

November 4, 2013 Algansee Township Board Minutes

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- on Monday, November 4, 2013 at 7:30pm Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Algansee Township Board meeting to order at the Algansee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Rd, Quincy, Michigan. All Algansee Township Board members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee Bill Avra, Trustee John Shilling and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitors that signed in were Marjorie & Walter Inde- 761 Lake Shore Pt., Peg Edwards, Mark Knaack – 833 Teal Dr., Don Vrablic- Branch County Commissioner.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Supervisor Russ Jennings led us in the pledge to the American Flag.

B. AGENDA- John Shilling motioned to approve agenda. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT- Mark Knaack is requesting to renew the road maintenance for Teal Drive. Supervisor Russ Jennings said he would need to present a petition to this board signed by at least 51% of the property owners on Teal Drive. Mark Knaack said he would do that in the spring when most of the property owners will be back. John Shilling made a motion to allow Teal Drive road maintenance to continue as long as there is a petition of 51% of the property owner signatures and turned into the Algansee Township Board by June 1, 2014. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

D. MINUTES- Algansee Township Board Minutes- John Shilling motioned to accept October 7, 2013 Algansee Township Board minutes with the correction under J.1.Zoning Administrator Report - John Shilling said he didn't buy a zoning permit. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

Algansee Planning Commission Minutes- John Shilling motioned to accept the October 28, 2013 Algansee Township Planning Commission minutes. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

E. 1. Monthly Report- Treasurer Ann Strong reported the balance at the last township meeting, October 7, 2013 of \$341147.01. We had expenses this month of \$20,177.13 and income of \$1,690.07 giving Algansee Township a balance for this November meeting of \$322,659.95. The Clerk agrees. Bill Avra motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F. 1. Quincy Fire Association- Trustee Bill Avra reported they met on October 15, 2013 and approved a strategic planner for the Quincy Fire Department for \$7,500, a company out of New York state.

F. 2. Report from Algansee Township Zoning Board of Appeals- Bill Avra reported the ZBA met on October 14th about Amish school and tabled until March 2014. Next meeting will be for Paul Schmucker.

F. 3. Report from Algansee Township Planning Commission- John Shilling reported the Planner was present, they voted to change the setback for schools in Ag District- allow schools in Ag District under a special use permit with 250 feet set back and reduce the set back for schools in Ag District from 1,000 feet to 500 feet. Algansee Planning Commission recommends township planner come to next Planning Commission meeting on November 25, 2013. John Shilling motioned to have the township planner come to the next Planning Commission meeting on November 25th. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

F. 4. Website- www.alganseetownship.com- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the website is running.

F.5. Ordinance Violations- 1025 Grove Rd. - Supervisor Russ Jennings reported judge approved the township to clean up the mess and to pass on the expenses to the property owner.

G. OLD BUSINESS-

G. 1. Township Hall phone- DMCI will be at the township hall tomorrow to correct problem with phone.

G. 2. Letter from State of Michigan Dept. of Treasury- to be discussed under new business.

G. 3. Any Other Old Business- John Shilling said he would check around for the best price on LP gas.

H. NEW BUSINESS-

H. 1. County Supervisor's Meeting/ Road Commission Update- Branch County Road Commission said they hired a strategic Planner out of Jackson Michigan. The Branch County Road Commission's Annual Meeting with Algansee Township will be Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 2:00pm.

H. 2. News Letter Approval- Ann Strong motioned to approve the news letter as written with the addition of the Algansee Library news. Support by Suzanne Preston. Motion carried.

H. 3. 2013 Drains at Large Special Assessment- Algansee Township's special assessment is \$6,008.16, payment due end of March. Bill Avra motioned to table this. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

H. 4. Marble Lake Board Update- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported they met and learned the Tallahassee/Fisher basins won't be cleaned out until next year. Bid requests were sent out for aquatic weeds to 6 different contractors.

H. 5. Letter from State of Michigan Department of Treasury- Treasurer Ann Strong presented copies of the letter from Joy Stevens and Emily Stemen of David Locey's office to the State of Michigan Treasurer's office stating we had an overall good audit and were are in good standing. The problem is David Locey didn't check a couple boxes on the audit report before he died. Treasurer Ann Strong presented a letter she wrote to the State of Michigan Treasury Department in response to the October 25, 2013 letter to the Algansee Township Board. Bill Avra motioned to approve Treasurer Ann Strong's letter to the State of Michigan Treasury Department. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

H. 6. Any Other New Business- none

I. PAYMENT OF BILLS- Expenses were presented in the amount of \$9,499.46. Bill Avra motioned to pay the bills. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

J. SPECIAL REPORTS

J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report- Zoning Administrator Amos Barnett reported he issued 4 zoning permits in October- Samuel Schwartz, Samuel Eicher, Samuel Schwartz and Frederick Lyons.

J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report- Don Vrablic reported on Time Change, Horse Drawn Vehicles,, Marine Patrol, Potential Legislation- Sentencing Patterns/Guidelines and Coldwater State Park.

J. 3. Algansee Library Report- Algansee Librarian Jan Clark emailed her November report as follows- Circulation 47, Attendance 419, Hours 97, computer use 129, wireless use 87, Juvenile programs- attendance 46, Books loaned to melcat 80, Books our patrons borrowed from Melcat 29. Walnut time is over-earned \$600 split with 4-H Club, Oct. 26th Halloween party- attendance 37, John Shilling donated straw bales to sit on for the party then we sold the bales and money went to the Friends of the Library group, thank you John for your generous support, Nov. 1st Branch Library District Director Evette Atkins taught us how to make origami Christmas ornaments, Everyone is welcome to come to the Library.

J. 4. Assessor's Report – Algansee Assessor Erica Ewers reported on 2014 Consumers Price Index by State 1.6% increase down from 2.4% last year, Name address legal description update & Principal Residents Exemptions changes submitted to Equalization, December Board of Review scheduled for December 10, 2013 at 2:pm, Personal Property bulletin yet to be released, personal property forms to be mailed in January please have people read them with the changes, no hearing date for Chris Girod's Tribunal hearing, working with Zoning Administrator on new land splits and combinations, new construction review, data entry continues to be kept up to date, working with the Register of Deeds office, Equalization, GIS, and Building Inspection to obtain all the documents needed to continue to keep files up to date and picking up items from Branch County Abstract & Title Office.

K. CORRESPONDENCE- DEQ authorization for Joan Oldham on Donnell Drive, MTA sent thank you for renewing membership, Michigan Public Service Commission about filing a complaint about video distribution and Dept of Licensing & regulatory Affairs public hearing.

L. PUBLIC COMMENT-none

M. NEXT REGULAR MEETING- will be on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7:30pm.

N. Adjourn- Bill Avra motioned to adjourn. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

Suzanne Preston, Algansee Township Clerk