

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
March 1, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held instituting mandated teleconferencing/social distancing guidelines on Monday, March 1, 2021 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 8 guests participating.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2021 Special Public Hearing, February 1, 2021 Monthly meeting, and February 1, 2021 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- There were no public comments at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Rural Development requesting year end reporting with information needed to maintain loans. Materials requested include FY audit when completed, rate schedules, officials as well as insurance coverage verification.
- U.S. Dept of Commerce is requesting boundary updates for census bureau. Supervisor Heikkinen and Heather will complete the online survey.
- Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce has sent all members a "Certificate of Recognition" for demonstrating resiliency and determination in 2020.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Review of financial reports for February 2021. **MOTION** made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to accept the February 2021 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: David Mattila reported in the last month there were 13 medical calls and 2 fire calls. The fire department will host their annual pancake breakfast on March 14 as take-out only. The lease agreement on pumper truck has not been finalized as the truck did not arrive yet due to weather. At the annual fire department meeting, Dan Coponen was re-elected as fire chief. He stated the Township Board needed to approve. **MOTION** by Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen to approve the appointment of Dan Coponen as Fire Chief for the Adams Township Volunteer Fire Department. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Assessor report for month of February was reviewed. March BOR organizational meeting scheduled for tomorrow and BOR scheduled for March 8 from 3-9PM and March 9 from 9AM-3PM following MDHHS mandates. But signatures will need to be obtained on paperwork regardless of mandates.

BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

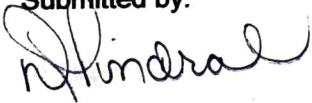
- Chris Holmes stated invoices for projects have to be submitted to Township for payment. Reported the Water Improvement project application is about one week from submission to Rural Development. Surveys are done and design work started. State he met with Don Cline to include pumping station needs. Current retail water rates would qualify for grant but

when wholesale water income is included (Village/Portage/Hancock), rates are too low to qualify for grant.

- The application for the Fire Department Emergency Vehicle grant has been submitted to Rural Development.
- No update on DWAM grant proposal submitted.
- Chris Moore of Circle Power distributed a map of showing placement of the wind turbines. Stated they have procured a purchase agreement with U.P. Power, but more studies are required before connection. Project goal is Sept/Oct 2023 to have operational turbine. He will send a link to the map to allow Township to publish on website.
- Solar Power Ordinance was published in Mining Gazette on February 5 and will be in effect as of March 8, 2021. No projected date from solar company.
- Houghton/Keweenaw County plat book is due to be updated this year.
- New Fiscal Year starts on April 1 so any expenditures need to be requested for the budget. Supervisor Heikkinen met with Don Cline regarding Wholesale/Retail Water requests which he will go over in detail during Wholesale Water Meeting. He stated the guys have saved the Township considerable amount of funds by doing the work themselves instead of contracting out. The excavator and backhoe will pay for themselves in the long run.
- Clerk Pindral stated the South Range VFW Auxiliary has requested use of the Township Hall for their annual meeting, with no food served. Anticipate about 40 women. Board stated if MDHHS mandates allow and they follow provisionals, this could be considered.
- Joe Erickson has requested to reclaim the deed for the Toivola Ballfield to allow him to make improvements. The Township would need to update the 5-year Recreation Plan in order to apply for a DNR grant, with no guarantee of receiving a grant. MOTION by Clerk Pindral with support from Trustee Eister to dissolve Resolution 2015-06-01 regarding Adams Township Ballfield thus returning the property to Mr. Erickson with all fees to be paid by him. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Supervisor Heikkinen will notify him of decision.
- Reminder of the Budget meeting/Annual Elector/Special meeting on March 24 at 5:30PM. Budget will be available for public inquiry upon request.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 6:55PM 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
March 1, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, March 1, 2021 via mandated social distancing guidelines/teleconferencing at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:57PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. Also participating was Chris Holmes. Don Cline was absent with excuse.

- Supervisor Heikkinen stated he had a lengthy meeting with Don Cline earlier. He reported there is a lot happening at the pumphouse. Three of the small high-pressure pumps need replacement. One just had a leak and needs to be replaced ASAP. They will be ordered and installed by Township employees, saving contract labor cost.
- EGLE/DEQ is "suggesting" the antiquated chlorine phosphate system be updated to provide more precision in dosage. They also want loops put on dead-ends and shut-offs installed.
- Don also stated the Baltic lift station generators need major TLC or replacement, as well as one in Painesdale.
- The wish list for budget includes upgrading the pumphouse heating system for more efficiency as well as to protect the new paint and equipment from humidity. Also requesting increased security around the pumping station i.e., gates, lighting, security cameras. The building attracts unwanted attention off the designated trail. Don is working with Spectrum/Charter on a deal to run internet cable as well as phone line to pumping station. This would not only be a financial gain but also boost a step toward better security measures being added. Having Semco run a natural gas-line to the pumphouse would help reduce heating costs as natural gas is more cost effective than propane. The building is also going to need the roof replaced soon. Don stated that replacing the pumps were the #1 priority on the list.
- Retail water is in need of at least 10 hydrants to be replaced. Currently have four in storage. New hydrants are approximately \$4-5,000 each.
- Clerk Pindral inquired if there was a contract in place for D2 license coverage in lieu of Bob Hudson's death. Supervisor Heikkinen will have Don Cline check with operator.

MOTION by Supervisor Heikkinen at 7:06PM to go into executive session to discuss personnel concerns. Supported by Clerk Pindral. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Eister at 7:23PM with support from Trustee Keranen to leave executive session and return to the Wholesale Water Board meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

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 7:24P.M. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral,
Township Clerk

**Adams Township
Budget Hearing**

The annual budget hearing of Adams Township was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 5:35PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan per mandated social distancing guidelines.

The following Board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Gerald Heikkinen, Clerk Debra Pindral, Treasurer Tracy Immonen, Trustee Diane Keranen and Trustee Paul Eister.

On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister the minutes of the March 25, 2020 budget meeting were reviewed and approved, all ayes, and motion carried.

On a MOTION from Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Immonen, the board accepted the 1.014% tax for FY 2021/22 as set by the State of Michigan; all ayes, and motion carried.

Baltic Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen presented 2020/21 final budget for approval. He reported the generators at both lift stations will need to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$8,000.00. On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister the board accepted the amended 2020/21 budget activity level with total income of \$52,000 and expenses of \$41,250.00. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister the board accepted the proposed 2021/22 budget activity level with total income of \$52,000 and expenses of \$40,650. Roll call vote, all ayes motion carried.

Trimountain Sewer:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported the account was stable for 2020/21. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2020/21 budget at the following activity level: Income \$59,000.00 and Expenses at \$38,000.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2021/22 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$59,000.00 and expenses \$44,300.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Atlantic Mine Sewer:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated the lift stations need constant attention. Serious problems with wipes in system. Looking to purchase a vac truck to clean system on regular basis at all lift station/manholes throughout Adams Township. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2020/21 budget at the activity level with the following charges: Income \$82,000.00 and Expense at \$64,100.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2021/22 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$82,000.00 and expenses \$72,850.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Painesdale Sewer Fund:

For 2021/22 the lagoons will need attention: fencing, flowmeters, and possibly more baskets in lift stations. One generator at the lift station needs to be replaced at cost of approx. \$4,000.00. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Treasurer Immonen to approve the 2020/21 budget at the following activity level: Income \$87,000.00 and Expense at \$57,150.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Treasurer Immonen to approve the 2021/22 budget at the following activity level: Income \$87,000.00 and expenses \$67,700.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Retail Water Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported six hydrants will be purchased to finalize hydrant replacements throughout the township. Will need to purchase upgraded locators for water/sewer lines per MDEQ, and replace 'daisy-chains' in water system. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2020/21 budget at the following activity level: Income \$260,000.00 and Expense at \$215,300.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2021/22 budget at the following activity level: Income \$260,000.00 and expenses \$224,800.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Wholesale Water Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reports the pumphouse in Painesdale is being renovated. 40x40ft pole barn to house equipment was built by employees. Three high pressure pumps will be installed by June 2021 at a cost of approx. \$25,000.00. Heating/humidification system will need to be done in 21/22. Pursuing natural gas line to plant in 2021. New security gate needs to be installed as well as upgrade the chlorinator. Anticipate start of \$3.7 million watermain project in 2021. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2020/21 budget at the activity level with the following charges: Income \$410,000.00 and Expense at \$354,000.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

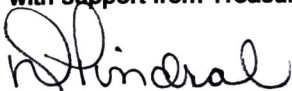
MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2012/22 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$405,800.000 and expenses \$393,850.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

General Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported the purchase of an End-loader and an excavator with \$100,000.00 in federal grant monies saved the Township in contract labor costs. Received a grant for \$5,000.00 to install a new, more secure drop box for payments and absentee ballots. Will need to purchase a new rider mower for grass cutting. Buildings need upgrades. Street signs need to be upgraded as well as signs for the cemeteries. The fire department has recently obtained a new pumper truck to replace the truck totaled last year. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2020/21 budget at the following activity level: Income \$387,850.00 and Expense at \$297,156.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2021/22 budget at the following activity level: Income \$350,700.00 and expenses \$305,598.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

With no other budget business, the meeting adjourned at 6:25PM on a motion from Trustee Keranen with support from Treasurer Immonen with all ayes, motion carried.



Debra Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

**Annual Meeting of the
Electors of Adams Township**

The annual meeting of the electors of Adams Township was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 5:30PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan via social distancing/teleconferencing as mandated.

Electors present were: Tracy Immonen, Paul Eister, and Diane Keranen

Board members present were Gerald Heikkinen and Debbie Pindral.

Supervisor Heikkinen motioned to accept the minutes of the March 25, 2020 Elector Annual Meeting; Clerk Pindral seconded the motion. Motion carried

Supervisor Heikkinen reported the state of the Township to be in good financial condition. State Revenue Sharing funds are still anticipated. Wholesale Water Project to upgrade main water-line is being finalized, and on target to begin construction this year.

Supervisor Heikkinen stated board salaries will remain the same:

- Salary of supervisor \$10,500 annually
- Salary of clerk \$9,480 annually
- Salary of treasurer \$11,256 annually
- Salary of trustees \$1,800 annually

Supervisor Heikkinen motioned to adjourn the annual electors meeting; Seconded by Clerk Pindral. Meeting adjourned at 5:34PM.



Debbie Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

**Adams Township
Special Meeting**

A special meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 6:30PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan following mandated social distancing/teleconferencing guidelines.

A roll call with board members present was taken. Supervisor: Gerald Heikkinen, Treasurer: Tracy Immonen Clerk: Debbie Pindral, Trustee Diane Keranen, and Trustee Paul Eister. There were no guests present. Motion by Trustee Keranen, supported by Treasurer Immonen to accept the special meeting minutes of March 25, 2020. Roll call, all ayes. Motion accepted.

Resolution:

On MOTION by Clerk Pindral, supported by Trustee Keranen under the provision of the law and statute provided, the following resolution is hereby adopted by the Adams Township Board, Houghton County, Michigan in a meeting assembled this 24th day of March 2021 at the Township Hall in Baltic, MI.

Resolved:

That the Township Board of Adams Township, County of Houghton, State of Michigan does hereby establish that there will be one (1) regular monthly meeting held by the Adams Township Board as follows:

-All regular meetings will be held at the Township Hall in Baltic, MI.

Meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month (unless posted), commencing at 6:00PM. Dates of the regular monthly meeting will be as follows: April 5, May 3, June 7, July 12 (Second Monday), August 2, September 13 (Second Monday), October 4, November 1, December 6, 2021, January 10 (Second Monday), February 7, and March 7, 2022. (Followed by the Wholesale Water Board Meeting).

-The annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:30PM. Budget work sessions shall be set as needed at monthly meetings.

-Special meetings shall be called and held at the direction of the Adams Township Board with due and proper notice of such meetings.

-Meetings will observe Robert's Rules of Order, and will allow five (5) minute limit per individual of public comment before meeting.

MOTION by Immonen supported by Keranen, the board approved the depository of all the Township funds with Superior National Bank & Trust, Citizens Bank, Incredible Bank, Flagstar, M-Bank, Ontonagon Citizens State Bank, Range Bank, Huntington Bank and Miners Bank, and to keep them current and updated. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral with support from Keranen, the Board authorizes the Township to utilize electronic transactions in compliance with the written procedures and internal controls developed and adopted by the Treasurer as the Township's ACH policy. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen supported by Pindral, that Lawyer Kevin Mackey from Kevin Mackey Law will represent the Township as its attorney, with the option to consult with other attorneys more qualified on the subject in question. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral, supported by Eister, the board appoint the Rukkila Negro and Associates CPA firm as auditors for the Township. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION made by Eister, supported by Pindral that the Adams Township Board be given authorization to borrow funds for the operation of the Fire Department, and for any other purpose deemed necessary for the operation of the Adams Township Board. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION made by Eister supported by Immonen, that the Adams Township Board be given permission to lease, purchase or sell land, buildings and structures deemed by the Township Board for the operation of the Township Fire Dept, Recreation Dept, and for any other purpose deemed necessary for the operation of Adams Township and at terms deemed satisfactory by the Adams Township Board. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister, supported by Keranen the Board adopted the following wages for employees. Roll call vote 4 ayes, Pindral abstained:

Don Cline	4%
Travis Cline	4%
Heather Platzke	4%
Jerry Wisniewski	4%
Account/Payroll Manager	\$14.75/Hr
New Temporary/Seasonal	\$10.50/Hr (not to be less than current minimum hourly wage)
Current Cemetery workers:	
Jim Malila	4%
Robert Kukkonen	4%
Board of Review	\$14.50/Hr
Election workers	\$14.50/Hr
Election chairperson	\$16.75/Hr
Deputy Clerk	\$14.50/Hr
Deputy Treasurer	\$14.50/Hr

Eligible Full-time Employees In-Lieu of Insurance Monthly Stipend \$150/Month

Mileage rate at current IRS rate – .56cents/mile

Wholesale Water Board \$60.00 month, not to exceed \$720.00 annually.

MOTION made by Eister with support from Immonen to retain Lisa Karrio as assessor, with following stipulations: 1) there is a 30 day termination clause in her contract; 2) missed hours are to be made up within the same week if possible, otherwise within the month after; 3) authorize Supervisor Heikkinen authority to work out compensation on #6 of assessor contract. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

Changes and adjustments are effective April 1, 2021.

MOTION by Pindral, supported by Eister, the board appointed the following to their respective positions: Torey Kostamo, Deputy Clerk; Nancy Immonen, Deputy Treasurer. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral, supported by Keranen, the following cemetery rates will remain the same for Mountain View and Atlantic Mine:

Lot purchases: \$150.00 if ever a resident of the Township &
\$250.00 non-resident – With the stipulation that due to decreasing space, lot sales in the Atlantic Mine cemetery are available to residents only. Non-resident burials shall be at Mountain View Cemetery in South Range.
Free lot for Veteran if buried in Veterans plot. Sales of Veteran/Spousal Plots are \$150.00 but must pay for burial. Plus must pay VFW \$25.00 for stone lot marker.

Burials: Regular - \$250.00 everyone	Saturday rates: \$365.00	Sunday and Holiday - \$550.00
\$100.00 cremations	\$150.00	\$200.00
\$100.00 stillborns	\$150.00	\$200.00
\$700.00 disinterment	\$900.00	\$1,200.00

There will be NO unauthorized burials or cremations in either cemetery.

Any burials held from November 1st thru May 15th will be charged for any extra cost incurred in addition to the Township fee. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen, supported by Immonen, the annual street light assessment will remain at \$20.00 per PRE (excludes Village of South Range) per year. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Immonen, supported by Keranen, the board retained 1% administrative tax fee plus 3% penalty fee on property tax collection (with the current applicable non-sufficient funds fee) with charge to Adams Township School District \$2.50 per parcel. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister supported by Keranen to continue to add delinquent water and sewage bills to the tax roll. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister, supported by Keranen to continue collecting special assessments excluding the Village of South Range, in the amount of \$40 per year per parcel for the Fire Dept. and 1st Responders. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Eister, supported by Pindral, the board retained Hannula Insurance Agency for township insurance, with permission for Supervisor to investigate insurance options and financial advisors. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

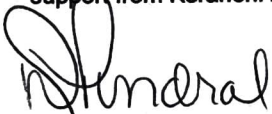
MOTION by Keranen, supported by Eister, the water rates and sewage rates will remain the same with the option to increase rates if necessary using proper notice and procedure. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral, with support from Eister that the Treasurer, Clerk, Deputy Treasurer, and Office Manager, be authorized to sign checks on behalf of the Township. Mandate will require at least one of the signatures be either the Township Treasurer or the Township Clerk. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen, with support from Immonen to go into executive session at 6:50PM to discuss wages. All ayes, motion carried.

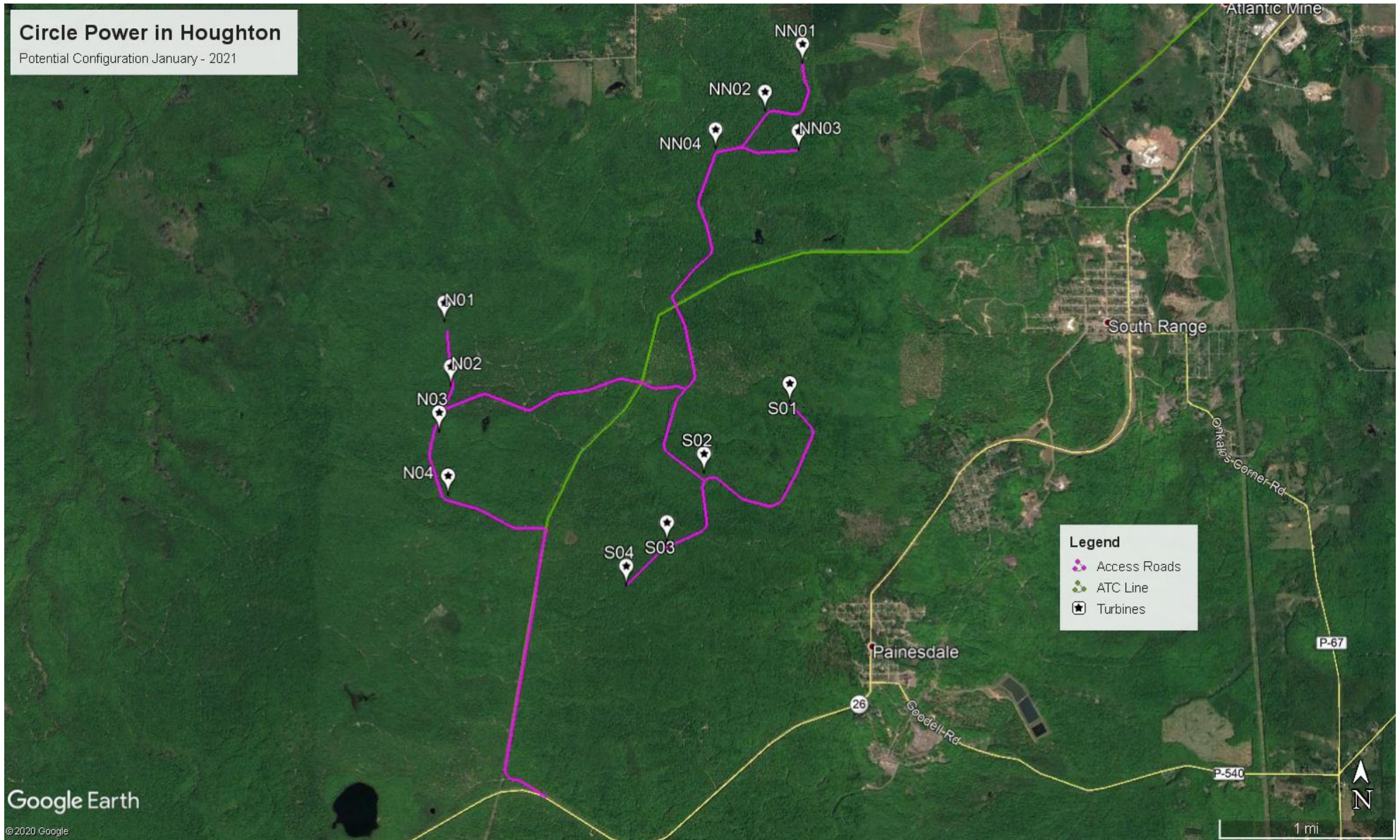
MOTION by Keranen with support from Immonen to leave executive session at 8:10PM, and return to special meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

With no other business brought before the Board, meeting adjourned at 8:10PM on a MOTION by Eister with support from Keranen. All ayes, Motion carried.


Debbie Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

Circle Power in Houghton

Potential Configuration January - 2021



Google Earth

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