

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting
 April 11, 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 9 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 Clerk Johnson, second by Treasurer Cota, to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Treasurer Cota, second by Supervisor Doucette, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. COTA, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; MILLER, YES; BALMES, YES; JOHNSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16696 through #16708; Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8757 through #8768; Garbage Fund Checks Numbered #2097 and #2098.)

*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

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

GENERAL FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 255,751.58
Deposits	18,393.85
Interest	34.02
Disbursements	12,126.22
Total Checks Not Cleared	552.27
Ending Balance	\$ 261,500.96
FIRE FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 582,714.47
Deposits	79,558.91

Interest	81.75
Disbursements	11,254.24
Total Checks Not Cleared	22.20
Ending Balance	\$ 651,078.69
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 51,427.00
GARBAGE FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 238,294.27
Deposits	76,305.44
Interest	36.51
Disbursements	26,479.30
Total Checks Not Cleared	
Ending Balance	\$ 288,156.92
ROAD FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 320,967.88
Deposits	51,038.90
Interest	46.13
Disbursements	
Total Checks Not Cleared	
Ending Balance	\$ 372,052.91

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

Treasurer Cota noted that she finalized the Winter Tax Roll with the County Treasurer. All future payments will be subject to penalties and paid directly through the Alger County Treasurer's office.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson provided an update to the Board on recent activities. These included FOIA requests and emails, Updates to the Qualified Voter Files (QVF), and street indexing report changes to align with the County Commissioner District changes. Online training for filing the required SLFRF report due April 30, 2022, are being offered by the state and assistance is also being provided by the Michigan Townships Association. An email was shared from a property owner who had concerns about the paving of North Shore Rd and its affect on traffic and speeds. Finally, the language for the Garbage and Road Fund millage questions were submitted to the County for placement on the August 2, 2022 Primary Ballot.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Miller noted he plans to attend an April 13th webinar presented by the Michigan Shoreland Committee and stewardship for Au Train Lake. Concerns were shared with him regarding the condition of 16 Mile Lake Road as it meets Doe Lake Road.

Trustee Balmes noted he had a few contacts regarding setbacks on Lots in the Village of Au Train and site plan, road location questions etc. Supervisor Doucette suggested that if a citizen had concerns about their lot boundaries in relation to the platted road, they should be obtaining their own land surveys.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing several calls and emails. The Generator Maintenance was scheduled with Superior Electric. Correspondence from Burt Township was shared regarding their partnership with the Alger County Sheriff Department for additional patrols, and a Noise Complaint was addressed, with certified letters being sent to the property owners. Continued discussion regarding the "family" campground at N3970 Hayward Road was made. It appears there are 5 sites with a bathhouse. The Alger County Building Codes Department was also notified. Investigation will continue with appropriate action being taken as necessary. Tom Beauchaine was notified that the 30 day appeal window on the Cory Cole complaint had closed. Attorney Greg Murphy will be sending a letter to Mr. Cole with details on the fence construction time line. Attorney Roger Zappa declined retainership with our Township as he feels he is very busy, but recommended an Associate at Kendricks, Bordeaux. Attorney Murphy also noted that an Associate in his office may be interested. Supervisor Doucette will continue working on the matter. Supervisor Doucette also noted that she too has received calls on the condition of 16 Mile Lake Road and shared that information with Bob Lindbeck from the Road Commission.

The FEMA/EGLE Presentation and Informational Special Meeting is scheduled and confirmed for April 20, 2022 at 6:00 pm. The public is welcome to attend.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - 1. Bob Lindbeck of the Alger County Road Commission presented information to the Board on funding for permanent closure and shoreline restoration of the "Orange" bridge on Woodland Avenue. The Road Commission had been applying for grants for 17 years to receive funding to replace the bridge and were never awarded. The bridge was not considered a critical infrastructure. These funds were offered and they look to be awarded \$440,000 for the permanent closure of the bridge. The Alger County Road Commission Board already approved the project, but Mr. Lindbeck wanted to the Board to be aware. It may be possible for the Township to apply for Recreation Grants to create a fishing pier in the area.

After Mr. Lindbeck completed his presentation, he was able to address the concerns of residents regarding the condition of the roads in the 16 Mile Lake area. They hadn't been able to schedule grading as they were waiting for the frost to leave and the water table to decrease, but just started and hope they will improve. Concerns about maintenance and the number of times they are graded during the Spring/Summer were also addressed. A brief discussion about the 2022 Road Projects and the Au Train Township Road Plan for future projects, should the Road Millage be approved in August.

2. Kathy Heimbürger presented updated information regarding her request, that was denied by the Board in the Fall of 2021, to secure cemetery lots in the old cemetery section. After discussion with prior Board Member Ann Clapp and Sexton Jeff Moore, Supervisor Doucette was able to provide more information to the Board. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Balmes, to allow Kathy Heimbürger 2 lots- each being 5'x10', at the Old Cemetery, with the exact location near the Braamse family plot, being determined after meeting with Sexton Ryan Walther, and Supervisor Doucette onsite. The lots will need to be permanently marked for future reference. MOTION CARRIED.

*PUBLIC COMMENT - None

*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.

Au Train Township Budget Resolution - Re: FY Budget 2022-2023 - Amendment No. 1

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 2022-2023 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 2022-2023 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, Au Train Township Clerk

General Fund - Fund No. 101

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance	268,375.00	261,500.00	- 6,875.00
	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Ending Fund Equity	226,496.00	219,621.00	- 6,875.00

Reflects Actual Fund Balance as of March 31, 2022.

Fire Fund - Fund No. 206

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance	731,400.00	702,505.00	- 28,895.00
	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Ending Fund Equity	294,013.00	265,118.00	- 28,895.00

Reflects Actual Fund Balance as of March 31, 2022.

Garbage Fund - Fund No. 226

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance	324,225.50	288,156.00	- 36,069.00
	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Ending Fund Equity	156,375.00	120,306.00	- 36,069.00

Reflects Actual Fund Balance as of March 31, 2022.

Road Fund - Fund No. 204

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Fund Balance	387,062.00	372,052.00	- 15,010.00
	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Ending Fund Equity	46,937.00	31,927.00	- 15,010.00

Reflects Actual Fund Balance as of March 31, 2022.

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - No final report for March was provided by former Zoning Administrator Jason McCarthy. Acting Zoning Administrator Clerk Johnson provided a brief update. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for April 21, 2022, in which they plan to review the map changes.

Assessor/Board of Review - Assessor Fuess report has been received and is on file. Supervisor Doucette noted that the March Board of Review meetings went smooth and thanked the members of the BOR and Assessor Fuess for working together and completing the process so effectively.

Maintenance Department Report/Comm Bldg./Promotions/Cemetery - Ryan Walther updated the Board on recent activities. He will be working on Spring Cleaning and general maintenance. The split rail fence at the Heritage Trail Center needs repair. The dock faired well over the winter, but the rail has damage and will need to be repaired. Replacement cemetery flags will be ordered. Also, as discussed, additional gravel should be brought in to the new area to maintain the roads. The mower needs maintenance and repairs and he will be contacting Northland Equipment to schedule.

Fire Department/First Responders – The Fire Department report was received and is on file. Chief Perry King was present and provided additional information to the Board. There were 5 calls for the month of March. Clerk Johnson will prepare correspondence to the State to allow ECom access to the Fire Department Template for the radios. Pomasl expects to deliver the new truck in May. On August 13th there will be electrical training on vehicles for the department.

Clerk Johnson presented correspondence from Tri County Volunteer Fire Department requesting a contract for services as they continue to provide support to the Township Fire Department in remote areas of the Township. MOTION by Trustee Miller, second by Treasurer Cota, to enter into a Contract for Services with the Tri County Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$3,000.00 for one year, to provide coverage assistance within areas of Au Train Township. MILLER, YES; COTA, YES; JOHNSON, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Alger County Commission Update - Commissioner Doucette was present and provided updates to the Board on recent happenings with the County.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

SLFRF - Clerk Johnson noted that the first report for the SLFRF is due by April 30, 2022. She has been attending the necessary training to complete the report and is confident in the process.

Township Attorney Update - As noted in her report, Supervisor Doucette indicated that she is still working on obtaining representation and hopes to have a few candidates for the Board to consider next month.

Recreation Plan Survey - Discussion about the planned Recreation Survey and appropriate questions was made. Supervisor Doucette noted she was reviewing recent questionnaires the City of Munising and Munising Township had created. She will also be contacting Jason McCarthy looking for some direction.

***NEW BUSINESS**

Zoning Administrator Position - Supervisor Doucette noted that only one application had been received at this time. John Delaney is very interested but is currently out of state until May. Supervisor Doucette will contact him by phone to discuss the position requirements and report back to the Board.

CUPPAD Membership - Clerk Johnson noted that the CUPPAD Membership for 2022 is up for renewal. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Johnson, to continue with the CUPPAD Membership at a yearly cost of \$228.00. DOUCETTE, YES; JOHNSON, YES; COTA, YES; MILLER, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

***PUBLIC COMMENT** - 8:45 pm Public Comments were received from Matt Lang.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Supervisor Doucette, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:48 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk