

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING
MAY 2, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, May 2, 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 Sohlden, Trustee Mattila, and Clerk Pindral. There were 8 guests in attendance.

MOTION made by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden to accept the meeting minutes of April 4, April 11 and April 4 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- J. DeForge stated the Baltic system has been leaking since day one. For example on 12th St, 3 manholes down from his house, it is running down a ditch. Supervisor Heikkinen stated it will be investigated. UPEA Engineer, Chris Holmes stated he will look at it on his way home.
- D. Beck addressed the board regarding Village of South Range trustee concerns regarding property values declining due to wind turbine farm. Handout of concerns given to board members.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Foreclosure notice from Houghton County Treasurer inquiring if Adams Township would like to exercise their right to purchase foreclosure. Properties are:15307 Baltic Street in Painesdale and 44182 M26 in Trimountain. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Mattila to not exercise right to purchase 15307 Baltic Street and 44182 M26 properties. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Declination form signed by Board and will be delivered to the Houghton County Treasurer.
- Office manager received a complaint regarding blight ordinance. Reported excessive trash on property in Atlantic Mine, and is concerned about health issues. 9/25/2011 ordinance does not address excessive trash. Clerk Pindral suggested if considered a health issue, it should be reported to the environmental health division of the Health Dept. Heather Platzke will inform complainant.
- Brad Barnett, WUPPDR, responded to previous concerns regarding township cost for the energy survey. There will be no cost to the Township for participating by including the energy survey in the Sept. tax bills. They will be responsible for printing, folding, and stuffing into envelopes. Completed surveys can either be mailed back directly by public or brought to the office for pick-up by WUPPDR staff. WUPPDR will be notified that the Township will participate.

FINANCIAL REPORT: MOTION by Trustee Sohlden with support from Trustee Mattila to accept the April financial report as presented. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Trustee Mattila reported 7 EMT calls and 1 fire call. A concerned citizen questioned if the fire department would check out bonfires and issue tickets. Trustee Mattila responded the fire department has no authority to issue tickets, and the Township no longer has a constable, so these calls would need to be routed to the Sheriff's department. The fire department would respond to put out fires, if needed. Clerk Pindral reported the Hannula Agency was contacted regarding fire department volunteers as well as employees having driving records checked. Volunteers driving their own vehicles to a fire is considered Township business. Agency highly recommended participating in the Risk Control program. Clerk Pindral did contact the agency and is waiting for response on how to proceed.

ASSESSOR Report: April report was gone over, no issues reported.

CEMETERY: Supervisor Heikkinen reported Frank Kennedy started work for the season on May 2nd. He will be cleaning up Mountain View Cemetery, will mow the lagoons as needed, and keep the machines in working order. Justin and John will also cut as needed. Treasurer Immonen inquired if trash barrels could also be painted at the Atlantic Mine cemetery. Questions regarding getting a survey of the Atlantic Mine Cemetery. B. Hudson stated the cemetery had been surveyed in the past, but not sure if recorded at courthouse. Due to time, markers are missing.

UPDATE BUSINESS:

- Supervisor Heikkinen reported the S&L invoices that total \$74,484.43 have been paid as follows: Atlantic Mine \$605.00, Retail Water \$14,243.24, Wholesale Water \$10,137.81. Wholesale Water fund also paid 49,498.38 as loan for Retail Water. Auditor Bradford stipulated this loan must be paid back to Wholesale water from Retail water in a 12 month timeframe. Emphasized the importance of the Atlantic Water Distribution Project to get started.
- UPEA engineer, Chris Holmes submitted letter to RD requesting approval for equipment, pipe, and will also include part inventory, meters, hydrants for continuity and aging of equipment. Need right of way map approved before Atlantic Water Distribution Project can move forward. Easement papers were sent in for lawyer Mechlin approval, but have not been received back yet. Supervisor Heikkinen will contact lawyer Mechlin to get the project moving ASAP. Permits have been obtained. Need budget summary to get idea of rates. Auditor Bradford will start the budget process on May 16th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The old township van and dodge pickup will be sold on bids "as is/where is" with no warranties. Bid request will be published, and bids opened at next Township meeting.
- Upstairs roof back corner of hall is leaking when it rains. Justin and John will investigate and repair.
- Trustee Mattila inquired if an application for a BP charge account could be submitted to enable employees to charge gas at the South Range station versus travel to Houghton. Clerk Pindral will fill out charge application, and Heather Platzke will control cards.

MOTION to adjourn at 6:55PM by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Mattila. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned. Next regular monthly meeting is Monday June 6, 2016 at 6:00PM.

Submitted by

Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
MAY 2, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, May 2, 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 Sohlden, Trustee Mattila, and Clerk Pindral. Also in attendance were Heather Platzke, Bob Hudson, and Chris Holmes.

- Water Superintendent, Bob Hudson, reported his work hours are increasing as the lagoons are being prepared to be up and running again. Will be traveling to Amasa with water samples tomorrow.
- Duane is taking exams on May 4th and 5th.
- Bob will be attending the Wastewater meeting in Harris, MI. Duane will not be attending, therefore Bob will bring back registration refund for Duane.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated residents are concerned regarding meter readings and would like to have their meters read monthly. Discussion regarding time involved in monthly readings. Leaks would be caught sooner with monthly readings, also concerns if this would have to be changed by resolution. Board directed Heather Platzke to review ordinance and resolutions and bring to June meeting. This may also be addressed if/when rates need to be changed for the Atlantic Water Distribution process.
- Bob Hudson reported the Consumer Confidence Report is ready to be published.
- Discussion regarding Township vehicle use. Use vehicles accordingly.
- The sewer jet needs repair, radiator is leaking antifreeze. Employees are to let Bob know what is needed, and he will contact sources for parts.
- Heather Platzke stated there was a request to rent the tables and chairs from the Hall. Due to concerns regarding loss, the Board declined this request. The tables and chairs stay with the building
- There will be a special board meeting on May16th with mandatory attendance by employees to discuss business as brought before the board, and executive session with employees to discuss job duties, performance and expectations. Employees will be given a copy of job description before meeting. Clerk Pindral will post notices.
- Question the legality of water charge re. operating. Michigan Law states debt service. Chris Holmes will check if this was a mandatory requirement by RD with Duane Reid at RD, and report back.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:20PM by Trustee Sohlden with support from Trustee Mattila. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned. Next regular monthly meeting is Monday June 6, 2016 at 6:00PM.

Submitted by

Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Special Board Meeting
MAY 16, 2016**

A special board meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, May 16, 2016, 4:30PM at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30PM. Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by roll call. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Sohlden, Trustee Mattila, and Clerk Pindral. Also in attendance were Heather Platzke, Bob Hudson, Duane Snell, Justin Hayrynen, John Kilpela, Frank Kennedy, and township lawyer, Kevin Mackey. There were few guests. Purpose of the special meeting was employee information, issues, etc., as well as any business brought before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Treasurer Immonen received a phone call from a woman who wants to be buried in the Atlantic Mine cemetery. She was a previous resident, so permission granted.
- Trustee Mattila stated the Houghton County Road Commission need to be contacted before June if the Township wants the Academy Drive/Cemetery road to be treated for dust control. 16th Street has also been treated in the past. Discussion regarding 13th avenue by Klemett's house. MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Treasurer Immonen for Office Manager Heather Platzke to contact the Road Commission regarding cost. If cost is comparable to year's past, instruct the Road Commission to treat 16th Street in Baltic as well as Academy Drive/Cemetery Road. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Heather Platzke will contact the commission Tuesday.
- Supervisor Heikkinen discussed possible installation of a walk-in gate at Mountain View Cemetery to allow entrance after hours. Frank and Justin were instructed to check the present gate set-up for possible alteration to make access allowable for wheelchairs but not ATV access. Treasurer Immonen stated the cemetery in Atlantic Mine has ATV's going through. Instructed to call law enforcement.
- Inquiry by T Parolini, Village of South Range Board official, if water rates to South Range would be increased. Wholesale rates are not scheduled to be increased at this time. Possibility of increased rate once the Water Project in Atlantic Mine has been finalized.

MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Mattila at 4:46PM to adjourn regular portion of special meeting and go into executive session with Township employees as well as lawyer Mackey. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden at 6:10PM to exit executive session and return to special meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Heikkinen stated a time clock will be installed and all employees will be required to punch in Mon-Fri at beginning of regular shift, and to punch out at scheduled end of day. Cautioned against punching in someone else at time clock, as this is a punishable legal offense.

MOTION to adjourn at 6:15PM by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned. Next regular monthly meeting is Monday June 6, 2016 at 6:00PM.

Submitted by

Debbie Pindral
Township Clerk