

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
February 7, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, February 7, 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 45 guests participating via in-person/zoom.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the minutes of the January 10, 2022 Monthly Meeting, and January 10, 2022 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- M. Krumm thanked the Board for taking seriously the concerns of residents
- V. Kanthak thanked the Board for the privilege of digitizing over 1250 historical documents. Links to view the documents will be made available on the websites for Painesdale Mine & Shaft as well as the Copper Range Historical Society.
- M. Iskra stated as a 70+ yr resident of Adams Township he thanked the Board for their diligent effort on zoning.
- Catherine A. thanked the Planning Commission and Township Board for the zoning, stating she has over 7 years' experience on government boards and realizes the hard work put in by all.
- J. Sleeman stated the zoning was not a rushed process as portrayed in the media by others. She also requested fair representation on Township website between the wind farm and Keweenaw Guardians.
- D, Holcomb stated he was glad the community came together.
- B. Manderfield thanked the Planning Commission and Board for the work so far in keeping the way of life valued by all.
- M. Manderfield reiterated the choice to live here because of lifestyle; To be tough to protect our way of life.
- B. Lewis requested to speak later in meeting.
- T. Katalin thanked the Planning Commission and Board. Requested to speak with C. Moore regarding happens to the wind turbines when life span is over. Stated unlike days of mining which created jobs for locals, turbines are profit over interests.
- Supervisor Heikkinen thanked all for their input. He read correspondence received both for and against wind turbine project. Stated the zoning is land-use zoning not restrictive zoning. The current planning commission is a continuance of commission est. approx. 2008. Next step will be creation of Zoning Board of Appeals, and a Zoning Administrator.
- Kevin Mackey stated the Zoning Administrator and Board of Appeals was not necessary until adoption of zoning ordinance. At this time B. Lewis stated that Houghton County is only planning and cannot tell the Township where/what it can do; That the Township does the zoning, look at map and do what the Township wants. Mr. Mackey responded stating that Adams Township adopted the Adams Township portion of county master plan. The State has changed zoning rules multiple times in previous years. Master plan can be changed following State guidelines and should be reviewed every 5 years. But has been in place for close to 20 years.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Supervisor Heikkinen asked for a motion to approve the planning commission and affirm the member appointments of Paul Eister, Dan Coponen, Sherry Kinnunen, Terry Parolini and Martha Dugdale retroactive to 10/25/2021. MOTION to approve the planning commission and affirm the member appointments of Paul Eister, Dan Coponen, Sherry Kinnunen, Terry Parolini and Martha Dugdale retroactive to 10/25/2021 made by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Martha Dugdale presented Zoning Ordinance to the Board. MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept and adopt Zoning Ordinance #2202/02/01 to protect the public Health and general safety and welfare of the people adopting the ordinance under the authority of Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Act 110 of 2006 as amended. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Ordinance #2202/02/01 will be effective 7 days after publication of required notice. Due to unknown factors in date of publication, MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to extend Moratorium on Wind Turbines or Solar Energy for 30 days until March 23, 2022. Roll call, all ayes, Motion carried.
2. Resolution to create a zoning board of appeals was presented to the Board. Lawyer Mackey stated the Zoning Board of Appeals will only meet if there are needs to address, such as if the Zoning Administrator turns down an application, etc. The Zoning Administrator cannot be on the Board of Appeals. MOTION by Trustee Keranen

with support from Treasurer Immonen to adopt Resolution #2202/02/01 Creating and Regulating the Adams Township Zoning Board of Appeals, Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Applications for letter of interest for Board of Appeals will be posted on website and social media. Public in attendance encouraged to submit letter of interest.

3. Membership dues for annual KEDA membership presented for payment.
4. Houghton County 5 Year Transportation Improvement Plan reviewed. FYI only as nothing planned in Adams Township.

FINANCIAL REPORT: MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept the January 2022 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Supervisor Heikkinen stated he has reviewed all seven of the financial accounts and will be tweaking the budgets set. Mostly moving contract labor budgeted funds into salary and operating expense categories. He commended employees on their dedication to performing all maintenance and repairs instead of outsourcing to contract labor which is a huge cost-savings to the Township. Most professional expenditures to U.P. Engineers are costs associated with the upcoming Water Main Replacement Project and will be reimbursed to Township in project costs. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to approve income/expense adjustments to the seven financial accounts. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Supervisor Heikkinen stated all the minutes of the Planning Commission are available on the Township Website: www.UPadamstownship.com.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: There were 16 medical calls and 4 fire calls since last report. Fire Chief Coponen requested approval to purchase gloves for the fire dept at est. cost of \$2,500. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to approve the purchase of gloves at approx. cost of \$2500.00 from ARPA monies. Roll call, all Ayes. Motion carried. Some fire hydrants are buried in snow and need the employees to use heavier equipment to uncover. Discussion of new firehall/upgrades to increase efficiency.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor report for January reviewed. Mandatory BOR training classes on February 16. March 8 will be BOR organizational meeting. BOR for residents to present corrections is scheduled for March 14th from 3-9PM and March 15 from 9AM-3PM.

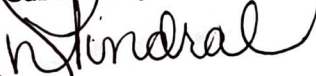
BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Chris Holmes stated the water project application has been submitted, waiting for approval. After loan approved, then the bidding, and work begins. EGLE concurs the current line will be left in place but remove all the older pipe. Will inform DNR. Copies of financial budget needed to submit. SAM number needs to be renewed; he will get with Supervisor Heikkinen.
- After the February/March budget adjustments are made, the final budget will be drawn up. Supervisor Heikkinen will need wish lists with financial numbers to include into FY 22/23 budget, including Planning Commission. ARPA funding has greatly broadened in allowing for use.
- Donation request from Bridgefest 2022 denied as Township is not permitted to make monetary donations.
- Supervisor Heikkinen presented salary resolution to the Board for FY 22/23, He noted there have been no board salary increases since 20/21. To be voted on in March. Proposed increases are:

Supervisor	\$12,000 annually from \$10,500 annually
Clerk	\$12,000 annually from \$9,600 annually <i>7,480/dp</i>
Treasurer	\$12,000 annually from \$11,256 annually
Trustee	\$2,400 annually from \$1,800 annually

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:50PM 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
February 7, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, February 7, 2022 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral, Chris Holmes, UPEA. Water Dept Supervisor Don Cline was absent with excuse.

- Supervisor Heikkinen stated he spoke with Don Cline earlier who stated he found a used holder in Michigamme. Cost of the holder/lagoon grass cutter is estimated to be \$25,000-\$28,000 depending upon condition. Will travel to inspect. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to approve up to \$35,000 to purchase a holder/grass cutter for lagoons. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- There was a big sewer repair in Atlantic Mine due to a plug, lots of frozen ground and ice. Due to manhole cover gone, asphalt and dirt got into system. An air driven jack hammer needed for repairs. Crew assisted in cleanup. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to authorize the purchase of \$3000 jack hammer. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- Lift station baskets are working well. Emptied on regular basis with no pumps taken down for repair. The initial expense of baskets and installation are saving money.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated employees installed all three of the new high-pressure pumps at the pumping station. Efficiency has increased dramatically. Kudos to the employees for saving the Township thousands of dollars by doing the installation!!
- The water department is preparing a list of needs for the upcoming budget year.
- Chris Holmes stated with the Rural Development office short-staffed due to retirements, everything is behind schedule.

MOTION by Supervisor Heikkinen with support from Trustee Eister to leave wholesale water meeting and enter into executive session at 8:17PM to discuss personnel issues. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to leave executive session at 8:51PM and return to wholesale water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

Wholesale water meeting readjourned at 8:51PM. Clerk Pindral stated the Board discussed the upcoming assessor contract presented this week and discussed Board Pay as presented. Will research and continue discussion at meeting in March.

With no other business or comments before the board, a MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to adjourn the Wholesale Water meeting at 8:52P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk