

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
August 8, 2016
6:00 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 6:00 p.m.

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

*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 7 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 Trustee Cota, second by Clerk Rogers, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

***MINUTES**

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2016 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; COTA, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #15247 through #15273- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7686 through #7698- Garbage Fund Checks Numbered #2000 and #2001).

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

None

***COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Zoning Administrator Jennifer Wagener presented her report to the Board, which was reviewed and discussed. A letter from Attorney Robb Ferguson was presented regarding the gun range matter. In addition, an email from Attorney Murphy was provided regarding the Petition to Rezone that was reviewed after its creation by Zoning Administrator Wagener.

Specific details of the report were provided, which followed discussion by the Board on the Sisco matter, and the Syers Shooting Range on Koski Road. Mrs. Syers presented information about the history of the shooting range and ownership over the years. It has been allowed to continue over many years. In addition correspondence from previous Zoning Administrator William Rantz was provided. The Township Board noted that the current Zoning Administrator will need to make an administrative decision based on the information provided. Any person who disagrees with that decision has the ability to appeal the matter to the Township Zoning Board of Appeals.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Planning Commission will be August 11, 2016 and the ZBA will be meeting on August 10, 2016.

Assessor - The Board of Review met in July to take care of matters. Information was provided regarding the possible County-wide GIS system. The County Board put out a bid request for mapping services and will provide the Township Board with more information as it becomes available.

Cemetery - Sexton Moore noted that there were no issues this past month. Clerk Rogers noted that the electric bill for the past month exceeded \$100 and asked that it be looked into.

Recreation - No report

Community Building/Promotion - Jeff Moore noted that there is an exhaust leak around the manifold on the pickup truck that needs to be repaired.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Balmes, to authorize up to \$500.00 for the repair of the pickup truck with Fox Motors in Negaunee. ROGERS, YES; BALMES, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Department – Chief Perry King presented his monthly report to the Board. There was one call this past month. A mock exercise was recently held at the Forest Lake Dam. The Gladstone Pumper was picked up. Funds will need to be approved to equip the pumper to get it Fire Ready.

MOTION by Supervisor Balmes, second by Treasurer Clapp, to authorize up to \$5,000 to purchase equipment necessary for the Gladstone Pumper to become fully operational. BALMES, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Chief King noted that he requested bids for the demo and removal of the old 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall from Oberstar and Gerou Excavating. He will authorize the lowest bid as directed by the insurance company.

Specifications of the replacement fire hall were discussed. Chief King noted that he met with department members to discuss and will modify the plans based on the original drawing for the Christmas Storage Building. Bid requests will be placed in the Munising News with bids due on September 12, 2016 at 5:00 pm. for consideration by the Board at its Regular September 12, 2016 Board Meeting.

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - Public Comments were received from John Carr.

*TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of July 31, 2016, as presented by Ann Clapp, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	101032.31
Deposits		7267.20
Interest		1.23
Disbursements		12121.04
Ending Balance	\$	96,170.71

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	307373.66
Deposits		
Interest		3.84
Disbursements		15739.19
Ending Balance	\$	291,478.31

Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,299.86
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GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	93376.43
Deposits		
Interest		1.19
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	93,377.62

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	217259.14
Deposits		
Interest		2.76
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	217,261.90

*A Complete copy of the July 31, 2016 Report is on file with Clerk Rogers.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers updated the Board on recent activities. She reported that 247 people voted in the August 2, 2016 Primary Election. Once again the General Fund Millage request failed to pass. Work with the auditor continues with a completion date expected by the end of August

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Balmes updated the Board on recent meetings attended. He also noted that he will be attending a Local Governmental Meeting on August 24th. Discussion regarding meetings with the ACRC, Guy Meadows of Michigan Tech University and review of a request for speed limit signs. Supervisor Balmes also noted that he spoke with Chocolay Township regarding their installation of Life Saving Stations at the MDOT Roadside Parks and their process of approval and placement. Supervisor Balmes continued by noting that he would be meeting with the Alger County Sheriff Department regarding the need for services in the Township and the funds that would be needed to allow that to happen. The need to patrol within the Township is from June 15th through Labor Day.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - No report

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

*NEW BUSINESS -

General Fund Millage Request - As previously noted by Clerk Rogers, the August 2nd proposal failed to pass receiving 89 yes votes, and 129 no votes.

After discussion, the following Resolution was offered:

AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MILLAGE BALLOT LANGUAGE

Au Train Township, Alger County
Resolution Number 16-005
August 8, 2016

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Au Train Township wishes to provide general services to the residents;
and

WHEREAS, townships may provide general services, as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963;
and

WHEREAS, townships may impose and levy ad valorem property taxes to finance lawful public services, as authorized by Article 9, Section 6, Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Au Train Township wishes to levy 1.0 mills, for Five (5) years to finance general operations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board of Au Train Township, Alger County, approves the following millage ballot question language and directs the Clerk to submit it to be placed on the November 8, 2016 General Election ballot:

PROPOSITION FOR AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP TO FUND GENERAL OPERATING SERVICES
TOWNSHIP OF AU TRAIN, COUNTY OF ALGER, MICHIGAN

"Shall Au Train Township levy annually, for the specific purpose of funding General Operating Services in Au Train Township, not more than 1 mill, (\$1 for every \$1,000 of taxable value. A property with a taxable value of \$75,000 would be taxed \$75.00 per year for the millage). Shall the limitation on the total amount of taxes which may be imposed on all taxable property within Au Train Township, be increased by said 1 mill, for a period of Five (5) years, 2016 to 2020, thereby raising an estimated \$69,982.00 in the first year the levy?"

The foregoing Resolution offered by Board Member: Clerk Rogers

Second offered by Board Member: Supervisor Balmes

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

"Aye": ROGERS, BALMES, COTA, CLAPP

"Nay": NONE

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted. Mary F Rogers
Mary F. Rogers, Au Train Township Clerk

*PUBLIC COMMENT - None

*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:57 pm.

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