

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM at the Adamstown Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant, 235 E. Swartzville Road, Denver by Council President Randy Good.

Council Present: R. Good, D. Matz, d. Alumbaugh, M. Bansner, R. Weaver, J. Johnson-Null

Visitors present: Sgt. Eric Schmitt, Derek Miller, Chuck Hess, Wendy Kerschner, Carolyn Reiste, Zach Hoffman, Keith Rodrigues, Susan Hess, John Schmoyer, Janet Puchino, John Tremble, Lisa Borry, Bob Root, Helen Shaak, Corrine Werner, John Werner, Stacey Huling, Joseph Huling, Donna Zaun, Michael Kline, Jr. Michael Kline, Sr., Richard Schamus, Linda Schamus, Bob Hinkley, Jess Zook, Michelle Gockley, Kevin Grant, Paul Marx, Heather Marx, Timothy Butz, Carol Kase, Michele Walter Fry

Others present: Mayor Schmidt, Mike Palm, Sam Toffy

ADAMSTOWN 2026 PHASE 2 GROVE IMPROVEMENTS: The meeting commenced with an update on the Adamstown 2026 Phase 2 Grove Improvements. Councilman d. Alumbaugh addressed the audience. He said that we applied for and were awarded a \$100K grant from DCNR. We will be applying for a second grant which would aid in paying for pickleball courts, ADA-accessible pathways to the existing tennis courts, basketball court and proposed pickleball courts, creating additional parking spaces and a turnaround area near the courts as well as creating a pollinator meadow with a trail and additional trees to the park to name a few. Keith Rodrigues, a Native American Navajo, will be providing signs for the trail with educational information on their culture as a teaching tool. On April 22, 2023, which is also Earth Day, Mr. Rodrigues along with a drum group and First Nations people dressed in their regalia, will walk the trail and do a few songs for those in attendance. Questions were asked as well as suggestion offered from audience members throughout the presentation.

MINUTES: Minutes from the September 6, 2022 meeting were approved with a motion from d. Alumbaugh, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried with changes as noted. D. Matz abstained.

BILL LIST: Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by J. Johnson-Null and unanimously carried to approve all bills and receipts presented.

POLICE REPORT:

The September Police Report was read by Sgt. Eric Schmitt.

FIRE REPORT:

The September Fire Report was read by Chief Miller. There will be a chicken BBO on Saturday from 10AM until sold out.

VISITOR'S BUSINESS:

Adamstown Cub Scout Pack 61 – Stacey Huling with Cub Scout Pack 61 and her son Joseph addressed Council regarding the annual tree lighting ceremony in the grove. The event will be held on Sunday, November 27th and will begin at 5:30PM with Santa arriving at 6:00PM. The borough Public Works Department will put the lights up prior to the event day. Ms. Huling also asked if, as one of the Scouts' service projects, in the spring they could donate and plant another evergreen tree in the grove so the tree lighting event could remain a tradition for years to come once the current tree is no longer viable. R. Good suggested working with R. Weaver and the Rec Committee to decide on a location for the tree. D. Matz suggested planting the same species tree as the existing one since it is thriving so well in its location. He also mentioned that we usually make a donation towards the tree lighting ceremony.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to donate \$500 to the Cub Scout Pack 61 towards the annual tree lighting.

Stacing Huling, 8 Rollingview Lane – Ms. Huling said there are two stop signs along Rollingview Lane. She believes it is due to the location of the stop signs, but it seems that non-residents often do not stop at the intersections. Mayor Schmidt will reach out to her to further discuss and will involve the police as well as the Roads & Bridges Committee to come up with a solution.

Corinne Werner, Live Reindeer Event – Ms. Werner, owner of The Primitive Barn located at 40 Willow Street, will be holding her annual free Live Reindeer Event on November 20th from 2PM to 5PM. There will be food as well as entertainment. The event attracts a large crowd so she is looking for options for additional parking as well as shuttle service. Several suggestions were offered. R. Weaver told Ms. Werner to call S. Toffy to provide his contact information to her.

John Werner, 40 Willow Street – Mr. Werner said he is interested in putting a pre-fab building on the lot. He will need to pull a PennDOT permit and asked if our engineer would be willing to assist with this. C. Hess said he spoke with Mr. Werner and suggested he obtain an engineer.

SPECIAL TOPICS: None.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Relining Sanitary Sewer Line – M. Palm said that approximately 3,400 LF of the lower end of the sanitary sewer line (Phase 1) has been relined which should alleviate some of the inflow/infiltration issues.

MS4 Waiver – We received our MS4 waiver for the stormwater system. This will be in effect in March 2023 and is a 5-year permit.

Tree Trimming Along the Trail – There is a lot of overgrown brush along the trail that will eventually be resurfaced. Prior to resurfacing the trail, M. Palm would like to bring a company in to clear the brush back. He requested three quotes and only received one response from Keel-Mar Landscaping. The cost is \$3,200 for the whole day so they should have time to also work along the tennis courts and grove area.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to approve Keel-Mar Landscaping's quote in the amount of \$3,200 for one day's work.

Trail Update – M. Palm said that once the brush is cut back from the trail, they plan to resurface it from Stoudtburg Road down approximately 1,000 feet. Public Works staff will do the dirt export and lay the stone. Leon Ray Martin, the low bidder, will come in and apply the millings.

TREASURER:

Centric Bank CDs – R. Good said that we have two CDs coming due for \$250K each. L. Crouse reached out to Great Eastern Management who is currently offering a 2-year rate at 4.25%. With the federal government talking about raising the interest rates two more times this year, R. Good said he doesn't feel it is a good idea to lock up the money for that long with so many projects going on. He is recommending moving that money from Fulton Bank and Centric Bank to the PLGIT money market account which is currently at 2.97%. He feels the interest rate should increase by 1% to 1.25% within the next 90 days and it could be moved as often as necessary in this account.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to move the two CDs to the PLGIT money market account.

FINANCE:

2023 Budget – J. Johnson-Null said that if anyone has anything they would like included in the budget for 2023, please get it to he or Lisa as soon as possible.

WATER/SEWER/MS4:

16 Red Fox Court Outstanding Water/Sewer Account – Back in May the property owner received a lien notice. Her tenant reached out to us saying that she is working with Ephrata Social Services to get the bill paid so we held off on filing a lien. After several communications back and forth with Ephrata Social Services, the account is still outstanding. Council agreed to have the lien letter sent.

COMMUNITY:

Ann Yost, YSM Landscape Architects – d. Alumbaugh recommends hiring Ann Yost of YSM Landscape Architects to write our \$591K mini grant to DCNR at a cost of \$2K. She is the Project Manager of the first grant that we were awarded, is a Parks and Recreation Architect as well as a proven grant writer. If we are awarded the grant from DCNR, Ms. Yost would manage both grants and help us in finalizing our plans.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to hire Ann Yost of YSM Landscape Architects at a cost of \$2K to write our new grant to DCNR.

Resolution 2022-09 – d. Alumbaugh is asking for a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-09 for the DCNR park revitalization grant.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution #2022-09 for the DCNR park revitalization grant.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: None.

PERSONNEL:

Printer/Scanner/Copier – A. McManimen is asking for a motion to purchase a printer/scanner/copier for S. Toffy's home office.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to approve the purchase of a printer/scanner/copier for S. Toffy.

RECREATION: None.

FIRE/SAFETY:

Fireworks Ordinance – Mayor Schmidt provided examples of fireworks resolutions from other municipalities. He is asking that they review the documents which will be discussed at the November meeting. The police as well as the borough solicitor should review the documents as well.

Intersection of Rt. 272 & Bowmansville Road – Mayor Schmidt spoke with PennDOT's traffic unit in Harrisburg as well as Will Clark, Director of Lancaster County Planning Department's transportation team. From his discussions,

he found that it is not likely a traffic light would be approved for that intersection. He also looked into the option of reducing the speed limit from 45 MPH to 35 MPH. In 2016 a request was made to PennDOT to lower the speed limit but there is criteria which must be met in order to have it lowered and we did not meet the criteria. The suggestion was made to trim back the shrubbery along the roadway across from Boehringer's to make it easier to see when pulling out from Bowmansville Road.

BUILDING:

Building Update – The Committee came up with two options in moving forward with the proposed borough office building:

- Option #1 – Hire an architect in conjunction with SDE to decide on a building design. Once we have a building design we can apply for grants to help with the construction costs.
- Option #2 - Hire an architect with SDE but proceed more like a design build project. Design would be more a plan than a design and Borough would be involved in sourcing contractors through costars and bids much like how the baby pool was completed.

After discussing the pros and cons of each option, Council leaned towards Option #1.

Motioned by M Bansner, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to choose Option #1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

341 Jefferson Road Fence Issue – R. Good said he will have a detailed letter for the property owners, ready at the November meeting specifying what needs to be done. They will be given ample time to complete the changes.

NEW BUSINESS:

General Information Allowed on Website – S. Toffy said she often receives requests from outside organizations to post information on the borough website. She is requesting guidance regarding what should and should not be included on the website. Council agreed that only borough information is to be posted on the website.

Motioned by M Bansner, seconded by J. Johnson-Null and unanimously carried to make a policy that only borough information is to be posted on the borough website.

DCNR Grant (\$32,500) for Warwick to Ephrata Regional Trail Study – Mike Hession of Denver Borough sent a letter requesting that Adamstown Borough contribute 25% of the cost for the study (\$8,125). d. Alumbaugh said he is in favor of the study and the trails, but he feels we should only be responsible for the per capita amount. The other Council members agreed.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to contribute the per capita amount towards the DCNR Grant match for the Warwick to Ephrata Regional Trail Study.

Adjournment:

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 8:54PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary