

February 2, 2015 Algansee Township Board Minutes

6:55 Budget Workshop- Supervisor Russ Jennings called Budget Workshop to order. The Algansee Township Board members worked on the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year Budget.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER- on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 7:30pm Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Algansee Township Board meeting to order at the Algansee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Road, Quincy, Michigan and welcomed everyone. All Algansee Township Board members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Bill Avra, Treasurer Ann Strong and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Only visitor present that signed in was Don Vrablic our Branch County Commissioner.

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

B. AGENDA- Ann Strong motioned to accept agenda. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT- none

D. MINUTES- Algansee Township Board Minutes- Bill Avra motioned to accept January 5, 2015 Algansee Township Board minutes. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

Algansee Planning Commission Minutes- Bill Avra motioned to accept January 26, 2015 Algansee Planning Commission minutes. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

E. 1. Monthly Report- Treasurer Ann Strong reported February 2, 2015 balance was \$350,022.17. We had income of \$27,525.00 and expenses of \$17,965.72. Clerk agrees. John Shilling motioned to accept Treasurer's report. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F. 1. Quincy Fire Association- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported John Shilling, Bill Avra and he attended Strategic Planning workshop and Russ attended Budget workshop. Quincy Fire Department Finance Committee is Reggie Ivy, Connie Karney, Kurt Barve and Mike Hagan. John Shilling motioned not accept the 8% increase in next year's budget for Quincy Fire Department. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

F. 2. Report from Zoning Board of Appeals- Bill Avra reported they didn't meet.

F. 3. Report from Planning Commission- John Shilling reported they approved land split for Wirtz. John Shilling motioned to approve land split for Wirtz. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

F. 4. Website- www.alganseetownship.com- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported DMCI's Dave Cleveland isn't getting changes on Algansee Township's website. He will contact him again.

F. 5. Ordinance Violations -none

G. OLD BUSINESS-G. 1. Planning Committee to Review Feasibility to Move Library to Twp. Hall-

Supervisor Russ Jennings said the committee has put together a questionnaire about the library as follows- Do you like the location of the current Algansee Library, What do you like about the Library, What would you like to change if anything, Would you like to have a new Library with more space that would accommodate future Library programs for 50 or more people, any additional comments or concerns, Number of family members that use the Library and name and address, handing out questionnaires at library for 3 months. Bill Avra motioned to accept questionnaire. Ann Strong supported the motion. Motion carried.

G. 2. Township Hall Lights- turned off bright lights; will work on them when weather warms.

G. 3. Marijuana Grow House 228 Donnell Drive - Supervisor Russ Jennings reported our attorney recommends township not to do anything at this time.

G. 4. Meeting with Amish Concerning Roads- will be more meetings.

G. 5. Township's septic systems Failures vs. DEQ- new legislation- senate and house have both passed the new legislation. It is on Governor's desk.

G. 6. Terry Barror, 234 Bickford Drive request township to remove three abandoned homes on Bickford and Winhoven Drives. Building Inspector Terry Thatcher and County Health Department Inspector Tony Hedley have visited the addresses and from an exterior point of view, the residences do not fit any health code definitions that would warrant condemnations.

G. 7. Any Other Old Business- none

H. NEW BUSINESS-H. 1. 2015 Poverty Guidelines- The following are the Federal poverty income standards which the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that federal departments and agencies use. 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, 2014 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2015 assessments:

N	Number of Persons residing in homestead	Annual allowable Income
	1	\$ 11,670
	2	\$ 15,730
	3	\$ 19,790
	4	\$ 23,850
	5	\$ 27,910
	6	\$ 31,970
	7	\$ 36,060
	8	\$ 40,090
	For Each Additional Person Add	\$ 4,060

John Shilling motioned to accept 2015 Poverty Guidelines. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

H. 2. Board of Review Resolution- WHEREAS, Public Act 194, 2003 allows the township board by resolution to select an alternative starting date in March when the Board of Review shall initially meet, WHEREAS, MCL 211.30 provides the alternative starting dates shall be the Tuesday or Wednesday following the second Monday of March, WHEREAS, the Alganssee Township Board wants to make Board of Review convenient for both the Assessor and Board of Review members work schedules, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Alganssee Township Board of Review will meet on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, March 12, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member John Shilling. Second offered by Board Member Bill Avra. Upon Roll call vote the following voted: Aye: Bill Avra, John Shilling, Suzanne Preston, Ann Strong and Russ Jennings and Nay: 0. Supervisor declared resolution passed. Motion carried.

H. 3. Appointment of Board of Review Members- Supervisor Russ Jennings said he had talked to David Dryer, Charlotte Dubay and Amos Barnett and they all would be willing to sit on Alganssee Township's Board of Review. Ann Strong motioned to appoint David Dryer, Charlotte Dubay and Amos Barnett to Alganssee Township's Board of Review. John Shilling supported the motion. Motion carried.

H. 4. Board of Review Training- Board of Review training dates- February 19 or February 24.

H. 5. Any Other New Business- none

I. PAYMENT OF BILLS- Township expenses were presented in the amount of \$6,101.57. John Shilling motioned to pay bills. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

J. SPECIAL REPORTS

J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report- Zoning Administrator Amos Barnett reported he issue 1 permit.

J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report- Don Vrablic gave his County Commissioner's Report as follows- Winter is still not over, Odds & Ends that could affect local communities, Recognizing Employees who have dedicated over 20 years to Branch County, Concealed Weapons License and Coldwater State Park Plan.

J. 3. Alganssee Library Report- Librarian Jan Clark's February report is as follows- Circulation 436, Hours 115, Attendance 417, Young Adult programs 3, Attendance 6, Wireless use 203, Library computer use 153, Items loaned to Mel 38, Items loaned to our patrons from Mel 30. Starting second week of February we will be starting a preschool story time 10:00 until 10:30 or longer if needed. We invite parents and Grandparent to bring children for a different story every Friday. We also have a young Lady from Union City to do arm knitting here at our Library. I haven't seen the process, but I have heard is interesting and fun. The Wednesday craft time will still be going, with crafts for Valentine Days, snowmen and many more. These crafts will be available after school for all. We will have a program list available here at the Library, on Branch District Library Calendar, showing all programs for all Libraries. On Facebook look for Branch District Library-Alganssee Branch and be sure to "LIKE" our site. Lots of programs planned please come and support your Alganssee Library! Lots of new books, all ages. Lots of DVDs also! Three computers and Two Lap Tops are also available. We have added hours to our Library. Everybody Welcome! Any questions or requests please call Jan or Jessie at 639-9830. We're here to help.

J. 4. Assessor's Report – Alganssee Assessor Erica Ewers gave her February report as follows- County studies have been finalized- agricultural is relatively flat, commercial will see a 6.9% decrease, industrial a 5.6% decrease and residential a 1.8% decrease overall. March Board of Review already discussed. Two options for Board of Review training if anyone is interested: Hillsdale county February 24 at 5:00pm for 3 hours with cost of \$10 each at MSU Extension Office. Conference room A. Calhoun County- Fredonia Township Hall- February 19 from 1:00 to 5:00pm by donation (if anyone has a laptop, tablet, or other device will email handouts ahead of time.) Personal Property statements were emailed December 30 are due back February 10 for the affidavits for those less than \$80,000 true cash value- must file to be exempt. Those filing the full personal property statement have until February 20 to file. Data entry is currently being worked on and filing continues. Continuing to pick up data at Equalization, Building Inspection, and Branch County Abstract & Title Office.

K. CORRESPONDENCE- Consumers Energy Public Hearing Public Hearing, Michigan Gas Utilities Public Hearing Charter, DEQ granted a well permit to Thomas Schrader.

L. PUBLIC COMMENT- John Shilling introduced his grandson Mason Whitney.

M. NEXT REGULAR MEETING Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:30pm.

N. Adjourn- Bill Avra motioned to adjourn. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

Suzanne Preston, Alganssee Township Clerk