

**A. CALL MEETING- TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** on Monday, December 3, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. Supervisor Erica Ewers called the Algansee Township Board meeting to order at the Algansee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Road, Quincy, Michigan. All board members were present- Supervisor Erica Ewers, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee Bill Avra, Trustee John Shilling and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitors that signed in were Fred Figley, Linda Belcher, Shirley Tait, Tom Morgan, Ronald Wolke, Brian Wolke, Norm Wolke, Sandra Ely, Rick Coon, John Kmiotek, Susan Shilling, Bruce Caswell, Gay Timmons, and Dusty.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Suzanne Preston led us in the pledge to the American Flag.

**B. AGENDA- ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS-** Suzanne Preston motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of 2008 Equalization Service Contract under new business. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT-**

**C. 1. Special Assessment Public Hearing for Dons Drive (private) - Road Maintenance Renewal under P.A. 188-** Supervisor Erica Ewers called the special assessment hearing for Dons Drive (private) to order at 7:35 p.m. Russ Jennings, 159 Dons Drive explained they would like the maintenance fee to be \$25.00, renewable in 5 years with 52 parcels for a total of \$1,300.00 per year for road maintenance. Supervisor Erica Ewers asked if anyone had any questions. Those present from the private portion of Dons Drive were John Kmiotek- 147 Dons Drive, Rick Coon- 162 Dons Drive, Ron Wolke, and Russ Jennings- 159 Dons Drive, Rick Coon motioned to proceed with the special assessment. Support by John Kmiotek. Motion carried. There are 52 lots on Dons Drive private with 43 property owners and 28 people signed the petition. John Shilling motioned to close the public hearing for special assessment for Dons Drive private. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried. Bill Avra motioned to establish the special assess district for road maintenance for Dons Drive (private). Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**Bruce Caswell** updated us on what is going on in Lansing at the state government. He said he has enjoyed serving us and his term is done at the end of the year.

**C. 2. Special Assessment Public Hearing for Bickford/Winhoven for Aquatic Weed Control-** Supervisor Erica Ewers called the special assessment for Aquatic Weed Control for Bickford and Winhoven Drives to order. Fred Figley of 240 Bickford Drive, Terry Barror, and Sandra Ely of 727 Skipper Lane were present. Supervisor Erica Ewers read the contract with Aquatic Weed Enhancement & Survey with a cost of \$2,438.00 per year with a 2% increase each year. Fred Figley said the property owners would like this to be a continuous contract. Fred Figley motioned to proceed with the special assessment which will be assessed per front footage. Support by Terry Barror. Motion carried. There are a total of 30 lots and 19 people signed the petition. Bill Avra motioned to close the public hearing for aquatic weed control for Bickford and Winhoven Drives. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried. John Shilling motioned to establish the special assessment district for aquatic weed control for Bickford and Winhoven Drives with a 2% increase each year. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried

**Ken Kurtz-** introduced himself and said he is running for Bruce Caswell's seat as the 58<sup>th</sup> District State Representative.

**Any Other Public Comment-** Duane Barnett wondered if anything would be done about the township hall's parking lot.

**D. MINUTES-** Ann Strong motioned to accept the December 3, 2007 Algansee Township Meeting minutes with the following changes- G.2. the township needs to pay \$25,266 to Maplenet and G.3. omit dollar sign. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

**E. TREASURER'S REPORT-** the Treasurer Ann Strong reported the balance at the last township meeting December 3, 2007 was \$503,199.71, the township had income this past month of

\$25,805.84 and the township had expenses this past month of \$11,118.22 giving the township a balance of \$517,887.33 for this month. The Clerk agrees. Bill Avra motioned to accept the December 3, 2007 Treasurer's report. Support by Suzanne Preston. Motion carried.

#### **F. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**F. 1. Quincy Fire Association** – Supervisor Erica Ewers reported the budget was approved. The total budget is \$168,730.95 with \$43,870.05 Alganssee Township's share. There is a strategic planning meeting for all township officials from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday January 26, 2008.

**F. 2. Report from the Alganssee Township Planning Commission** - John Shilling reported the Planning Commission did not meet in December, they met on January 3<sup>rd</sup> for the special use permit for the wireless internet tower and will hold a public hearing on the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Pine Ridge Bible Church, 280 South Ray Quincy Road.

**F. 3. Report from Alganssee Township Zoning Board of Appeals**- Bill Avra reported they didn't meet.

**F. 4. Report from Alganssee Township Building Committee**- Bill Avra reported they are trying to get approval of one bathroom at the township hall instead of the required two bathrooms with the County Building Inspector.

