

On Tuesday, January 2, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. the ALGANSEE TOWNSHIP BOARD met at the Algansee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Road, Quincy, Michigan. All board members were present- Supervisor Erica Ewers, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee Bill Avra, Trustee John Shilling and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitors present that signed in were Duane Barnett, Susan Shilling, Sam and Joyce Clark, Tom and Mary Alice Schomaeker, Mick Belcher, Fred Avra, Judy Bailey and Mickey Rubley.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Supervisor Erica Ewers called the January 2, 2007 meeting to order at 7:30p.m. Suzanne Preston led us in the pledge to the American Flag.

B. AGENDA- ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS- Suzanne Preston motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of school elections. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

C. Public Comment- none

D. MINUTES- Bill Avra motioned to accept the December 2, 2006 Algansee Township Special Meeting minutes as presented. Support Ann Strong by. Motion carried. Supervisor Erica Ewers said it will be posted on the township's website by tomorrow night. John Shilling motioned to accept the December 4, 2006 Algansee Township minutes. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

E. 1. January Report- Treasurer Ann Strong reported the township balance at the last meeting, December 4, 2006 was \$501,927.82, the township had income this past month of \$2,813.37 and the township had expenses this past month of \$13,772.50 giving the township a balance of for this month \$495,712.26. The Clerk agrees. Suzanne Preston motioned to accept the January 2, 2007 Treasurer's report. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

E. 2. Winter Tax Collection - Ann Strong reported some winter & summer taxes were paid last month.

E. 3. Budget Workshop Meeting Scheduled- Suzanne Preston motioned to hold the budget workshop at 6:30 p.m. on February 5th before the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F. 1. Quincy Fire Association – Supervisor Erica Ewers reported they held a quick meeting on Dec. 27th. They had only a quorum present. They approved the budget, voted to accept the lowest bid on insurance which was with the same company they have had.

F. 2. Report from the Algansee Township Planning Commission - John Shilling reported the Planning Commission didn't have their regular meeting.

F. 3. Report from Algansee Township Zoning Board of Appeals- Bill Avra reported they met once last month, the other 2 were postponed until April.

F. 4. Report from Algansee Township Building Committee- nothing to report.

F. 5. Website (www.alganseetownship.com) - nothing to report.

G. OLD BUSINESS

G. 1. Ordinance Violations- Barn Letters- Josephine Wineland- corner of Briggs & Central Rd., Patti Knirk-Potter Rd. just south of Central Rd., Carmen Stout- 880 Hall Rd. - barn down, Dennis Stout- 920 Hall Rd. - barn down, Bernard Connin- 959 Campbell Rd. - working on, building gone, Roger VanLieu- main farm- 481 Phillip Rd. **Junk Violations (New Guidelines effective 12-15-06)** - Civil Infraction- **McConnell Estate/ William McCafferty-** 837 Crauns Lane. **Zoning Violations- Civil Infraction- Jim Burke-** 195 S. Ray Quincy Rd- informal is hearing on January 23rd at 10:30 a.m. **Injunctive Orders-** Jacob Eicher- 507 Hammon Road & Sam Girod Jr. 671 S. Ray Quincy Road court date pending. Harold Sneath 231 Donnell Drive (mailing address) – pre- trial hearing Jan. 9th.

G. 2. Cemeteries- we will take the sexton and lawn mowing bids next month.

G. 3. Board of Review Appointment- Supervisor Erica Ewers reported that Raymond Kranz, Joe Sneath, Barb Lloyd and Deb Newberry applied for the vacant position on the Board of Review. Bill Avra motioned to appoint Deb Newberry to the Board of Review. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

G. 4. Any Other Old Business- none

H. NEW BUSINESS

H. 1. Planning Commission - Planning didn't meet in the month of December. They need to set some workshop dates when the township planner will be able to come down.

H. 2. 2007 Assessing Items- a. Poverty Guidelines- The following are the federal poverty income standards which the United States Office of Management and Budget recommends that the federal departments and agencies use. The standards are actually compiled and published by the Bureau of the Census which refers to them as “poverty thresholds”. 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, 2006 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2007 assessments:

Number of person residing in homestead	Annual allowable Income
1	\$ 9,800
2	\$13,200
3	\$16,600
4	\$20,000
5	\$23,400
6	\$26,800
7	\$30,200
8	\$33,600
For each additional person add	\$3,400

Suzanne Preston motioned to accept the poverty guidelines. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

H.2. b. Board of Review Resolutions- Supervisor Erica Ewers read the Board of Review resolution as follows- Whereas, Public Act 194, 2003 allows the township board by resolution to select an alternative date in March when the board of review shall initially meet, Whereas, MCL 211.30 provides the alternative starting date shall be held the Tuesday or Wednesday following the second Monday of March, Whereas, the Algansee 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 Algansee Township Board of Review will meet on Wednesday, March 14, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Thursday, March 15, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The foregoing resolution was offered by Board member Erica Ewers. Second offered by Board Member Ann Strong. Upon Roll call vote the following voted John Shilling- yes, Bill Avra- yes, Erica Ewers- yes, Ann Strong- yes, and Suzanne Preston- yes. The Supervisor declared the resolution carried.

H. 3. PA- 116 Withdrawal Request- Supervisor Erica Ewers said Kim Stempien is requesting to take out 2 acres of land that is in the PA116 program and she needs township board approval. Suzanne Preston motioned to allow Kim Stempien to take the 2 acres out of PA 116. Support by Ann Strong. Roll call vote- John Shilling-yes, Bill Avra-yes, Erica Ewers- yes, Ann Strong- yes, and Suzanne Preston- yes, motion carried.

H. 4. Branch County Road Commission- Supervisor Erica Ewers reported our time to meet with the Branch County Road Commission is on Thursday, February 8, 2007 at 1:45 p.m. if that is ok with the board members. It is fine with the board members. Seal coating is \$3,000/mile and the township has 4.6 miles of roads that need it for a total of \$13,800. Dust control is \$1,000/mile and the township has 31.32 miles of gravel roads for a total of \$15,660.

H. 4.5 School Elections- the Clerk reported it is time to renew the school election contracts with the Branch and Hillsdale counties. She wondered if anyone had heard any complaints about the Reading school district residents in the township voting in Reading, because the school elections meeting were coming up soon if we needed to make changes. The Hillsdale County Clerk still wants to handle the school elections in the county. No one has heard of any.

H. 5. Any Other Business- Joyce Clark said she wants to make sure it is in the minutes that her committee thinks that Dave Gilbert should resign. She doesn't think that he should be chairman of both the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. She said if they are turned down from one board they are automatically turned down at the other board. Joyce Clark also wondered about Debbie Lounds building on to the front of her house and her leach field is leaking into it. Supervisor Erica Ewers told her the township does not deal with septic tank issues and that if she has a concern to talk to the County Health Dept. She also wondered how Debbie Lounds can expand on nonconforming property. She does meet the setback requirements. If anyone meets the setback requirements then they will receive a zoning permit. Joyce also wondered if Debbie contacted her neighbor that she is blocking the neighbors view. Ask the neighbor and Debbie. Joyce said she would contact the Health Dept.

I. Payment of Bills- Expenses were presented in the amount of \$8,617.33 plus Board of Review training. Bill Avra motioned to pay the bills. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

J. SPECIAL REPORTS

J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report- Russ Jennings reported 3 permits were issued in December.

J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report- Mickey Rubley updated us on the Commissioners.

J. 3. Algansee Library Report- Circulation was 698, attendance was 324, hours open were 84, internet use was 135, and hours open were 92.

J. 4. Assessor's Report - Supervisor Erica Ewers reported that we have already covered her report tonight.

K. Correspondences- Michigan Right to Farm- Jan. 25th at 6-8 in Adrian. MSU Extension is offering the Citizen Planner workshops in Adrian this winter.

L. Public Comment- none

M. Next Meeting- next meeting will be on Monday, February 5, 2007 starting at 6:30 p.m. with the budget workshop followed by the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Algansee Township Hall.

N. Adjournment- Bill Avra motioned to adjourn. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Suzanne Preston, Clerk