Adamstown Borough Council **February 3, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM at the Adamstown Municipal Building, 3000 N. Reading Road, Adamstown by Council Vice President David Matz.

Council Present: Dave Matz, Cindy Schweitzer, Joe Dietrich, Mark Bansner, David Gundrum, Jessica Kelly

Visitors Present: George Beever, Steve Roth, Gary McEwen, Val Lacis, Bob Stork, Michele Walter Fry, Helen Shaak, Carol Johnson, Brandon Brinkmeyer, Allen Zimmerman, Ronald Shank, Penny Shank

Others Present: Dean Johnson, Mike Palm, Lisa Crouse, Sam Toffy

EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was an executive session prior to the Council meeting (6PM – 7PM) to discuss pool personnel issues with the recreation board.

Resolution 15-02 –Jessica Kelly was appointed by Council at its January 6th meeting to replace Ed Zander for the remaining one-year term, until the next general election.

Motioned by D. Gundrum, seconded by M. Bansner and carried by a vote of 5-0-1 to approve Resolution 15-02 for Jessica Kelly to serve the remaining one-year term left vacant by Ed Zander. J. Kelly abstained. The term will run to 1/2016.

MINUTES: Minutes from the January 6, 2015 meeting were approved with corrections with a motion from J. Dietrich, seconded by D. Gundrum and unanimously carried.

BILL LIST: Motioned by J. Dietrich, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve the bills and receipts presented.

POLICE and/or FIRE REPORT:

The January Police Report was read by Chief Beever.
The January Fire Report was read by Chief Roth.

VISITORS BUSINESS:

Gary McEwen from Berks Homes addressed Council regarding Rose Hill Lot 1. The original plan was to build an additional 300 single homes in East Cocalico Township. Lot 1 in the Adamstown portion of Rose Hill was set aside to provide an emergency access point for the homes in this portion of Rose Hill until the East Cocalico portion was connected. Due to the wetlands area and bog turtle habitat, the plan to build the ECT homes was not feasible and the development rights are instead being sold to National Resources Conservation Service-USDA. Mr. McEwen is requesting Council's approval to develop Lot 1 rather than hold the lot vacant because of the emergency access road. Mr. McEwen noted that the cul-de-sacs in the development have been finished and the main access road for the development is of ample width should there be a road emergency. Penny Shank did question Mr. McEwen on the eventual use of the land being sold to the Conservancy. Mr. McEwen indicated it will remain open with possible grazing land for cattle which is a recommended use by the Conservancy. D. Matz recommended presenting his request to the Planning Commission.

SPECIAL TOPICS: None.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The tree located at W. Main & Willow Streets has been removed, greatly improving visibility at the intersection. The street and sidewalk will be repaired in spring. Several trees have also been removed along Adamstown Road.

The Public Works Department is utilizing Hanover Engineering's GIS equipment to map storm sewer inlets and outfalls in the borough which is a requirement of the MS4 permit.

Work is continuing to replace older meters with Iperl meters in all rental units in the borough.

FINANCE:

The Treasurer's Report was included in the packets.

WATER: None.

SEWER: None.

LIGHTS, PROPERTY AND PAVEMENT:

D. Matz said there have been several inquiries regarding what will be done with the tops of the trees that are left behind in the woods after the main portion of the trees have been removed during the selective timbering harvest. He referred this issue to the LPP Committee for discussion.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

Mark complimented the Public Works Department on the great job they've been doing keeping the roads plowed and cleared.

PERSONNEL:

At the last Council meeting there were several revisions made to the personnel policy contingent upon approval by the solicitor and auditor. In order to meet ACA (Affordable Care Act) requirements the following revisions have been made:

Family healthcare coverage is provided for each full-time employee. Healthcare coverage includes medical, dental, and vision benefits. Medical and vision coverage is effective the 1st of the month following 30 days employment. Dental is effective following 90 days employment.

Provisions are made for an employee who declines all healthcare coverages (medical, dental, and vision) based on the following condition: Proof of alternative health care coverage must be obtained and cannot include Medicare, Medicaid, VA insurance, COBRA, a parent's insurance, or individual health insurance. The alternative health care coverage must meet the market reform provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) plan and the use of such coverage must not subject the Borough to penalties for providing a health reimbursement arrangement that does not meet the market reform provisions of the ACA. Therefore, coverage must come from either a spouse's employer sponsored group health care plan OR a second job where healthcare is covered by an employer sponsored group health care plan. An employee declining all healthcare coverage (medical, dental and vision), who meets the above conditions, will receive $25 per person, per pay period, up to a maximum of 5 family members who would have been covered under the

borough's healthcare. This will be added to the employee's paycheck each pay period (26 pay periods/year). In other words, an employee & spouse will receive $50/pay, an employee, spouse, and 1 child will receive $75/pay, and an employee, spouse, and 4 children will receive $125/pay.

Note: An employee may opt out of any coverage (medical, dental, and/or vision) at any time, however, in order to receive incentive benefits from the Borough of Adamstown, the above provisions must be met.

Motioned by D. Gundrum, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to adopt the revisions above to the current employee personnel policy, bringing it ACA compliant, to become effective immediately.

Borough employee R. Spitler, who chose to opt out of health care benefits, requested that he be allowed to use the reimbursement money he received for opting out in 2014 towards co-pays and other qualified health receipts he has accrued throughout the entire 2014-year time period. He has only been employed by the borough since August 25, 2014, therefore 2014 reimbursement towards co-pays and other qualified health receipts should only be applied to the time period of October 1, 2014 through February 3, 2015.

Motioned by D. Gundrum, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to require that 2014 reimbursement for R. Spitler for co-pays and qualified health receipts be applied to the time period of October 1, 2014 through February 3, 2015. The monies can also be applied to an IRA account.

POLICE BOARD:

C. Schweitzer commented that the police board completed the review of the agreement and they are now waiting to receive the new version. The focus of the meeting was on the impasse between East Cocalico and West Cocalico Townships. WCT has concerns regarding the new regional commission assuming all liabilities. The agreement is currently written that all assets and liabilities move to the new regional department and ECT is fine with this wording. The Regional Police Board has encouraged them to try to mediate their differences to come up with a solution that can be presented to The Regional Police Board so the project can continue moving forward.

FIRE/SAFETY:

The annual police and fire reports have been distributed for review.

There will be a soup and sub sale Saturday, February 7th at the Fire Company beginning at 10:00AM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Adamstown Borough Council Committees – The suggestion was made by R. Good that due to the large sum of money being invested into the community pool, a Recreation Committee comprised of Council members should be created which would work directly with the Rec Board. He also suggested the Water and Sewer Committees be combined into one and changing the Lights, Property, Pavement Committee to the Community Committee. Discussions will continue at the next Council meeting.

Adamstown Pool Improvements Payment #1 – We received a recommendation for payment of Application #1 to Balton Construction, Inc. from Hanover Engineering for improvements completed in the amount of $13,334.49.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve payment to Balton Construction, Inc. for Application #1 in the amount of $13,334.49.

Celebration Park – Several residents from Brookview Development met with a representative of General Recreation, a company that designs community parks. With a $40K budget and several ideas, a draft plan was created by General Recreation. The plan will be reviewed and revised, and a community build is being considered to save money. L. Crouse is working with Hanover Engineering to apply for a DCNR grant, but in order to do so a final plan and budget will be necessary for submission. The deadline to apply for a grant is April 16th.

Letter From Senator Aument – Council received a letter from Senator Aument regarding a proposed Senate bill involving purely public charities. This item has been tabled until the next Council meeting.

4th Annual Rumspringa Half Marathon – Information was presented to Council for the 4th Annual Rumspringa Half Marathon. An insurance certificate will be provided to the Borough prior to race day.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve the use of borough roadways for the 4th Annual Rumspringa Half Marathon provided a valid insurance certificate is submitted prior to race day.

Adjournment:

Motioned by M. Bansner, seconded by D. Gundrum and unanimously carried to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 8:22PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary