

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
October 7, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Adam Township Board was held on Monday, October 7, 2019 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. Pledge of allegiance was recited. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Mattila (late arrival w/excuse), Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 19 guests in attendance.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2019 Monthly meeting, and September 9, 2019 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE:

- C. Moore stated Circle Power stated a study regarding property taxes is being written and Circle Power will have the Township assessor evaluate the study. All costs will be paid associated to the Township assessor evaluating this study. The wind turbines are anticipated to have a 20-30 yr. life span. Depreciation would be 50% the first year and probably 10% per year after that. Supervisor Heikkinen inquired if the change in property taxes would have any effect in Revenue Sharing funds received from State. Mr. Moore stated it should be a minimal decrease, possibly \$1,000.00. Township Lawyer Mackey stated he didn't know what the impact would be on revenue sharing funds. After 10 minutes of public discussion, Supervisor Heikkinen stated citizens could contact Mr. Moore after the meeting to discuss concerns or jot them down for the upcoming public hearing. Mr. Moore stated he will be in the area for the next three days and citizens could contact him directly for discussion.
- J. Pintar and T. Keteri addressed the Board regarding the deterioration of the Honor Roll in Painesdale and the difficulty of handicap accessibility. T. Keteri went on record stating the school district did not request the Honor Roll be moved from school property. The cost to move the sandstone Honor Roll is projected to be \$5,000 to \$10,000. Board instructed the two gentlemen over the winter to plan and obtain solid financial estimates of either a new Honor Roll or redoing the current one along with making it handicapped accessible, and then bring the financials to the Board. Issue tabled until future meeting.
- Jim Pintar reported that the restoration of the Veteran's plot in Mountain View Cemetery is complete. All brass plates now have concrete bases and the marble/granite stones were leveled and washed. Flags have been taken down for the winter.
- W. Dunstan and R Johnson presented two proposals from Bay Electric. One bid is for flowmeter installation at the Painesdale lagoons; The other to install remote monitoring systems at eight sewage lift stations. The flowmeter would need a study done before the foliage disappears to check to coverage.
- City of Houghton has been presented with a request to rezone property on Houghton Canal Road that is in proximity of ACT 425 property with Adams which would affect an ordinance change by Houghton if accepted. FYI only. Lawyer Mackey stated he is familiar with situation.
- Supervisor Heikkinen read a news release he received from Circle Power headquarters regarding the wind farm development. Financing is being sought for four 20MG Turbines, two in Adams Township and two in Stanton Township with a target operational date of late 2021.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Review of financial reports for September. MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the September financial reports. Roll call, all ayes with Trustee Mattila abstaining from voting on Superior Sand invoices. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Trustee Mattila reported for the last month there were 12 medical calls and 3 fire calls. Supervisor Heikkinen stated he has received notice from State of Michigan that Adams Township Volunteer Fire Department has not submitted Incident Reports to the Bureau of Fire Service. Letter states "required to submit no activity report even if all zeros", due 10/1/2019. Consequence of not reporting states cannot use State Training Funds. Trustee Mattila stated he will inform Fire Chief Coponen of the required reporting, and stated Adams Township Volunteer Fire Department does not/has not received State Training Funds. Letter from UPPCO stating the fire dept. building on Concord Street will receiving a smart meter soon.

ASSESSOR REPORT: The Assessor report for September reviewed.

CEMETERY REPORT: Supervisor Heikkinen stated the cemeteries were well maintained this season, and he thanked the workers, veterans, etc. for their hard work. Cemetery Special Millage was renewed until 2026.

BUSINESS – OLD/NEW:

- Chris Holmes reported he met with DNR onsite of the wholesale water line. DNR have concerns at 2-3 crossings but the Township has easement rights. Recommend proceeding ahead with Wholesale Water Upgrade as originally planned.
- Supervisor Heikkinen directed Chris Holmes to work with Bob Hudson and Don Cline to get the Water Asset Management Plan (AMP) done being conscious of upcoming deadlines. Atlantic Mine water project was just completed which should have records available for AMP report. The DMSI Lead preliminary report is due 12/31/19. Bob Hudson stated there are no lead waterlines in Adams Township.
- July and August UPEA invoices were presented for payment.
- Supervisor Heikkinen reported on information received from MI Municipality Cannabis Consultants. Lawyer Mackey reports preliminary State regulations just released, complex and expensive process for licensing. State Police will be enforcement. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen for Adams Township to opt-out of recreational marijuana facilities. After discussion, there was no second, so motion died.
- Township needs a new plow truck. Bid received from CC Ford in the amount of \$32,443.90. Instructed to obtain at least two more bids before decision can be made. Board members would be notified ASAP to make decision.
- Supervisor Heikkinen announced the resignation of Thomas Pietila effective 10/2/19. Donald Cline was hired for position with supervision by Robert Hudson, D2 operator for Adams Township. Don will be taking two State exams in November. Board expressed appreciation to Mr. Pietila for his work, and thanked Mr. Hudson for his willingness to step up and continue coverage.
- Supervisor Heikkinen distributed the Audit Report for FY ended 3/31/19. No significant deficiencies reported, all reports have been filed with appropriate agencies. Audit can be viewed by public by contacting Supervisor Heikkinen.
- T. Keteri again addressed the Board stating if the land on M-26 was still available, he recommends rebuilding the Honor Roll.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:25PM by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Mattila. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
October 7, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, October 7, 2019 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:28PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Mattila, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. UPEA Chris Holmes, Water Operator Robert Hudson, Donald Cline, Heather Platzke and Justin Hayrynen were also present along with 3 members of the public.

- Supervisor Heikkinen stated a letter received regarding the annual consumer confidence report had a clerical error in numbers, which T. Pietila has already corrected. Reminder to watch deadlines!
- The AMP/DMSI report are due at end of October, and staff instructed to work with Bob Hudson and Chris Holmes. Atlantic Mine should have up-to-date information.
- Supervisor Heikkinen has discussed options with Auditor Bradford on the 3.7 million water project, possible scenarios of borrowing from general fund to purchase pumps and timeline of payback. Auditor is investigating legalities, and will involve UPEA in process.
- Chris Holmes stated the water project loan application process is proceeding
- Donald Cline stated they have started cleaning and organizing the pumping station. There is some equipment that is being updated to OSHA standards, i.e., ladders, etc. MDEQ will be onsite this Thursday for inspection.
- Reported the generator heater is staying on and burning a lot of propane. Wilmers Electric stated could be due to high humidity in building. Bob Hudson stated if the block heater was working properly the generator heater would hardly run. Carbon dioxide could be a serious issue. Bay Electric will check out the block heater ASAP.
- Another round of water lead testing is due in November.
- Don stated he is studying for the exams in November. Still waiting word on if he is scheduled for second exam.
- Lift stations are being read and logged every day.
- Employees will be starting on repair/replacement of fencing at Atlantic Mine lagoons this week.
- Trustee Mattila questioned Chris Holmes regarding valve box in Painesdale lagoons.
- Heather and Justin had no reports.

MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Keranen to enter into executive session at 7:50PM to discuss personnel issues. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Mattila to leave executive session at 8:02PM, and resume Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

With no other business before the board. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Mattila to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:02P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk