

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
September 11, 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 observed in honor of Patriot's Day, September 11th.

*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 Trustee Carr, second by Clerk Rogers, to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2017 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; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #15603 through #15626- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7909 through #7925- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2020.

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Jeff VanBremen and Deb Molitor of the Brownstone Inn were present to request access to water for their restaurant. Their previous supplier no longer wants to provide access. Their water is non-pliable. They have a 200 gallon tank and would need approximately 15 loads per year. They would pay for any costs related to making sure the infrastructure is in place to support the fill. They are currently paying \$25 per load. The Board requested they work with Trustee Carr and Dan Weathers to check out our system and report back to the Board in October.

***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.

The Conditional Use Permit for Uncle Ducky's campground was approved at the Hearing held on August 24, 2017. Additional information was provided regarding an update on the Superior Times Resort and Campground, Sisco, Food Trucks regulations, parking issues at Uncle Ducky's Christmas campground.

Zoning Administrator Wagener also noted that she prepared a Zoning Complaint form for review at the October Board Meeting.

The Planning Commission's next meeting is scheduled for November 9th.

Assessor - Discussion regarding the State of Michigan audit and letter of response for a plan and action to become compliant was made. Concern regarding lack of communication from Assessor Maki and the delayed response. The Board also noted they felt misled by the state and thought they were happy with the efforts of the Township. A formal response by Supervisor Doucette was sent overnight for delivery by the deadline of today, September 11, 2017.

Clerk Rogers noted that the Michigan Townships Association has an Assessor Administrative Review program available to assist Townships in preparing for the State Audit. Supervisor Doucette will contact them for additional information.

A monthly report is requested from Assessor Maki to keep the Board updated on all activities.

Cemetery - Discussion regarding a schematic of the old cemetery and burials was made. Supervisor Doucette will contact former Sexton Jeff Moore to see if he can assist with this process.

Community Building/Promotion - It was noted that an upcoming wedding reception will be held on September 23, 2017.

Fire Department – Chief King presented the monthly report to the Board. There were 4 calls the past month.

The State of Michigan is charging \$250 per radio for activation. Clerk Rogers will take care of paying the invoice. The signage and decals for the brush truck are complete. MDOT Certifications are coming up this month. The ladder testing will be held on September 20th, and pump testing on September 22nd. Discussion regarding a renaming and hall dedication for Leonard E Clapp was made.

Propane Prepurchase - Clerk Rogers presented information to the Board regarding the propane pre-purchase program through Superiorland Gas Co.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Doucette, to approve a pre-purchase of up to 100% of usage from the previous calendar year with Superiorland Gas Co., at \$1.44 per gallon (non-taxable). ROGERS, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CLAPP, YES; CARR, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion about plowing services for the 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall was made. Chief King will check with members in that area to see if they are willing to do that again this year.

County Update - County Board Chair Jerry Doucette presented information to the Board on recent happenings within the County. An \$100,000 award from USDA was received for the purchase of a new ambulance. The courthouse maintenance position is being posted. A \$40,000 grant was received for the establishment of a Drug Court. In addition information on a possible rail line study, the MSU Director position, court house security, indigent defense by November 20th is required, and looking for funding and grants to assist in Sheriff Department Road Patrol.

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 7:23 pm - Comments were received from Connie Moore.

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

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	96,090.72
Deposits		19,847.41
Interest		1.14
Disbursements		13,178.32
Ending Balance	\$	102,760.95

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	181,819.90
Deposits		3,436.79
Interest		2.22
Disbursements		28,275.90
Ending Balance	\$	156,982.20

Certificate of Deposit \$ 50,450.44

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	20,655.73
Deposits		988.92
Interest		.22
Disbursements		10,893.60
Ending Balance	\$	10,751.27

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	204,558.59
Deposits		1,957.56
Interest		2.38
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	58,518.53

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

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers updated the Board on the recent activities. She noted that she spoke with Attorney Murphy regarding writing a letter on behalf of the Board re: Quite Title and the request for the Board to abandon the road within the Plat of Au Train. He is willing to do so to put a formal end to the matter on behalf of the Township. The Election Commission will need to meet on October 9th at 5:30 for the November Election. Received the L4029 Tax Rate Request from the County Equalization Department and all funds were reviewed to prepare for Budget Amendments.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent meetings attended and activities for the past month. Information on AMCAB's Commodities Program and an agreement for being a distribution center was provided, worked on Noise Complaints for dog issues, spoke with Joe Cilc on issues related to the Zoning Ordinance and a Blight Complaint on Curtis Drive.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Cota noted that Tendercare is scheduling a Emergency Evacuation Action Plan with the County.

Trustee Carr noted that he attended the Uncle Ducky CUP Hearing, the Fire Department Meeting and visiting the fire halls, Township Hall and Heritage Trail over the past month.

In addition, Trustee Carr noted that he spoke with resident Donna Shields and visited the road behind the casino because 4 wheelers are tearing it up. The Alger County Road Commission has been contacted about the matter.

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Elm Street Abandonment/Quiet Title - Clerk Rogers noted Attorney Murphy will send correspondence to Mr. Sanderson and previous property owner Heather Davis regarding the roadways within the Plat of Au Train.

Great American Disposal Company (GAD) - Clerk Rogers noted that an increase from GAD for curbside collection will be effective November 1, 2017 at approximately 1.9%.

Update Au Train Township/Sliter vs. Seitz - It was noted, and documentation provided to Board members regarding the decision handed down from Judge Carmody regarding the matter. He ordered that the Protective Covenants for the area are still in effect. These covenants do not allow for weekly/vacation rentals. This doesn't necessarily affect the Township Board directly and is for information purposes.

*NEW BUSINESS

L-4029 Tax Rate Request - Review of the 2017 Winter Tax Rate Request from the County Equalization Department was made.

MOTION by Trustee Cota, second by Treasurer Clapp, to approve the collection of the following tax rates, as authorized, supporting the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget. General Fund - 0.7069; Road Fund - 2.0000; Fire Fund - 2.9697; Garbage Fund - 3.0000. COTA, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CARR, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Budget Amendments - Clerk Rogers presented budget amendments for the Garbage Fund and Road Fund, as required due to the millage approvals from the August Election.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Treasurer Clapp, to amend the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Garbage Fund Budget as discussed, and necessitated by the approval of the 3.0000 mills. ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES; CARR, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Cota, to amend the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Road Fund Budget, as discussed, and necessitated by the approval of the 2.0000 mills. DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; CARR, YES; ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Fall Clean Up - Supervisor Doucette noted that October 7th is available for the Fall clean up to be scheduled with Wood Island Landfill. MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota to authorize and fund the Fall Clean up from the Garbage Fund Account to be held at Waste Management Wood Island Landfill on October 7, 2017 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. MOTION CARRIED.

Spending Limit Policy Review - Clerk Rogers noted that the Spending Limit Policy should be reviewed and discussed. After debate and consideration, MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Supervisor Doucette, to increase the individual spending limit to \$500.00 per transaction for Board Members, Fire Chief or appointee, and maintenance personnel. A monthly expense report, with supporting documentation is required. MOTION CARRIED.

Noise Ordinance - After review and discussion of specific sections of the Au Train Township Noise Ordinance, the following changes are authorized.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP NOISE ORDINANCE DATED JULY 9, 2008, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 16, 2008, AS APPROVED BY THE AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD SEPTEMBER 11, 2017.

Section 1: Unlawful Noise Prohibited

- Add the following to d. Animal Noises -

"such as allowing or permitting any dog to bark repeatedly in an area where such barking can be clearly heard from nearby residential property."

Section 3: Enforcement and Penalties

- Change the following to B. -

"A person responsible for activity that violates Section 1 shall be guilty of a Civil Infraction. If the person responsible for any activity which violates Section 1 cannot be determined, the owner, lessee, or occupancy or operator of the property on which the activity is located shall be guilty of a Civil Infraction, as defined in revised Judicature Act of 1961 (Excerpt) of Act 236 of 1961, as amended, Section 113, MCL 600.113, punishable by civil fine according to the following schedule: First Offence, ~~\$50.00~~ \$100.00; Second Offence within one year, ~~\$100.00~~ \$250.00; Third and subsequent offences within one year, ~~\$150.00~~ \$500.00. For purposes of computing the one year period, time shall run from the date of the first offence."

Effective Date

These amendments to the ordinance shall take effect on October 11, 2017, Fourteen (14) days after the date of publication. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved by the Au Train Township Board at a Regular Board Meeting held on September 11, 2017.

Motion made for approval by: Clerk Rogers

Second: Trustee Carr

Ayes: Rogers, Carr, Doucette, Clapp, Cota

Nays: None

Motion declared passed by the Au Train Township Supervisor

By: Mary F Rogers
Mary F Rogers, Au Train Township Clerk

September 11, 2017
Date:

Appeared for publication on: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 In the Munising News.

Heritage Trail Security Light - Supervisor Doucette presented information to the Board from UPPCO regarding the installation and cost related to a security light at the Heritage Trail. The cost would be \$30.60 per month to add a light.

MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Carr, to authorize the installation, maintenance and monthly cost for the Security Light at the Heritage Trail Center through UPPCO. DOUCETTE, YES; CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES; ROGERS, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Alger-Delta Cooperative Electric Association Ordinance - Clerk Rogers presented the Franchise Ordinance for Alger Delta Cooperative Election Association for approval - Ordinance No. 2017-09-11

Approved by the Au Train Township Board at a Regular Board Meeting held on September 11, 2017 .

Motion made for approval by: Trustee Cota

Second: Supervisor Doucette

Ayes: Cota, Doucette, Clapp, Rogers, Carr

Nays: None

Motion declared passed by the Au Train Township Supervisor

By: Mary F Rogers
Mary F Rogers, Au Train Township Clerk

September 11, 2017
Date:

Appeared for publication on: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 In the Munising News.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - None

*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Trustee Cota, second by Clerk Rogers, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:07 pm.

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