Adamstown Borough Council **December 5, 2023**

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, A. McManimen, M. Bansner, d. Alumbaugh, J. Johnson-Null, R. Weaver

Visitors present: Dan Wieder, Zach Hoffman, Paul Marx, Heather Marx, Wendy Kershner, John Werner, Jim Cartin, Amy Good, Michele Walter Fry

Others present: Mayor John Schmidt, Mike Palm, Sam Toffy

MINUTES: Minutes from the November 7, 2023 meeting were approved with a motion from D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried.

BILL LIST: Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to approve all bills and receipts presented.

POLICE REPORT:
The November Police Report was included in the packets.

FIRE REPORT:
The November Fire Report was read by Deputy Chief Wieder. There will be a soup and sub sale on December 16th from 10AM until sold out. The fire trucks and rescue vehicles will be decorated and will drive through the borough on Christmas eve.

D. Wieder said they were recently approved for a grant from FM Global which assists with fire prevention, fire mitigation. They will be receiving approximately $2,400 which they will use to purchase 2 new computers. They also received a federal grant which is a regional grant involving 5 other departments in the amount of $429K. The Adamstown Fire Company will receive $46,648 from that grant which they will use to purchase new coats, boots, hoods and gloves.

At their November meeting, D. Wieder said they discussed the Act 172 information and the members would like to come up with a plan. They will put something together and present it to Council at a future date.

VISITOR'S BUSINESS: None.

SPECIAL TOPICS: None.

PUBLIC WORKS:

M. Palm reviewed his monthly report with Council.

The Christmas lights have been put on the tree in the grove.

The borough is required to be in a pretreatment plan due to Bollman's and Good's so we are required to do sampling of the sludge, the cost of which is billed back to the industries. There

were recently 7 or 8 consecutive days of sampling at 5 different locations, so that has been completed.

The Public Works Department is currently working on replacing meters that are older than 20 years old.

FINANCE:

2024 Budget – The proposed 2024 budget was advertised for adoption. There is no increase in water rates, sewer rates or millage from 2023.

Motioned by J. Johnson-Null, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to adopt the 2024 budget as presented.

Tax Levy Ordinance 416 – Ordinance 416 establishes the millage rate at 2.041 mills for 2024 which has not increased from 2023.

Motioned by J. Johnson-Null, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance 416 establishing the 2024 millage rate at 2.041 mills.

WATER/SEWER/MS4: None.

COMMUNITY:

Music Events in the Grove – d. Alumbaugh said that they have selected the bands for the two music events in the grove next summer and they will be working on advertising for the events next.

ADAMSTOWN 2026: None.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: None.

PERSONNEL:

Cyber Insurance – A. McManimen is requesting that cyber insurance is renewed for 2024. A quote was received from the company we are currently using, Cowbell Insurance Agency LLC, in the amount of $3,336 which is $470 less than what we are currently paying.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve the renewal from Cowbell Insurance Agency, LLC, to purchase cyber insurance for 2024.

RECREATION:

R. Weaver thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the community.

FIRE/SAFETY:

J. Schmidt extended his congratulations to Paul Marx, who will be joining Borough Council effective January 1, 2024.

J. Schmidt said that the Ephrata Police Department is authorizing leasing 12 new police cruisers to replace some of the older cruisers. They will also be switching from the 45 service revolvers to 9mm pistols. All of the pistols will have Trijicon sighting on them.

BUILDING:

A Manimen said that the Committee will be meeting this month to discuss to keep things moving forward. R. Good said he has a meeting scheduled with the Architect and Engineer on December 14th at 4PM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tommy Kashatus Resignation – T. Kashatus who represented Adamstown Borough on the Cocalico Area Appeals Board submitted his Letter of Resignation effective November 28, 2023.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to accept T. Kashatus's Letter of Resignation.

Zach Hoffman, Cocalico Area Appeals Board – Z. Hoffman submitted his Letter of Interest to fill the vacancy on the Board.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to appoint Zach Hoffman to fill the vacancy on the Board, to run through December 2023.

SDE 2024 Professional Fee Schedule – SDE submitted their professional fee schedule for 2024.
SDE 2024 SEO Fee Schedule – SDE submitted their SEO fee schedule for 2024.
Morgan, Hallgren, Crowell, Kane 2024 Fee Schedule – MHCK submitted their fee schedule for 2024.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve the three 2024 fee schedules as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council went into executive session at 7:45PM to discuss personnel issues and employee raises.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:15PM.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to give all employees a 3% raise with the exception of J. Scherer who will get a raise to $22/hour and D. Miller who will get a raise to $20/hour, all effective January 1, 2024.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve hire a part time electrician at $45/hour and to work with M. Palm to make hiring arrangements.

Adjournment:

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to adjourn.
The meeting ended at 8:16PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary