

Au Train Township Regular Board Meeting

November 14, 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; and Tom Balmes, Trustee. Absent: Kristy Cota, Treasurer; Jake Miller, Trustee;

*VISITORS PRESENT – Approximately 8 persons attended the meeting. A complete list is on file.

*APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions and Changes to the Agenda were made as necessary. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Clerk Johnson, to approve the Agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

*MINUTES

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Balmes, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

*BILLS AND CLAIMS

MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Balmes, to accept this month's bill list as presented and authorize that they be paid as funds are available. JOHNSON, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE. MOTION CARRIED. (General Fund Checks Numbered #16803 through #16827; Fire Fund Checks Numbered #8861 through #8874; Garbage Fund Check Numbered #2106 and #2107 and Road Fund Check Number 3009).

*BOARD MEMBER REPORTS -

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

GENERAL FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 304,211.50
Deposits	22,472.62
Interest	126.49
Disbursements	15,679.22
Total Checks Not Cleared	3,478.36
Ending Balance	\$ 307,653.03
FIRE FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 497,898.59
Deposits	
Interest	209.11

Disbursements	5,303.36
Total Checks Not Cleared	2,765.11
Ending Balance	\$ 490,039.23
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 51,555.30
GARBAGE FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 231,874.79
Deposits	
Interest	95.89
Disbursements	13,440.96
Total Checks Not Cleared	
Ending Balance	\$ 218,529.72
ROAD FUND CHECKING	
Beginning Balance	\$ 385,303.13
Deposits	
Interest	161.02
Disbursements	190,000.00
Total Checks Not Cleared	
Ending Balance	\$ 195,464.15

*A Complete copy of the October 31, 2022 Report is on file with Clerk Johnson. Treasurer Cota indicated that she is preparing for the Winter Tax Collection. There are no upcoming rentals at the hall.

*CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Johnson provided an update to the Board on recent activities. These included Numerous FOIA requests and emails. In addition General Election information was provided. There were 60 days of Clerk preparation, 12 hours of Mandatory Training, 30 hours in the 3 days leading up to Election Day, 17 hours on the Election Day, 234 Absentee Ballots issued with a 95% return rate, zero Issues, Minimal complaints and the highest voter turnout ever of 64%! Clerk Johnson thanked her Deputy Clerk and the 6 Election Inspectors who worked so hard to make everything happen. It is not known how the impact of Proposal 2 will impact future elections, but rules will be developed through legislation. Fire Department payroll for 2022 will be processed for the December Board Meeting Review. In addition to the Planning Commission, ZBA members and Board of Review.

Clerk Johnson requested that the Board Meeting chairs be replaced at a cost not to exceed \$1,000. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Balmes to authorize up to \$1,000.00 to replace the Board Meeting chairs. DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES; JOHNSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

*TRUSTEE'S REPORT - Trustee Balmes noted he had no complaints over the last month and in fact received positive feedback from residents on the roads. He attended the Fire Department meeting this month as well.

*SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Supervisor Doucette updated the Board on recent activities, which include addressing several calls and emails. She discussed the 5 year Road Plan with Engineer/Manager of the ACRC Bob Lindbeck, which included a revision based on Board discussion, called to scheduled the DTE gas meter repair, which had already been completed. Letters and cards from residents were received thanking her for going above and beyond, which was a pleasant surprise. The water testing at the Township Hall will need to be submitted monthly to LMAS Health Department for a year after missing two quarterly tests within a one year period.

Supervisor Doucette indicated she continues to work on the Blight Complaints and spoke with Ed Smith, owner of record of the Antique Mall, who denies ownership. On March 31, 2023 it will be up for foreclosure with the County for unpaid property taxes. She also received information from the County on their application for an EPA grant for Blight Cleanup in the County and submitted addresses that would like to be considered. In conclusion, Supervisor Doucette noted she attended a CUPPAD Meeting regarding Spark Grants and future rounds for submission of applications.

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None

*PUBLIC COMMENT - Public Comments were received from Donna Shields regarding Zoning, Doug and Sherry Lare on the poor condition of Ridge Road. The Board did update them on the 5 Year Plan and discussion with Bob Lindbeck about the immediate need for repairs. Supervisor Doucette noted they should plan to attend the next Alger County Road Commission meeting and voice their concerns there as well.

*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. 3
November 14, 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 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: Clerk Johnson

Second offered by Board Member: Trustee Balmes

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

"Aye": Johnson, Balmes, Doucette

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Mary Walther Johnson
Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk

General Fund - Fund No. 101

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
SLFRF	56,207.00	56,432.00	+ 225.00
Charges for Services	10,000.00	15,000.00	+ 5,000.00
Interest Checking	360.00	1,200.00	+ 840.00
Total Revenues	527,957.00	534,022.00	+ 6,065.00
Expenditures	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Clerk: Audit Expense	7,500.00	9,270.00	+ 1,770.00
Zoning: Printing & Publishing	3,500.00	5,000.00	+ 1,500.00
Total Expenditures	308,336.00	311,606.00	+ 3,270.00
Ending Fund Equity	219,621.00	222,416.00	+ 2,795.00

Reflects Revenues expected and anticipated Expenditures through 03/31/2023

Fire Fund - Fund No. 206

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Interest Checking	500.00	2,200.00	+ 1,700.00
Total Revenues	673,610.00	675,310.00	+ 1,700.00
Expenditures	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Additional Support Wages	25,000.00	32,500.00	+ 7,500.00
Total Expenditures	673,700.00	681,200.00	+ 7,500.00
Ending Fund Equity	265,118.00	259,228.00	- 5,890.00

Reflects Revenues expected and anticipated Expenditures through 03/31/2023

Garbage Fund - Fund No. 226

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Interest Checking	150.00	1,000.00	+ 850.00
Total Revenues	531,614.00	532,464.00	+ 850.00
Ending Fund Equity	361,764.00	362,614.00	+ 850.00

Reflects Revenues expected through 03/31/2023

Road Fund - Fund No. 204

Revenues	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Change
Interest Checking	250.00	1,000.00	+ 750.00
Total Revenues	554,149.00	554,899.00	+ 750.00
Ending Fund Equity	192,899.00	193,649.00	+ 750.00

Reflects Revenues expected through 03/31/2023

Zoning Administrator/Planning Commission/ZBA - The Zoning Administrators report was provided, Zoning Administrator Kathleen Lindquist provided a brief update and answered any questions regarding her report. Discussion about upcoming CUP Hearings was made.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet for Hearings on November 21, 2022 and December 1, 2022 to hear four CUP Applications.

The Zoning Board of Appeals will need to schedule their 2023 Organizational Meeting.

Supervisor Doucette noted she received an email from long term member of the Planning Commission and Board of Review, Duke Fillmore, that he will be resigning from both effective January 1, 2023.

Assessor/Board of Review - Assessor Fuess report has been received and is on file. Supervisor Doucette noted that the December Board of Review is scheduled for December 15, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Maintenance Department Report/Comm Bldg./Promotions/Cemetery - Ryan Walther updated the Board on recent activities. He will be addressing Winter Maintenance items along with all the plowing and shoveling that is anticipated.

Fire Department/First Responders – The Fire Department report was received and is on file. Members of the Department were present to provided additional information to the Board. There were 3 calls for the month of October.

The new truck from Pomasal is still expected by the end of the year. The department is looking at using the old fire hall as a meeting hall and doing upgrades there instead of adding on to the new hall in Christmas. Wyatt Seaberg is going to run water to the new hall in the next month so the showers and washer/dryer unit can be added. That project should run about \$1,500.

Discussion regarding the plowing of the 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall was made. Ryan Walther indicated it would not be cost effective to drive out there just to plow. Fire Department member Wyatt Seaberg indicated he has accounts out in that area and would be willing to take on that task. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Balmes, to authorize up to \$1,000 for the 16 Mile Lake Fire Hall plowing, provided by Wyatt Seaberg for the 2022/2023 Winter. DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES; JOHNSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Information was provided on adding polos to the department uniform. MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Supervisor Doucette, to authorize the expenditure of \$600.00 for department uniform polos for members. JOHNSON, YES; DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

The Departments December Meeting will be on the 7th at 6:30 pm at the Au Train Township Hall.

*UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Recreation Plan - Supervisor Doucette presented information to the Board regarding the Draft Plan from Jason McCarthy. He provided copies of the survey responses. The Township Board needs to provide the Action Program items, which include Development of future projects. The Board will address those items at the December Board Meeting, as well as review the Recreation Plan Draft.

CUPPAD Hazard Mitigation Plan - Clerk Johnson presented the Alger County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution as requested by CUPPAD for review.

<INSERT RESOLUTION>

***NEW BUSINESS -**

Township Hall Sound and Security Proposals - Supervisor Doucette presented the three proposals obtained for improvements to the Township Hall sound and security. The proposals were received from Range, 906 Technologies and Iron Bay Computer. After much discussion and review, MOTION by Clerk Johnson, second by Trustee Balmes, to accept the proposal from Iron Bay Computer and Design in the amount of \$7,514.84, for the Meeting Room Kit which will improve the Townships ability to go live and/or record Township Board Meetings and improve accessibility by offering virtual attendance. The cost will be allocated from SLFRF monies. JOHNSON, YES; BALMES, YES; DOUCETTE, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

In order to prepare for an estimated February installation of sound panels will need to be reviewed and purchased. In addition discussion about replacing all the doors within the hall and adding increased secure entrance features will be scheduled as a future agenda item.

Agreement for Alger County K9 Contract for Services - Clerk Johnson presented the Contract for Services from Alger County K9 Unit. MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Trustee Balmes, to enter into a Contract for Services with the Alger County K9 Unit in the amount of \$1,500.00. DOUCETTE, YES; BALMES, YES; JOHNSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED.

***PUBLIC COMMENT -** Comments were received from John Carr and Duane Newton via email.

***ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, MOTION by Supervisor Doucette, second by Treasurer Cota, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:37 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Walther Johnson, Au Train Township Clerk