

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
January 8, 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 Rogers, Clerk; Ann Clapp, Treasurer; Kristy Cota, Trustee and John Carr, Trustee.

*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 6 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 Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

***MINUTES**

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Doucette, to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2017 Special Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Cota, to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2018 Special Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

***BILLS AND CLAIMS**

MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Doucette, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. ROGERS, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; CARR, YES; CLAPP, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #15716 through #15739- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #7995 through #8006- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2027).

***BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -**

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

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	76,922.45
Deposits		87,392.56
Interest		1.07
Disbursements		60,732.84
Ending Balance	\$	103,583.24

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	72,022.44
Deposits		72,389.80
Interest		1.27
Disbursements		9,435.28
Ending Balance	\$	134,978.13

Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,525.92
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GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	7,439.33
Deposits		72,902.41
Interest		.41
Disbursements		10,893.60
Ending Balance	\$	69,448.55

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	58,903.98
Deposits		48,601.12
Interest		1.01
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	107,506.11

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

Treasurer Clapp noted that there have been 3 Winter Tax Dispersals.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers updated the Board on the recent activities, which include preparation of W2's and 1099's, transferring files to the new computer and the start of budget prep.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing Assessor issues, Small Claims Court (Kleeman) matter, and investigating claims of snowmobiles in the cemetery. Supervisor Doucette also noted that she attended the recent Regional Government meeting in Grand Marais. The next meeting will be held in March.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - None

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 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.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2018.

Assessor - Assessor Maki should be arriving 7-7:30 to address the Board.

Cemetery - No report

Community Building/Promotion - No report

Fire Department – Monthly report has been received and on file. No members of the Fire Department were present. It was noted that no one has stepped forward indicating interest in being appointed Fire Chief, besides current Chief Perry King.

MOTION Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Carr, to appoint Perry King as Fire Chief for 2018.
MOTION CARRIED.

County Commission Update - Jerry Doucette was present and updated the Board on recent activities of the Alger County Board. Updates on legislative actions, including a 911 Update Bill, Right of Way Bill, and House Bill 4503 - which would take control of Short Term Rentals from Townships and allow them anywhere within the State, were also discussed.

The County Budget has passed and looks good at this time. The Indigent Defense Program, which the County is required to implement, is still being discussed. Mr. Doucette also noted that a DNR Grant Writing Expo will be held at the 387 Restaurant on January 24, 2018.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS -**

Street Light - Supervisor Doucette noted that she spoke with UPPCO about the installation request for a Street Light at State Highway M28 and Harbor View Drive. UPPCO will be taking care of any necessary permits from MDOT. Supervisor Doucette will follow up on the matter and oversee the installation.

Kleeman Small Claims Action - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on the Kleeman Small Claims matter and noted that after speaking with Attorney Murphy, he will file a Demand to Remove the case from Small Claims over to District Court.

After additional information and discussion, MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Rogers, to ask Attorney Murphy to Counter Sue Rudolph Kleeman for violation of the Zoning Ordinance as it relates to his activities on Au Train Forest Lake Road, and include attorney fees and costs, if allowable. DOUCETTE, YES; ROGERS, YES; CLAPP, YES; COTA, YES; CARR, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

***NEW BUSINESS**

Financial Reports Review - Clerk Rogers presented reports for the General Fund and Fire Fund account for review.

Correspondence - Clerk Rogers presented correspondence from Charter Communications noting a cost increase to subscribers.

Vacation Rentals Registration Fee - Preliminary discussion regarding the possibility of implementing a Registration and Administration Fee for all Vacation Rentals within the Township was made. The funds could be used for administration, law enforcement and recreation. Discussion about the application process, a program to develop a list and who would be responsible for the billing and collection was made. Also possible yearly fees were also discussed.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 7:03 pm. Public comments were received from Chris Latvala regarding the closure of the Au Train Boat Launch because of the storm damage. It is currently managed by USFS. Jerry Doucette noted that there are discussions about the Department of Natural Resources taking over the Lake Superior access point located in Onota Township. Also, wondered what purpose the gate blocking access during the winter at the Au Train River turn around served.

Comments were also received from Donna Shields.

Assessor - Assessor Maki arrived at 7:40 pm. Discussion regarding the State of Michigan State Tax Commission Audit and correspondence was made. The State had issues with the AMAR study, land value maps and requested information on what corrective action was being taken. The minutes of all Board of Review meetings, petitions and affidavits must be provided to the Township Clerk for filing. Supervisor Doucette noted that CUPPAD expects to have the Township maps in the hands of Assessor Maki by February 1st and Land Values need to be completed by February 14th. Assessor Maki is required to participate in AMAR training and will be in contact with them on the status of action items. Supervisor Doucette will be working closely with Assessor Maki to make sure the Township is in compliance.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Treasurer Clapp, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:15 pm.

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