton duties for both cemeteries. Will start on May 9th. Temporary help will start when ground is ready.

BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Chris Holmes stated no new updates on water project application. May explore addition of 10million gallon tank which would require environmental study. This would eliminate boil notices in case of line break with no effect to rest of system. Plan is to work with Northern Hardwoods to help resolve their water tank issue (fire suppression) and add their funding for tank. Township would retain ownership of tank. Will have information for June meeting.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated there has been no updates from Circle Power.
- Planning Commission update: MOTION from Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept land use map with corrections made at tonight's public hearing. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved.
- Supervisor Heikkinen reported the Township will only apply the dust control application to Academy Road to cemetery. Budgeted \$1600.00 for process. Contract signed and to be returned to Road Commission.
- American Transmission Company will be working on the Atlantic Mine Substation upgrade throughout summer. Should be no interruption in service to customers.
- Houghton County Recreational Authority is republishing articles due to a procedural error. Trustee Eister volunteered to be Township contact.
- Treasurer Immonen reports the required reporting for the American Rescue Funding has been done. Next round of funding anticipated in the fall.
- Clerk Pindral stated the Board needs to approve a resolution to submit an application for the MI par plan grant. The grant is to help in purchase of a sewer camera to assist in discovering infiltration in the municipal sewer system. MOTION by Clerk Pindral with support from Trustee Eister to approve Resolution 2022-05-02 to Authorize Adams Township Water & Sewer Utility to Apply for MI Township Par Plan Risk Reduction Grant. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:25PM 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
May 2, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, May 2, 2022 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, and Clerk Pindral, Chris Holmes, UPEA, Water Dept Supervisor Don Cline, and Office Manager Heather Platzke. Trustee Keranen was absent with excuse.

- Don Cline stated Travis Cline and Terry Wiitala are taking tests for licensure this week. Terry is taking L1 and Travis is taking D4 exam.
- Meeting held with City of Hancock, Portage Township, Quincy/Franklin and WUPDHD regarding how to make boil notices not so confusing to the public. EGLE also attended.
- Met with EGLE regarding lagoon system infiltration due to rain and excessive melt, and the need to do an unauthorized discharge. Will be a violation on sewer permit but there was no choice. Lots of OT due to patrolling done. Health Dept. receives and handles any complaints regarding smell.
- Don stated having a camera system will enable them to monitor any sump pumps being discharged into system as well as determine where the paper wipes, oil, etc. originate from. EGLE is satisfied the Township is addressing problems, the infiltrate of manholes, especially in Atlantic Mine. Cleaning the system with Vactor truck will help with infiltration at lagoons. Cameras are ordered and anticipate at least six-week backlog. Looking into the cost of a manhole repair cutter.
- Kubota has been ordered with a July arrival at the earliest.
- Water meters have been ordered at approx. @ \$136,000. Back valve not utilized.
- Lagoon fencing is on track to be finished. Need to get gravel around the lagoons to prevent softening and exposure.
- Had two major water leaks to content with. One in Trimountain, the other in Painesdale. OT unavoidable.
- Working on GPS mapping, adding laterals, etc.


MOTION by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Treasurer Immonen to leave wholesale water meeting and enter into executive session at 7:51PM to discuss personnel issues. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved.

MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Treasurer Immonen to leave executive session at 8:01PM and return to wholesale water meeting. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved.

Wholesale water meeting readjourned at 8:01PM. Supervisor Heikkinen stated the Board discussed development of comp-time policy for employee handbook versus overtime for employees.

With no other business or comments before the board, a MOTION by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Treasurer Immonen to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:02P.M. Roll call, 4 ayes, Trustee Keranen absent. Motion approved.

Submitted by:



Debbie Pindral, Township Clerk