

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
April 12, 2021
6:00 o'clock p.m.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Au Train Township Board convened in person and via Zoom, a digital media platform on the above date at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was also broadcast live on Facebook.

The Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Michelle Doucette, with the following members present: Mary Johnson, Clerk; Kristy Cota, Treasurer; Jake Miller, Trustee; and Tom Balmes, Trustee.

*VISITORS PRESENT – 3 persons attended in person.

*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 Supervisor Doucette, to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2021 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; DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16511 through #16525 - Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8556 through #8566 - Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2081).

*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

•TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month of March 31, 2021

GENERAL FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	164682.48
Deposits		18019.46
Interest		21.80
Disbursements		14131.87
Total Checks Not Cleared		0
Ending Balance	\$	168591.87

FIRE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	498004.53
Deposits		44857.43
Interest		67.63
Disbursements		5996.62
Total Checks Not Cleared		0
Ending Balance	\$	536932.97

Certificate of Deposit	\$	51299.02
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GARBAGE FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	191896.02
Deposits		29905.89
Interest		26.43
Disbursements		11719.25
Total Checks Not Cleared		0
Ending Balance	\$	210109.09

ROAD FUND CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$	292772.03
Deposits		29905.89
Interest		40.24
Disbursements		0
Total Checks Not Cleared		0
Ending Balance	\$	322718.16

*A Complete copy of the March 31, 2021 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson provided the Board with updates over the past month which consisted of May Consolidated Election prep. Over 300 Absent Voter applications were sent to those voters on the permanent list. Work finished on the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget and amendments.

A Thank You letter was received from the Secretary of State for the exemplarily work during the 2020 Election Cycle and administrating the November General Election during the pandemic.

Clerk Johnson provided information regarding Publication Requirements for the Township and Electronic Notifications. Because The Munising News has ceased publication, notices (if required to include newspaper publication) will need to be placed with The Mining Journal, in addition to being posted and placed on the Township website and Facebook page.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Balmes provided information about the condition of Koski Road and noted it continues to deteriorate. Clerk Rogers noted that a contract was made with the Alger County Road Commission for the application of gravel for the first 0.25 mile. Supervisor Doucette noted that the Road Commission will address the situation once the road restrictions are lifted.

Trustee Miller noted that he had received inquiries regarding vacation rentals and the Zoning Ordinance Amendments. He also noted that he attended the March 18th Planning Commission Meeting.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing several calls. She also noted that she attended the March Planning Commission Meeting, received a complaint about parking at the Duck Pond restaurant, received a blight complaint about the Antique Mall in Christmas, and discussed the installation of a dumpster in the area of Woodland and Sunset Drive to address the residents needs instead of their current crate drop off for their collection. Mr. Charlie Marsh of the USFS, indicated it would require a permit for its placement.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None

*PUBLIC COMMENT - Public Comment period opened. Public Comments were received from John Carr, Tom Balmes, and Mary Johnson.

*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.

Clerk Johnson presented Budget Resolution Amendment No. 1 to reflect the actual Fund Balances for all accounts as of March 31, 2021.

Au Train Township
Budget Resolution
Amendment No. 1
April 12, 2021

Re: FY Budget 2021-2022

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Au Train Township Board to establish a General Appropriations Act for the purpose of budgeting the Township finances in a manner which does not allow expenditure, to exceed revenues, including any available unappropriated surpluses, and,

WHEREAS, the Au Train Township Board recognizes that some activities may require amendments to this Act, and such amendment shall be made by resolution of the Au Train Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Au Train Township Appropriations Act for FY 2021-2022 does not permit deviations which cause expenditures for any activity to exceed budgeted amounts without amendment to the Act by the Au Train Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Au Train Township Board has duly reviewed the budgets for the General Appropriations Act, which includes all funds of Au Train Township, at public meetings of the Au Train Township Board,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Au Train Township Board hereby amends the Appropriations Act for FY 2021-2022 in accordance with budgetary information presented to the Board and the limitations defined within this Resolution.

The foregoing Resolution offered by Board Member: Johnson

Second offered by Board Member: Cota

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

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

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Mary Walther Johnson
Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

General Fund - Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance 101-390.000	167168.00	166759.00	(408.00)
Total Revenues	365956.00	365948.00	(408.00)
Ending Fund Equity	133496.00	133088.00	(408.00)

Fire Fund - Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance 206-390.000	611854.00	587687.00	(24167.00)
Total Revenues	845904.00	821737.00	(24167.00)
Ending Fund Equity	251454.00	227287.00	(24167.00)

Garbage Fund - Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance 226-390.000	207113.00	210109.00	3277.00
Total Revenues	430413.00	433690.00	3277.00
Ending Fund Equity	257313.00	260590.00	3277.00

Road Fund - Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance 204-390.000	319698.00	322718.00	3020.00
Total Revenues	484567.00	487586.00	3020.00
Ending Fund Equity	330317.00	333336.00	3020.00

*All Funds were amended to reflect actual Fund Balances as of March 31, 2021.

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - Zoning Administrator Jason McCarthy provided his report to the Board prior to the meeting.

Discussion regarding the Blight Ordinance receipt of complaints and it was suggested that the policy be reviewed.

At the last Planning Commission meeting the focus was on shipping containers, food trucks and vacation rentals. Planning Commission chair John Carr noted that it was a productive meeting and they are confident they are wrapping the amendments up. Zoning Administrator Jason McCarthy called in during the meeting to provide some additional information.

The vacancy for the Zoning Board of Appeals was advertised on the website and via Facebook. Any letters of interest will be reviewed at the May Regular Board Meeting.

Assessor/Board of Review - A monthly report has been received and is on file.

Maintenance Department Report/Comm Bldg./Promotions - Ryan Walther provided a department report in person regarding activities over the past month and upcoming plans. He noted that he installed a new flag pole and flag at the Community Building, ordered a new larger and hopefully more durable flag for the cemetery and a light for the Au Train Fire Hall exterior. The lights at the 16 mile Lake Fire Hall have been repaired by Terry Beauchaine of Alger Electric. In addition swing set seats were ordered and will be installed upon arrival.

The Heritage Trail Center dock will be installed, weather permitting about May 15th. A section of handrail needs to be replaced and Supervisor Doucette will take care of ordering.

It was noted that roadside parks in Michigan will be opening April 26th. Additional discussion was made regarding the installation of life saving equipment at the beach, turn around parking area, Bridge Jumping Ordinance that was forward to MDOT, and installation of signage behind the cemetery area leading to the beach for safety purposes. Hopefully the signs will deter misuse and illegal overnight camping in the area.

Community Building Rentals can continue with Covid-19 precautions and guidelines limiting the group size to 25 people. The Township will not monitor the numbers during the rental period and takes no responsibility for anyone not adhering to the guidelines.

Fire Department/First Responders – A Department report has been received and is on file. There were 3 calls over the past month. The DOT inspections are due, along with the 6 month generator inspections. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Miller to approve of Sanderson & Son completing the required DOT 6 month inspections. JOHNSON, YES; MILLER, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Trustee Miller, second by Treasurer Cota to approve up to \$2,000 through Northern Tool for the purchase of 2 power washers for use at the Christmas and 16 Mile Lake fire halls. MILLER, YES; COTA, YES; BALMES, YES; JOHNSON, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

County Commission Update - Jerry Doucette was present and provided information to the Board regarding County Board activities. The administration of the Covid-19 vaccine continues. The County Board is still meeting via Zoom, but because they have a small board room for meetings in person, are looking at alternate locations.

Information was provided regarding the anticipated Federal Relief Funds, which appear to be based on preliminary new census numbers, and specific rules and guidelines for spending. More information will be coming from the state with guidelines for Townships and Counties.

Right now the County is dealing with many issues coming down the pipeline. They are focusing on employee retirement benefits, and had Resolutions today regarding a Wolf Hunt, Line 5 Pipeline, Recycling within the County, and the reintroduction of HB4590 as a Senate Bill. Chair Doucette will be providing the Board with additional information on the Bill and will be requesting letters of support.

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

*NEW BUSINESS

Dust Control - Supervisor Doucette presented the contract from Bay Dust Control/Liquid Calcium Chloride Sales for the dust control application. The quote was 0.821 per gallon. It was 0.775 last year. She has coordinated the application with the ACRC for the week of May 17th, weather permitting.

MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Treasurer Cota, to contract with Bay Dust Control/Liquid Calcium Chloride Sales for the dust control application at a cost of 0.821 per gallon, up to 25,000 gallons. DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; BALMES, YES; JOHNSON, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Spring Cleanup - Supervisor Doucette noted that Saturday, May 8th was scheduled with GAD Wood Island Landfill for the Spring Cleanup. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to authorize the Spring Cleanup for May 8, 2021 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am at the GAD Wood Island Landfill. JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Porta Jon Placement - Supervisor Doucette arranged for placement of two (2) Porta Jons at the Doucette Bridge at a monthly cost of \$240.00 through Tri County Septic. They will be placed May 21st through September 30th.

Heritage Trail Cleanup Contract - Tony Grady agreed to do the bathroom cleaning and garbage pickup/disposal again at the Heritage Trail. The cost is \$10.00 for cleaning and \$5.00 for garbage disposal. We will supply the cleaning products and garbage bags.

MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Treasurer Cota to contract with Tony Grady for the Heritage Trail Cleaning from May 1st through September 30th at a total cost of \$15.00 per day. DOUCETTE, YES; COTA, YES; JOHNSON, YES; BALMES, YES; MILLER, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Signage - Supervisor Doucette noted that signs for the Doucette Bridge need to be replaced and will also purchase a sign for the Heritage Trail Rules and the Cemetery.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - 8:48 pm start. Comments were received from Matt Lange.

*ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:53 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk