

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting  
August 14, 2017  
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 Michelle Doucette, with the following members present: Mary Rogers, Clerk; Ann Clapp, Treasurer; Kristy Cota, Trustee and John Carr, Trustee.

A moment of silence was recognized in memory of Len Clapp, a Township Fire Department Member and spouse of Treasurer Ann Clapp.

\*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 Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Doucette, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

\*MINUTES

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

\*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Carr, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. ROGERS, YES; CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #15573 through #15602- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7889 through #7908- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2019 and Road Fund Check Numbered #1544).

\*SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

\*COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Rogers noted that the Zoning Administrators Report has been received from and is on file. Zoning Administrator Jennifer Wagener presented her report and it was reviewed and discussed by the Board.

A Conditional Use Permit Hearing is scheduled for August 24, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Uncle Ducky's is seeking a permit for a campground.

Discussion regarding the Superior Times Resort and Campground was made regarding the number of sites, DEQ permit requirements and the steps they need to comply with state guidelines. Zoning Administrator Wagener will be following up on the matter.

The Planning Commission held their meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup> and continue to review the Zoning Ordinance. Clerk Rogers noted the Planning Commission term dates. Members Scott LaCombe and Sarah Lindbeck terms expired 7/31/2017. Member Millard Fillmore's term is through 12/31/2019, Member Kim Rolfe's term is through 12/31/19 and Board Representative Member Kristy Cota is through 11/20/2020.

MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Supervisor Doucette, to reappoint Scott LaCombe and Sarah Lindbeck for terms that will expire on 7/31/2020. CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Assessor - Clerk Rogers noted that a report has been received from Assessor Maki. Discussion regarding the July Board of Review, minutes and pay to members was made.

Cemetery - Discussion regarding Veterans buried in the cemetery, grave digging for cremation burials and the related costs, and the need for a schematic of existing cemetery sites and burials within the old area was made. The cost for the burial of ashes for a cremation will be the \$75.00 administration fee.

Community Building/Promotion - No report

Fire Department – The Department recognized 41 year member Leonard E. Clapp and his recent passing. Supervisor Doucette suggested that the Au Train Hall be named honoring Len and his service. The Fire Department will discuss the recommendation at their next monthly meeting.

Dan Weathers presented the monthly report as Chief King and Assistant Chief Schierschmidt were both working. There were 2 calls the past month.

The skid unit was picked up and is in the truck. Discussion regarding additional funds needed to outfit the side by side were made. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Cota to authorize an additional \$1,500.00 to finish outfitting the side by side SXS. DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion regarding the recent Grand Island Marathon and volunteers Dan Weathers and Amber Denman Weathers was made. They were commended by the race coordinators for their assistance. Dan Weathers noted that the residents of Grand Island Township are pleased with the departments efforts to provide service on the Island.

Discussion completed with information provided about the No Parking Signs installation at the 16 Mile Lake and Christmas Fire Halls, completion of insurance claim purchases and it was noted that there are two new members of the Department with an additional person interested in joining as well.

County Update - County Board Chair Jerry Doucette presented information to the Board on recent happenings within the County. An emergency search and rescue event concluded this afternoon on Lake Superior as one victim was located. A MSHDA Grant was received for the demolition of the Long Branch Building in Mathias Township, The landfill will be open Saturdays from 8-12september 16<sup>th</sup>, October 21<sup>st</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup>. Schoolcraft County inmates are being housed in the Alger County Jail, which is a great cooperative situation, Steve Webber retired from the Alger County Sheriff, but will continue as Emergency Manager and as a part-time County Administrator.

Discussion concluded by noting that the County is looking for a part-time maintenance position.

\*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 7:09 pm - Comments were received from Greg Pond, who requested that the Township request a speed study for the corridor along State Highway M28 in Christmas, by Resolution. Concerns about the upcoming 65 mph speed zone and the starting point along the highway was behind the request. Mr. Pond requested a Resolution from the Township asking MDOT to consider a 50 mph zone be extended within the Village of Christmas area.

\*TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of July 31, 2017, as presented by Ann Clapp, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	104,392.80
Deposits		3,276.21
Interest		1.25
Disbursements		11,579.54
Ending Balance	\$	96,090.72
FIRE FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	216,065.11
Deposits		
Interest		2.42
Disbursements		36,428.44
Ending Balance	\$	181,819.09
Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,450.44
GARBAGE FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	31,549.00
Deposits		
Interest		.33
Disbursements		10,893.60
Ending Balance	\$	20,656.73
ROAD FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	208,451.51
Deposits		
Interest		2.63
Disbursements		3,895.55
Ending Balance	\$	204,558.59

\*A Complete copy of the July 31, 2017 Report is on file with Clerk Rogers.

After review and discussion, MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to borrow and transfer \$30,000 from the Fire Fund Account to the Garbage Fund Account. These funds will cover the shortage expected and will be replaced as funds become available in the Garbage Fund Account after the Winter Tax Collection. ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES; CLAPP, YES; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

\*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers updated the Board on the recent activities. She noted that the August Special Primary Election went well, with both the Garbage Fund (3 mills) and Road Fund (2 mills) millages being approved. There was low voter turnout, as expected. There will be a November Election as well, for the State Representative position and a school millage request for Munising Public Schools. Clerk Rogers also noted that the storage area was cleaned out recently with the help of Dan Weathers.

Clerk Rogers presented a membership request from CUPPAD for the 2018 Fiscal Year.

MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the membership with CUPPAD for the 2018 Fiscal Year, at a yearly cost of \$228.00. DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; CARR, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

\*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent meetings attended and activities for the past month. Concerns about sewage disposal with a long term camper, Paradise Point concerns regarding litter in the area and other complaints received over the past month. Supervisor Doucette also noted that Slowfoot Bridge is being worked on to grant access again to residents.

\*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Cota noted that she recently attended the Planning Commission meeting. Trustee Carr noted that he attended the Planning Commission Meeting, the Fire Department meeting and assisted with placement of the skid unit.

\*UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Elm Street Abandonment/Quiet Title - Clerk Rogers presented correspondence from Attorney Greg Murphy regarding the process of obtaining a Quiet Title for the roadways within the Plat of Au Train and the estimated cost. Mr. Sanderson and Mr. L'Huillier requested that the Township abandon the roadway (Elm Street) located between their blocks.

Kleeman Update - Supervisor Doucette noted that the Kleeman Hearing was Quashed. The Ordinance Enforcement Officer Ordinance specifically called for a Resolution appointing who had the authority to enforce the ordinance and issue civil infractions. That was not done in 2001. Because of that technicality, it was recommended by Attorney Greg Murphy to quash the hearing and take care of the Resolution.

\*NEW BUSINESS

Blight Ordinance Review - Review and corrections were made to the Blight Ordinance as discussed at the July meeting, and confirmed with agreement on the Enforcement and Penalties. The Ordinance will take effect on September 22, 2017, with Publication being planned for August 23, 2017.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Treasurer Clapp, to approve the Blight Ordinance as amended. ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION DECLARED PASSED BY THE AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR.

Enforcement Officer Resolution -  
Au Train Township Board  
Enforcement Officer Resolution No. 2017 - 010  
August 14, 2017

WHEREAS, the Au Train Township Board is a General Law Township which has several Ordinances that have been adopted by the Board over the years;

WHEREAS, Enforcement of these Ordinances is vital to the success of the individual Ordinance;

WHEREAS, the specific appointment of Township Board Members and/or officials to investigate, serve notice, issue tickets, appear in court or other judicial proceedings, per the Adoption of the Au Train Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer Ordinance, Ordinance No. 01-1010 effective December 1, 2001, is necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Au Train Township Supervisor, Clerk, Zoning Administrator and Fire Chief are appointed as Enforcement Officers for the Township of Au Train and have the authority to serve in that capacity unless removed, by resolution, from said office.

The foregoing Resolution offered by Board Member: Trustee Carr

Second offered by Board Member: Supervisor Doucette

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

"Aye": Carr, Doucette, Rogers, Cota, Clapp

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Mary F. Rogers, Au Train Township Clerk

Heritage Trail Security Concerns - Discussion regarding vandalism at the Heritage Trail Center was made. Under the direction of Supervisor Doucette, the building will be locked up at night. Discussion about a dusk to dawn security light was made. Supervisor Doucette will obtain pricing for review at the September meeting.

Alger Delta Cooperative Election Association Franchise Ordinance - Clerk Rogers noted she discussed the Ordinance with Attorney Greg Murphy and also the representative for the Association. They both noted that an Ordinance is an acceptable way to grant the franchise. It does appear, however, that the current Ordinance, granted in 1998, was a 30 year approval. Clerk Rogers will confirm and the matter was tabled until the September Board Meeting.

Food Truck Ordinance - Discussion about the possible need of a Food Truck Ordinance was made. Being a stand alone ordinance versus as being part of the Zoning Ordinance is being considered. No Board action at this time. It will be a future Agenda item.

Financial Reports - Clerk Rogers distributed financial reports for all Funds for review.

\*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:46 pm. Comments were received from Donna Shields, Dan Weathers and Jerry Doucette.

\*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Supervisor Doucette, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:54 pm.

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