

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
May 13, 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; 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 Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Carr, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

*MINUTES

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16127 through #16146- Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8240 through #8248- Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2049).

*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

- TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of April 30, 2019, as presented by Kristy Cota, Treasurer

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	141,989.68
Deposits		15,657.81
Interest		114.34
Disbursements		12,817.94
Ending Balance	\$	144,943.89

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	352,179.32
Deposits		487.29
Interest		302.57
Disbursements		5,518.27
Total Checks Not Cleared		1,590.04
Ending Balance	\$	345,860.87

Certificate of Deposit \$ 50,753.00

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	209,532.77
Deposits		47.01
Interest		174.57
Disbursements		10,893.60
Ending Balance	\$	198,860.75

ROAD FUND CHECKING		
Beginning Balance	\$	239,808.23
Deposits		
Interest		206.95
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	240,015.18

*A Complete copy of the April 30, 2019 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson.

Treasurer Cota noted that a refund check from KCI was processed for overpayment of the Assessment Notices. In addition a Dividend check from PAR Plan in the amount of \$553.48 and a donation to the Fire Department from the Au Train Landowner's Association in the amount of \$300.00 were received.

Clerk Johnson noted that after discussing the dramatic increase in interest payments on all funds through Peoples State Bank with Treasurer Cota she called to verify. Peoples State Bank noted that their Board recently approved their rate policy for checking accounts because of the Prime Rate increase. The amounts are accurate.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Rogers updated the Board on the recent activities, which included preparation for the upcoming audit, FOIA's, updating the zoning records, and issuing deeds for the cemetery. She is also working with Ryan on obtaining a copy of the cemetery map for placement on site.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Miller noted that he attended the CUP Hearings and Planning Commission Meeting. Trustee Carr noted that he attended the Fire Department meeting, CUP Hearings, Planning Commission Meeting and completed the Street Light Verification Project.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing Assessor issues and preparing for the upcoming State AMAR Review with Cameron, spoke with the Road Commission about grading and the pot holes on Au Train Forest Lake Road, attended the CUP Hearings and the Planning Commission meeting. Supervisor Doucette also noted that she and Fire Chief Perry met with the Field Inspector for PAR Plan to review items for our continued insurance coverage.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None

*PUBLIC COMMENTS - Tom Moorman addressed the Board regarding the Christmas Mall blight complaint. He noted he was on schedule to meet the June 1st deadline for cleanup.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Clerk Johnson noted that a monthly report from Jason McCarthy has been received and is on file.

The Planning Commission scheduled a Special Meeting for June 13, 2019 for review of zoning definitions, vacation rentals and Town Development District at 7:00 pm.

Clerk Johnson also noted that an email was received from Planning Commission member Kim Rolfe noting that she will not be continuing to serve on the Commission after the end of her current term. The Board will advertise for applications from persons interested in being appointed.

Assessor/Board of Review - Clerk Johnson noted that a monthly report has been received and is on file. Supervisor Doucette noted that the AMAR Review for the Township will be conducted on May 29, 2019 at the Alger County Equalization Office.

Maintenance Department Report/Comm Bldg./Promotions - Ryan was present to provide an update to the Board. The Heritage Trail Dock will be installed, as previously authorized, by David Walther Contracting around Memorial Day, weather permitting. The restrooms are open.

Ryan also presented information on the purchase of a zero clearance riding mower, John Deere from Northland Lawn, Sport & Equipment in Negaunee. They offer a 4 year warranty. Additional research was done and he recommended purchasing the 2540R at a cost of \$6,385.71. It is a commercial grade mower. Clerk Johnson noted that she also obtained pricing from Lowes and Menards but they did not have comparable mowers.

MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Trustee Miller to proceed with the purchase of the John Deere mower from Northland Lawn, Sport & Equipment at a cost of \$6,285.71. CARR, YES; MILLER, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED. Ryan will ask if they are interested in taking in the old mower as a trade-in and authorized to proceed if the offer is fair.

Ryan also noted he would be replacing some of the mulch at the playground.

Porta Jon Placement - Supervisor Doucette provided pricing on the placement of a Porta Jon at the Doucette Bridge. The cost through Tri County Septic is \$105.00 per month. MOTION by Trustee Cota, second by Trustee Carr, to contract with Tri County Septic for the placement of a porta jon at the Doucette Bridge area on June 1st, and place a second one on July 1st, at a cost of \$105.00 per unit, per month. COTA, YES; CARR, YES; JOHNSON, YES; MILLER, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer Cota noted the upcoming rentals at the Community Building.

Cemetery - Clerk Rogers noted that the cemetery sign has been ordered and will be ready later this month. Victoria Forney did the design. The Board thanked her for her service to the Township.

Ryan noted that he is getting pricing for replacement of the storage building at the cemetery, which would be in the \$2,000 range.

Supervisor Doucette noted that there has been plenty of inquiries about cemetery plot purchases. Ryan will be marking those that have been recently sold.

Fire Department – Monthly report has been received and on file. Fire Chief King noted that there were two calls this past month. Community Service workers cleaned up the playground and cemetery. In addition, they will be doing additional cleaning at the other fire halls. Discussion about recent purchases and accessing the DNR website for burning permit information was made.

Clerk Johnson noted that a request for funding and contract for services was received from Tri County Volunteer Fire Department. Fire Chief King recommended we authorize the service as they do assist the fire department on that end of the township.

County Commission Update - Mr. Doucette was present and provided information to the Board on recent activities at the County, including the Jail Diversion Contract, Pathways Mental Health Partnership and fees approved and updated for the Probate Court. Mr. Doucette also noted that Becky Johns has been appointed as the Veterans Officer, and a 3 year contract with the Equalization Director has been approved. In addition, Sheila Peters was appointed as part-time Emergency Coordinator Manager and Steve Weber was appointed full-time County Administrator.

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Tri County Volunteer Fire Department - MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Miller to contract for services with the Tri County Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$3,000.00 to provide supplemental services to the fire department. DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES; JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Street Light Verification Project - Trustee Carr noted that he completed the street light verification of 51 lights located within the Township. The Board thanked Trustee Carr for his time spent on the project.

***NEW BUSINESS**

Correspondence - Clerk Johnson presented correspondence to the Board from the DEQ on Miller Public Notice for a Permit Request and the Munising 4th of July Committee.

MOTION by Trustee Carr, second by Supervisor Doucette, to authorize \$750.00 to the Munising 4th of July Committee for the purchase of Fireworks. CARR, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; MILLER, YES; JOHNSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

BS&A Software Contract Review - The Contract from BS&A Software Proposal to provide online access to Assessment Records Search was obtained by Assessor Fuess and previously emailed to Board members for review. Bottom line, there is no cost to the Township in authorizing access of information online. The service will streamline the access to the public, real estate agents and property owners. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Johnson, to contract with BS&A Software for Online Public Records Search as presented. DOUCETTE, YES; JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; MILLER, YES; CARR, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Dust Control - Supervisor Doucette presented information to the Board for the purchase of liquid calcium chloride for application to the roads to provide dust control to residents. The cost is \$0.775 per gallon, which is a slight increase from last year. Last year the total cost was \$19,720.00.

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to proceed with the purchase and application of liquid calcium chloride for dust control through Bay Dust Control at the cost of 0.775 per gallon, and allow the Supervisor to use her discretion on the most cost effective application. JOHNSON, YES; CARR, YES; MILLER, YES, COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Audit Fee Schedule - Clerk Rogers presented the Audit Fee Schedule with Anderson, Tackman & Company. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Cota to authorize the following fee schedule for audit services with Anderson, Tackman & Company: 2019 - \$2,750.00; 2020 - \$8,500.00; 2021 - \$2,900.00; 2022 - \$9,000.00. JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CARR, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Assessing Resolutions -

Au Train Township Board Resolution No. 2019-004

Waive Penalties for Non-Filing of Property Transfer Affidavits under MCL 211.27b

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27a(10) requires the buyer, grantee, or other transferee of the property shall notify the appropriate assessing office in the local unit of government in which the property is located of the transfer of ownership of the property within 45 days of the transfer of ownership, on a form prescribed by the state tax commission that states the parties to the transfer, the date of the transfer, the actual consideration for the transfer, and the property's parcel identification number or legal description and

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27b(1) requires that if the buyer, grantee, or other transferee in the immediately preceding transfer of ownership of property do not notify the appropriate assessing office of the transfer, then penalties as described in MCL 211.27b(1)© or (d) are levied and

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27b(5) provides that the governing body of a local tax collecting unit may waive, by resolution, the penalty levied under MCL 211.27b(1)© or (d).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Au Train waives the penalty for failure to file the Property Transfer Affidavit following a transfer of ownership pursuant to the local unit's authority contained in MCL 211.27b.

The foregoing resolution offered by the Au Train Township Board Member Johnson

and supported by the Au Train Township Board Member Cota

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": Johnson, Cota, Miller, Carr, Doucette

"Nay": None

The Au Train Township Clerk declared the resolution ADOPTED.

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Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": Johnson, Cota, Miller, Carr, Doucette

"Nay": None

The Au Train Township Clerk declared the resolution ADOPTED.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:00 pm. Public Comments were received from Jerry Doucette.

*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Carr, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk
