

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
July 13, 2020
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.

Due to the current State of Michigan Stay Home/Stay Safe Order 2020-21, the Au Train Township Board did meet in person, followed social distancing guidelines and authorized the use of Teleconference call in for the public to participate. The meeting was also broadcast over Facebook Live.

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 – 4 person attended. A sign up sheet is on file with Clerk Johnson.

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Additions and Changes to the Agenda were made as necessary. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Supervisor Doucette, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

***MINUTES**

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

***BILLS AND CLAIMS**

MOTION by Treasurer Cota, second by Clerk Johnson, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. COTA, YES; JOHNSON, YES; MILLER, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; CARR, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16349 through #16364 - Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8419 through #8432 - Garbage Fund Checks Numbered #2068 AND #2069 - Road Fund Check Numbered #1552).

***BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -**

•TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of June 30, 2020

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	140,709.56
Deposits		16,227.80
Interest		85.08
Disbursements		13,354.83
Total Checks Not Cleared		
Ending Balance	\$	143,667.61

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	501,980.99
Deposits		3,922.79
Interest		308.44
Disbursements		6,087.99
Total Checks Not Cleared		
Ending Balance	\$	500,124.23

Certificate of Deposit \$ 51,158.72

GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	195,022.46
Deposits		
Interest		115.40
Disbursements		11,719.25
Ending Balance	\$	183,418.61

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	287,663.87
Deposits		
Interest		177.33
Disbursements		
Ending Balance	\$	287,841.20

*A Complete copy of the June 30, 2020 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson.

Treasurer Cota noted that Summer Tax bills were sent out July 1, 2020 and payments are coming in. Office Hours will be July 18th 10:00-2:00, August 15th 10:00-2:00 and September 15th 9:00-5:00.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson updated the Board on steps taken to ensure a safe election as it relates to PPE for staff and voters. Several items ordered through the state will not be arriving on time, so supplemental purchases will need to be made. Absent Voter ballot applications continue to be received and processed.

The Audit with Anderson, Tackman and Company is scheduled for the week of August 17th. Clerk Johnson and Treasurer Cota will prepare all the necessary items.

Information was provided on the receipt and processing of Zoning Compliance Applications and delivery to Zoning Administrator Jason McCarthy for review.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Jake Miller noted that he had no report. Trustee Carr noted that he picked up items for maintenance, attended the Planning Commission Meeting on July 9, 2020 and noted that one was scheduled for August 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm. He also noted he did some research on timed locks for the Heritage Trail Center, which may cost up to \$500.00 each. The next Fire Department meeting will be August 2nd, as they are scheduled for the 1st Sunday of the month now.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing several calls, meeting with vendors and obtaining information on security for the Heritage Trail Center, and responding to fireworks complaints. Supervisor Doucette also noted that she has spoken to Cory Cole of the Yak Shack once again about his customers parking at the Heritage Trail. It is not intended as a parking area for businesses utilizing the river for canoe and kayak rentals. Correspondence from the DEQ regarding Renewable Energy Resources Application to surrender their dam license was received. The DNR and ELEG sent a letter to the State and FERC in response to their application which addresses their concerns. The Township Board was encouraged to submit a letter during the Public Comment Period of their application.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Steve Coron of Great American Disposal presented information to the Board regarding the garbage collection contract, which expired on June 30, 2020. We are now under a month to month contract. Discussion of a cart system, rental fees, number of stops and monthly tonnage was made. Mr. Coron noted he would collect data over the next few months, review the contract and provide the Board with updated information for consideration.

Robert Steinhoff, Alger County Prosecuting Attorney, made a presentation to the Board regarding his office, procedures and plans. Mr. Steinhoff was appointed to the position in April 2019 and is running for reelection on the August 4th Primary Ballot.

Special Presentation ended at 7:26 pm.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - The public comments call in period was opened. No public comments were received.

*COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Reports - Clerk Johnson presented monthly financial reports for all funds. All reports were emailed to Board members prior to the meeting for review.

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Zoning Administrator Jason McCarthy's Monthly Report has been received and is on file. The next scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission is August 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm (note the time change).

Assessor/Board of Review - Assessor Cameron Fuess's Monthly Report has been received and is on file. The July Board of Review has been scheduled for July 22nd at 6:00 pm.

Maintenance Department Report (Comm Bldg/Promotions - Cemetery - Heritage Trail) - Ryan Walther provided an update to Supervisor Doucette prior to the meeting as he was not in attendance. As previously discussed, Anthony Grady was contracted to provide daily bathroom cleaning at a rate of \$10.00 per day and trash disposal at a rate of \$5.00 for the Heritage Trail Center. The Township will be providing cleaning and sanitation supplies and garbage bags. This contract will alleviate the time consuming step for our Maintenance Department.

Discussion about continued use of the Community Building for rentals was made. There were no changes and rentals will be reviewed as requested. A baby shower, with limited guests, is scheduled for August 8th from 1:00-5:00 pm.

Supervisor Doucette noted that she purchased a MIA/POW replacement flag for the cemetery and continues to assist in headstone placement.

Fire Department/First Responders – Monthly report has been received and on file. There was 1 call for the month of June. A brake repair will be scheduled for Pumper #1 .

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Heritage Trail Maintenance/Surveillance - There has been much improvement at the Heritage Trail Center over the past month regarding misuse and destruction. The increased police presence has helped. The surveillance Project proposal was received and forwarded previously to the Board members for review. The cost was significant and there was no Board action on its approval. The Board will continue to monitor the situation and proceed with locating and possible installation of autolocks for the restrooms and cabin.

*NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence - Clerk Johnson presented correspondence from Charter regarding a rate increase and Raelene Reilly regarding concerns for the walkway to the beach, safety for residents, beach litter and fireworks. Supervisor Doucette will respond directly to Ms. Reilly. Correspondence was also received from the Alger County Treasurer regarding the upcoming Tax Sale of properties. There is one 10 acre parcel in the Township located on Old Plank Road available. The Board has no interest.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - The public comment call in period opened. Herb Brown was present and provided information on North Shore Road - that in 1997 was established as a Wilderness Road and beginning in 1979/1980 the County took care of plowing and maintenance. He maintains it is still a private road with 34 properties and 9 year round residents.

Bryce Berg noted a comment on the Facebook page thanking the Board for the Facebook Live feed to keep residents updated.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:16 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk