

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2023 6:00 pm - 8:21 pm

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Supervisor Michelle Doucette, Clerk Mary Johnson, Treasurer Kristy Cota, Trustee Jake Miller and Trustee Tom Balmes. Board Members Absent: None. Also Present: Ryan Walther, Assistant Fire Chief Justen Knuttia, Assessor Cameron Fuess, Zoning Administrator Kathleen Lindquist, John Carr, Donna Shields, Matt Lang, Wyatt and Kirsten Seaberg, Rebecca Wilder and Jarrod Biebel.

Supervisor Doucette opened our June 12, 2023 meeting at 6:00 p.m. leading us with the pledge.

Approval of the Agenda:

Moved Doucette/seconded Cota to **approve the agenda** as amended. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved Johnson/seconded Cota to **approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 Regular Board Meeting**. Motion carried.

Pay Bills:

Moved Cota/seconded Johnson to **pay bills**. Cota, yes; Johnson, Yes; Miller, yes; Balmes, yes; Doucette, yes. Motion carried. (General Fund #16929-16945; Fire Fund #8989-9001; Garbage Fund #2118-2119; Road Fund #3012)

Financial Reports:

Clerk Johnson presented the Financial Reports for May, 2023. A Quarterly Review and any Budget Amendments will be presented in July.

Board Member Reports:

Treasurer - Balance as of May 31, 2023: General Fund \$314,415.03; Fire Fund \$144,328.68 + CD \$51,696.67; Garbage Fund \$364,734.27; Road Fund \$210,681.52. Summer Tax Bill information has been sent to KCI for printing. Mailing for July 1, 2023. One Community Building Rental for July, 2023.

Clerk - Finalized Invoices for Munising Public School and MARESA for the May Election cost reimbursement. File Transfer and cleanup /backup preparing the new laptop is almost complete. Answered several emails, returned phone messages or forwarded to appropriate Board member, and approved/completed or denied FOIA requests. Obtained quote from Office Planning Group for the new copier. Filed for titles for Fire Department vehicles which have been received. Scheduled the Audit with Anderson, Tackman & Co.

Trustee's - Trustee Miller did respond to a complaint of a mobile home being placed on North Shore Rd, which was an RV and not a zoning concern. Had Road Plans and dust control questions and followed up on the placement of the rental porta jons for the summer.

Trustee Balmes attended the Fire Department Meeting, had questions on the dust control and wondered if it could be applied sooner, and followed up on the Blight complaint at the Christmas Mall noting progress in the cleanup.

Supervisor - Provided information on Toms Road regarding a dumpster placement or continuation of the tipper carts. Waiting on results of a vote from the Association. Responded to a concern about barking dogs in the 16 Mile Lake area. Requested a formal complaint be filed. Received several phone calls from Dan DeLisle regarding his CUP approval and it's restrictions. Followed up on the Christmas Mall Blight Complaint talking with both Tim and Tom Moorman. There has been progress on the cleanup. The grant possibility from the County was not applied for as it would require owner notification. May continue to

pursue that process if cleanup does not continue. Spoke with Scott Smith regarding the road paving time line and the decision to not apply dust control. Dust Control was completed on all applicable roads in the Township May 31-June 2. The cost did exceed the approved \$20,000. Will be purchasing signs for both Au Train Forest Lake Road bridges and will meet with Ryan Walther regarding the street signs that need to be replaced. Emailed Dawn Gustafson with MDOT about the installation of the Life Saving Equipment Stations and is still waiting for a response.

Special Presentation: None

Public Comment: One comment read received from Duane Newton, via email.

Boards/Departments:

Zoning Administrator - ZA Lindquist present. Report received and on file. 3 CUP Hearings are scheduled for June 29, 2023 requesting Short Term Rental approval. 2 CUP Applications have been received with a plan to schedule the hearing as part of the August Regular Planning Commission Meeting date. Work continues on scanning and having available through Google Docs Zoning/CUP Applications received and approved.

Planning Commission - No report.

Zoning Board of Appeals - No report.

Assessor/Board of Review - Assessor Fuess present. Provided an update to the Board.

Maintenance Department: Ryan Walther present. Provided an update to the Board. Cemetery work was completed for Memorial Day. Projects will continue to be scheduled, as well as the ongoing maintenance items. The gravel was applied and completed for the roads at the Cemetery. Work was done by Seaberg Enterprises. The Trailhead was open and the Kayak Launch/Dock was placed.

Fire Department:

Assistant FC Knuttila was present. Report received and on file.

Unfinished Business:

1. Moorman/Smith Property Blight Report: Addressed under Supervisor's Report.
2. Dust Control Application Report: Addressed under Supervisor's Report.
3. Ballfield License Surrender Procedure: Trustee Balmes noted that the fence removal should be the next step in the process. Discussed allowing someone to remove it at no cost and keep the fencing. Trustee Balmes will work with Clerk Johnson if a public notice needs to be prepared.
4. Revisit Bid/Project - Christmas Fire Hall: After discussion with Fire Department Members present, they will take on some of the projects themselves and then look at putting it out on bids again in the Spring.

New Business:

1. Correspondence: Free E-Waste Event at the Munising High School Parking Lot June 16th and June 17th; Received thank you from UPSET and the signed Contract for Services; Received request from David LaMere requesting the Township immediately restore trust in elections.
2. MTA Dues: Moved Doucette/seconded Balmes to **continue with Michigan Townships Association Membership and include the Plus Education Package for a total of \$2,509.70**. Doucette, yes; Balmes, yes; Cota, yes; Johnson, yes; Miller yes. Motion carried.
3. Copier Purchase Proposal: Motion Doucette/seconded Johnson, to **purchase a Sharp MX-B467F copier from Office Planning Group for \$1,755.00**. Doucette, yes; Johnson, yes; Cota, yes; Miller, yes; Balmes, yes. Motion carried.
4. Audit Schedule: Clerk Johnson noted the audit has been scheduled with Anderson, Tackman & Co. for the week of September 11, 2023.

5. Rural Clean Energy Projects: Correspondence was received from Joan Potter-Sommer regarding grant funds available to rural energy providers. She encouraged the Township to contact those providers and encourage them to apply.
6. Estimate 906 Technologies: Proposal from 906 Technologies reviewed for the autolock installation on the Heritage Trailhead Cabin. Motion Doucette/seconded Cota to **contract with 906 Technologies for the installation of the Township purchased autolock at a cost of \$495.00**. Doucette, yes; Cota, yes; Miller, yes; Balmes, yes;; Johnson, yes. Motion carried.
7. Scrap Tire Event: A scrap tire event in collaboration with Onota Township will be held September 15th and 16th where up to 20 tires can be dropped off. Additional information will be provided when available.

Public Comment: Comments were received from Jarrod Biebel, Donna Shields, and one comment read received from Duane Newton via email.

Board Member Comments: Additional Comments were shared by Board Members.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment: Motion Johnson/seconded Cota to adjourn at 8:21 pm.

Submitted by Mary Walther Johnson, Clerk

Mary Walther Johnson