**F. 5. Website ([www.algansseetownship.com](http://www.algansseetownship.com))** – updated with the zoning amendments.

#### **G. OLD BUSINESS**

**G. 1. Ordinance Violations- Junk & Zoning- Barn letters- Carmen Stout**- 880 Hall Rd. - barn down. **Dennis Stout**- 920 Hall Rd. - barn down. **Roger VanLieu**- main farm- 481 Phillip Rd. - working on.

**Junk Violations- (New Guidelines in effect 12-15-06) Civil Infractions- John Dzienny**- 232 Bickford Dr- All cleaned up.

**Zoning Violations- Walrack property- Mr. Ron Stender** (occupant) – keep trying to get a hold of him.

**G. 2. Wireless Internet Tower Contract**- Supervisor Erica Ewers reported DMCIbb will cover the electric service and the static I.P. that the state government requires for all libraries. The official address is 424 Wolf Road. Suzanne Preston motioned to accept the contract with DMCIbb. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried. Ann Strong motioned to accept the 25 year lease agreement with John Shilling for \$1.00 total. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried. Suzanne Preston motioned to order the wireless internet tower. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**G. 3. Household Hazardous Waste Follow up**- Supervisor Erica Ewers reported the total cost for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection was \$67,200.32 with \$3,526.00 Alganssee Township's share. Bill Avra motioned to pay the hazardous waste bill to Coldwater Board of Public Utilities. Support by Suzanne Preston. Motion carried.

**G.4. January 15, 2008 Presidential Primary Election**- the Clerk reported everything is ready for the primary. John Shilling motioned to pay the election workers and supper. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**G. 5. Zoning Ordinance Amendment Public Hearing**- will be at 9:00 a.m. at the gymnasium at Pine Ridge Bible Church, 280 South Ray Quincy Road. There is a \$100.00 rental fee for the use of the gymnasium.

**G. 6. Any Other Old Business**- none

**H. NEW BUSINESS- H. 1. Planning Commission** – John Shilling motioned to accept the January 3, 2008 Planning Commission Special Use Request Public Hearing minutes with the change of FFA to FAA in paragraph #3. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried. Ann Strong motioned to approve the tower. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried. John Shilling abstained.

**H. 2. Sexton and Lawn Care**- Supervisor Erica Ewers read Bill James resignation as the township sexton at the end of the month. Need to advertise about lawn care and sexton.

**H. 3. Budget Workshop-** the township board's budget workshop will be at 6:30 p.m. on February 4, 2008 before the regular meeting.

**H. 4. Branch County Road Commission Annual Meeting with the Township-** will be on Friday February 1, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.

**H. 5. Request From Jack Lutz-** Jack Lutz is requesting the township enforce a speed limit between his island and the shore and he would like to tie it in with the public hearing for the amendment to the zoning ordinance. The board thought it was under the category of policing and not zoning.

**H. 5.5. 2008 Branch County Equalization Service Contract-** Supervisor Erica Ewers reported she received a letter from the Branch County Equalization Department and the service contact with them will be \$1.05 per parcel this year.

**H. 6. Any Other New Business-** none

**I. PAYMENT OF BILLS-** Expenses were presented in the amount of \$25,418.69. Bill Avra motioned to pay the bills. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

#### **J. SPECIAL REPORTS**

**J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report-** Zoning Administrator Russ Jennings reported he has issued 0 zoning permits for the month of December.

**J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report-** Mickey Rubley was absent.

**J. 3. Algansee Library Report-** no report

**J. 4. Assessor's Report -** Supervisor Erica Ewers reported on the poverty exemption guidelines. Ann Strong motioned to accept the Poverty Exemption Guidelines. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

**2008 Poverty Guidelines-** The following are the federal poverty income standards which the United States Office of Management and Budget recommends that the federal departments and agencies use. The standards are actually compiled and published by the Bureau of the Census which refers to them as "poverty thresholds". The governing body of the local assessing unit has the option of considering the age of the resident(s) when establishing their guidelines. This provision applies only when one or two persons reside in the homestead, because there are no age-related thresholds for three or more persons in the homestead. The following are the poverty thresholds as of December 31, 2007 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2007 assessments:

Number of person residing in homestead	Annual allowable Income
1	\$10,210
2	\$13,690
3	\$17,170
4	\$20,650
5	\$24,130
6	\$27,610
7	\$31,090
8	\$34,570
For each additional person add	\$ 3,480

**K. CORRESPONDENCES** – Poverty Audit, Citizens Planner, MTA Board Of Review Training, Dons Road in the Brownshore subdivision is being replatted- lots 7,8 & 9.

**L. PUBLIC COMMENT-** none

**M. NEXT MEETING-** will be on Monday, February 4, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Algansee Township Hall, with the budget meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**- Ann Strong motioned to adjourn. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.  
Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.  
Suzanne Preston, Clerk