

January 2009 Township Board Minutes

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- on Monday, January 5, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. Supervisor Tom Morgan called the Algansee Township Board meeting to order at the Algansee Township Hall, 378 South Ray Quincy Road, Quincy, Michigan. All board members were present- Supervisor Tom Morgan, Treasurer Ann Strong, Trustee Bill Avra, Trustee Mick Belcher and Clerk Suzanne Preston. Visitors that signed in were John Shilling, Harold Sneath, Glenn Preston, Linda Belcher, Don Vrablic, Chris and Amanda Burk, Bill and Judy Jones.

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

B. AGENDA- Suzanne Preston motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of Chris and Amanda Burk. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT- none

D. MINUTES- Bill Avra motioned to accept the December 1, 2008 Algansee Township Board Meeting minutes. Support by Mick Belcher. Motion carried.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Monthly Report- Treasurer Ann Strong reported the balance at the last township meeting, December 1, 2008 was \$437,639.64, the township had income this past month of \$521.87, the township had expenses this past month of \$14,533.92 giving the township a balance of \$437,639.64 for the month of January. The Clerk agrees. Bill Avra motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Support by Suzanne Preston. Motion carried.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F. 1. Quincy Fire Association – Supervisor Tom Morgan reported all entities agreed to purchase the used fire truck. There was discussion about the Fire Association budget. Supervisor Tom Morgan said he would call the fire chief Kurt Barve to see if he could come to our next meeting to discuss the Quincy Fire Association's budget.

F. 2. Report from Algansee Township Planning Commission – they didn't meet in the month of December. Supervisor Tom Morgan said he talked to Greg Milliken and he would like to come to the next Planning Commission meeting to discuss the condominium ordinance. It was agreed the next Planning Commission meeting would start at 6:00 with the workshop with Greg Milliken followed by the regular meeting.

F.2.a. Wind Energy Siting and Policy Issues Workshop- Linda Belcher, Glenn and Suzanne Preston reported on their Wind Energy workshop they went to on December 11th at the Kellogg Center at MSU. McKenna sent a letter about setting up zoning guidelines for windmills.

F. 3. Report from Algansee Township Zoning Board of Appeals- Bill Avra reported they didn't meet.

F. 4. Ordinance Violations- Supervisor Tom Morgan reported Roger Van Lieu, 481 Phillips Road, is working on cleaning up junk on his farm. Tim Mast, 248 Donnell Drive, it is being cleaned up.

F. 5. Building Update – our insurance representative from MCM Insurance Group will come next month to review our insurance policy.

F.5.a Furnace Filters- Supervisor Tom Morgan reported he bought 6 filters for the township hall furnace.

F. 6. Website (www.alganseetownship.com) – Supervisor Tom Morgan reported he had picked up a computer virus working on the Algansee website. It is fixed now.

F. 7. Supervisors Meeting- Supervisor Tom Morgan reported he didn't make the Supervisors meeting.

G. OLD BUSINESS

G. 1. Pontom Software- Supervisor Tom Morgan reported the tax information is posted on the website.

G. 2. Flood Plain Maps- Supervisor Tom Morgan reported he has the flood plain maps and waiting on further instruction on how to use them.

G.3. Special Assessment Whistler Drive- Gerald Hagerman submitted a petition for Whistler Drive for 5 year maintenance. Need to check with them to see when they want to hold their 2 required public hearing.

G.4. Special Assessment for Teal & Whistler Drives for Dredging the channel- Mark Knaack enquired about getting a special assessment district established for dredging the channel between Teal & Whistler Drives.

G. 5. ZBA expansion to 5 members- discussed need to have zoning ordinance changed to allow for 5 members.

G.6. Advertise for Assessor, Board of Review, Sexton, Lawn Care, Planning Commission and ZBA openings. The Clerk said she would put the advertisement in the Daily Reporter and the Shoppers Guide.

G. 7. Renting the Township Hall- there was discussion and agreed we didn't want the liability.

H. NEW BUSINESS-

H.1. Consumers Energy Rate Increase- Michigan Township Association is requesting donations to help cover the cost. We decided to not to pay any money.

H.2. 2009 Branch County Road Commission Annual Meeting- will be Wed., February 18, 2009 at 10:45 a.m.

H.3. Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget- discussed budget workshop. We will meet at 6:00 on Monday, February 2, 2009 to have the budget workshop with the regular meeting starting at 7:30 that same night.

H.4. 2009 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, 2008 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2009 assessments:

Number of person residing in homestead	Annual allowable Income
1	\$10,400
2	\$14,000
3	\$17,600
4	\$21,200
5	\$24,800
6	\$28,400
7	\$32,000
8	\$35,600
For each additional person add	\$ 3,600

Suzanne Preston motioned to accept the 2009 Poverty Guidelines. Support by Ann Strong. Motion carried.

H.5. Board of Review Appointments- The Clerk said she would advertise the openings for Board of Review.

H.6. DEQ Seawall permit- the DEQ has approved the seawall permit for Joyce Gallaher on Wilmin Drive.

H.7. MTA Education Conference- Supervisor Tom Morgan said MTA is holding a workshop for new supervisors the day before the Educational Conference and he would like to go. Bill Avra motioned to pay the \$129.00 fee for the workshop. Support by Mick Belcher. Motion carried.

I. PAYMENT OF BILLS- Expenses were presented in the amount of \$9,565.63. Ann Strong motioned to pay the bills. Support by Suzanne Preston. Motion carried. Bill Avra said he would check around about getting a better price than from Ferrellgas at \$2.99/gal.

J. SPECIAL REPORTS

J1. Zoning Administrator's Report- Zoning Administrator Russ Jennings reported he issued 1 permit for the month of December- Don and Rosie Peterson

J. 2. Branch County Commissioner's Report- Don Vrablic introduced himself as our new county commissioner and gave his report, they meet at 4 o'clock on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at the Branch County Courthouse in the Commissioner's room.

J. 3. Algansee Library Report- the librarian Janice Clark sent her December Report- Attendance- 348, Computer use- 130, Hour's Open- 81, Melcat check out- 32, Melcat loans- 0, Program Juvenile Attendance 30, Questions Computer Use- 11, Questions Reference in Person- 4, Uncataloged items 60.

J. 4. Assessor's Report – Assessor Erica Ewers reported the township got a 52 out of 100 on the 14 point review. They didn't specify what format to use, working on rectifying the problem.

K. CORRESPONDENCES – MTA is having a budget workshop.

L. PUBLIC COMMENT- John Shilling wondered if the member at large position was filled on the Quincy Fire Department. Brad Parrish filled the position. No other public comment.

M. NEXT MEETING- will be Monday, February 2, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Algansee Township Hall.

N. ADJOURNMENT- Ann Strong motioned to adjourn. Support by Bill Avra. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50p.m.

Suzanne Preston, Alganssee Township Clerk