

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY MEETING

March 4, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Monday, March 4, 2024 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were 7 guests.

Public Hearing that was scheduled for 3/4/24 regarding changes to Ordinance # 2011-05 was cancelled. Resolution 2024-03-01 Rules Entitled Adams Township Cross Connection Control Program was presented by Supervisor Heikkinen. MOTION made by Treasurer Immonen with support from Trustee Eister to adopt Resolution 2024-03-01 Rules Entitled Adams Township Cross Connection Control Program. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION made by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the minutes of the February 5, 2024 Monthly Minutes, and February 5, 2024 Wholesale Water meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Supervisor Heikkinen stated paperwork was presented to request a playground grant through Copper Shores asking for 40K with a 10% match. After discussion a MOTION by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to adopt Resolution 2024-03-02 Authorizing Application for A Copper Shores Community Playground Grant. Roll call, All ayes. Motion carried. A public Hearing will be scheduled on March 27, 2024 at 5PM to hear comments on MI DNR Recreation Grant being requested after approval of 5yr Recreation Plan. Estimates will be needed for roof and floor in the Adams Township Community Center for the grant application.
2. Annual payment of \$300 dues to Keweenaw Economic Development Authority are due. Letter highlighted events performed in 2023. Clerk Pindral will submit in next check run.
3. Notice of MDOT Excess Property disposal: Property near old M26 out of South Range at end of Trimountain Ave. Required to offer to government agencies before offering to general public after end of March. No action taken.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Supervisor Heikkinen inquired if there were any questions or concerns regarding the February 2024 Financial Reports, and if none, asked for a motion to approve. MOTION by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister to accept the February 2024 financial reports. Roll call, all ayes. Motion approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

UPEA engineer notified the Board that a drainage plan will be required for the new fire hall. Have to submit drainage checklist to get MDOT permit. Will be meeting with D. Cline on Thursday to discuss water and sewer engineering on site, i.e., septic system, grinder, etc. State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) has visited the site, awaiting report.

Supervisor Heikkinen received correspondence thanking Fire Chief Coponen and himself for cooperation during C6/64 Public Survey related to insurance classification.

P. Nettell asked if the Township would replace some of the street signs that have faded significantly. Fire Department Pancake Breakfast will be held on March 10th from 8AM – 1PM at the South Range Elementary School. Tickets are \$7.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Assessor Report for February reviewed. Organization meeting will be held on March 5. March Board of Review for corrections will be March 11 from 3-9PM and March 12 from 9-3PM.

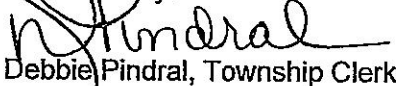
CEMETERY: Gate is still closed.

BUSINESS – UNFINISHED/NEW:

- Supervisor Heikkinen stated C. Holmes reported “no news but close” on the water improvement project loan approval.
- Supervisor Heikkinen reported Houghton County Road Commission placed a traffic counter on Chippewa Street 400 ft south of the intersection with Erickson Drive. Results show 130 average daily traffic and 28MPH for 85th percentile meaning 85% of vehicles traveled at 28MPH or below. A traffic counter was also placed on Old Mill Hill Road 120ft southwest of the intersection with Stanton Avenue. Results were 539 average daily traffic and 39MPH. Suggest contacting the Sheriff's department and if tickets were issued, most traffic might slow down. “Stop signs should be consistent as to not confuse the motoring public. If a stop sign were placed the entire area should be reviewed and signed accordingly”.
- Planning Commission will meet in April.
- QuickBooks software update will be discussed with REMC1.
- T. Cline reported the Emergency Response Plan is complete. 49 pages detailing how to find/deal with equipment, etc. in emergency situations. The plan has been shared with employees and a copy is readily available for their use. Reported the Cross Connection Questionnaires are being returned at a very satisfactory rate.
- Houghton County Road Commission will be holding a public meeting on March 25 at 10:30 at offices in Ripley to discuss roadways.
- Supervisor Heikkinen reminded Board and staff to submit requests for upcoming fiscal year budget.
- Reminder the Board must act in April to get the road millage request on the August ballot.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION at 7:10PM by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral, Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
Wholesale Water Board
March 4, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Adams Township Wholesale Water Board was held on Monday, March 4, 2024 at the Township Hall, 17104 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15PM. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Eister, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. Also present was Travis Cline, Asst. Water Operator.

- Travis reported the Emergency Response Plan is complete and submitted to EGLE. The resolution adopted regarding the Cross Connection Control Program will also be sent.
- Reported the crew has painted the chlorine room at pumping station.
- A new computer has been purchased which will enable better security options.
- A shipment of 200 of the 540 meter nodes has been received.
- Inquired if ordinances be updated to make more of legal impact on residents who put baby wipes, latex gloves, needles and other non-flushables into the system as problem is getting worse. Will need to contact Lawyer Mackey for legal advice. Reports the lift station with the most issue is being cleaned twice a week.
- Work continues on DSMI paperwork. Ordering topsoil and gravel, insulation to have accessible when ground work commences.

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 7:32P.M. Roll call, all ayes, Motion approved.

Submitted by:



Debbie Pindral, Township Clerk

ADAMS TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
March 27, 2024

A special meeting/public hearing of the Adams Township Board was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at the Township Hall, 17118 First Street, Baltic, Michigan.

Supervisor Heikkinen called the meeting to order at 5:05PM stating the purpose of the meeting was to hold a public hearing and receive public comments on the comments on application for a MI DNR Recreation Grant for improvements on the Baltic Sports Complex, aka Adams Township Community Center. The following board members responded to roll call: Supervisor Heikkinen, Trustee Eister, Treasurer Immonen, Trustee Keranen, and Clerk Pindral. There were no other public in attendance.

After short discussion, a MOTION made by Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen to adopt the Resolution #2024-03-03 for Adams Township to approach MI DNR for grant monies to fix/replace existing flooring, leveling asphalt, roof repair/replacement for repair of the Baltic Sports Complex, aka Adams Township Community Center not to exceed \$160,000.00. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried. Resolution adopted and to be signed by Supervisor Heikkinen and Clerk Pindral.

With no other business brought before the Board, a MOTION to adjourn at 5:15PM by Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister. Roll call, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:


Debbie Pindral, Township Clerk

Annual Meeting of the
Electors of Adams Township

The annual meeting of the electors of Adams Township was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 5:00PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan.

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 29, 2023 Elector Annual Meeting; Clerk Pindral seconded the motion. Motion carried

Supervisor Heikkinen reported the state of the Township is in good financial condition. State Revenue Sharing funds received were lower than anticipated.


Three main goals for the upcoming fiscal year are:

- Wholesale Water Improvement Project get "shovels in the ground",
- Construction of the new Fire Hall,
- DSMI project completed.

Supervisor Heikkinen stated board salaries will remain the same this year:

- Salary of supervisor will be \$12,000 annually
- Salary of clerk will be \$12,000 annually
- Salary of treasurer will be \$12,000 annually
- Salary of trustees will be \$2,400 annually

Supervisor Heikkinen motioned to adjourn the annual electors meeting; Seconded by Clerk Pindral. Meeting adjourned at 5:05PM.


Debbie Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

Adams Township
Budget Hearing

The annual budget hearing of Adams Township was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 5:15PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan.

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 29, 2023 budget meeting were reviewed and approved, all ayes, and motion carried.

On a MOTION from Trustee Eister with support from Trustee Keranen, the board accepted the 1.05% tax for FY 2024/25 as set by the State of Michigan; all ayes, and motion carried.

Baltic Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen presented 2023/24 final budget for approval. He reported two lift station generators were purchased and installed at a cost of \$52,000. The Vactor truck will need preventive maintenance at estimated cost of \$10,000. The Vactor is a major tool utilized in the cleaning of all lift stations on regular schedule. On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister the board accepted the amended 2023/24 budget activity level with total income of \$50,000.00 and expenses of \$40,250.00. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. On a MOTION from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister the board accepted the proposed 2024/25 budget activity level with total income of \$50,000.00 and expenses of \$46,150.00. Roll call vote, all ayes motion carried.

Trimountain Sewer:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported sewer system will be scheduled for cleaning on regular schedule. Salaries, cost of Vactor Truck and increasing utilities are majority of projected expenses. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$58,000.00 and Expenses at \$43,950.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2024/25 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$60,000.00 and expenses \$53,600.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Painesdale Sewer Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated flow meter needs to be installed in Painesdale lagoon. Works needs to be done on fences. Generator was installed at lift station at a cost of \$26,000. Painesdale Sewer Fund will also share in the preventative cost on Vactor Truck along with regular scheduled cleanouts. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Clerk Pindral to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$83,000.00 and Expense at \$56,900.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Clerk Pindral to approve the 2024/25 budget at the following activity level: Income \$83,000.00 and expenses \$73,650.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Atlantic Mine Sewer:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated there is a lot of construction happening in Atlantic Mine. The sewer system will need to be reviewed in depth to handle the extra flow. System needs frequent cleaning due to flow and infiltration. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2023/24 budget at the activity level with the following charges: Income \$83,100.00 and Expenses at \$65,700.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2024/25 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$83,000.00 and expenses \$74,500.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Retail Water Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported the paving done from water line/main repairs cost \$18,000. A \$17,000 order for copper line/fittings, etc. was placed in February to take care of DSMI requirements. DSMI for 2024 has started, with 5 homes of the 40 to complete done. (New copper line from main to curbside, insulated, and pictures taken.) There is still \$87,500 in ARPA (deferred income) to pay for meters/nodes as they arrive. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$287,950.00 and Expense at \$287,865.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Eister and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2024/25 budget at the following activity level: Income \$278,450.00 and expenses \$269,100.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

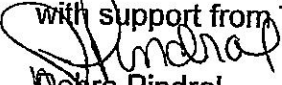
Wholesale Water Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen stated still waiting for the water main project to start, reporting it is close to reality. Huntington bonds will be paid off when project starts. Huntington pay-off is in the neighborhood of \$350,000 and must be paid off to afford the new water main bond payments. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2023/24 budget at the activity level with the following charges: Income \$403,350.00 and Expense at \$314,300.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Treasurer Immonen and seconded by Trustee Keranen to approve the 2024/25 budget at the activity level as follows: Income \$403,200.00 and expenses \$356,500.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

General Fund:

Supervisor Heikkinen reported \$20,000 was budgeted for replacement of overhead garage doors. The 5yr recreation plan was finalized and approved in March and work has begun on grants for the ice rink building. Bids for the new fire hall will be done soon with planned completion for Spring 2025. Have not received grant monies reimbursement for the fire dept. equipment purchased in September 2023. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2023/24 budget at the following activity level: Income \$481,000.00 and Expense at \$435,228.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried. MOTION by Trustee Keranen and seconded by Trustee Eister to approve the 2024/25 budget at the following activity level: Income \$481,850.00 and expenses \$407,680.00. Roll call vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

With no other budget business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40PM on a motion from Trustee Keranen with support from Trustee Eister with all ayes, motion carried.


Petra Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

**Adams Township
Special Meeting**

A special meeting of the Adams Township Board was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 5:45PM at the Township Hall in Baltic, Michigan.

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 Eister, supported by Treasurer Immonen to accept the special meeting minutes of March 29, 2023. Roll call, all ayes. Motion accepted.

Resolution:

On MOTION by Clerk Pindral, supported by Trustee Eister 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 27th day of March 2024 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 Second Monday of each month (unless posted), commencing at 6:00PM. Dates of the regular monthly meeting will be as follows: April 1 (First Monday), May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, December 9, 2024, January 13, February 10, and March 10, 2025. (Immediately followed by the Wholesale Water Board Meeting).
- The annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 5:00PM. 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 Pindral, the board approved the depository of all the Township funds with Superior National Bank, 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 Eister 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 on month-to-month basis until notice and then to be determined at later date, with the option to consult with other attorneys more qualified on the subject in question. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

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

All employees will receive a 3% raise for FY 2024/25.

New Temporary/Seasonal with experience)	\$10.50/Hr (not to be less than current minimum hourly wage. Negotiable
Board of Review	\$15.75/Hr
Election workers	\$15.75/Hr
Election chairperson	\$18.00/Hr
Deputy Clerk	\$15.00/Hr
Deputy Treasurer	\$15.00/Hr

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

Mileage rate at current IRS rate – .67cents/mile

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

MOTION made by Eister with support from Keranen that LuAnn Hayrynen be continued as assessor with verbal contract continuation, and authorizing Supervisor Heikkinen authority to work out compensation of assessor contract. Roll call vote; four ayes, Pindral abstained. Motion carried.

Changes and adjustments are effective April 1, 2024.

MOTION by Pindral, supported by Keranen, 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 Keranen, supported by Pindral, 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 Eister, supported by Keranen, 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 Keranen supported by Eister 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 Keranen, supported by Eister, 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.

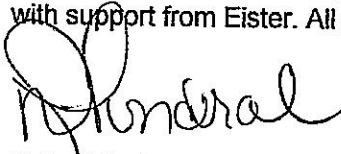
MOTION by Pindral, supported by Keranen, the retail water rates and sewage rates will increase a minimum of 25cents after the 2000 gallon base with additional incremental increases, retaining the option to increase rates if necessary using proper notice and procedure. Roll call vote all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Pindral, with support from Keranen 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 6:25PM to discuss wages. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION by Keranen with support from Immonen to leave executive session at 6:30PM, and return to special meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

With no other business brought before the Board, meeting adjourned at 6:31PM on a MOTION by Keranen with support from Eister. All ayes, Motion carried.



Debra Pindral
Adams Township Clerk

**ADAMS TOWNSHIP BOARD
2024/2025
MONTHLY MEETING DATES**

***MEETING DATE HAS CHANGED TO THE
2nd MONDAY OF EACH MONTH EFFECTIVE IN MAY 2024***

TIME: 6:00PM

APRIL 1, 2024

MAY 13, 2024

JUNE 10, 2024

JULY 8, 2024

AUGUST 12, 2024

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

OCTOBER 14, 2024

NOVEMBER 11, 2024

DECEMBER 9, 2024

JANUARY 13, 2025

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

MARCH 10, 2025

Budget Meetings set at monthly meeting as needed

Annual meeting: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 5:00PM

Debbie Pindral
Adams Township Clerk