

March 7, 2016 Alganssee Township Board Minutes

6:30 Budget Hearing- Supervisor Russ Jennings called the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing to order at the Alganssee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Rd., Quincy, Michigan on March 7, 2016 at 7:00pm. All Alganssee Township Board members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Bill Avra, Treasurer Ann Strong and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Ann Strong motioned to open the Alganssee Township 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing. Bill Avra supported the motion. Motion carried. The Alganssee Township board worked on the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget. Ann Strong motioned to close the Alganssee Township 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing. Bill Avra supported the motion. Motion carried.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER- on Monday, March 7, 2016 at 7:30pm Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Alganssee Township Board meeting to order at the Alganssee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Rd., Quincy, Michigan and welcomed everyone to the meeting. All Alganssee Township Board members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Bill Avra, Treasurer Ann Strong and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitors that signed in were Fred Avra, Corey Brewer, Greg Richer, John and Billie Pollack.

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

B. AGENDA- Bill Avra motioned to accept the agenda. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT- Sheriff John Pollack gave us an update about what is going on at the Branch County Sheriff's Department.

Corey Brewer wondered Alganssee Township's Assessor Erica Ewers can go people's private property without the property owner's knowledge until after the fact. Couldn't she send a postcard or call the property owner's to set up an appointment? Supervisor Russ Jennings said Erica Ewers has a right to go on private property to assess the property as the Alganssee Township Assessor. If no one is home she leaves a door hanger to notify the property owner she was there. Corey Brewer said he doesn't think that is right.

Lawn Care Bids- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported we had received 3 bids for township lawn care.- Baker's Lawn Care- \$9,000, Richer Outdoor Services- \$8,700, and W & D lawn Care- \$250/week for Lester Cemetery + \$250/week for Fisher Cemetery + \$35/week for the township hall lawn= \$15,900. Suzanne Preston motioned to accept Richer Outdoor Services bid of \$8,700. Bill Avra supported the motioned. Motion carried.

D. MINUTES- Alganssee Township Board Minutes- John Shilling motioned to accept the February 1, 2016 Alganssee Township Board minutes. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

Alganssee Planning Commission Minutes- John Shilling motioned to accept the January 25, 2016 Planning Commission minutes. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT- Treasurer Ann Strong reported the balance for March is \$379,202.94. We had income this month of \$2,236.28 and expenses of \$9,128.97. Clerk agrees. Bill Avra motioned to accept Treasurer's report. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F. 1. Quincy Fire Association- the next meeting will be on April 12th at 5:30pm.

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

F. 3. Report from Planning Commission- John Shilling reported they had a special use for a land split request for John J. Schwartz, 878 Brown Rd., Reading, Michigan, property code #120-032-400-500-00, to split off a 4 acres parcel of land from the original 80 acre parent parcel to build a non-public school house on less than 40 acres under Section 4.03 L. 2. Uses Permitted by Special Use Permit in the Algansee Zoning Ordinance. John Shilling motioned to accept the special use request for the Amish School. Suzanne Preston supported the motion. Motion carried. John Shilling also reported the Planning commission would like to have a recording secretary and Suzanne Preston said she would do it until the township can find someone else. Bill Avra motioned to have Suzanne Preston be the recording secretary until the township can find someone to be the recording secretary. Ann Strong supported the motion. Motion carried.

F. 4. Website- www.alganseetownship.com- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the website is up and running and he'll put the last three years of township zoning permits on the website.

F. 5. Ordinance Violations- none

G. OLD BUSINESS-

G. 1. Road Concerns with Amish Buggies- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the state legislators to adopt language to allow counties to register horse drawn buggies with license plates and charge fees for roads and to improve safety of buggies requiring lights. It has made it into committee.

G. 2. Request for a New Zoning Board of Appeals Member- If you know of anyone that is interested please contact the Algansee Township Board.

G. 3. Quincy Fire Dept. Budget denied by the Algansee Township Board- the Algansee Township Board would like to see a check list every month on the checks that were written for the month, need to see better accountability and management, the Quincy Fire Department needs to start saving money and the Quincy Fire Department Board needs to run the Fire Department not the Firemen.

G. 4. Any Other Old Business- none

H. NEW BUSINESS-

H. 1. Approval of the Drains at Large Assessment- John Shilling motioned to pay the Drains at Large assessment of \$5,128.04. Bill Avra supported the motion. Motion carried.

H. 2. Truth and Taxation Hearing- Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Truth and Taxation Public Hearing to order and reported the Millage reductions from the years 1999 to 2015 for Algansee Township are as follows- 1999- 0.9150, 2000- 0.9057, 2001- 0.8881, 2002- 0.8668, 2003- 0.8550, 2004- 0.8492, 2005- 0.8321, 2006- 0.8263,

2007- 0.8191, 2008- 0.8104, 2009- 0.8104, 2010- 0.8104, 2011- 0.8104, 2012- 0.8104, 2013- 0.8104, 2014- 0.8104 and 2015- 0.8035 according to the Headley amendment the amount will go down or stay the same each year. Supervisor Russ Jennings said we don't know the exact amount for this year until about June, except it won't exceed last year's amount. John Shilling motioned to open the Truth and Taxation Hearing. Ann Strong supported the motion. Motion carried. John Shilling approve the Truth and Taxation millage rate with the maximum property tax Millage rate allowed not exceeding last year's amount of .8035 in support of the proposed budget. Support by Bill Avra. Roll call vote- John Shilling- yes, Bill Avra- yes, Ann Strong- yes, Suzanne Preston- yes and Russ Jennings- yes, motion carried. Bill Avra motioned to close the truth and Taxation public hearing. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

H. 3. Budget Hearing- Supervisor Russ Jennings called the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing to order. Bill Avra motioned to open the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing. The 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget was discussed and made changes in the budget so we could balance the budget. Bill Avra motioned to accept the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget with the changes so it will be balanced. John Shilling supported the motion. Motion carried. Bill Avra motioned to close the budget hearing. John Shilling supported the motion. Motion carried.

H. 4. 2016 Board of Review Dates- March Board of Review Organizational meeting will be March 8th at 2:00pm in the Supervisor's office at the township hall. March Board of Review dates will be Wednesday, March 16th from 9:00am to 12 noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm and Thursday March 17th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and 6:00pm to 9:00pm.

H. 5. Lawn Care Bids- already discussed.

H. 6. Annual Meeting is Saturday March 26, 2016- Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the Algansee Township Annual Meeting is the last Saturday in March. What time would the Algansee Township Board want to hold the Annual Meeting? Bill Avra motioned to hold the Annual Meeting at 9:00am on Saturday March 26, 2016. Ann Strong supported the motion. Motion carried.

H. 7. Letter from Terry Barror- sent to the Algansee Township's attorney blaming Algansee Township.

H. 8. Any Other New Business- none

I. PAYMENT OF BILLS- Township expenses were presented in the amount of \$13,910.81 this is including the Drains at Large and the March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary elections workers. John Shilling motioned to pay bills. Motion supported by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

J. SPECIAL REPORTS

J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report- Zoning Administrator Amos Barnett reported he issued 5 zoning permits for the month of March- Lance LA Fountain at 1054 Fisher Rd. property code#120-003-400-010-01 2- 7 x 34 decks, John Schwartz at 878 Brown Rd property code#120-032-400-005-00 a 30 x 40 school house, Jake Girod at 895 Lester Rd. property code#120-032-200-005-97 add a 9 x 16 lean to unto the barn, Reuben Girod at 891 Lester Rd. property code#120-033-200-005-03 add a 32 x40 pole barn

addition, Menno Girod at 910 Schwartz Lane property code #120-021-300-015-01 add a 12 x 15 addition to the house and a 20 x 38 addition to the barn.

J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report- Don Vrablic was absent.

J. 3. Alganssee Library Report- Librarian Jan Clark emailed her March 2016 report as follows- Circulation 355, Attendance 323, Hours 95, wireless 159, in Library computers 56, Adult Program 1 with 5 attending, 3 Young Adult Programs with 18 attending, 3 Juvenile programs with 9 attending. The Adult Program was cross stitch. We are planning more Adult, Young Adult and children Programs for this spring and summer. Alganssee Library was closed 1 day because of weather. There are a lot of new books and DVD's arriving every week for all ages. Come in and check us out.

J. 4. Assessor's Report – Alganssee Assessor Erica Ewers gave her 2016 March report as follows- Notices of Assessment were in the mail on March 1, 2016. Most of the personal property statements were filed by the deadline. There are still a few that are not filing and would be eligible for the exemption. March Board of Review Organizational meeting will be March 8th at 2:00pm in the Supervisor's office at the township hall. March Board of Review dates will be Wednesday, March 16th from 9:00am to 12 noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm and Thursday March 17th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Erica is working to have everything ready for Board of Review and currently working on getting all the required maps color coded for the State AMAR review. All Veteran Exemption Applications have been processed and are ready for Board of Review approval. Erica is continuing to pick up data at Equalization, Building Inspection, and Branch County Abstract & Title Office.

K. CORRESPONDENCE- Letter from Tim Kling about finding the proper spot for his Mother's burial in the family plot.

L. PUBLIC COMMENT- Suzanne Preston reminded everyone to come vote in the Presidential Primary tomorrow. The polls are open from 7:00am to 8:00pm. Ann Strong motioned to pay election workers. Support by Suzanne Preston. Motion carried.

M. NEXT REGULAR MEETING Monday, April 4, 2016 at 7:30pm with 7:00pm Budget Hearing. The Alganssee Township's Annual Meeting will be March 26, 2016 at 9:00am.

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

Suzanne Preston, Alganssee Township Clerk