

May 3, 2021 Alganssee Township Board Minutes

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:30 pm. Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Alganssee Township Board meeting to order. All members were present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Treasurer Sarah Strong, Trustee Jason Shilling, Trustee Rod Bassage, and Clerk Anne Gary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Clerk Anne Gary led the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Agenda Additions/Deletions – Motion to approve agenda by Rod Bassage. Support by Sarah Strong. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT – John Pollack, Sheriff’s report 1st Quarter, 2021. Beginning the finish work on the Jail construction, parking lots begin May, 2021. Notable increase in personal injury accidents. Current staffing 4 Deputies, 3 new Deputies start training May, 2021.

John Rucker, Director Branch District Library. John introduced Lynnell Eash who will be managing the Alganssee Library on an interim basis splitting her time between Bronson Library and Alganssee Library. Current patron activity averages 150-200 visitors monthly. Wi-Fi hot spots may be checked out for 2-week periods. Grab & go kits have been popular.

D MINUTES

D.1. April 2021 Board Minutes - Motion by Rod Bassage to approve minutes. Support by Jason Shilling. Motion carried.

D.2. April 2021 Planning Commission Minutes – Approval of minutes by Township Board. Motion by Jason Shilling to approve. Support by Sarah Strong. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER’S REPORT

April Treasurer’s Report – The Township’s April balance was \$606,610.89 with April income of \$42,331.24 and March expenses of \$32,074.62 giving a May balance of \$616,867.51. The Clerk agrees. Rod Bassage motioned to accept the May Treasurer’s report. Support by Jason Shilling. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F.1. Quincy Fire Association (QFA) – Trustee Rod Bassage reported QFA will be receiving 30 new radios and pagers paid for by the surcharge. QFA provides automatic assist with calls covered by the Coldwater Fire Department. This is a reciprocal arrangement. Coldwater is manned 24/7; whereas QFD is a volunteer force.

F.2. Planning Commission Report – April 26, 2021 Trustee Jason Shilling reported first request by Archer Lake Waters Sports (ALWS) to rezone from R-2 to C-1 to accommodate expanding an existing building for commercial showroom didn’t pass. Second request for a Special Use Hearing was tabled until ALWS meets with the Zoning Board of Appeals. **April 27, 2021** land split request by Billie Avra was reviewed. Township Board approval is pending Planning Commission approval of April 27, 2021 Planning commission minutes.

F.3. Zoning Board of Appeals – no report.

F.4. Alganssee website – no reported website issues.

F.5. Ordinance Violations – Ad posted in local newspapers requesting corporation with Township Ordinance of removal of political signs, banners and flags displayed on an extended stay continuance post-election. Response has been noticeable to the ad. Motion by Anne Gary to remove this item as an ordinance violation. Support by Sarah Strong. Motion carried.

G. OLD BUSINESS

G.1. MTA online courses - Supervisor Russ Jennings reported our one-year membership in the Premium Pass online learning ends mid-August, 2021.

G 2. Decker Insurance – Clerk Anne Gary to follow up with Kevin Decker about prior appraisal for replacement costs limit of Building & Contents.

G.3. Display Box – Supervisor Russ Jennings requested approval to purchase exterior display box for Township notices and information.

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1. Planning Commission request for revised meeting schedule – Starting May of 2021: 1st and 4th Tuesday’s at 7:00 pm with the 1st Tuesday meeting dropping from schedule once workshops to update Zoning Ordinance Manual is completed.

H.2. Request by Matt Ashenfelter – establish an office to use at the Township Hall to do application meetings. Available office space will be cleared of Clerk’s materials for Matt’s use.

H.3. Request to buy cemetery lots in new section of Fisher Hill Cemetery – Clerk Anne Gary brought current map of lay out of Fisher Hill. Additional research will be required to determine feasibility.

H.4. Discussion for auditors – Sarah Strong will research and bring information to next Board Meeting.

H.5. Applications for renewal of PA116 – Preston

Preston Farms Parcel A: 12-120-011-200-005-00

Preston Farms Parcel B: 12-120-012-100-005-00

Adam Preston, Crystal Preston 120-012-100-020-99

Brian Preston, Carrie Preston 120-025-100-010-99

Brian Preston, Carrie Preston 120-021-200-040-04

Brian Preston, Carrie Preston 120-012-100-010-00

Rod Bassage made motion to approve each of the six individual requests for the Township Board to begin the processing of paperwork submitted by parties listed to apply for Farmlands and Open Space Preservation Program. Support by Jason Shilling. Motion carried. Paperwork given to Clerk Anne Gary.

H.6. Request to purchase Veteran Grave Flag Holders – Estimated cost of 24 plus shipping \$503.76.

Motion by Jason Shilling to approve purchase. Support by Sara Strong. Motion carried.

I. Payment of Bills January - Bills presented in the amount of \$28,165.32. Jason Shilling motioned to approve payment of the bills. Support by Rod Bassage. Motion carried.

J. SPECIAL REPORTS

J.1. Zoning Administrator’s Report – Matt Ashenfelter, April report, copy provided to the Board. Regarding the upcoming ZBA hearing, Secretary of the ZBA, Bob Migrin, will set the date, place ad in the newspapers and send notices. Supervisor Russ Jennings will swear in new members at their first meeting.

J.2. Branch County Commissioner’s Report – no report.

J.3. Algansee Library Report- Director John Rucker highlighted a feature program of Branch District Libraries that encourages young patrons to read 1,000 books by kindergarten.

J.4. Assessor’s Report- Assessor, Erica Ewers, March 22, 2021-May 3, 2021 copy provided to the Board. Erica provided updates on Equalization and Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR).

K. Correspondence – Clerk Anne Gary reviewed correspondence received. None required a response.

L. Public Comment – Jason Shilling received a call from Jean Toth requesting the Township look into Hamman Road which was recently re-graveled. Due to recent heavy rains and traffic – the Road Commission actually made the surface worse. Supervisor Russ Jennings will tour with Road Commissioner Jay Miller and report back to the Board.

Treasurer Sarah Strong expressed the need to open a base bank account to receive COVID-19 relief funds from the State of Michigan when they are disbursed. Due to not knowing when this might happen, Sarah requested \$100.00 to fund the new account and have account established. Signors on the account will be Treasurer Sarah Strong and Clerk Anne Gary. Signatures below by Supervisor and Clerk grant approval.

Supervisor Russ Jennings

Clerk Anne Gary

M. Next Meeting- The next regular board meeting will be Monday, June 7, 2021 7:30 pm at the Algansee Township Hall.

N. Adjournment- Jason Shilling motioned to adjourn. Support by Rod Bassage. Motion carried. Board meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Anne Gary
Algansee Township Clerk