

## October 3, 2016 Algansee Township Board Minutes

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** on Monday, October 3, 2016 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 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. Visitors that signed in were Joan Oldham, Harold Sneath, Jamie Wietecki, Marge & Pete Inde, Bobbie Trine, Susan Shilling, Ted Stabley, Linda Belcher, Sandra & Gerald Rogers, Earl Waterstrat, Philip Donato, Robert Shilling, Don Reid and Fred Avra.

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

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

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT-** Kimberlee Bontrager from Locey C.P.A. L.L.C. gave the unqualified audit report for Algansee Township. Ann Strong motioned to pay Locey C.P.A. L.L.C. \$5,125.00 for the audit with year ending 3-31-2016 and prepare F-65 Form and Qualifying Statement. Bill Avra supported the motion. Motion carried. Philip Donato representing Lena Donato asked why the Algansee Township Zoning Administrator Amos Barnett was asked to resign. Mick Belcher asked why Amos Barnett was asked to resign. Supervisor Russ Jennings said Amos wrote some zoning permits that never should have been written. The Algansee Township Zoning Administrator should know the Township Zoning Ordinance it states non-conforming use cannot go horizontal. People can't keep adding on to a non-conforming use. Linda Belcher said people aren't asking for Zoning Board of Appeals variations because of cost. Jamie Wietecki said ZBA meetings need a quorum and in the State of Michigan 2 out of 3 members isn't a quorum. There aren't term limits on the ZBA board. Supervisor Russ Jennings said it was hard to ask Amos to resign because he is a nice person. John Shilling said we took Amos' rights away from him. Bill Avra said he talked with John Shilling about farmers aren't the only people in the township. It shouldn't be just Lansing with the Right to Farm Act have the only say about where the agricultural barns could be built in the township. Bill said he isn't against farming. Mick Belcher said his employees had an evaluation each year. Did we give Amos an evaluation so he knew where he could improve? We know zoning is to protect the people and their neighbors in the township. Fred Avra said we should all be here for each other. John Shilling wondered who would want to take the Zoning Administrators job. Russ Jennings said he is the Zoning Administrator in Ovid Township and they need to have an up to date land survey before they can receive a zoning permit. Joan Oldham wondered if they could comment on the Master Plan now. Supervisor Russ Jennings asked if people could leave their comments about the Master Plan on the Algansee Township website.

**D. MINUTES- Algansee Township Board Minutes-** John Shilling motioned to accept the September 6, 2016 Algansee Township Board minutes. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**Algansee Planning Commission Minutes-** Bill Avra motioned to accept the August 29, 2016 Planning Commission minutes. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

**E. TREASURER'S REPORT-** Treasurer Ann Strong reported the Income this was month of \$28,748.18 and expenses of \$32,666.67 making our balance for October at \$456,017.60. 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-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the next Quincy Fire Association meeting will be October 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Supervisor Russ Jennings said if the Quincy Fire Department can receive a grant for a new fire truck he would be in favor for purchasing the truck, if not he doesn't see how any of the entities of the Quincy Fire Department can afford to purchase a new truck. The Quincy Fire Department should be saving money for such a purchase. The Algansee Township Board agreed with Supervisor Russ Jennings.

**F. 2. Report from Planning Commission-** John Shilling reported Algansee Township Planning Commission met on September 26<sup>th</sup> and approved a land split for Michael and Marion May at 1235 Campbell Road property code #120-024-100-010-99 to split off 1.03 acres from the parent parcel containing 59.5 acres. John Shilling motioned to approve land split for Michael and Marion May. Support by Bill Avra support. Motion carried.

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

**F.4. Website** [www.algansee.com](http://www.algansee.com) - Supervisor Russ Jennings reported website is running and Master Plan changes are highlighted on website so can compare changes to the Master Plan and to add their comments.

**F. 5. Ordinance Violations-**none

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

**G. 1. Road Concerns with Amish Buggies-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the state legislators are working on language to allow counties to register horse drawn buggies with license plates and charge fees for roads to improve safety of buggies requiring lights. We're waiting to hear from the State.

**G. 2. Master Plan Posted on Township's Website for Review and Comments-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the township's Master Plan draft is posted on the township's website for review and comments.

**G. 3. Any Other Old Business-** Has anyone contacted the Health Department about Chris Donato Jr.'s septic tank? Supervisor Russ Jennings explained needs to be someone in neighborhood because township has no control over it.

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS-**

**H. 1. Hammond Road Contract-** John Shilling motioned to approve \$6,000 for 1 mile of ditching and more gravel on Hammond Road. Support by Bill Avra. Roll call vote John Shilling-yes, Bill Avra- yes, Russ Jennings-yes, Ann Strong- yes and Suzanne Preston- yes. Motion carried.

**H. 2. Branch County Road Commission** -Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the Road Commission is no longer doing any road maintenance on private roads. Supervisor Russ Jennings presented a letter he will send to the residents on Bickford Drive who have had the County Road Commission do their road work.

**H. 3. Public Accuracy Test-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the public accuracy test will be on October 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.

**H. 4. Election Inspectors for Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> General Election-** Bill Avra motioned to hire and pay the election inspectors as follows- Amos Barnett, Joanne Finley, Robert Migrin, Beverly Siefken, Deb Vanderpool and Joy Wood. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**H. 5. Permit Issued in Error at 190 Dons Drive and 114 Wright Road** - Supervisor Russ Jennings he turned over the permits for our attorney to review. Attorney said on 190 Dons Drive the township needs to issue a stop work order and to apply for a variance and on 114 Wright Road can't build in an easement.

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

**I. PAYMENT OF BILLS-** Township expenses were presented in the amount of \$42,001.75. Bill Avra motioned to pay the bills. John Shilling supported the motion. Motion carried.

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

**J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported he issued 7 zoning permits for the month of September- Zoning Permit #821 issued to William Schwartz at 856 Lester Rd. Zoning Permit #822 issued to Joseph Girod at 677 Hamman Rd. Zoning Permit #823 issued to Simon S. Eicher at 568 Colvin Rd. Zoning Permit #823 issued to Simon S. Eicher at 568 Colvin Rd. Zoning Permit # 824 issued to Joseph Girod at 655 S. Ray Quincy Rd. Zoning Permit #825 issued to Daniel Richards at 830 Whistler Dr. Zoning Permit #826 issued to Bruno Janoski at 175 Dons Dr. Zoning Permit #827 issued to Lovina Eicher at 523 Hamman Rd.

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

**J. 3. Alganssee Library Report-** Librarian Jan Clark emailed her September 2016 report as follows- Circulation 322, Attendance 386, Hours 115, computer use 110, wireless use 939, 1 Adult program with 6 attending, 1 Young Adult program with 2 attending and 3 Juvenile programs with 10 attending. John Rucker the assistant Director from Coldwater Library is working on project for our internet service, which I know he will be in touch with you folks at the Alganssee Board. Our copy and fax machine quit working, but now we up and running again with a new machine! Our fall Wreath Program went really well with 6 attending, which was a good attendance, the room was full. All took their projects home, pictures are on Alganssee Facebook. A lot of new books, DVD's and magazines for all ages, come in and check out your Library! Any questions or suggestions, please let us know. When we do have a new program I will have been putting an ad in Shoppers guide and on Branch District Library Alganssee Branch Website and Facebook. Erica Ewers wanted reported by the Library received a quote from DMCI for an 80 foot tower with concrete base \$4,296.20, has to go before the tech committee for approval to come out of the Capital fund.

**J. 4. Assessor's Report-** Alganssee Assessor Erica Ewers gave her October 2016 report as follows- AMAR (Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements) review time has been set for October 20, 2016 between 8 am and noon for the 4 units she assesses. The review will be held at the meeting room at the courthouse Annex. Not sure what order they will be completed in. Erica finalized the last 4 hours of required training last week by completing a webinar on Land divisions and zoning that was hosted by MSU Extension. There were a lot of valuable suggestions in this class, putting several recommendations together for implementation. Most have to do with the application process. She sent out 79 letters on September 30, 2016 to all owners that have pulled permits indicating that we would be out between October 1 and December 31. This letter has been reworked in 3<sup>rd</sup> person to post on website and for Russ to put in the newsletter. Met with McCann's and got their land split application completed. Deeds and other items have been printed for the past two weeks and are waiting data entry along with a few splits, continuing to pick up data at Equalization, Building Inspection and Branch County Abstract & Title Office.

**K. CORRESPONDENCE-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported he received correspondence from the DEQ about the seawall installation on Belchers on Bennett Drive and Dennis McClinton at Winhoven Drive, and Secretary of State Ruth Johnson declaring there will be an election on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

**L. PUBLIC COMMENT-**none. **M. NEXT REGULAR MEETING** Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:30pm.

**N. Adjourn-** Ann Strong motioned to adjourn. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. Suzanne Preston, Alganssee Township Clerk