

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
November 9, 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; Michelle Doucette, Trustee and Kristy Cota, Trustee.

*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 4 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 Supervisor Balmes, to approve the Agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

***MINUTES**

MOTION by Trustee Doucette, second by Clerk Rogers, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

***BILLS AND CLAIMS**

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Doucette, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. ROGERS, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #14984 through #15029- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7554 through #7570- Garbage Fund Checks Numbered #1581.

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Charles Mannisto, Assistant to Assessor Maki presented information to the Board regarding a preliminary proposal to provide GIS Mapping Services for the Township. Mr. Mannisto is a Level II Michigan Certified Assessor and a Level III Surveyor Technician. Services would include a base map and individual section maps for the Township, which has 168 sections. He will get back to the Board on anticipated costs of the project, and anticipated that it would take approximately 1 year to complete.

***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 Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2015. Supervisor Balmes noted that the Zoning Board of Appeals met for their organizational meeting. They plan to meet again to complete their by-laws.

Assessor - Assessor Maki noted that they have had no response yet on the State Review.

Cemetery - Sexton Moore noted that he will complete the shutdown of the cemetery after Veteran's Day on November 11, 2015.

Recreation - Jeff Moore noted that the shutdown of the Heritage Center for the winter is complete.

Trustee Doucette provided information to the Board on recent events of the Alger Parks and Recreation Department.

Community Building/Promotion - No report

First Responders – Treasurer Clapp noted that there were two calls this past month. She also noted that her current License expires in March 2016 and that she will not be renewing it. Hopefully the Alger County Sheriff's Department will be holding training courses for persons interested in becoming licensed.

Fire Department – No department report this month. An update on the Christmas Storage Building project was provided. Chief King noted that the Rescue Rig is being signed at Signs Unlimited this week. Costs will be within the \$250 spending limit.

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 7:16 pm - No public comment

*TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of October 31, 2015, as presented by Ann Clapp, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 66,347.64 |
| Deposits | | 23,540.40 |
| Interest | | 0.78 |
| Disbursements | | 17,273.35 |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 72,615.27 |

FIRE FUND CHECKING

| | | |
|-------------------|----|------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 214,316.79 |
| Deposits | | 92.35 |
| Interest | | 2.58 |
| Disbursements | | 28,114.17 |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 186,297.55 |

| | | |
|------------------------|----|-----------|
| Certificate of Deposit | \$ | 50,224.72 |
|------------------------|----|-----------|

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

| | | |
|-------------------|----|------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 123,717.84 |
| Deposits | | |
| Interest | | 1.52 |
| Disbursements | | 10,701.37 |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 113,017.99 |

ROAD FUND CHECKING

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 95,040.31 |
| Deposits | | |
| Interest | | 1.21 |
| Disbursements | | |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 95,041.52 |

*A Complete copy of the October 31, 2015 Report is on file with Clerk Rogers.

Treasurer CLapp noted that a \$3,500.00 payment from the Sault Saint Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has been received for gaming revenue and deposited into the General Fund Account.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers provided a report to the Board regarding the November 3, 2015 Election. No voters from the Superior Central School District voted. The school district will be billed for the actual costs. Clerk Rogers also noted that she was informed by the County Clerk that the Township was randomly chosen to be audited by the State for Election Management Performance.

A HD TV was purchased for the Community Building for \$230.00. In addition, a phone call was received from Sheriff Hughes regarding the discussion last month and Grand Island and he asked that the Board Members contact his cell phone direct with any problems rather than bringing them to the public during a Township Board Meeting.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Balmes updated the Board on recent meetings attended. He also noted that Heritage Trail Center dock was secured and disassembled. Supervisor Balmes noted that Adam Carpenter, with the burned out blight house in Christmas, was not yet served by the Sheriff the citation prepared by Attorney Murphy.

Further discussion regarding the Fire Department storage building in Christmas was made including possible concerns about the rear elevation and future water problems, and some minor construction issues.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - None

upon arrival of Commissioner Jerry Doucette;

County Commissioner Report - Commissioner Doucette was present to update the Board on activities over the past month. They are now anticipating a May 2016 start date for the jail expansion project. Additional concerns over the alleyway, costs and design have delayed the project.

The Commission is reviewing the Dog Control Ordinance. It was noted that it is a mandated duty of the Sheriff's Department to provide animal control within the county.

The Commission is still waiting for a response from the State regarding the \$103,000 per year Bond Payment they committed to relating to the DHS department and their previous location within the court house. Additional discussion regarding the Budget Review, Building Facilities, Federal Parks within the County and the expansion of Recreation areas was made.

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS

River Dredging Maintenance Project - Supervisor Balmes noted that correspondence from the Kristi Wilson of the State DEQ regarding the river dredging maintenance project has been received. They authorized revision to the Permit 15-02-0001P allowing the work as requested. Supervisor Balmes received an estimate from Oberstar for \$3,000, but noted that it could go as high as \$5,000. They would charge an hourly rate of \$180, so it depends on how long it takes to get the work completed.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Treasurer Clapp, to contract with Oberstar to do the River Dredging Maintenance Project, billed as an hourly rate of \$180.00 per hour, for approximately \$3,000.00 project cost, buy as high as \$5,000.00. Supervisor Balmes will contact the Army Corp of Engineers, the DEQ and MDOT prior to the work starting. ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Update Alger County Road Commission - Clerk Rogers provided a revised Improvement Schedule for 2015 through 2017. In addition, an agreement for the 2016 Ridge Road Project was provided to the Board for review.

MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Trustee Cota, to enter into an Agreement with the Alger County Road Commission to provide improvements on Ridge Road, at a total Township obligation of \$10,000. BALMES, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

CUPPAD County Hazard Mitigation Plan - Clerk Rogers noted that the plan was provided to Board members last month for review and approval consideration.

**ADOPTION OF THE ALGER COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-006**

WHEREAS, hazard mitigation is defined as any action taken before, during, or after a disaster or emergency to permanently eliminate or reduce the long-term risk to human life and property from natural and technological hazards; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government, the State of Michigan, Alger County and the **Township of Au Train** all recognize the importance of preventing or lessening the damage and impact of disasters and emergencies through hazard mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the **Township of Au Train** has a unique role to play in coordinating the hazard mitigation activities of federal and state and local governments by identifying local county hazards; and assisting in possible mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that technical experts from state and local government and private industry are brought together to foster and promote the implementation of hazard mitigation measures; and

WHEREAS, increased coordination can assist in lowering future disaster relief expenditures and increasing the level of public safety for the **Township of Au Train**; and

WHEREAS, the **Township of Au Train** may from time to time solicit, review and identify hazard mitigation projects for funding consideration under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance, as amended), the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (Section 203 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5155), the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (Section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended), the Severe Repetitive Loss Program (Section 1361A of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended) and the Repetitive Flood Claims Program (Section 1361A of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the **Township of Au Train** adopts the 2015 Alger County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

This Resolution offered by Board member: BALMES
Supported by Board member: COTA

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted
Aye: BALMES, COTA, ROGERS, CLAPP, DOUCETTE.
No: NONE

The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

Signed: Mary F Rogers, Au Train Township Clerk

*NEW BUSINESS -

Correspondence - Clerk Rogers provided correspondence received over the past month to the Board for review.

16 Mile Lake Fire Hall Plowing - Clerk Rogers noted that she failed to publish a bid request prior to the Board Meeting for plowing at the 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall, but it will appear this week and any bids can be addressed at the December meeting. Chief King noted that any need for plowing in the meantime will be taken care of.

Friends of Valley Spur Funding Request - Clerk Rogers presented a funding request from the Friends of Valley Spur. No Board Action.

Blight Complaint - Clerk Rogers noted that she received a blight complaint on the Harbor View Drive gravel pit. Supervisor Balmes noted that he reviewed the site and there are concerns and violations. He will continue investigating and report back to the Board.

Bid GIS Mapping Services - Coleman Engineering - Clerk Rogers presented a bid received from Coleman Engineering regarding GIS Services - it will be considered for future reference. No Board Action.

Zoning Compliance Request - Clerk Rogers presented correspondence from William Atherton asking the Zoning Administrator request a Zoning Compliance Application for Jennifer Carlson and a trailer park located in the Christmas area. Clerk Rogers will contact the Zoning Administrator and ask that a request be sent, also noting that a copy of the State License to operate a trailer park be included.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:35 pm. No Comments

*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Trustee Cota, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:37 pm.

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