

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
June 12, 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.

*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 Trustee Cota, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

***MINUTES**

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Carr, to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

***BILLS AND CLAIMS**

MOTION by Trustee Cota, second by Clerk Rogers, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #15517 through #15545- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7860 through #7876- Garbage Fund Checks Numbered #2015 through #2017.

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

None

***COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Additional discussion was made regarding upcoming Conditional Use Hearings, chickens within the Township, and penalties and compliance.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission is August 10, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Assessor - Assessor Maki's report was received and on file. Discussion regarding platted roads within the Township was made. The Township could pursue a Quiet Title claim to take ownership. Assessor Maki does not recommend abandoning roads within a platted area. Clerk Rogers will discuss the matter with Attorney Murphy.

Cemetery - Supervisor Doucette noted that the cemetery grounds look very nice. Additional help to spruce up the place was provided by Len Clapp, Amber Denman Weathers and Perry King. It was recommended that they be compensated for their time.

MOTION by Trustee Cota, second by Trustee Carr, to compensate Len Clapp, Amber Denman Weathers and Perry King for their work on the cemetery. COTA, YES; CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Recreation - Clerk Rogers noted that we are in our last month of contract with the Alger Parks and Recreation Department. Supervisor Doucette stated that she was contacted by the Munising News to provide a comment on the Township's decision to pull out of the partnership.

Community Building/Promotion - Maintenance Worker Dan noted that the LED bulbs were installed.

Fire Department – Monthly report has been received and on file. There was 1 call this past month, a gas leak at a personal residence. Donations were accepted to purchase candy for the 4th of July parade.

Discussion about the need to replace 3-800 radios. MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Treasurer Clapp, to authorize the purchase of 3-800 radios at a cost of approximately \$3,000 a piece. CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Chief King noted that the brush truck purchase from Frei should be available for delivery the last week of June. Payment will be made upon receipt. Signs Unlimited will be doing the decal work and lights, sirens and the skid unit will be purchased from Pomasl. Members from the Department will plan on picking up the skid unit to avoid delivery costs.

Two members passed the Fire Fighter One course.

The Generators at the Christmas Storage Building and 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall need to be scheduled for reinstall. After review of cost estimates, MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to authorize the funds needed for the reinstall of the 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall Generator. ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; CARR, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Side by Side Purchase - Chief King presented three sealed bids for the purchase of a side by side unit to be staged at Grand Island. 1. Marquette Power Sports - \$33,731.54; 2. Renze Power Sports - \$32,237.38; 3. Riverside Auto - \$34,138.86. All included extended service and/or priority maintenance.

Chief King, Assistant Chief Schierschmidt and Captain Weathers department will review the bids and report back to the Board during New Business.

County Commission Update - No report

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 7:06 pm - Comments were received from Jake Miller regarding the Kleeman issue.

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

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	113,469.59
Deposits		9,422.78
Interest		1.40
Disbursements		19,243.56
Ending Balance	\$	103,650.21

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	261,109.82
Deposits		20,642.00
Interest		3.44
Disbursements		16,988.64
Ending Balance	\$	264,766.68

Certificate of Deposit \$ 50,450.44

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	48,167.59
Deposits		6,790.01
Interest		.62
Disbursements		10,893.60
Ending Balance	\$	44,064.63

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	213,381.03
Deposits		13,443.15
Interest		2.87
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	226,827.05

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

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers updated the Board on recent activities. The off year audit began today with Anderson, Tackman & Co. and will conclude by Wednesday or Thursday. Clerk Rogers reminded the Board members that this "mini audit" does not include a full report to the Board, but fund prep for the full audit next year and the completion of the F-65 report to the State of Michigan, due by September 1, 2017

Clerk Rogers also noted that preparations are underway for the August 8, 2017 Primary Election, which will include the Township millages and the primary for the State Representative seat, vacated by the sudden death of Representative Kivela.

Clerk Rogers noted that the Election Commission needs to meet. The meeting was scheduled for 5:30 on July 10th, just prior to the Regular Board Meeting.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Carr noted that he attended the Fire Department meeting on June 7th, visited the cemetery, Heritage Trail, CUP Hearings (Santi and Kleeman) and visited all three fire halls.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent meetings attended. She provided information to the Board regarding the Ed Smith Blight complaint at the Christmas Mall. An auction was scheduled and there is a pending sale. There was a new Blight Complaint at E5461 Liberty Street that involved the County Building Inspector. Joe Cilc visited the site, took photos and noted that it was condemned. Complaints at the Sisco property (blight and zoning) were investigated. In addition a Blight Complaint at the Nemier residence located at E7996 Pine Tree in Christmas was received and investigated.

The dust control application was completed. There was good coverage throughout the Township.

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Kleeman Violations - Supervisor Doucette provided information to the Board regarding the status of the Kleeman Noise Ordinance violations. A hearing date for the civil infraction has been rescheduled. He has received two noise ordinance citations. The Conditional Use Permit Hearing was adjourned without a decision by the Planning Commission. Supervisor Doucette and Zoning Administrator Wagener are going to meet with Attorney Murphy to discuss a plan of action, obtain an opinion on the defense presented at the CUP Hearing (Right to Forest Act) and where the Township Board and/or Planning Commission should go from here.

***NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance Review - Clerk Rogers presented information to the Board in relation to the Ordinance Review Plan, which will include the Noise Ordinance, the Blight Ordinance and the punitive portion of the Zoning Ordinance. At this time any recommendations regarding changes in the Zoning Ordinance need to originate from the Planning Commission. Clerk Rogers will prepare correspondence to the Planning Commission asking them to review the punitive portion of the Zoning Ordinance as soon as possible.

Review of the Blight Ordinance will be scheduled for the July Regular Board Meeting.

Michigan Townships Association Membership - Clerk Rogers presented correspondence and an invoice from the Michigan Townships Association regarding continuation of our membership.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to continue with membership with the Michigan Townships Association as they are a valuable resource to our Board. MOTION CARRIED.

Dykema Grant for Franchise Ordinance - Clerk Rogers presented information to the Board regarding a request from Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association for a Ordinance authorizing them a franchise to provide services in the Township. After discussion Board action was tabled until more information can be obtained regarding the need for a Ordinance rather than a Resolution and review by Attorney Murphy.

Fire Department Side by Side Purchase - After review of the 3 proposals for the purchase of a side by side for the Department by Fire Chief Perry, Assistant Fire Chief AJ Schierschmidt and Captain Dan Weathers, the following recommendation was presented to the Board. The following bid totals for the purchase are as follows, all include a service contract: Marquette Powersports \$32,432.54; Renze \$32,737.38 and Public Service \$34,138.86. Chief King recommends accepting the proposal from Marquette Powersports.

MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Treasurer Clapp, to authorize the purchase of a 2017 Polaris North Star Edition Side by Side from Marquette Powersports for \$32,432.54, which includes a 5-year service contract. CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; ROGERS, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Assessor - Assessor Maki arrived to provide further clarification on the platted subdivision issues and defined roads. When there is no clear title ownership, the roads go to the original heirs and assigns of the plat creators. In this case an option for Quiet Title is possible. Assessor Maki recommends that the township work on maintaining public ownership and keeping the roads open to the public.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:38 pm. Comments were received from Donna Shields.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:39 pm.

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