

March 7, 2022 Alganssee Township Board Minutes

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 7:30 pm. Supervisor Russ Jennings called the Alganssee Township Board meeting to order. Members present- Supervisor Russ Jennings, Treasurer Sarah Strong, Trustees Rod Bassage, Jason Shilling and Clerk Anne Gary.

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

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

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Regarding the new Animal Control Ordinance under consideration by Branch County. Resident comments: State of Michigan already has an ordinance, lack of access to veterinary services for smaller farming operations, the Farm Bureau may become involved.

D MINUTES

D.1. February 7, 2022 Board Minutes - Motion by Jason Shilling to approve minutes. Support by Rod Bassage. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

March Treasurer's Report – The Township's February balance was \$570,831.76 with February income of \$39,060.99 and January expenses of \$11,345.65 giving a March balance of \$598,547.10. The Clerk agrees. Jason Shilling motioned to accept the February Treasurer's report. Support by Rod Bassage. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F.1. Quincy Fire Association (QFA) – Supervisor Russ Jennings QFD board meeting Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

F.2. Planning Commission Report – no report.

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

F.4. Alganssee website – Changes/updates please submit to Sharon Atkinson.

F.5. Ordinance Violations

246 Bickford Drive – will remain an open agenda item until Spring of 2022.

G. OLD BUSINESS

G.1. Update for the American Rescue Funds – Treasurer Sarah Strong submitted the annual report required by the Treasury.

G.2. Google Analytics – Sharon Atkinson has set up the Township website for Google Analytics tracking.

G.3. Risk Reduction Grant Program – Clerk Anne Gary requested this item be removed from Old Business.

G.4. Update Alganssee Township Budget – Assessor Erica Ewers proposing rate for her contract year to be at \$14.00 per parcel, based on 1,554 parcels \$21,756. Clerk Anne Gary requesting postage for Clerk budget be set at \$1,200 due to additional mailings required by Secretary of State for 2022. Final fiscal year budget review will occur at the Annual Meeting.

G.5. Review site map – land donation from John Shilling to consider for potential Township Hall Building site. Zoning Administrator Matt Ashenfelter commented that any new construction will have to follow the most current ADA compliant guidelines.

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1. Chart of Accounts/QuickBooks update – Treasurer Sarah Strong making progress with the update.

H.2. Approval for QFD Air Packs \$84,679.98 – Supervisor Russ Jennings received a phone call from QFD to put this item on hold. Current air packs have 18 months of use remaining.

H.3. Approval for Grant writing training \$455.00 – Reimbursement to Sharon Atkinson. She completed the two-day online training program. Motion by Anne Gary for the amount of \$455.00. Support by Sarah Strong. Motion carried.

H.4. Approval for road signs and attorney fees for Wilmin Road bridge assessment - Bridge load is rated at 20 ton. Wilmin Road is a private road. Attorney consultation necessary to set up an assessment district. Motion by Rod Bassage for the \$737.26 cost of the signs to be posted by the Branch County Road Commission. Support by Jason Shilling. Motion carried. Motion by Jason Shilling for estimated \$300.00 in attorney fees. Support by Rod Bassage. Motion carried.

H.5. Sexton Contract – Sexton Tyler Butters submitted a one-year contract proposal to the Board. Board members inquired about setting the contract for two years. Agreed by Tyler. Motion by Rod Bassage to approve contract. Support by Sarah Strong. Motion carried.

H.6. Alganssee Library needs new librarian – Branch District Library Director, John Rucker, will be posting the position. Lynnell Eash will continue to cover the Alganssee Branch until May of 2022.

H.7. CBPU household hazardous waste event – Supervisor Russ Jennings asked for motion to support the event again this year which will be September 24, 2022 at the Fairgrounds. Cost to the Township is set at \$33.00 per household. Typical participation has been ten households. Motion by Sarah Strong. Support by Rod Bassage. Motion carried.

H.8. Charter Communication Franchise Contract – Clerk Anne Gary stated contract is renewed every 10 years. In the past Township has set the rate at 3%. She also recommended updating the mailing address to the Clerk's office. Motion by Rod Bassage to set rate at 3% and update address. Support by Jason Shilling. Motion carried.

H.9. Drop box items getting wet – Clerk Anne Gary will continue to monitor and if problem persists beyond snow season, may need to get a small roof constructed over the drop box.

H.10. Board of Review Organizational Meeting March 8, 2022 at 2:00 pm.

H.11. Board of Review Days: March 16 9am-noon, 1pm-4pm, Thursday March 17 1pm-4pm, 6pm-9pm.

H.12. Annual Meeting Saturday March 26, 2022 10:00 am

H.13. Branch County Health Department Hearing Clinic at Township Hall, Wed. March 9, 2022.

H.14. Dust Control contract for gravel roads – Alan Gorlewski w/ Michigan Tanker LLC 2022 pricing: 1st application at \$ 0.13 per gallon. 2nd application at \$ 0.11 per gallon. Pricing for all Townships in Branch County.

I. Payment of Bills January - Bills presented in the amount of \$17,466.60. 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, February, 2022 report, copy provided to the Board. Expects final word in April, 2022 on zoning violation at 244 Crockett Dr. Quincy, MI. Three zoning permits.

J.2. Branch County Commissioner's Report – Supervisor Russ Jennings presented highlights of the report. The County intends to review lists compiled of proposals submitted by the public and agencies for use of the ARPA funds. Deadline for submission was set at March 15, 2022. Broadband is a priority; however, the County wanted input on what other proposals would look like.

J.3. Alganssee Library Report – Alganssee Branch Manager, Lynnell Eash, presented January and February numbers. Copy provided to the Board. Patrons in the door and items check out showed a good increase in February from January numbers. New books and movies arrive monthly which helps promote returning patrons.

J.4. Assessor's Report- Assessor, Erica Ewers, February 8, 2022 – March 7, 2022. Copy provided to the Board. Notice of assessment were all mailed out on February 24.

K. Correspondence – Consumers Energy - smart thermostat promotion, Charter - changes in channel line-ups and price decrease on unreturned equipment.

L. Public Comment – none.

M. Next Meeting- The next regular board meeting will be Monday, April 4, 2022 7:30 pm at the Alganssee Township Hall.

N. Adjournment- Rod Bassage motioned to adjourn. Support by Jason Shilling. Motion carried. Board meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Anne Gary, Clerk