

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
September 14, 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 Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

***BILLS AND CLAIMS**

MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Treasurer Clapp, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. BALMES, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; COTA YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #14959 through #14983- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7516 through #7535- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #1576 and Road Fund Check Numbered #1538.

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Amber Denman, Paramedic and Fire Fighter in Alger County, made a presentation to the Board regarding the need for a babysitter training course. She would like to offer the class locally, which would also include CPR and First Aide training. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to authorize up to \$1,000 from the Fire Fund Account, to provide the training and materials for the Safe Sitter Course to be offered locally at minimal cost to participants. ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Rogers noted that the Zoning Administrators Report has been received and is on file. Zoning Administrator Rogers noted that he received a Zoning Compliance Application from Mike Reynolds, who operates a canoe/kayak business on Forest Lake Road. In addition, complaints about the congestion on North Shore Road and Au Train Forest Lake Road were received.

Trustee Doucette noted that the Planning Commission had a work session on September 10th to review Wind Turbines. They met with CUPPAD and discussed the possibility of an ordinance. Discussion about the feasibility of a Countywide Ordinance was made as well.

Supervisor Balmes noted that the Zoning Board of Appeals will be holding an Organizational Meeting on Wednesday, October 28th at 7:00 pm.

Assessor - Clerk Rogers noted that Assessor computer and printer, along with the BSA software has been purchased.

Cemetery - Treasurer Clapp noted that two additional lots have been sold.

Recreation - The ballfield was not used as requested last month by Greg Pond.

Trustee Doucette updated the Board on recent happenings with the APRD. The building is completely filled with the State of Michigan DHS being a new tenant. Information on Fall programming and Head Start was also presented to the Board.

Au Train River/Lakeshore Committee - No report

Community Building/Promotion - Jeff noted that he is working on fall clean-up around the building and plans to get the small storage building exterior painted this month.

First Responders – Treasurer Clapp noted that there were 3 runs this past month.

Fire Department – The Department report has been received and is on file. Chief King noted there were 3 calls for the month of August. Construction has started on the Christmas Storage Building. The DOT's are due for the trucks this month at an estimated cost of \$3,000. There will be a fire fighters training session held at the Au Train Township Hall on September 21, 2015.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to authorize up to \$3,000 for the MDOT certifications on the Fire Trucks. ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

County Commissioner Report - Commissioner Doucette updated the Board on current happenings of the Alger County Board of Commissioners. Discussion regarding Fire Works within the Township was made and the lack of cooperation from the Alger County Sheriff Department. Mr. Doucette noted that they have zero funds for Road Patrol and limited staffing. Information was provided regarding Road Repair Funding and Big Box Stores and the issue surrounding the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

The jail project is underway after an issue related to City Zoning was resolved. The County does not have to comply with City Zoning. The County has taken over the Forest Service Property - Hanley Field.

In addition, the budget process has started with many concerns over funding. The County's Fiscal Year starts January 1st.

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 7:28 pm - none

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

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	67,232.26
Deposits		17,796.57
Interest		0.81
Disbursements		10,676.60
Ending Balance	\$	74,353.04

FIRE FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	260,118.04
Deposits		2,325.84
Interest		3.20
Disbursements		15,379.26
Ending Balance	\$	247,067.82
Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,149.70
GARBAGE FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	142,043.71
Deposits		2,713.78
Interest		1.79
Disbursements		10,521.37
Ending Balance	\$	134,237.61
ROAD FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	218,993.75
Deposits		1,550.56
Interest		2.79
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	220,547.10

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

Clerk Rogers provided copies to the Board of all the Budget Amendments made last month.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers noted that a thank you card was received from Sue Castiglione. In addition, the Election Commission will need to meet on October 12, 2015 at 6:15 pm to make appointments of Election Inspections for the November 5, 2015 election.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Balmes updated the Board on recent meetings attended. An update regarding the progress on the blighted burned out house in Christmas was provided. He will be meeting with Attorney Murphy on September 21st to begin the process of criminal prosecution.

MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Treasurer Clapp, to authorize Supervisor Balmes to proceed with and spend the funds necessary for the Criminal Prosecution through Attorney Greg Murphy to get the burned out home in Christmas cleaned up. MOTION CARRIED.

Information was provided regarding the sand build up issue at Au Train River Beach boardwalks. MDOT has a new representative in Escanaba. Supervisor Balmes noted that it is a safety hazard. The dock at the Heritage Trail Center is slated to be removed October 1st through the 15th.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - None

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Supervisor Balmes presented information to the Board on the Routine Maintenance Permit for the River Dredging. He needs a clarification from the State DNR to make sure the permit is for maintenance. He will also be calling Oberstar to get an estimate on costs for presentation at the October Board Meeting.

***NEW BUSINESS -**

Correspondence Michigan DNR - Open House at the Shingleton Forest Management Unit will be on October 1, 2015 from 4:00-7:00 pm.

Fall Clean-up Approval - Supervisor Balmes will be scheduling the Fall Clean-up for either October 3rd or October 10th and will let the Clerk know so she can prepare advertising. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota to authorize up to \$2,500.00 for the Fall Clean-up from the Garbage Fund Account, to be held in October on a date to be determined at the Wood Island Landfill. ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES; CLAPP, YES; BALMES; YES, DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Coleman Engineering Proposal - Clerk Rogers presented a quote from Coleman Engineering for mapping services. At this time their proposal was to digitize the existing maps (scan and create PDF's/Jpegs) for a cost of \$1,000. This type of project was previously approved. No Board action. Supervisor Balmes will contact them for clarification on what type of mapping services the Township needs.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:38 pm. Public Comments were received from Cindy Kustin.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Clerk Rogers, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:44 pm.

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