Adamstown Borough Council **May 7, 2024**

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: Randy Good, Dave Matz, deLyn Alumbaugh, Alex McManimen, Paul Marx, Mark Bansner

Visitors present: Sgt. Dan Albaugh, Officer Travis Rader, Tom Unger, Wendy Kerschner, Zach Hoffman, Laura Russell, Donna Zaun, Cheryl Davis, Steve Davis, Heather Marx, Helen Shaak, Michele Walter Fry

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

MINUTES: Minutes from the April 2nd and April 15th meetings were approved with a motion from D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried.

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

POLICE REPORT:

The April Police Report was read by Sgt. Albaugh. Officer Travis Rader was introduced who will be finishing up field training Friday and will be assigned to Sgt. Albaugh's team effective Saturday.

FIRE REPORT:

The April Fire Report was read by Chief Miller. The Fire Company celebrated its 150th anniversary on April 29th and they plan to do something at an upcoming community event to celebrate that.

VISITORS BUSINESS:

Laura Russell, Adamstown Area Library – Ms. Russell addressed Council regarding holding a survival skills library program in the grove. The wilderness presenter will use a bow drill to educate on starting a fire by creating embers, but no actual fire will be built. The event would be planned for some time in July.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to approve allowing the Library to have a survival skills program in the grove.

Tom Unger, Systems Design Engineering – Mr. Unger introduced himself to those in attendance and said he will be taking over for Chuck Hess who recently left the company.

SPECIAL TOPICS:

R. Good said that anyone who has an opportunity should look at the improvements made to the gazebo and benches at the Lions Club Park by Eagle Scout Gabe Lesher. He said that he would like to reach out to the Lancaster paper to get the Scout group recognition for the various projects they've done.

PUBLIC WORKS:

M. Palm said the pool cover has been removed and the pool is open. Work on the railing and steps has been completed on the larger pavilion. Leaks in the fill and return lines have been repaired.

Street sweeping was done on April 30th and May 1st.

The door handle to the men's restroom at the grove was damaged and a new handle had to be purchased and installed. It was reported to the police.

PSI Pumping Solutions, Inc., Payment Application #2 for Contract B – The release of $47,320 was requested for electrical work satisfactorily completed on the raw sewage pump replacement project. Approximately $2K is still being held until they return to do some labeling.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to approve Payment Application #2 in the amount of $47,320.

Slide Improvements at Pool – M. Palm said he received 3 quotes to refinish the inside of the slide at the pool, with the lowest being from Slide Renu at a cost of $8,563.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve hiring Slide Renu at a cost of $8,563 to refinish the white portion of the slide at the pool.

Pool Items to Purchase – Pool Manager Tori Motter is requesting several items be purchased for the pool including rescue tubes and an equipment cage NTE $1K.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to approve purchasing the items requested by the Pool Manager.

ADAMSTOWN 2026:

d. Alumbaugh gave credit to the Committee members, saying that someone came up with the idea of collecting unwanted flower bulbs from the community to be planted along the Community Trail. Members of the Committee will plant the bulbs in the fall.

BUILDING: None.

COMMUNITY:

Playground Improvements – Contract #1 – Bids were accepted to install the new playground equipment that was purchased. The low bidder was SLC Excavating, LLC with a bid amount of $133,068.79. Ann Yost of YSM who is working with the Borough on this project recommends his quality of work. A. McManimen noted that the bid bond included in the bid package needs to be corrected and proper insurances need to be provided. He also commented that this company has only been in business for a year, so he wanted to be sure that they are reputable.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to approve awarding Contract #1 to SLC Excavating, LLC.

All members of the Committee, both past and present, were thanked by Committee Chairman d. Alumbaugh, for their contributions to getting this accomplished.

Adamstown Community Trail Signs – d. Alumbaugh thanked the Public Works Department for installing the trail signs and crosswalk signs along Stoudtburg Road.

R. Good said there needs to be an onsite meeting at the crosswalk area of Stoudtburg Road with the police, engineer and Fire/Safety Committee to discuss the safety for pedestrians in this area. Some of the shrubs may need to be moved or trimmed back to allow for pedestrians, especially small children, to see oncoming traffic and vice versa.

Trail Hill – d. Alumbaugh said that there is a very steep portion of the Community Trail which was discussed at the last Council meeting. Several suggestions were made including possibly installing railroad tie steps or a rope handrail. R. Good is recommending having the engineer look at the area and have part of the knob removed, install boulders on either side and fill in the dip to level it off. He would like to get a budget number and make the improvements this fall or next spring. M. Palm will coordinate.

FINANCE: None.

FIRE/SAFETY:

Mayor Schmidt said he is in the process of contacting the 3 EMS companies to see if they would provide him with monthly reports.

Sgt. Albaugh continues to work with the school regarding upgrading the safety around the school, and they are considering installing flashing school zone signs.

Mayor Schmidt is exploring holding a bicycle safety class for the borough's youngsters which would be conducted by the Ephrata Police Department. He is also looking at a semi-annual or quarterly CPR classes for our Borough citizens. It would also be opened to outsiders as well. Profits from the courses would go to the Fire Company.

IT: None.

PERSONNEL:

New Public Works Employee – A new employee was hired to take the place of Jeff Formicone, who will be retiring in June.

Nathan Welker Increase – Per his employment offer letter dated April 8, 2021, a $5/hour increase is to be given once WTP license is obtained. This was accomplished on April 3rd.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to approve a $5/hour increase for N. Welker effective April 3, 2024 for obtaining his WTP license.

RECREATION: None.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

Street Light Issues – M. Bansner checked the status of a list of streetlights that have been reported to MetEd numerous times that still have not been repaired. R. Good would like to have the solicitor draft a letter to the PUC and copy our local representative, the state senator and the governor as well as MetEd.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve having our solicitor draft a letter to the PUC.

WATER/SEWER/MS4:

12 Michael Lane Late Fee Waiver Request – The property owner said he paid his bill on time but it wasn't posted until several days later and he is requesting a waiver of the late fees totaling $24.90.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve a one-time waiver in the amount of $24.90.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Use of Grove Road for Swim Divisionals July 20th – The swim team is requesting the use of the road through the grove to use as a one-way to drop off students at the pool. They are also asking to use the grove for additional parking. The grove is rented that day and there will be children playing which could create a dangerous situation. Also, the road was not constructed for high traffic. Council was in agreement to not allow traffic to use the grove road and in this instance, since the grove is rented that day, they cannot park in the grove. R. Good suggested they check with the school to see if they could park at the ball diamond.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve a one-time waiver in the amount of $24.90.

Zoning Ordinance Discussion – IronSpire is currently working with our solicitor on a text amendment to permit industrial assembly in their Highway Commercial District. This will go before the Planning Commission and the LCPC then going before Council.

Cell Tower Lease – The cell tower lease runs out at the end of 2026/beginning of 2027. We are currently receiving approximately $1,300/month and with the new lease it would increase to $2K/month beginning February of 2027. The solicitor is currently reviewing the lease.

Adjournment:

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to adjourn.
The meeting ended at 7:50PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary