

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
May 11, 2015
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, Trustee and Michelle Doucette, Trustee.

*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 9 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 Cota, to approve the Agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

***MINUTES**

MOTION by Trustee Doucette, second by Clerk Rogers, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

***BILLS AND CLAIMS**

MOTION by Trustee Cota, second by Trustee Doucette, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #14842 through #14872- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7462 through #7476- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #1567).

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Charlie Marsh - District Manager of the Hiawatha National Forest presented information to the Board regarding an area to put in canoes and create parking on National Forest Service property to serve those wishing to access the Au Train River. Three designs were presented to the Board. Right now they are in the concept phase, but hope to have the project started in 2016. For this year, they are allowing canoe/kayak put in at the Au Train Lake Boat Launch at the campground off Au Train Forest Lake Road.

Bob Lindbeck - Alger County Road Commission Engineer/Manager presented information to the Board regarding a request to update the access area to Lake Superior at Scrooges Alley/Bayberry Street in Christmas. He has applied for the permit to proceed, and are waiting to see if the Fish and Game Alliance can fund the project. At this time he is looking for support from the Board for the project.

Mr. Lindbeck also updated the Board on the timeline for Summer Projects. The Au Train Forest Lake Road Project was awarded to Payne and Dolan, who anticipate a July start. The work on the Village Streets in Au Train and Christmas was awarded to Baacko Construction, who are estimating the last week in June for a start date. Finally, the final updates to the 16 Mile Lake Road project from last fall are being completed.

Deb Fulcher - Alger Parks and Recreation Department Director presented updates to the Board, offering class information and attendance and updates on the leasing of the Central School Building. Ms. Fulcher thanked the Board for their continued support, the addition of Trustee Doucette as the Township Board representative on the Committee and provided information on fundraising activities.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Rogers noted that the Zoning Administrators Report has been received and is on file. Trustee Doucette noted that the next meeting of the Planning Commission will be June 11th at 7:00 pm.

Supervisor Balmes noted that the hearing date for Mirabella vs. Au Train Township, with the Michigan Court of Appeals is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12th. The attorney for Mr. Mirabella may have had a heart attack today so we don't know at this point if it will be postponed.

Assessor - No date has yet been provided when the Michigan Department of Treasury will be conducting their audit of the assessment records.

Cemetery - Clerk Rogers noted that the Cemetery lot purchase packets are complete. Lot sales may begin. The flag replacement has been ordered and will be installed upon receipt.

Au Train River/Lakeshore Committee - Committee Member Trustee Doucette noted that Senate Bill 265, which would amend the Public Beach Code to authorize Public Immunity is being finalized. In addition, Guy Meadows, of Michigan Tech University, would like to meet with the Board to discuss his findings related to the NOAA Grant. Possible June 15th Special Board Meeting, will be offered.

Community Building/Promotion - The supplies and paint have been ordered to complete the interior painting project.

First Responders – No report

Fire Department – The Department report has been received and is on file. Fire Chief King noted that there was one call this past month. A meeting was held to discuss the possibilities regarding the old fire hall/storage building in Christmas. Chief King met with Designer Will Rogers and Contractor Bill Walther on site to discuss options. Clerk Rogers presented a preliminary drawing for consideration. The project, with specifications, will be put out on bids, with bids due for the July 13, 2015, Regular Board Meeting. The project would be a pole building type construction for storage only. It would require the demolition of the existing building.

A change order was presented for the addition of insulation at the Au Train Fire Hall from Walther Construction in the amount of \$3,000. After discussion, MOTION by Treasurer Clapp, second by Trustee Cota, to accept the change order in the amount of \$3,000 from Walther Construction for the addition of insulation at the Au Train Fire Hall Project. CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES; BALMES, YES;

Treasurer Clapp presented information to the Board regarding the loan payoff with Peoples State Bank for the two small Freightliner Tankers. The total amount due is \$84,959.51. MOTION by Treasurer Clapp, second by Clerk Rogers, to payoff the loan for the 2-Freightliner Tankers, held by Peoples State Bank, in the amount of \$84,959.51. CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Grant Administration - Clerk Rogers presented information to the Board regarding the installation of historical photo displays in the ATHTP Interpretive Cabin from Signs Now. The cost is very reasonable and less than \$500.00. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to authorize up to \$500.00 for the purchase of historical photo displays to place in the ATHTP Interpretive Cabin from Signs Now. ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, CLAPP, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED

Clerk Rogers noted that she submitted for final approval and payment to the State of Michigan for the Trust Fund Grant.

Discussion regarding the need for No Overnight Parking signs, winter maintenance, lighting and security cameras was also made at the project. In addition, dates for the Open House were discussed.

County Commission Update - Commissioner Doucette briefly updated the Board on recent happenings of the Alger County Board.

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

*TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of April 30, 2015, as presented by Ann Clapp, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	104,677.73
Deposits		13,336.04
Interest		2.02
Disbursements		20,105.26
Ending Balance	\$	97,910.53

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	384,859.34
Deposits		699.84
Interest		7.99
Disbursements		19,845.55
Ending Balance	\$	365,691.62

Certificate of Deposit \$ 50,149.70

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	170,705.40
Deposits		62.22
Interest		3.55
Disbursements		10,521.37
Ending Balance	\$	160,249.80

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	191,568.07
Deposits		62.22
Interest		4.07
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	191,634.36

*A Complete copy of the April 30, 2015 Report is on file with Clerk Rogers.

2014 Winter Taxes Township payoff funds have been received by the County and were deposited after April 30, 2015 and will appear on the May Treasurer's report.

*CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Rogers provided a report for the May 5, 2015 Election. 310 Total voters participated in the election. The total cost to the Township was \$1,145.40. The General Fund Millage request failed 107 Yes votes/ 201 No votes.

Preparation for the Audit with Anderson, Tackman and Company, the week of May 25th, and FOIA Compliance effective July 1, 2015, will be on the "to do" list for the balance of May.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Balmes updated the Board regarding the Appeals Court Hearing date, dock installation, and meetings with Charlie Marsh with the US Forest Service and Bob Lindbeck with the Alger County Road Commission. Dust control application is scheduled for May 20th and 21st and the Spring Clean up is scheduled for May 30th.

***TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

Trustee Doucette noted that she attended the Great Lakes Water Safety Conference in Gaylord on May 6th and provided information to the Board. It was a very informative conference and Trustee Doucette will continue to update the Board regarding the procedures, updates and the passing of Senate Bill 265.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Au Train River Joint Permit Status - No update.

Christmas Welcome Signs - Clerk Rogers noted that invoice for the project was submitted to the Board for consideration. The Board previously agreed to fund a portion of the total project.

***NEW BUSINESS**

Freedom of Information Act 2014 PA563 - Clerk Rogers presented preliminary information to the Board regarding the requirements to be in compliance of the Act, effective July 1st. Materials were presented for review by members to act upon at the June Regular Board Meeting.

Review - Handyman Duties/Salary - Clerk Rogers noted that communication regarding duties and projects for the handyman position need to be addressed. In addition, a salary adjustment should be considered for the additional duties related to the Heritage Trail Project. MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Treasurer Clapp, that effective May 1, 2015, the salary for Handyman Duties, currently held by Jeff Moore, be increased to \$550.00 per month due to the increased responsibilities related to the Trailhead Project. BALMES, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED. Supervisor Balmes will be the direct supervisor for the handyman position.

Audit - Clerk Rogers noted that Anderson, Tackman and Company have scheduled the off year audit for the Township, beginning the week of May 25th. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to contract with Anderson, Tackman and Company to complete the off year audit and F65 report for the Fiscal Year 2014/2015. MOTION CARRIED.

Lawn Mover Bid - Clerk Rogers noted that one bid for the sale of the old riding lawn mower was received. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota to accept the bid in the amount of \$206.50 from Craig Anderson for the purchase of the old riding lawn mower. MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence - Supervisor Balmes presented correspondence to the Board from Robert and Ruth Nichols who asked to be included in the Dust Control Application.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 9:05 pm. Chris Latvala requested that the Board create a specific location for the dumping of yard waste within the Township.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Balmes, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:16 pm.

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