

Au Train Township Special Board Meeting Minutes
Budget Workshop
February 20, 2025 5:30 pm - 8:18 pm

Supervisor Balmes opened our February 20, 2025 meeting at 5:00 p.m. leading us with the pledge.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Supervisor Tom Balmes, Clerk Mary Johnson, Treasurer Kristy Cota, Trustee Jake Miller and Trustee John Carr. Also Present: Fire Chief Perry King, Assistant Fire Chief Justen Knuttila, and Ryan Walther.

Approval of the Agenda:

Moved Balmes/seconded Carr to **approve the agenda**. Motion carried.

Budget Review - Recommendations for FY 2025-2026:

•Fire Fund Budget - A review of the proposed budget presented by the Fire Department was made. They explained the needs of the Department and upcoming expenditures for building improvements and upgrades they would like to see, equipment purchases and maintenance schedule for the existing fleet. Work on the Fire Fund Budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year began and was completed. Review of financial documents and the current voted millage of 2.8782 mills, which was recently renewed and expires 12/31/2029, was made. The Fund account was budgeted with careful consideration on anticipated revenues and expenditures, and the proposed expenditures developed and presented by the Department, with input from the Township Board.

•Garbage Fund Budget - Work on the Garbage Fund Budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year began and was completed. Review of financial documents, contract with GFL and the current voted millage was made. The Fund Account was budgeted with careful consideration of anticipated revenues and expenditures. Discussion regarding increased operational costs from GFL and fuel surcharges was made. Clerk Johnson noted that the Contract is up for a 5 Year Renewal August 2026. It was determined that authorizing 2.0000 of the 3.0000 mills voted supports the account expenditures and maintains a healthy Ending Fund Equity balance.

•Road Fund Budget - Work on the Road Fund Budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year began and was completed. Review of financial documents, contracts for services with the Alger County Road Commission, dust control application and the current voted millage of 2.0000 mills, which will expire 12/31/2026 and be subject to the Headlee Rollback. In addition, review of the costs associated with Road Sign replacement (as needed for missing signs) was discussed and will be reviewed as an authorized expenditure.

•General Fund Budget - Work on the General Fund Budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year began and was completed. Review of financial documents, current allocated millage of 0.6782 and anticipated revenue sources were used in creating an approximate fund balance. The account expenditures were budgeted with careful consideration of the increase in costs and retention of staff and capital improvement projects.

Public Comment: None

Board Member Comments: None

Next Meeting: The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment: Motion Cota/seconded Carr to **adjourn at 8:18 pm**.

Submitted by Mary Walther Johnson, Clerk

Mary Walther Johnson

APPROVED DATE: March 11, 2024