Adamstown Borough Council **June 7, 2016**

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

Council Present: Randy Good, Dave Matz, Cindy Schweitzer, Mark Bansner, Jessica Kelly, Alex McManimen, Mike Wetherhold

Visitors Present: Lt. Chris McKim, Donna Wetherhold, Jim Heale, Sheila Hinkley, Colin Hinkley, Bob Brugger, Morgan Swisher, Val Lacis, Ralph Vedder, Michele Walter Fry

Others Present: Mike Palm, Lisa Crouse, Sam Toffy

MINUTES: Minutes from the May 3, 2016 meeting were approved with a motion from D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried with changes noted.

BILL LIST: Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve all bills and receipts presented. R. Good suggested holding Hanover Engineering's check until an explanation of charges for two ventilation system invoices is given.

POLICE and/or FIRE REPORT:

The May Police Report was read by Lt. McKim.

The May Fire Report was read by Assistant Chief Jim Heale.

- Since there are still issues with reception with the new radios, R. Good suggested reaching out to the County to inquire about using the local cell tower to gain better radio reception.
- There will be a chicken BBQ on June 25, 2016 from 10:00AM until sold out.

VISITORS BUSINESS:

Colin Hinkley, Boy Scout Troop 61 – Colin is requesting to add LED lighting to the Adamstown Borough sign near the grove and landscaping around the base, as part of his Eagle Scout project. The total cost for the lighting and labor is $1,250, and he is requesting that Adamstown Borough fund the sign illumination portion of the project. Colin plans to provide the landscaping, and he and the Troop will maintain it going forward.

C. Schweitzer had a concern with the lights shining towards the nearby house. M. Bansner suggested Colin check with the electrician to see if it would be better to shine the lights down on the sign versus up.

Motioned by M. Bansner, seconded by D. Matz and carried by a vote of 6-1-0 (C. Schweitzer opposed) to allow up to $1,400 to illuminate the sign near the grove and provide landscaping around the base for Colin Hinkley's Eagle Scout project.

Bob Brugger, 404 Adamstown Road – Mr. Brugger currently parks his vehicles across the road on Borough property, and was sent a letter several weeks ago requesting that he remove them and no longer park there. He addressed Council asking if he can continue parking there and offered to lay stone or macadam to improve the area if necessary. He stated that he and Lloyd Fasnacht have maintained that area for over twenty years. Both R. Good and C. Schweitzer stated that although they did maintain it, it is private property belonging to the Borough. R. Good turned it over to the Roads & Bridges Committee for discussion and asked that they come back to the July meeting with a recommendation.

Morgan Swisher, 11 First Avenue – Mr. Swisher addressed Council regarding the current property maintenance code for trees and bushes. He is having an ongoing issue with large branches from a tree belonging to his neighbor, falling onto his house and property. The Borough solicitor has advised that this is a private issue between two property owners.

Mr. Swisher also questioned the ownership and maintenance of a 100' x 100' parcel of land at the end of First Avenue adjacent to his property. He noted that according to his survey the Borough owns the land and he would desire to purchase it as he has maintained it for several years. C. Schweitzer questioned whether or not the Borough has deed to that land, and said that if it is a paper street which has never been developed; it reverts back to the property owner(s). She suggested Mr. Swisher check with his attorney.

Alyssa Raven, Adamstown YMCA – Ms. Raven, YMCA Adamstown Branch Executive Director, along with Justine Link, Project Coordinator, presented a power point presentation of everything the Adamstown YMCA has to offer its members.
Ms. Raven also thanked Council for contracting with the YMCA to manage the community pool for the 2016 season. She said their top three goals at the pool are cleanliness, membership satisfaction and staff management.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Snow Storm Reimbursement – M. Palm attended another FEMA meeting regarding reimbursement for the last large snow storm. He was given additional paperwork to fill out and return. There was no indication as to when we could expect reimbursement.

Community Pool – M. Palm said that they have been working diligently at the pool and everything is running well. R. Good thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work.

MS4 – The Borough recently received our MS4 permit and M. Palm said it is a fairly extensive document and he will need assistance in establishing a program. WCT is in the same position and has advised that a local group of municipalities are attempting to work together with Rettew Associates to develop a regional approach to satisfying all of our MS4 requirements. There is interest in working with the regional group. C. Schweitzer, M. Palm, D. Matz and A. McManimen will work together to develop a plan to handle the Borough's MS4.

Brecknock Township, Berks County Sewer Agreement – M. Palm explained that the Borough currently accepts waste water from a small number of homes in Spring Township. Brecknock Township, Berks County is requesting the same accommodation for a few of their failing on-lot system along Furlow Road. Spring Township will work out a deal to allow Brecknock Township to use their lines and M. Palm is willing to coordinate working with both municipalities. It is assumed that any costs associated with the project would be paid by Brecknock Township.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to allow M. Palm to proceed with contracts to allow Brecknock Township, Berks County to hook up its Furlow Road residents and businesses to the Borough sewer system contingent that they incur any expenses for the research to do so.

Street Lights – L. Crouse gave a power point presentation on the benefits of switching streetlights from high pressure sodium to LED. There are three groups of street lights in the Borough. The first group is 24 Borough-owned decorative acorn-style lamp streetlights in the Misty Meadow development which are owned by the Borough and maintained by MetEd. The second group is 22 decorative MetEd-owned lights in the Rosehill and

Brookview developments. The third group is 102 cobra head lights which are located in town and across Rt. 272 along Willow Street and the surrounding areas.

Due to the cost saving analysis, L. Crouse recommends not switching the Borough-owned lights (first group) or the decorative lights (second group) at this time. She does recommend switching the 102 cobra lights (third group) from high pressure sodium to LED. Overall annual savings would be approximately $6,800. The lights would be switched in blocks of 12 to 24 at a time.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to proceed with switching the 102 cobra lights in town and in the Willow Street area and to wait to switch the 24 street lights in the Misty Meadow development and the 22 street lights in the Rosehill and Brookview developments based on the cost analysis.

FINANCE: None.

WATER & SEWER:

2191 Bowmansville Road – The property owner passed away in February of 2016. An interest fee of 41¢ accrued on his account before the estate attorney was able to pay the bill. The attorney is requesting a waiver of the 41¢ interest fee.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to rescind the 41¢ interest fee accrued on the account, up to $2.00 to cover any additional interest which may have accrued since this waiver request was made.

The Finance Committee will come back to Council at the July meeting with a recommendation regarding criteria for waiver requests of minimal amounts.

Sewer Meeting – R. Good would like to set up a meeting in August with the Water & Sewer Committee to discuss infiltration, trunk lines, VFDs and the 2017 budget. He would like D. Matz, M. Palm, J. Kelly, A. McManimen and R. Vedder to attend. S. Toffy will organize and advertise the meeting.

COMMUNITY:

Sidewalk Construction Standards – M. Wetherhold provided the most current draft sidewalk ordinance which was discussed by Council. He asked that any additional comments/changes be submitted to him as early as possible so that a final draft can be prepared and presented at the July meeting for a motion to advertise for adoption at the August meeting.

The issue of the condition of the curb and sidewalk at 127 W. Main Street was discussed. It is in violation of the current Sidewalk Ordinance and causes a safety hazard.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by M. Bansner and carried by a vote of 6-1-0 (M. Wetherhold opposed) to send a letter to the property owner of 127 W. Main Street giving them 60 days to replace the curb and sidewalk.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: None.

PERSONNEL:

Dental Insurance – After reviewing dental plans, A. McManimen recommended changing from the current plan to Capital Blue Cross which will save the Borough approximately $100 per month.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to change from the current dental plan to the dental plan offered by Capital Blue Cross.

RECREATION:

Community Pool – J. Kelly commented that the transition to the YMCA managing the pool this year is going well. She also said that the Public Works Department has done a great job preparing the pool for opening day. R. Good recommended sending a thank you letters to Durex for the good job they did on the floor and to Sandy Abraham and the swim team for their contribution for the Gator logo.

Motioned by J. Kelly, seconded by C. Schweitzer and unanimously carried to send thank you letters to Durex, Sandy Abraham and the swim team.

J. Kelly said that they are looking to purchase up to 15 new deck chairs for the pool and they would like to use a portion of the money budgeted for the lockers since they won't be purchasing the lockers this season.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve the purchase of up to 15 deck chairs for the pool.

Celebration Park Playground Project – J. Kelly said that DCED will be meeting on June 13th to review grant applications. Letters of support were received from State Rep Cox and Senator Aument.

J. Kelly provided Council with a contract from The Natural Playgrounds Company LLC to create a design plan for the playground. $75K has been budgeted for the project which is also the grant amount requested. The fee for design work is $7,100, with 25% or $1,775 due at the time of contract signing.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve $7,100 for the design work, which will be paid in increments as the project moves forward.

FIRE/SAFETY:

Parking Tickets – The current process in place for collecting payment of unpaid parking tickets is to go to collections. It has been determined by our solicitor that a parking ticket is not a 'fee for service'; therefore an unpaid ticket cannot legally go to collections. It was decided that going forward, unpaid parking tickets will be turned over to the Ephrata Police who will in turn issue a citation. They will also keep all monies collected from citations. As a result of the change in the collection of unpaid parking tickets, new tickets must be printed to outline the process.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to order new parking tickets.

Mirror on Willow Street near Mad Hatter – C. Schweitzer said the F&S Committee met to discuss the mirror issue on Willow Street. They feel that the liability would fall on the Borough, which is not something the

Borough should be shouldering. D. Matz visited the site and suggested some site modifications that would provide more clarity. M. Palm will talk to the owner.

Pedestrian Crossing on Rt. 272 near Rosehill – The F&S Committee met to discuss the existing pedestrian crossing and agreed that installing a flashing light will create the illusion of a safe pedestrian crossing but may also result in traffic accidents involving pedestrians. The committee feels that pedestrians need to be very cautious when using that crossing and would support pedestrian warning signs along with additional vehicle advisory signage. R. Good challenged Council to come up with a long term solution. M. Palm will check with PennDOT regarding approved signs to place in this area.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by C. Schweitzer and unanimously carried to approve the installation of traffic and pedestrian signs along Rt. 272 near the crosswalk at Rosehill.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

UGI Meeting – UGI will hold a meeting Wednesday regarding extending the gas line to Main, N. Broad, E. Washington & E. Walnut Streets. We should hear within the week and work should start around October 1st.

NEW BUSINESS:

Leaders Meetings – Denver Borough and West Cocalico Township have proposed holding two Leaders Meetings per year, while East Cocalico Township sees a benefit of continuing with quarterly meetings. D. Matz feels he would like to see them continue on a quarterly basis mainly because we are dependent on WCT to be tied in to the Ephrata Police Department. R. Good also feels it is a good way to stay connected with the School District. Notice will be given that Adamstown Borough would prefer staying with quarterly meetings.

Adjournment:

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to adjourn.
The meeting ended at 9:20PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary