

ADAMS TOWNSHIP  
MONTHLY MEETING  
NOVEMBER 7, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, November 7, 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 15 guests in attendance.

MOTION made by Trustee Mattila with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the meeting minutes of the October 3, 2016 monthly meeting, and Wholesale water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

- Jeremy Shannon, Geosciences instructor at MTU, introduced some of his students that performed a geophysical investigation at the Atlantic Mine cemetery as class project. Presentation of findings indicate two areas that may have unmarked graves. Treasurer Immonen stated she suspected as much and the area would be avoided. Board thanked the group for their very interesting presentation.
- David Fox thanked Board member Mattila for his intervention at the County level that led to the "Children at Play" street signs being put back up. He also stated he has been noting problems of lights being left on in the ice rink after use, the mess left behind, etc. in his unofficial role as caretaker. He asked if the Board knew who has keys to the building. Supervisor Heikkinen stated he will be attending the next Portage Lake Little League meeting and will address the issues. Mr. Fox asked the Board to consider adding more gravel to the ice rink parking lot to decrease mud in the spring.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1.) Letter received from State accepting the corrective action, i.e. improvement in mapping, on AMAR Review. Next review will be in 2020.
- 2.) Correspondence received from EPA regarding the upcoming "nutrient removal" on the former Keweenaw Scrap Metal site in Painesdale, and secondary questionnaire on water treatment facility near "nutrient" issues. Supervisor Heikkinen will work with office manager and water superintendent on questionnaire.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** MOTION made by Trustee Sohlden with support from Treasurer Immonen to accept the October financial report with correction of invoice paid from sewer account that should be paid from retail water. Roll call, all ayes with Trustee Mattila abstaining from any vote on Rock and Dock as well as Portage Lake Construction invoices. Motion carried. Clerk Pindral will make correction which will reflect in November report.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Trustee Mattila reported 6 medical calls and 1 fire call. Reminder to change batteries in smoke detectors. Requested approval of approximately \$9,000 in equipment upgrades: \$1,000 for chainsaws and chains; \$2,500 in helmet lights; and \$5,000 to purchase a thermo-imaging camera. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Sohlden to approve the above purchases with appropriate bids obtained. Roll call, all ayes.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Assessor report given. Field work done, deeds and database updated. 2016 December BOR is set for Tuesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> with time TBA. Tentative date of March 7, 2017 set for BOR organizational meeting with BOR dates March 13/14, 2017, July 18, 2017 and December 12, 2017.

**BUSINESS:**

- Supervisor Heikkinen presented a letter from Village of South Range Council addressing their concerns with proposed wind turbine farm. Supervisor Heikkinen did receive an email from the developer stating conversations with UPPCO continue to move forward as well as working with aviation/air space agencies. Funding sources are still major hurdle as well as results of another bat survey. Developer is hopeful to submit permit application in 2017. No decision on when the current anemometer will be taken down, it is still apparently legal under current permit.
- Chris Holmes, UPEA, requested updated budgets for Retail and Wholesale Water for study on proposed water rates. Making some progress on obtaining needed easements with 5-6 left. Easement from Lake Superior Timber is the largest and will take the longest to obtain. Goal is to have bids received in April. Treasurer Immonen asked for assistance in renewing participation in SAM. He will check into.
- Invoices for repairs in Atlantic Mine continue with two more large invoices received from Portage Lake Construction.
- T. Parolini inquired if the Village of South Range can advertise lots for sale on Township website. Due to data constraints on website, referred to Jeffers High School IT class or Heather Platzke to set up separate website for Village.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Computer monitor had to be replaced for office manager's computer at cost of \$148.00.
- Installing a lift gate for 2016 Ford estimated at \$2,000. This will facilitate lifting heavy equipment. For future budget purposes.
- 90 water meters/readers have been replaced. Approximately 40 to go. Goal is to replace 10 per month.
- Reminder to VOTE.
- The Board expressed thanks to Trustee Kim Sohlden for his years of service on the Board. This is his last meeting as he chose not to be re-elected.
- Treasurer Immonen will send Jeremy Shannon and students a letter of appreciation for the cemetery geophysical survey.
- Mountain View Cemetery is now open only to foot traffic.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:05PM by Trustee Sohlden with support from Treasurer Immonen. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral  
Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP  
Wholesale Water Board  
November 7, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, November 7, 2016 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10P.M. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Mattila, Trustee Sohlden, Clerk Pindral, Water Superintendent Bob Hudson. Also in attendance were Chris Holmes, UPEA, and Office Manager, Heather Platzke.

- Water Superintendent Hudson stated due to power surge, the control panel at the pumping station shut down and the battery back-up did not kick on. The battery lights report charging but no indicators. All three batteries need to be replaced, and have been ordered. Bob stated the system did not auto dial because of the back-up battery fail. It was mostly Atlantic Mine that was affected. Both Bob and Justin reported when notified. David Mattila stated he instructed Heather to fax a new emergency contact list to the Sheriff's dept. and Negaunee 911 as the list they used was outdated.
- UPEA proposed site plan for grinder pump placement on Martha Jukkala property was reviewed. Approximate cost \$15,000. Portage Lake Construction est. is \$5,000; grinder pump \$6,500; and Bay Electric \$2,000. MOTION made by Trustee Mattila with support from Treasurer to earmark \$15,000 to address grinder problems. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Will ask for expedited shipping but the grinder pump has a 5 week shipping date. Bob will order thru Milan Supply per quote and instruct to bill Township to avoid additional sales tax costs.
- Approximately 40-50 meters left to be repaired or replaced. There are a couple homes that will not respond to requests to check their meter and accuracy. Engineer suggested installing a meter pit at those homes. Suggested on new water project, when replacing the lines to the curbstop at those homes, install pit meter to enable accurate readings in the future.
- Supervisor Heikkinen stated he has met with Water Department employees and reviewed the Archambeau water records. Overcharge cannot be proven. Regarding some other accounts in question, the opposite trend is shown by long periods of only flat rate charges. There will be no refunds issued.
- Water rates will be increasing with the water project. Suggested \$2.00 on first 2000 gallons with increase incrementally after that. To be determined within next couple of months.
- Heather Platzke reported that Mr. Schutz on Baltic Street in Painesdale has removed the trailer and wants the sewer charge to be dropped. After discussion including requirement that account is up to date, MOTION made by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Sohlden that as of November 7, 2016 to remove all sewer charges, it must be capped at owner's expense with Township visual inspection prior to back fill. All ayes, motion carried. Heather will send Mr. Schutz a letter notifying of above action.
- Treasurer Immonen questioned when delinquent water and sewer bills can be placed on tax bills. MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden if no attempt has been made to make payment, to be placed on tax bills. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Instructed Treasurer Immonen to check with county and state for rulings, then check with Lawyer Mackey for further legal advice.
- MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Treasurer Immonen at 8:00PM to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

- MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden at 8:25PM to leave executive session. Roll call, all ayes Motion carried.
- MOTION by Trustee Mattila with support from Trustee Sohlden at 8:25PM to re-adjourn wholesale water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.
- After discussing personnel issues, Clerk Pindral instructed to check with Lawyer Mackey regarding availability to attend special meeting next week. If the lawyer is available, meeting will be posted and Board members notified.

With no further business to discuss, MOTION to adjourn at 8:26PM by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Sohlden. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Debbie Pindral,  
Township Clerk