

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, September 12, 2016 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. Pledge of allegiance was recited followed by roll call. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Mattila, Trustee Sohlden, and Clerk Pindral. There were 12 guests in attendance.

MOTION made by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Sohlden to accept the meeting minutes of the August 1, 2016 monthly meeting, and August 1, 2016 wholesale water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- David Fox addressed the Board regarding enforcement of the 25mph speed limit in Baltic since the Houghton County Road Commission removed the street signs. He presented the Board with a 45 signature petition from residents asking for the signs to be put back up. He stated the Houghton County Sheriff Dept. stated 25mph is the residential zone speed limit. Mr. Fox also reported he has contacted the County Road Commission, but has not yet received a response. Supervisor Heikkinen stated the Board will contact Houghton County Road Commission regarding getting the speed signs put back up.
- Penny Harma presented the Board with copies of electrical bills and asked the Board for assistance in paying the high electrical bills incurred during the water main break at the end of May/beginning of June. Stated due to the water, the sump pump at 46134 Erickson Drive ran excessively, then broke down. Supervisor Heikkinen stated this would have to be approved by the Township Insurance Company due to governmental immunity regarding natural disasters. As compromise, Ms. Harma asked if the fees to turn the water on at the residence could be waived versus cash reimbursement. Supervisor Heikkinen stated he will discuss with the office manager, and felt this could be arranged.
- Martha Jukkala presented the Board with a list damages in her basement from the August lift station malfunction. Her homeowners insurance policy states no sewer or water damage coverage. Her nephew D. Hendrickson stated Mrs. Jukkala is the low spot on the line, and this is the second time her basement has flooded. He inquired if a grinder pump could be installed in her yard. The Board will speak with Township Insurance Company as well as Township Lawyer, and contact Mrs. Jukkala with results.
- Therese Parolini inquired if the Township has received any correspondence from the Village of South Range regarding wind turbines. Supervisor Heikkinen stated no, and there has been no update whatsoever from Wind Farm Energies regarding the wind turbines.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1.) Letter received from Lisa Karrio, Township Assessor, requesting revision of work hours to Wednesday, 10AM to 4PM. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support by Trustee Mattila to revise Assessor Karrio's work hours from Wednesday 9AM-3PM to Wednesday 10AM to 4PM. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Letter will be kept with her contract and incorporated.
- 2.) Correspondence received from Duane Reid, Rural Development, accepting the recently completed annual audit. He suggested a few tweaks in some accounts, which the auditor will complete. He also suggested using extra funds to pay down loan balances. Due to the life expectancy of the Township water pumps being 20 years, and they are now 25+ years, Board felt that it was in best interest to hold extra funds in case of a catastrophic failure and repair. This will be revisited once the water improvement project is complete in Atlantic Mine, and Painesdale.
- 3.) Chris Holmes, UPEA, was not able to attend and gave Supervisor Heikkinen the update. Easements are still the roadblock, with 3 or 4 being received this week. More letters requesting right of way easement have gone out. Nancy Immonen stated the fee to file documents at the Courthouse will be increasing to \$30 as of October 1, 2016. Invoices for work done in preparation of the Water Improvement project are bring paid from general fund and will be paid once the project starts.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Clerk Pindral reported U.P. Power bills are all over the scale. Has spoken with the Company, who state they are trying to get these under better control. MOTION made by Trustee Sohlden with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the August financial report as presented. Roll call, all ayes with Trustee Mattila abstaining from vote on Rock and Dock as well as Portage Lake Construction invoices. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Trustee Mattila reported 11 medical calls and 1 fire call. He stated the fire dept. is looking to purchase a new truck to pull rescue trailer.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor report reviewed. All looks good. Will inform assessor of approval of hour change.

CEMETERY REPORT: No report for Mountain View. Treasurer Immonen was contacted by a gentleman who is requesting to do a geological probing as a class project. This would involve the old section. Permission granted with the stipulation there is to be no disturbance of graves, and there will be no charge. Treasurer Immonen reported the roof has been repaired on the storage shed at the cemetery.

BUSINESS:

- Portage Lake Construction invoices continue to be received due to the “never ending” water repairs in Atlantic Mine. There is another leak for repair, this one in Baltic. Paving of Erickson Drive fix will be done in the fall.
- There will be a To-Do List for employees posted in the water department office of projects that need to be done. Let Heather know if something needs to be added to list. (David Fox asked that get the speed limit signs up be added).
- The riding lawnmower used for the cemeteries and lagoons has a cracked frame and a new one needs to be purchased. Discussion on purchasing now to get a better price versus higher prices in the spring. MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden to purchase a new 38” cut riding lawnmower now if funds available. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Quotes will be obtained based on a quality machine.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated he was contacted by the Escanaba Veteran Center who wants to have a local office to meet with veterans in the area. It would need to meet privacy needs. Supervisor Heikkinen will offer the Township Hall, as it is handicapped accessible but not sure about meeting privacy needs.

MOTION to adjourn at 6:55PM by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
September 12, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, September 12, 2016 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Mattila, Trustee Sohlden, and Clerk Pindral. Water Superintendent Bob Hudson would be late due to a prior commitment. Office Manager, Heather Platzke was also present.

- Heather Platzke stated she received a response to a text inquiry from John Kilpela that he is starting another job and is done at the Township. He did not report to work last Friday, or today, Monday. She will ask for his keys, when he inquires about his paycheck.
- Heather also inquired if the charge for a second meter (i.e, pool, flower garden, etc.) is \$106.00? Yes. New brass meters cost is \$150.00. There is a \$50 charge to change meters at the request of the customer if they feel their meter is not working properly even after testing has been done by Water Dept. employees. New customers pay the full price of meter.
- Water Superintendent Hudson has requested that Justin Hayrynen attend the S3/S4 Water Certification Review Course in Ishpeming on Oct 4th and 5th. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support by Trustee Sohlden to approve sending Justin Hayrynen to Review Course at cost of \$330 plus travel expense. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Clerk Pindral will send in registration.

MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support by Trustee Sohlden to go into executive session at 7:20PM to discuss personnel issues. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Treasurer Immonen at 7:45PM to exit executive session and return to Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Clerk Pindral with Water Superintendent Robert Hudson now in attendance, to re-adjourn Wholesale Water Meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

- Due to Justin Hayrynen not being able to take the S4 and D4 exams until Spring, Bob Hudson and Supervisor Heikkinen will meet with Houghton City Manager Eric Waara to discuss having their licensed water/lagoon person work with Bob and Justin on learning the system. Meeting will be set up for Thursday at 2:30PM in Houghton.
- Duane Snell will return to meter duties, alternating towns with Justin.
- Bob requested that Frank Kennedy's employment be kept a bit longer, especially now with one employee short. This will be determined at future date.
- Mandatory employee meeting will be held Monday, September 19 at 9AM. Supervisor Heikkinen and Clerk Pindral will attend meeting to answer questions regarding job duty assignments and expectations.
- Bob Hudson stated the control interface at the pump station needs to be replaced. Cannot be reset per serviceman today. Cost is approximately \$3000.00. MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Treasurer Immonen to order new operator interface panel for pump station at approximately cost of \$3,000.00. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Bob will place the order.
- Bob reported employees will be busy fixing a water leak in Baltic on Tuesday.
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With no further business to discuss, MOTION to adjourn at 8:10PM by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk