

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
April 8, 2019
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 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 Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

*MINUTES

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16116 through #16126- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8216 through #8239 - Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2048).

*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

•TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of March 31, 2019, as presented by Kristy Cota, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	141,320.18
Deposits		13,981.67
Interest		127.46
Disbursements		13,439.63
Ending Balance	\$	141,989.68

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	305,457.76
Deposits		52,819.77
Interest		309.89
Disbursements		3,889.02
Checks Not Cleared		2,519.08
Ending Balance	\$	352,179.32

Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,677.20
------------------------	----	-----------

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	175,949.26
Deposits		44,838.62
Interest		187.29
Disbursements		11,442.40
Ending Balance	\$	209,532.77

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	209,705.70
Deposits		29,892.30
Interest		210.33
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	239,808.23

*A Complete copy of the March 31, 2019 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson.

Treasurer Cota noted that the Winter Tax Collection balanced with the County Treasurer. The Quarterly Water Samples were sent in and the results were negative detection. The Grand Island Township Fire Millage was received and work on the Personal Property Tax Collection continues.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson updated the Board on recent activities. She noted that she worked on Budget Prep, New Voter Registration, will be scheduling the Audit with Anderson, Tackman and Company and is working on office organization. In addition, Continuing Education with the state continues as required to maintain Clerk Certification.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Miller noted that he is continuing with the Fire Fighter training.

Trustee Carr noted that he is working on the Street Light survey and will report to the Board in May. He attended the April Fire Department meeting and met with Trudell Plumbing and Heating for the maintenance on the furnaces at the Fire Halls and Township Hall.

*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 turned over the Moorman - Christmas Mall Blight to the Zoning Administrator. She also noted that she spoke with Bob Lindbeck at the Alger County Road Commission to update him on funds available for 2019 Road Projects. Bob indicated that their budget is set and would plan on reviewing those funds for 2020 projects. Discussion regarding the status of Au Train Forest Lake Road repairs was made. Supervisor Doucette will check on the status of that project, which is being funded through the Federal Government. Contact from the DNR was made regarding insurance coverage for the Heritage Trail Center. Michelle will contact Hanuala Agency and make sure that is taken care of.

The Alger County Sheriff Department Year End Report was received regarding calls. Discussion about the number of snowmobile accidents and incidents was made. The Alger Conservation District requested a letter of support for a grant application from the Township. Follow up was made with CUPPAD regarding their ability to assist us with Zoning Ordinance Revisions, Master Plan updates and Recreation Plan updates. They are able to assist us as requested.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - 6:23 pm - None

*COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Reports - Clerk Rogers presented March 2019 reports for all funds. She noted that the new payroll is effective with the May 1, 2019 paycheck. She also noted she is working on the Direct Deposit option through Quickbooks.

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Johnson noted that the Zoning Administrators Report has been received and is on file. The signs that were up at Mr. Kleeman's property, noting his displeasure with the Board and specific members, have been removed. Other contacts with the public and receipt of applications for Zoning Compliance and Conditional Use Permits were outlined. In addition, Mr. McCarthy also noted that he has begun reviewing history of property maintenance issues in preparation for blight/property maintenance enforcement and began reviewing proposed zoning ordinance definitions for the Zoning Ordinance update. The Public Hearing for the two Conditional Use Permit requests is scheduled for April 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

The Planning Commission had their rescheduled meeting on March 28th. The officers for the upcoming year are Scott LaCombe, Chair; Duke Fillmore, Vice Chair; and Kim Rolfe, Secretary. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for May 9th at 7:00 pm.

Assessor - The Assessor's Report has been received and is on file. They just finished wrapping up a busy 3 months. The AMAR review will be sometime this summer and they are currently preparing for that. Correspondence from the Department of Treasury, requesting the upload of the Final Archived 2019 Data Base for review prior to the audit, has been completed by the April 1, 2019 deadline.

Assessor Fuess also noted that he made contact with BSA regarding online assessing data being made available and expects a contract and pricing information soon. Discussion regarding KCI pricing for the printing of summer tax bills was made. Treasurer Cota noted that she preferred that method for the upcoming tax collection. Discussion regarding UP Hydro and their process of preparing parcels for sale was made. Assessor Fuess is working with Zoning Administrator McCarthy on parcel division applications.

Maintenance Department - Ryan was present to update the Board on recent activities. The plow was removed from the truck. Spring Maintenance for the Heritage Trail Center has begun. Two sections of fencing need to be repaired and the one bench that was damaged needs to be replaced. It was suggested that the replacement bench have the option of being put into winter storage. Also, the painting in the Clerk/Treasurer office was completed. There will need to be some siding repairs on the Community Building.

Lawnmower quotes will be presented at the May Board Meeting. They will be in the \$6,000 to \$7,000 range.

Community Building/Promotion - Treasurer Cota noted that there are several upcoming rentals at the Community Building.

Fire Department – The Fire Department report has been received and is on file. There was one call for the month, mutual aid with Onota Township. The DOT inspections are complete. They will be purchasing some new hose and reels for the halls. Community Service workers helped wash trucks and clean the Au Train Fire Hall. They will be working on the other halls for their next work session.

FINAL BUDGET APPROVAL

Clerk Johnson presented the updated Budgets for all accounts, as amended, to reflect actual fund balances as of March 31, 2019.

MOTION BY Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr to approve the Final Budgets for all funds, as amended to reflect actual Fund Balances as of March 31, 2019. JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kleeman Update - Supervisor Doucette noted that the Notice of Appeal on the Kleeman matter was received. Attorney Murphy is working on the Township Response and Statement of Facts. The Hearing is scheduled for May 22, 2019.

Correspondence - Clerk Rogers presented a copy of the response to Joe Cilc of the Alger County Building Department regarding inspections of vacation rental properties in the Township.

Business License/Rental Registration Ordinance - Discussion continued regarding the need for a Business License or Rental Registration process in the Township. The first step would be developing a list of rentals within the Township and then schedule a special meeting to develop a plan. The determination of rentals in the Township would make sure they are being assessed correctly and provide the Township with contact information.

NEW BUSINESS

Tri County Volunteer Fire Department - The Tri County Volunteer Fire Department requested a contract for services from the Township. Because Fire Chief King was not present, there was no board action.

CUPPAD - Supervisor Doucette noted that she is the Township Representative with CUPPAD.

Spring Cleanup - MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota to approve and pay for associated costs to offer a Spring Cleanup on May 18th from 9:00-12:00 with Great American Disposal at the Wetmore Transfer Station. JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; CARR, YES; MILLER, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Community Building Rental Agreement - Treasurer Cota presented an updated Community Building Rental Agreement for review and approval. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, supported by Trustee Carr, to approve the Community Building Rental Agreement as updated. MOTION CARRIED.

US Census Designation - The US Census Bureau requested the possible designation of the Christmas Location for separate data to be collected in the area for future economic development. It was determined that authorizing this would be no benefit to the Township or our Residents.

County Property Tax Sale - Supervisor Doucette presented correspondence from the Alger County Treasurer listing properties available in the Township through the Alger County Tax Sale. Any acquisition by the Township would require that the property be developed for public use. No Board Action.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - Pat Sanderson offered comments on zoning, rental registration requirements and also noted that the US Census Bureau is looking for 2020 Canvassers for Alger County. Chris Latvala asked about the bulletin board at the post office (owned by Peoples State Bank) and whether the rescue/life saving equipment was going to be placed at the beach this summer.

*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:19 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk