

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
September 8, 2014
6:30 o'clock p.m.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Au Train Township Board convened in the Community Building, Au Train, Michigan, on the above date at 6:30 p.m.

The Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Tom Balmes, with the following members present: Mary Rogers, Clerk; Ann Clapp, Treasurer; Kristy Cota and Michelle Doucette, Trustee.

*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 6 persons attended the Board Meeting. A complete sign up sheet is on file with Clerk Rogers.

*APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions and Changes to the Agenda were made as necessary. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Doucette, to approve the Agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

*MINUTES

MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Trustee Doucette, to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2014, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Treasurer Clapp, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #14637 through #14659- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7300 through #7316- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #1555 AND #1556).

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION

John Wright of Cross General Contracting was present to discuss the status of the Heritage Trail Project, issues and concerns and expected completion date.

Bob Lindbeck of the Alger County Road Commission presented information to the Board regarding our 2015 Project Plan and implementation that would include the areas North of State Highway M28 in Christmas. In addition, concerns and complaints about the 16 Mile Lake Road project being completed this fall were discussed.

A review of the proposed 2015 Plan and now areas of concern, the Board asked Engineer/Manager Lindbeck to include Au Train Village area, to complete that project, Christmas Village North of State Highway M28 and to include gravel for Koski Road. Mr. Lindbeck will prepare an agreement for review and approval at the October Regular Board Meeting.

*COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Rogers noted that the Zoning Administrators Report has been received and is on file. Discussion regarding the proposed campground area in Christmas was made. If the site allows for 4 or less sites than no permits are required. It does fall into Zoning Compliance.

Trustee Doucette noted that the Planning Commission has completed review of their by-laws and presented the same to the Board. A complete review and approval will be made at the October Regular Board Meeting. They are also finishing up review of the Master Plan. Zoning Ordinance Review will begin in 2015.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be November 13th at 7:00 p.m. An election for Officers and 2015 Meeting dates will be done at that meeting.

Assessor - No report

Cemetery - The next meeting of the Cemetery Committee will be September 16th at 7:00 pm.

Recreation - Clerk Rogers provided an update based on an email from Representative Frank Castiglione.

Au Train River/Lakeshore Committee - Trustee Doucette noted that the committee hasn't had a recent meeting.

Community Building/Promotion - Jeff Moore noted that painting and tree removal and planting has been completed. Discussion regarding the removal of the dock system was made. MOTION by Treasurer Clapp, second by Trustee Doucette, to allow for the installation of wrench on the plow truck to assist in removal. CLAPP, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES; COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

First Responders – Treasurer Clapp noted that they are getting paged calls now that the issue has been resolved. Had a few runs this past month in cooperation with the Fire Department.

Fire Department – The Department report has been received and is on file. There were four calls this past month. The Alger County Fire Chiefs meeting was recently held at the Christmas Fire Hall. Ladder testing will be completed on 9/11/14.

Discussion regarding plow bids for the 16 Mile Lake fire hall were made. A notice requesting bids will be placed asking for a per time rates only.

Discussion regarding the MDOT Certifications required for all department vehicles was made. MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Trustee Cota, to authorize up to \$3,500.00 for inspection and repairs for compliance of MDOT Inspections through Sanderson & Son. BALMES, YES; COTA, YES; CLAPP, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Grant Administration - Clerk Rogers noted that Kathy Reynolds would not be attending the meeting tonight, but updated the Board on recent grant applications. A new grant application requires approval for application and letter of support.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Balmes, to authorize the Alger County Chamber of Commerce to apply for the RIF-LJ Musser Grant for the Au Train Township Heritage Trail Project and prepare a letter of support as needed. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion regarding the installation of a security system at the site was made. Presentation and further discussion will be made at the October Regular Board Meeting.

County Commission Update - Commissioner Doucette provided updates to the Board on happenings of the Alger County Board for the past month.

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

**TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of August 31, 2014, as presented by Ann Clapp, Treasurer*

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$ 46,811.05
Deposits	171,639.10
Interest	2.27
Disbursements	168,594.66
Ending Balance	\$ 49,634.81
Certificates of Deposit	\$ 63,569.36
	31,241.69
Total Certificates of Deposit	\$ 94,811.05

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$309,284.00
Deposits	
Interest	8.52
Disbursements	158,014.96
Ending Balance	\$151,277.56
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 50,000.00

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$138,058.19
Deposits	
Interest	4.55
Disbursements	10,700.77
Ending Balance	\$127,361.97

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$187,445.60
Deposits	
Interest	6.37
Disbursements	
Ending Balance	\$187,451.97

*A Complete copy of the August 31, 2014 Report is on file with Clerk Rogers.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Rogers noted that she received a draft copy of the Audit report from Anderson & Tackman Co. and will forward the email to Board members for review. The Election Commission will meet on October 13, 2014 at 6:00 pm to make decisions regarding the General Election of November 4th.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Balmes noted that he attended meetings during the past month. A review of the Fire Protection Plan for the County continues. Discussion regarding the need for a brush drop off site within the Township was made. Supervisor Balmes also noted that he recently had a meeting with Ron Rushton of MDOT regarding the placement of the Rip Current signs at the river mouth. In conclusion, complaints regarding the dumpster at Maple Grove Road were provided to the Board.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Doucette wondered about a location for the storage box and items that will be placed at the beach in the spring.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alternate River Canoe Access - Discussion regarding the possible development of an alternate access site was made. The property proposed is owned by the US Park Service just north of the site at the second bridge that has been used for years. The need for a public access site is great and will continue to be explored.

***NEW BUSINESS**

Fall Clean up - Supervisor Balmes presented information to the Board regarding the Fall Clean-up. Saturday September 27, 2014 has been reserved from 8:00-12:00 at the Wood Island Landfill. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Treasurer Clapp, to authorize a fall cleanup and costs related therein, with final cost to be determined depending on participation, with Wood Island Landfill and paid for from the Garbage Fund Account. ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

2014 Tax Rate Request - Clerk Rogers presented the L-4029 Report for the 2014 Tax Rate Request for the Alger County Equalization Department.

MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Treasurer Clapp, that as disclosed in the Truth in Budgeting Hearing held March, 2014, the following tax rates will be levied December, 2014. General Fund - 0.7142; Road Fund - 2.0000; Fire Fund - 2.9706; Waste (Garbage) Fund - 2.0000. BALMES, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Policy No. 2014-004 Payroll Policy -
(Insert)

Policy No. 2014-005 Personal Use of Township Property -
(Insert)

***PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Trustee Doucette, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:55 pm.

Submitted by: Mary F. Rogers, Au Train Township Clerk