

# August 7, 2017 Algansee Township Board Minutes

**7:00pm Review Language for QFD Millage Proposal-** Supervisor Russ Jennings called the special meeting to order to review the language for the QFD millage proposal. All Members were present: Supervisor Russ Jennings, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Harold Sneath and Clerk Suzanne Preston. The Algansee Township Board members worked on the language of the QFD millage proposal.

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. Supervisor Russ Jennings thanked everyone for coming and called the Algansee Township Board meeting to order at the Algansee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Road, Quincy, Michigan. All Members were present: Supervisor Russ Jennings, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Harold Sneath and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitors that signed in were Don Vrablic- Branch County Commissioner, Greg Parker, Susan Shilling, John & Billie Pollack, Dennis Higbee, Denny Higbee, Jeff Ewers, Fred Avra, Billie Avra and Darin Higbee.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Suzanne Preston led us in the pledge to the American flag.

**B. AGENDA- ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS-** Ann Strong motioned to accept the agenda with the addition of the petition to close McNitt Road to new business and Norie Horn's summer taxes under Treasurer's report. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT-** Sheriff John Pollack gave us an update on the Branch County Sheriff's Department. Supervisor Russ Jennings asked if there was any other public comment and there wasn't any.

**D. MINUTES- Algansee Township Board July 3, 2017 Minutes-** Ann Strong motioned to accept the July 3, 2017 Algansee Township Board minutes. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

**Algansee Township Planning Commission June 26, 2017 Minutes-** John Shilling motioned to accept June 26, 2017 Algansee Planning Commission minutes. Support by Harold Sneath. Motion carried.

**E. TREASURER'S REPORT- July Treasurer's Report-** Treasurer Ann Strong reported township's balance for last month was \$475,788.88, income was \$25,261.39 and expenses were \$12,199.39, giving the township a balance for of \$488,850.32. Harold Sneath motioned to accept August 7, 2017 Treasurer's report. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried. The Clerk agrees. Treasurer Ann Strong reported the township audit will be August 22, 2017. Treasurer Ann Strong reported Norie Horn called to say she used billpay to pay her summer taxes on time and she received a late fee and was requesting the township to pay her late fee because she paid the taxes on time. Harold Sneath motioned to deny Norie Horn's request for the township to pay her late fee. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

**F. COMMITTEE REPORTS- F. 1. Quincy Fire Association-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported Quincy Fire Department's next meeting will be August 8, 2017 at 5:30pm.

**F. 2. Planning and Zoning Commission Report-** John Shilling reported Amish family living in shop/barn they requested a zoning permit for a shop/barn not a house.

**F. 3. Zoning Board of Appeals-** Harold Sneath reported they did not meet last month.

**F. 4. Website- [alganseetownship.com](http://alganseetownship.com)-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported website looks user friendly.

**F. 5. Ordinance Violations-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported notice was sent June 14, 2017 to Gerl Pish's property at 1288 Fisher Road with the partially attached double wide to the house with no footers, the garage has no footers and is leaning, 4 vehicles that aren't plated and junk accumulation. A zoning permit was issued over a year ago. It doesn't appear to have any clean up started.

## G. OLD BUSINESS

**G. 1. Road Concerns with Amish Buggies-** Supervisor Russ Jennings said he doesn't think anything will happen so he would like to take this item off the agenda.

**G. 2. Dust Control-** John Shilling reported the dust control by S & M Liquid Tire Fill hasn't worked well.

**G. 3. Any Other Old Business-** none

## H. NEW BUSINESS

**H. 1. Quincy Fire Department Proposal for Millage and/or Capital Fund -** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported all for entities voted to hold an election for a Quincy Fire Department millage. He urged everyone to attend the Quincy Fire Department meeting tomorrow night at 5:30pm. Supervisor Russ Jennings read the resolution the Algansee Township Board worked on before the regular meeting as follows- Algansee Township Millage Proposal, requesting millage proposal fire trucks and equipment millage, Shall the

limitation on the amount of taxes, which may, be assessed against all property in Alganssee Township, Branch County, Michigan, by an amount not to exceed 0.5 mills (\$.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) under the tax limitation imposed under Article 1x, Sec. 6 of the Michigan constitution and levy said increase for 10 years, 2017 through 2018 inclusive Capital funds for trucks and equipment, if approved the 0.5 mills increase will raise approximately \$39,865 in the first year the millage is levied. John Shilling motioned to support the resolution. Support by Ann Strong. Supervisor Russ Jennings called for roll call vote- John Shilling- yes, Harold Sneath- yes, Russ Jennings- yes, Ann Strong- yes and Suzanne Preston- yes. Motion carried. Supervisor Russ Jennings said the resolution and language need to be turned into the Branch County clerk by August 15<sup>th</sup> to be on the 2017 November ballot.

**H. 2. Petition to Close One Half Mile of McNitt Road-** Dennis, Denny and Daring Higbee presented a petition with McNitt road property owners to close McNitt Road a half mile at Colvin Road. Denny Higbee said they would like to drag line manure on both sides of the road; it would be easier if the road wasn't there. He said only 4 vehicles travel on that road every day. John Shilling motioned to table the request to get more information from the Branch County Road Commission, Branch County Sheriff's Department, Quincy Fire Department and the Alganssee Township Zoning Administrator. Support by Harold Sneath. Motion carried. **H. 3. Any Other New Business-** none

**I. Payment of Bills-** Bills were presented in the amount of \$30,218.90. John Shilling motioned to pay the bills. Support by Harold Sneath. Motion carried.

## **J. SPECIAL REPORTS**

**J. 1. Zoning Administrator's Report-** Zoning Administrator Matt Ashenfelter reported he had issued 8 for the month of July as follows- 1. Zoning Permit 873 to Ronald and Marian Smith at 416 Potter Rd., Parcel code 120-023-200-015-00, type Ag, for a 34 x 72 pole barn, date issued 6-30-2017, fee \$40.  
2. Zoning Permit 874 to Ronald Luntz at 736 E. Central Rd., parcel code 120-007-300-200-04, type Ag, date issued 7-6-2017 for a 10 x 16 shed, date issued 7-6-2017, fee \$40.  
3. Zoning Permit 875 to Joseph Girod at 677 Hamman Rd., parcel code 120-033-200-005-08, type Ag for an 8 x 32 front porch, date issued 7-11-2017, fee \$40.  
4. Zoning Permit 876 to Henry Schwartz at 539 Hamman Rd., parcel code 120-028-200-010-01, type Ag, for a 8 x 20 rear porch and a 8 x 32 front porch, date issued 7-11-2017, fee \$40.  
5. Zoning Permit 877 to Darrell Benfield at 257 S. Briggs Rd., parcel code 120-011-400-015-01, type Ag, for a 10 x 20 shed, date issued 7-12-2017, fee \$40.  
6. Zoning Permit 878 to James Runkle at 827 Teal Dr., parcel code 120-M10-000-008-00, type R-1, for a 8 x 12 shed, date issued 7-17-2017, fee \$40.  
7. Zoning Permit 879 to Anthony and Brittany Smith at 789 Fisher Rd., parcel code 120-005-100-060-04, type R-2, for a 2,433 sq. ft. new house, date issued 7-18-2017, fee. \$40, hand delivered violation letter on July 5, 2017. He sent Robert Miller Trust (land contract lien holder) a violation letter on July 5, 2017. Robert Miller called to voice concerns about land contract default.  
8. Zoning Permit 880 issued to Dan Schwartz at 934 Schwartz Ln., parcel code 120-021-300-015-02, type Ag, a 24 x 40 addition and a 26 x 26 wood shed, date issued 7-24-2017, fee \$40.

Zoning Administrator Matt Ashenfelter reported he has had inquiries about land for solar farms. Harold Sneath motioned to review zoning language for solar farms. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

**J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report-** Don Vrablic gave his Branch County Commissioners report as follows 1. Autopsy increase 2. New MSUE District Educators in swine and dairy, 3. 2016 Audit 4. Amended county soil erosion ordinance updated 5. 5. Unemployment rate down in the state to 3.8% in June.

**J. 3. Alganssee Library Email Report-** Alganssee Library Branch Manager Janice Clark's August 7, 2017

Report as follows- Circulation 390, Attendance 378, Hours 101, Computer use 82, Wireless 862. We had 2 Summer Reading Programs this month at the Pine Ridge Bible Church. The first was the Polka Music and second Cup Stacking, 14 patrons attending each program. The Alganssee Friends put on an End of Summer Reading Party July 29th with a good crowd for prizes and a good game of corn hole. All had a lot of fun and enjoyed their goodie bags put together by the Alganssee Friends. The Alganssee Friends also provided snacks for all. We are planning 1 more Program for this year, will advertise when we decide program that all will enjoy. Adult sign up for Summer Reading was 12 with 12 finishing. Juvenile sign up was 20 with all finished and 7 Young Adults sign up with 6 finishing. Maybe we will see you at the Fair. The Branch District Libraries and The Branch District Library Friends will have booths for all to see. Stop by and check us out.

**J. 4. Assessor's Report-** Supervisor Erica Ewers gave her August report as follows- She attended Assessors training classes on July 10-12 and received 20 hours of credit for 2017. July Board of Review met on July 18, 2017 at 2:00pm had 14 petition petitions submitted. The petitions were copied and distributed to all parties on July 19, 2017. Erica received the residential Sales Study from the county and finalized with the county. The overall residential increase is 3% for 2018. Data entry was caught up as of August 1<sup>st</sup> and then received a split application that is waiting data entry. She is continuing to pick up data at Equalization Department, Building Inspection Department and Branch County Abstract & Title Office.

**K. Correspondences-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported Consumers Energy hearing on August 8, 2017 and August 15, 2017.

**L. Public Comment-** Fred Avra said residents need to get involved and let the Quincy Fire Department know they need to do a better job managing the money that is given to them, they can't keep spending. Darin Higbee wondered who is going to oversee the money if the millage passes. Bill Avra said the Quincy Fire Department said they have always over spent. There wasn't any other public comment.

**M. Next Meeting-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the next meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Alganssee Township Hall.

**N. Adjournment-** Ann Strong motioned to adjourn. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm. Suzanne Preston, Clerk