

## January 4, 2016 Alganssee Township Board Minutes

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:30pm Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Alganssee Township Board meeting to order at the Alganssee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Road, Quincy, Michigan and welcomed everyone. All Alganssee Township Board members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Bill Avra, Treasurer Ann Strong and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitor that signed in was Don Vrablic.

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

**B. AGENDA-** Ann Strong motioned to accept the agenda with the addition of the March 8<sup>th</sup> Presidential Primary. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT-** none

**D. MINUTES- Alganssee Township Board Minutes-** Bill Avra motioned to accept the December 7, 2015 Alganssee Township Board minutes. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**Alganssee Planning Commission Minutes-** didn't meet in the month of December.

**E. TREASURER'S REPORT-** Treasurer Ann Strong reported the balance of \$377,140.88. We had income this month of \$2,646.54 and expenses of \$7,535.72. 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 next meeting will be January 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30

**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 didn't meet.

**F. 4. Website- [www.algansseetownship.com](http://www.algansseetownship.com)-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the dates on the website aren't up to date. We might need to look for a new webhost.

**F. 5. Ordinance Violations-** 556 S. Ray Quincy Road, calves are being housed on residential property- Larry Parks owns the property, Sam Schwartz is buying the property and has received one letter. Sam Schwartz called Planning Commission Chairman to come and see that there aren't any calves in the barn at this date. Terry & Dena Barrors, 234 Bickford Drive, are suing John Dzenny for lowering their property values. Jeffrey Ferris at 827 Crauns Lane, accumulation of junk, Russ Jennings told him if he continues to clean it up he will take him off the list.

### G. OLD BUSINESS-

**G. 1. Road Concerns with Amish Buggies-** State Legislators are trying to adopt language to allow Counties to register and charge license plates fees on horse drawn buggies should improve safety of buggies if lights are required.

**G. 2. Any Other Old Business-** none

### H. NEW BUSINESS-

**H. 1. Branch County Road Commission Annual Meeting Report-** John Shilling reported on the meeting.

**H. 2. Resolution to Approve Quincy Fire Department Budget- Resolution NO. 2016-01** WHEREAS the Fire Chief has submitted a proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget; and WHEREAS the Alganssee Township Board voted on the proposed budget on January 4, 2016 at 7:30 pm; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the Township of Alganssee hereby denies the adoption of the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget and appropriates the following sum for municipal purpose: Fund- General Revenues- \$190,613, Expenditures- \$190,613 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fire Chief is charged with the supervision and execution of the budget adopted under general appropriations act and shall be responsible for the performance of the programs within the amounts appropriated by the Quincy Fire Association unless such amounts are amended. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution is not effective April 1, 2016. This resolution is hereby denied on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016 by the Township Board of the Township of Alganssee with the following vote: AYES to DENY the above resolution- John Shilling, Bill Avra, Russ Jennings, Ann Strong and Suzanne Preston. NAYS: 0, ABSENT: 0. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alganssee Township Board would like to see more accountability with the Fire Chief. Why are you asking for \$190,613 when there showed access of \$20,000 from last year's audit report? Where did the \$20,000 go? It should have gone into Capital Outlay. There must be details on all expenditures- list of all checks and who they were written to and for what purpose along with the receipt for the actual expense. We need to see reports on the Fund Balance and check report each month. They need to be emailed a couple days before the meeting so everyone has a chance to read over the reports. Who owns the Quincy Fire Department? Butler Township, Quincy Township, Quincy Village and Alganssee Township all own the Quincy Fire Department. We all need to see more accountability even to hold some of the meetings at the Quincy Fire Department so we can see where some of the monies are spent.

**H. 3. Branch County Road Commission-** proposed sealcoating \$11,500 per mile.

**H. 4. Alganssee Township Budget workshop** will be February 1, 2016 at 6:30pm.

**H. 5. Request for Zoning Board of Appeals member-**Supervisor Russ Jennings reported Rob Rzepka moved out of township, any ideas on someone willing to serve on the ZBA let Russ know.

**H. 6. Approve 2016 Poverty Guidelines and Resolution Board of Review Dates-** 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, 2015 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2016 assessments:

u	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 Bill Avra. Motion carried.

**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 16, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, March 17, 2016 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 Bill Avra. Second offered by Board Member Andrea Strong. 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.

**Any Other New Business-** Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> is the Presidential Primary.

**I. PAYMENT OF BILLS-** Township expenses were presented in the amount of \$18,268.56. Bill Avra motioned to pay bills. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

## J. SPECIAL REPORTS

**J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report-** Zoning Administrator Amos Barnett reported he issue 4 permits last month- Preston Farms- 1097 E. Central Rd., Daniel Dymarkowski- 112 Wilmin Rd., Henry Schwartz- 535 Colvin Rd., Paul Shilling- 969 Hall Rd.

**J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report-** Don Vrablic reported New Board, Jail Study, Animal Shelter, CHC Transition and Grant Easement for Clemens property off Jonesville Rd.

**J. 3. Alganssee Library Report-** Librarian Jan Clark emailed her January 2016 report as follows- Circulation 346, Attendance 342, Hours 100, Library Computer use 95, wireless 337, Adult Programs 2 with 15 attending, Young Adult Programs 3 with 12 attending. Attendance for our in Library turned out good for our small Library. We made 2 separate Christmas projects for Adults. We had 1 movie night for young Adult with pizza and pop. We are now making more room for new books and DVDs. It is so hard for me to take older books out of system, but we need to make room. We are planning more programs for 2015, will have information on our website and on Facebook when available. Any questions or suggestions please contact us.

**J. 4. Assessor's Report** – Alganssee Assessor Erica Ewers gave her January report as follows- Michigan Tax Tribunal ruled in Tri State Premier Properties, LLC favor. The taxable value change was from \$72,705 to \$72,500, which is only a \$205 decrease which amounted to a summer bill change of \$2.22 & winter tax bill change of \$7.47. While Erica didn't agree with the ruling the cost of further appealing is greater than the amount of the refund. Tribunal allowed \$130,000 dollars for land which meant the house was at \$15,000 but no explanation as to how they came to that conclusion on the house. December Board of Review met on December 15 and approved 3 petitions. All Equalization Appraisal and Sales Studies have been finalized. The County Tillable Rate for our quadrant came in at \$4,100/acre and non-tillable at \$250/acre. By comparison the whole south came in at \$4,100; NE quadrant at \$3,500 and NW quadrant at \$4,400. Erica is working to finalize the last of the new construction this week. Data Entry continues as does working on new splits. Personal Property Statements were mailed December 31, 2015. Erica is continuing to pick up data at Equalization, Building Inspection, and Branch County Abstract & Title Office.

**K. CORRESPONDENCE-** Branch County Road Commission, Region 3 Task Force Meeting, Charter increasing rates, Dept. of Licensing Public Service Commission, MTA Seminar- Utilizing Strategic Planning and Secretary of State announcing the March 8 Presidential Primary.

**L. PUBLIC COMMENT-** Don Vrablic announced he is running again for County Commissioner.

**M. NEXT REGULAR MEETING** Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:30pm with 6:30pm budget workshop.

**N. Adjourn-** Bill Avra motioned to adjourn. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm. Suzanne Preston, Alganssee Township Clerk