

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting  
August 12, 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 Johnson, Clerk; John Carr, Trustee and Jake Miller, Trustee. Absent: Kristy Cota, Treasurer.

\*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 Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Johnson, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

\*MINUTES

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Supervisor Doucette, to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

\*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Clerk Johnson, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. CARR, YES; JOHNSON, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16181 through #16196- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8267 through #8278- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2053).

\*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

- TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of July 31, 2019.

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	118,354.19
Deposits		8,595.08
Interest		106.56
Disbursements		12,145.86
Total Checks Not Cleared		
Ending Balance	\$	114,909.97

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	360,717.75
Deposits		
Interest		320.20
Disbursements		3,452.81
Total Checks Not Cleared		90.04
Ending Balance	\$	357,495.10

Certificate of Deposit	\$	50,753.00
------------------------	----	-----------

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	194,441.97
Deposits		
Interest		165.73
Disbursements		12,644.70
Ending Balance	\$	181,963.00

ROAD FUND CHECKING			
Beginning Balance		\$	269,128.32
Deposits			
Interest			240.00
Disbursements			
Ending Balance		\$	269,368.32

\*A Complete copy of the July 31, 2019 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson. Treasurer Cota was absent due to a family emergency. Clerk Johnson prepared the report from recently reconciled funds.

\*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson noted that she finished up review of the F65 report prior to its submission to the State of Michigan, continues online training for the E-pollbook and other required training from the State. The next election has been scheduled for March 10, 2020, which will be the Presidential Primary.

Clerk Rogers noted that she has asked for Gauthier Insurance to do a review and cost estimate on insurance for the Township. It will give the Board a comparison to rates being charged by Hanuala Agency. The policy comes up for renewal the end of October.

\*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Carr noted that he attended the August 5<sup>th</sup> Alger County Road Commission Meeting. Trustee Miller noted that he also attended.

\*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing several calls. Supervisor Doucette noted that she also attended the August 5<sup>th</sup> Alger County Road Commission Meeting where the Au Train Grocery/Woodland Avenue drainage issue was discussed. She has also been in contact with Joe Cilc from the Alger County Building Codes Department regarding follow up to the Cross and the Curtis Drive properties.

Supervisor Doucette noted that she has been in contact with Renewable Energies regarding the very low river level and indicated their response was the basin is low due to the lack of rainfall. They are not holding back any levels.

The response to the State regarding the AMAR review was sent on August 11, 2019. The Great American Disposal Contract comes up for renewal in 2020. Discussion regarding pickups, rates and the requirement for commercial businesses to obtain dumpsters was made.

\*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Christ Nettleton presented information to the Board regarding his desire to submit an application to obtain a license in the Township for the Sale of Recreational Marijuana. He would be seeking a micro license, up to 72 plants for processing and retail. Mr. Nettleton would like the Township to reconsider their opt out ordinance. The Board thanked Mr. Nettleton for his presentation and noted they would consider it further upon direction and information from the Michigan Townships Association regarding the rules and funding available to the Township.

\*PUBLIC COMMENTS - Mark Kroupa requested that the board address his concerns about Fireworks being used within the Township outside the limits and dates established by the State of Michigan.

**\*COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Financial Reports - Clerk Johnson presented monthly financial reports for all funds.

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Johnson noted that the monthly zoning report from ZA McCarthy has been received and is on file. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for August 15, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Two CUP hearings will be held as well.

Assessor/Board of Review - Clerk Johnson noted that no Assessor's Report has been received.

Maintenance Department Report/Comm Bldg./Promotions - Ryan Walther was unable to attend but has been updating the Board throughout the month. Discussion about speed on the ORV Trail was made. Also a letter to MDOT regarding the speed on Highway M28 through Christmas and other areas of concern (Scott Falls, Blinking Light at Au Train Village entrance) will be sent voicing the concerns and request consideration of a reduction in speed.

Cemetery - It was noted that there was a recent cremation burial.

Fire Department – Monthly report has been received and on file. Chief King noted there were 3 calls this past month. No monthly expenses beyond the ordinary. Discussion about needed repairs to the SXS was made. It was damaged by the wind on transport to the island.

Chief King presented information to the Board regarding the updates needed to the AED units. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr to authorize up to \$800.00 for the purchase of AED unit upgrades. JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; MILLER, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

The new 16 Mile Lake truck had a low voltage light come on. Mike Sanderson checked it and it was fine. Ladder Testing will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup> and Pump Testing will be conducted by Pomasal in September.

**\*UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Kleeman Update - Supervisor Doucette noted that despite the courts ruling in favor of the Township affirming the lower court ruling, Mr. Kleeman continues to operate in violation of the Zoning Ordinance. Supervisor Doucette will follow up with the court and Zoning Administrator Jason McCarthy.

**\*NEW BUSINESS**

Correspondence regarding the Sault Saint Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Information correspondence was received regarding activities of the tribe requesting additional properties be placed in their trust. No Board Action was required.

Elm Street Access - Information was provided regarding the Townships position on Elm Avenue and whether a "road" needs to be established per the plat. Attorney Murphy and the Alger County Road Commission indicate that the Township has no responsibility to create an access road. The property was zero on the tax rolls (corrected for 2018-2019 and removed).

Assessor Contract - Clerk Rogers noted that the Assessor's one year contract is coming up for renewal consideration. Discussion will be placed on the September Agenda.

Noise Ordinance - Discussion regarding the need to amend the Noise Ordinance to address fireworks was made. The Township currently follows the state guidelines for dates allowing their use. Further discussion and/or action will be placed on the September Agenda.

**\*COUNTY COMMISSION UPDATE** - Upon arrival of County Commissioner Jerry Doucette, he addressed the Board. Updates were provided on recent county board activities including discussion about Park Service employees not being allowed to also serve locally as paramedics within the County, jail housing contract with Schoolcraft County, Bill 4590, Excise Tax, Indigent Defense Attorney on staff, road patrol and the Michigan State Police contracting with the County for shared services and creation of an outpost at the Courthouse.

**\*PUBLIC COMMENT** - 8:30 pm. No Public Comments were received.

**\*ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Rogers, second by Supervisor Doucette, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:32 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk