

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting  
December 10, 2018  
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 Walther Johnson, Clerk; Kristy Cota, Treasurer; John Carr, Trustee and Jake Miller, Trustee.

\*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 8 persons attended the Board Meeting. A complete sign up sheet is on file with Clerk Johnson.

\*APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions and Changes to the Agenda were made as necessary. MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

\*MINUTES

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2018 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

\*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Treasurer Cota, second by Trustee Carr, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available, to include Board of Review December hours. COTA, YES; CARR, YES; JOHNSON, YES; MILLER, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16007 through #16037- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8156 through #8192- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2043).

\*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

•TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of November 30, 2018, as presented by Kristy Cota, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	116,344.76
Deposits		935.78
Interest		1.25
Disbursements		29,681.27
Checks Not Cleared		578.81
Ending Balance	\$	87,021.71

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	212,072.00
Deposits		
Interest		2.38
Disbursements		37,069.37
Checks Not Cleared		230.88
Ending Balance	\$	174,774.13

Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,601.50
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GARBAGE FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	69,353.72
Deposits		
Interest		.78
Disbursements		11,690.60
Ending Balance	\$	57,663.90
ROAD FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	200,048.37
Deposits		
Interest		2.43
Disbursements		91,000.00
Ending Balance	\$	109,050.80

\*A Complete copy of the November 30, 2018 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson.

Treasurer Cota noted that the Winter Tax bills have been mailed out. Clerk Johnson noted that she will be installing Quickbooks on the Treasurer computer as well to computerize Special Tax Account checks.

\*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson updated the Board on recent activities. The November Election Report was finalized and sent to the State. The Township was not randomly chosen for the Election Audit conducted by the County Clerk's office.

Year end reports, including W2's and 1099's will be started and prepared in January. As well as the Worker's Compensation audit report.

\*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Miller noted that he attended the recent Fire Department meeting, as well as worked with Ryan on the cemetery water issue. Trustee Carr noted that he attended the Fire Department meeting, contacted Trudell for the maintenance contract, worked on the cemetery issue and is investigating the security camera system and storage options.

\*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent meetings attended and contacts she had with residents over the past month. Supervisor Doucette noted that she sent in the paperwork to UPPCO to move the street light on Au Train Riverview, and that they will be providing a list of all street lights in the Township for review. She will be attending the December Board of Review meeting tomorrow, December 11<sup>th</sup>, and the Kleeman Civil Infraction Hearing on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

\*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Start 6:15 pm. Mr Rudy Kleeman presented information to Board members for review as it relates to his pending Zoning Violation Citation, which included a copy of a letter, and Board minutes. Each Board member took the time to read the letter. Clerk Johnson provided information regarding the policy of posting minutes on the website and noted it was a service to residents, not a requirement.

Daniel DeLisle, North Pole Christmas, LLC presented information to the Board and asked for approval of his application to the State for obtaining a liquor license. After review, discussion and questions, MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Johnson, to recommend to the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs - Liquor Control Commission, that the application from North Pole Christmas, LLC for a Class C, Sunday Sale Permit (am/pm), be considered for approval. DOUCETTE, YES; JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; MILLER, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

\*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 6:47. No Public Comments were received.

**\*COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Financial Reports - Clerk Johnson presented financial reports for the month of November, for all funds.

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Johnson updated the Board on recent Zoning Administrators activities and applications received. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for February 14, 2019. The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold an Organizational Meeting on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>.

Assessor - Assessor Cameron Fuess report was received and is on file. It was a busy month, but they now have the Township assessing database current and balancing with the county database. This is the first time ever that our data in the Township office has been current to State Equalization. The December Board of Review will be Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Clerk Johnson noted that a FOIA request was received from former Assessor Mark Maki. A copy was provided to Attorney Murphy and copies as requested are being prepared.

Maintenance Department - Ryan Walther was present to discuss recent activities from his department. The trailhead has been completely shutdown, the AED box and unit have been installed at the Community Building, and the power off at the cemetery.

Trustee Carr noted that the Community Building should be rekeyed and will check on pricing and options. In addition, a proposal from Trudell Plumbing and Heating was received for maintenance of the heating units in the Community Building and firehalls.

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to approve the proposal from Trudell Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$600.00 for maintenance of the heating units at the Community Building and Firehalls. JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion regarding the current camera system and it's 5 day storage option was made. Trustee Carr will investigate, with assistance from Angry PC, to look at expanding storage up to at least two weeks.

Treasurer Cota noted that she asked Ryan to paint the office at his convenience.

Community Building/Promotion - Treasurer Cota noted that there are two upcoming rentals in December. On the 16<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

Fire Department – Monthly report has been received and on file.

There was 1 call this past month. It was noted that there were 28 calls for 2018, with most calls being on Fridays.

Chief King requested the purchase of a pressure washer for the 16 Mile Lake Firehall. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to authorize up to \$750.00 for the purchase of a pressure washer for the 16 Mile Lake firehall. JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Chief King noted that he traveled to Pentwater, Michigan to purchase the new/used equipment from them. It has been put into service.

Discussion regarding the Rescue Rig and needed repairs was made. It is possible to put it out on for sale bids, and Chief King expects that it will be transferred to the Township from the Alger County Sheriff Department. Further information will be provided at the January Regular Board Meeting.

One bid was received for the 2007 Dodge Ram pickup truck offered for sale. Daniel Delisle bid \$8,199.99. There was a minimum bid of \$7,500.00 posted. MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Trustee Miller to accept the bid from Daniel Delisle for the 2007 Dodge Ram pickup truck with plow in the amount of \$8,199.99. CARR, YES; MILLER, YES; JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Chief King would like to have a Department/Township Board get together after the new year.

**\*UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Christmas Mall update - Supervisor Doucette updated Board members on the status of the Christmas Mall Blight complaint. Mr. Moorman, who is still waiting for ownership transfer, noted that he is not doing anymore improvements or cleanup until the transfer is complete. Supervisor Doucette noted that she will be sending correspondence noting they have until June 1, 2019 to clean up the exterior. Clerk Johnson noted that there could also be a Zoning Violation as he appears to be operating a "junk yard" which is not a permitted use.

Correspondence will be sent noting that a citation will be issued for violation of the Zoning Ordinance if the clean up is not complete by June 1, 2019.

Business License Ordinance - Discussion regarding the process of a Business License Ordinance was made. The process of drafting, fees, fines, enforcement etc would need to be worked out. It will remain an Agenda item as the Board navigates through the process.

**\*NEW BUSINESS**

Correspondence on file - Correspondence from Joe Cilc, Alger County Building Codes Administrator have been received and is on file. Letters to Mr. Moorman regarding the Christmas Mall and David DeLisle regarding alleged work at Santa's Workshop without permit were provided to the Board.

Board of Review Appointments - Supervisor Doucette noted that current members of the Board of Review would like to continue to serve. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Johnson, to appoint Judith Holloway, Lonny Church, and Millard Fillmore as members of the Board of Review, with Donna Shields serving as alternate. It would be a 2 Year Term, through December 31, 2020. MOTION CARRIED.

Planning Commission Member Appointment - Clerk Johnson noted that two letters of interest were received. Donna Shields and Matt Lang are both interested in serving. Both were given an opportunity to address the Board about themselves and their interest. After discussion, MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Clerk Johnson, to appointment Matt Lang to the Planning Commission effective January 1, 2019. MOTION CARRIED.

Zoning Administrator - A total of 8 applications for the vacant Zoning Administrators position were received. Several of the candidates have experience. After review of the applications and discussion, the following will be offered interviews. Kenneth Struble, Lauren Luce and Jason McCarthy. Interviews will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 pm.

2019 Meeting Dates - After review of the 2019 calender and discussion, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, except when it is a Federal Holiday, then the meeting will be held on the following Tuesday, starting at 6:00 pm. Budget Workshops and Special Meetings will be posted as needed. MOTION CARRIED.

Board Member Salaries - Discussion of Board Member salaries, including additional pay for the Treasurer for the Summer Tax Collection was made. It was the consensus that Board Members continue to take on more responsibilities.

Au Train Township Board - Resolution No. 2018-006

WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3), in a Township that does not hold an Annual Meeting, the salary for officers composing of the Township Board shall be determined by the Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Township Supervisor is warranted;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2019, the salary of the office of Township Supervisor shall be as follows:

An Annual Salary of \$14,400.00 - noting that the Supervisor does not perform assessing duties.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Board Member Carr, Supported by Board Member Cota.

Upon a Roll Call vote, the following voted:

Aye: CARR, COTA, DOUCETTE, MILLER, JOHNSON  
Nay: NONE

The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

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Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

Au Train Township Board - Resolution No. 2018-007

WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3), in a Township that does not hold an Annual Meeting, the salary for officers composing of the Township Board shall be determined by the Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Township Clerk is warranted;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2019, the salary of the office of Township Clerk shall be as follows:

An Annual Salary of \$14,400.00

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Board Member Cota, Supported by Board Member Miller.

Upon a Roll Call vote, the following voted:

Aye: COTA, MILLER, DOUCETTE, JOHNSON, CARR  
Nay: NONE

The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

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Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

Au Train Township Board - Resolution No. 2018-008

WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3), in a Township that does not hold an Annual Meeting, the salary for officers composing of the Township Board shall be determined by the Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Township Treasurer is warranted;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2019, the salary of the office of Township Treasurer shall be as follows:

An Annual Salary of \$14,400.00

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Board Member Johnson, Supported by Board Member Carr.

Upon a Roll Call vote, the following voted:

Aye: JOHNSON, CARR, COTA, MILLER, DOUCETTE  
Nay: NONE

The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

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Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

Au Train Township Board - Resolution No. 2018-009

WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3), in a Township that does not hold an Annual Meeting, the salary for officers composing of the Township Board shall be determined by the Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Township Trustee is warranted;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2019, the salary of the office of Township Trustee shall be as follows:

An Annual Salary of \$3,900.00

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Board Member Cota, Supported by Board Member Doucette.

Upon a Roll Call vote, the following voted:

Aye: COTA, DOUCETTE, JOHNSON, CARR, MILLER  
Nay: NONE

The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

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Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

Marihuana Sales within the Township - Discussion regarding the Township's position regarding opting in or out allowing the establishment of businesses within the Township to sell Marijuana. Clerk Johnson noted that the Proposal not only passed Statewide, but within the Township as well. Should the Board opt out and not allow the establishment and sales, they would be going against the vote of it's residents. Much more information will be obtained and reviewed prior to the Township making a decision on the matter.

\*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:28 pm. Comments were received from Ryan Walther, Matt Lang, Donna Shields, Jake Miller and Tom Moorman.

\*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Cota, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:34 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk