

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
August 8, 2022
6:00 o'clock p.m.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Au Train Township Board convened on the above date at 6:00 p.m. at the Au Train Township Hall, N7569 Spruce St., Au Train MI 49806

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 – Approximately 10 persons attended the meeting in person. A complete list is on file.

*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 Treasurer Cota, second by Clerk Johnson, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2022 Special 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; MILLER, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16756 through #16776; Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8819 through #8829; Garbage Fund Checks Numbered #2103).

*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

- TREASURER'S REPORT - For the Month ending July 31, 2022

GENERAL FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 329,749.71
Deposits	1,692.72
Interest	50.18
Disbursements	7,717.68
Total Checks Not Cleared	10,083.42
Ending Balance	\$ 313,691.51

FIRE FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 562,727.24
Deposits	3,109.44
Interest	87.59
Disbursements	4,377.18
Total Checks Not Cleared	3,304.44
Ending Balance	\$ 561,547.09
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 51,491.10
GARBAGE FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 282,892.93
Deposits	3,109.44
Interest	42.28
Disbursements	27,492.61
Total Checks Not Cleared	
Ending Balance	\$ 258,552.04
ROAD FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 404,496.54
Deposits	2,072.96
Interest	60.50
Disbursements	21,648.63
Total Checks Not Cleared	
Ending Balance	\$ 384,981.37

*A Complete copy of the July 31, 2022 report is on file with Clerk Johnson.

Treasurer Cota noted that the Summer Tax payments are coming in steadily. There was a CFR 2021 Dispersal completed. There are no upcoming hall rentals at this time.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson provided an update to the Board on recent activities, which includes emails, correspondence and FOIA's. Clerk Johnson indicated it was a busy month leading up to the August 2nd State Primary Election, where 40+ hours over a 4 day period were spent administering the Election. There were a total of 389 Voters, with 121 voting absentee. The Road Millage (231-126) and Garbage Millage (245-112) both passed. Clerk Johnson also noted that the Township Audit with Anderson, Tackman and Company continues with processing off site. The F65 Report will be submitted on behalf of the Township. Completion of the MML Worker's Comp Audit and insurance renewal application will be completed and submitted by the end of the month. Preparation for the November 8th Election will begin in September, with distribution of absentee ballots upon receipt. The laptop for EPB and a Ring Security Camera have been purchased.

In discussion with Supervisor Doucette, and other Clerk's within Alger County, publication options for Notices are being explored, which could include the Newberry News and Munising Beacon.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Balmes noted the he has had many inquiries about zoning and short term vacation rentals. Also noted an recent Media Meet that discussed tourism in the area.

Trustee Miller noted that he has been working on the Zoning Ordinance as a member of the Planning Commission, attending meetings and answering inquiries about trash cans.

Trustee Miller also noted that he would like to see some improvements on the basketball court, as well as an ice rink, possibly with lights this winter.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing several calls and emails, investigating a resort, fireworks and noise complaints, and contacting the Sheriff Department about some of the issues. Sheriff Brock indicated he would like to schedule a future meeting to discuss patrol needs. Discussion about requesting the County Commission consider a Countywide millage for Road Patrol was made.

It was also noted that the Cory Cole Summons appealing the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the installation of a fence at Da Yak Shak has been referred to our attorney.

A meeting has been scheduled with 906 Technologies to review our security and communication systems.

The dumpster has been placed for Old Plank Road. The property owner hosting the vessel signed a waiver agreement.

Blight Complaints are still being monitored, with progress on the Kroupa Woodland Avenue property being made.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - Public Comments were received from Teresa Larson, John Carr, Scott Smith, Donna Shields and Peggy Smith.

*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 - The Zoning Administrators report was provided and Zoning Administrator Kathleen Lindquist was present to answer any questions and provide additional details. Kathleen is providing a spreadsheet report of activity that is very helpful.

The Planning Commission met on August 4, 2022, a Special Meeting to continue review of the Zoning Ordinance amendments. A Special Meeting date of the Au Train Township Board was discussed for August 29, 2022, if the Planning Commission is able to complete the updates based on a review recommendation from the Township Board at their Special Meeting scheduled for August 18, 2022.

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hear an Appeal regarding two Administrative Decisions on August 17th at 6:00 pm.

Assessor/Board of Review - Assessor Fuess is on a vacation and no report was filed.

Maintenance Department Report/Comm Bldg./Promotions/Cemetery - Ryan Walther was not able to attend, but did send in a text with updates. Clerk Johnson noted that a new vacuum was purchased for use at the hall.

Fire Department/First Responders – The Fire Department report was received and is on file. There were four calls for month. Pomasl will be completing pump testing on August 26, 2022. The radios have been received from Elcom. The tires for the 16 Mile Lake brush truck have been ordered. WiFi has been installed and completed at the 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall. Active 911 has been renewed for another year at the cost of \$612.50. The new Pumper ordered from Pomasl, continues the building process. They continue to update the department on the status. New dates for CPR/AED training have been scheduled for 8/17/22 and 8/31/22.

County Board of Commissioners Update - County Board Chair Jerry Doucette was present to update the Board on recent activities of the Alger County Board. Commission Doucette noted that the Clerk's office was looking for a part-time employee. The Board noted that they would like the County Commission to discuss and possibly consider a county-wide millage fund Road Patrol for the Sheriff Department.

*OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Ordinance Amendments and Map Adjustments - The Planning Commission have scheduled a Special Meeting to continue their review and amendments on August 18, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Blight Complaints - Supervisor Doucette presented information on the status of Blight Complaints and her review process. She will be proceeding with 3 complaints at this time. N7757 Santa Lane - Antique Mall; N7734 Mrs. Claus Lane - Morrison and Woodland Ave. - Kroupa. The Board should consider a policy and procedure for the processing of Blight Complaints and give authorization for the Supervisor to proceed as necessary for enforcement.

Planning Commission Membership - Supervisor Doucette presented letters of interest from citizens interested in serving on the Planning Commission.

AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD
RESOLUTION TO EXPAND MEMBERS ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION
Au Train Township, Alger County
Resolution Number 2022-011
August 8, 2022

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Au Train Township has the authority to expand the membership size of the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Au Train Township has the authority to appoint citizens to the Planning Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board of Au Train Township, Alger County, will expand the Planning Commission membership size to Seven (7) and appoint citizen applicants Jason Cain and Bill Gramm, effective January 1, 2023.

The foregoing Resolution offered by Board Member: Supervisor Doucette

Second offered by Board Member: Treasurer Cota

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

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

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

*PUBLIC COMMENT - Public Comments were received from John Carr and Matt Lang.

*ADJOURNMENT

BEING no further business, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:26 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk