

# January 6, 2020 Alganssee Township Board Minutes

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** on Monday, January 6, 2019 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. He thanked everyone for coming. All members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee John Shilling, Trustee Harold Sneath, and Clerk, Anne Gary. Visitors that signed in Fred Avra, Rod Bassage, Cassidy Kaiser.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**- Clerk Anne Gary led the pledge to the American flag.

**B. Agenda Additions/Deletions** – John Shilling motioned to approve with no additions or deletions. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

## **C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**C.1.** Supervisor Russ Jennings opened the floor to public comment from Branch County. Tom Matthew, appointed County Commissioner for District 3. Tom’s contact information is phone 937-524-9663 and email [tmatthew@countyofbranch.com](mailto:tmatthew@countyofbranch.com). Tom introduced himself as one of our neighbors. He lives in Kinderhook Township. He is a father of four and grandfather of two. Tom has been with the organization the past two months. He gave as summary of his education and experience.

## **D MINUTES**

**D.1. December 2, 2019 Township Board minutes** – Harold Sneath motioned to approve. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

**D.2. Planning Commission minutes** – Planning Commission did not meet.

## **E. TREASURER’S REPORT**

**E.1. December Treasurer’s Report** - Treasurer Ann Strong reported the township’s December balance was \$486,392.30 with December income of \$4,402.78 and expenses of \$28,169.60 giving a January balance of \$508,467.30 The Clerk agrees. Harold Sneath motioned to accept Treasurer’s report. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

## **F. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**F.1. Quincy Fire Association** – Supervisor Russ Jennings serves on the Finance Committee of the Quincy Fire Association. Next meeting of the Fire Association is Thursday February 13, 2020.

**F.2. Planning Commission Report** – Planning Commission did not meet.

**F.3. Zoning Board of Appeals** – ZBA did not meet.

**F.4. Alganssee web site** – Supervisor Russ Jennings will submit new postings to the web periodically to save on costs of web site changes.

### **F.5. Ordinance Violations**

\* Pridgeon Farms – Trash remains visible in the yard. Supervisor Russ Jennings will send an email to Martha Pridgeon regarding removal of trash.

## **G. OLD BUSINESS**

**G.1.** Mallard Cove – Supervisor Russ Jennings made a request for address labels printed for each Mallard Cove Property in anticipation of the need to do a mailing.

**G.2.** Elections Source payment plan for maintenance of election equipment. John Shilling motioned to approve the annual payment of \$385.00 for seven years. Support by Harold Sneath. Motion carried.

**G.3.** Request for new library rent contract. Will review February 3, 2020 at the annual township budget meeting.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS**

**H.1.** Reviewed Branch County Road Commission Suggested and Prioritized road maintenance. John Shilling and Russ Jennings will tour the roads to review the County’s recommendations. The contract will need to be signed by March, 2020. The total burden sharing request at the township level is approximately \$81,000.

**H.2.** Quincy Fire Department (QFD) proposed budget for 2020. Request from QFD is for an approximate increase of 3% for Alganssee Township. In reviewing the numbers, Supervisor Russ Jennings stated the increase for members remaining in the Fire Association doesn’t appear to be 3% across the board. Butler Township is no longer part of the Association and has completed a negotiated annual contract of fixed cost of \$35,000 annually for 5 years. Taxpayers of Alganssee Township currently support the QFD at level of approximately 32% of their budget for 2020.

**H.3.** Supervisor Russ Jennings nominated Matt Ashenfelter to the Board of Review (BOR). Harold Sneath motioned to approved the nomination. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried. Matt will need to complete the mandatory BOR training.

**H.4.** Clerk Anne Gary shared letter from the Branch County Clerk's Office regarding 2020 election cycle. The County will no longer program the ballots for all elections. For 2020 and 2021 township will be invoiced from Election Source for \$350 flat fee per precinct, per election. The County Clerk's office will still burn the flashcards and load the flash drives for the voting machines. No motion required at this time.

**H.5.** Township budget meeting will be held at 6:30 pm Monday February 3, 2020. Supervisor Russ Jennings requested Clerk Anne Gary to print and post a sign in the window of entry door into the Township Hall. When the public meeting for budget review, a notice will need to be posted in the local newspaper.

**I. Bills-** Harold Sneath motioned to pay \$28,169.60 in bills. Support by John Shilling. Motion carried.

## **J. SPECIAL REPORTS**

**J.1. Zoning Administrator's Report** - Zoning Administrator, Matt Ashenfelter, December report, copy provided to the Board. Matt stated the drafts of language for solar panel installation are ready for review and approval. Regarding the Wilkinson Trust, and proposed land split of 36 acres, Matt will work with the Planning Commission to get the language for the request.

**J.2. Branch County Commissioner's Report** – Tom Matthew introduced himself during Public Comment as appointed Commissioner for Dan Vrablic's unexpired term.

**J.3. Alganssee Library Report-** Alganssee Library Branch Manager Janice Clark's report read by Supervisor Russ Jennings.

**J.4. Assessor's Report-** Assessor, Erica Ewers, December 5, 2019 – January 6, 2020 report, copy provided to the Board. Erica highlighted taxpayers who have installed Alternative Energy Systems the past 2 years will now be exempt if they file a Mathieu Gast form. It is a delayed entry on their property tax bill. Once the property is sold, the new owner will be assessed on the alternative energy improvement.

**K. Correspondence** – Supervisor Russ Jennings reviewed correspondence from State Representative Eric Leutheuser about legislation pending for regulations of Amish buggies. If bills pass, individual Counties will regulate the requirements.

**L. Public Comment** – Cassidy Kaiser, 2006 graduate of Quincy High School, has returned to the Quincy area. Cassidy is starting her own Chiropractic business. Fred Avra explained his absence for the most recent BOR meeting.

**M. Next Meeting-** Supervisor Russ Jennings reported the next regular meeting will be Monday, February 3, 2020 7:30 pm at the Alganssee Township Hall immediately following the Township budget meeting at 6:30 pm.

**N. Adjournment-** Ann Strong motioned to adjourn. Support by Harold Sneath. Motion carried. The Alganssee Township Board meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Anne Gary, Clerk