

ALAMO TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
7901 North 6th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
(269) 382-3366

NOVEMBER 10, 2008
7:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Vlietstra, Clerk Sportel-Bogard, Treasurer Stoneburner, Trustee Feniger, Trustee Potter-Williams and Deputy Supervisor Fisher

Also Present: 11 interested persons

Supervisor Vlietstra called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

MOTION by Treasurer Stoneburner to approve the work group minutes of November 3, 2008, as written, **support** by Trustee Feniger. Carried.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

No report was received.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Deputy Supervisor Fisher reported on a meeting with Building Inspector Cardiff; a proposal for reimbursement will be forwarded to the December work group meeting.

Permits for the month of October included 4 building, 3 electrical and 4 mechanical with \$1,597.50 collected in fees.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A written report prepared by Chief Moore was provided to each Board member and summarized by Supervisor Vlietstra. The Department responded to incidents in the month of October. Dick Bennett provided tree stand hunter safety training. A training with live fire was possible through a house donated by the Martin family. Engine 121 repairs are complete. Applications for the two Department recommended applicants were provided and reviewed. If approved, these applicants will fill 2 of the 4 vacancies within the Department.

MOTION by Trustee Potter-Williams to accept both applicants, with the standard probationary period, for hire within the Fire Department, **support** by Treasurer Stoneburner. Carried.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Clerk Sportel-Bogard gave the Ordinance Enforcer's report based on a written document prepared by Ordinance Enforcer Hoffman. Sixteen hours of service were delivered in October.

PARKS BOARD REPORT

Parks Board Secretary Fisher referred Board members to the previously provided Parks Board minutes and highlighted closing mechanicals in the park for the winter and planning to devote the next meeting to discussion and drafting a successor 5-year plan. The Parks Board forwarded two action items for the Board's consideration.

MOTION by Clerk Sportel-Bogard to appoint Steve Podewell to fill the vacancy on the Parks Board, **support** by Treasurer Stoneburner. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Feniger to authorize the Parks Board to spend \$750 on freight for gravel in the Park, **support** by Treasurer Stoneburner. Carried.

Supervisor Vlietstra noted discussion continues with the Road Commission over placement of additional barriers on DE Avenue to impact the dumping of refuse.

ZONING BOARD REPORT

Chair Smith referenced the meeting minutes from the November 4 meeting. Chair Smith highlighted work continues on drafting an ordinance for special exception use permits for the extraction of gravel and updating the Township's Land Use Plan. Chair Smith noted that Beth Kennedy would be attending a seminar on wind energy.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paid as of November 10, 2008:	\$ 8,706.76
Received:	\$47,004.50
General Account:	\$23,720.44
General Maxsaver:	\$421,506.50
Fire Truck LUG Account:	\$18,177.01

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Sportel-Bogard reports October liabilities of \$48,524.44.

Election results included 60.77% of registered voter casting ballots in Precinct 1 and 52% in Precinct 2. A total of 496 absentee voter ballots were cast.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

1. Authorization for G Avenue Safety Study

Supervisor Vlietstra noted that a request has been received from Aggregate Ind to temporarily turn right on G Avenue. The C Avenue site has been mined out and crushing equipment is being removed for the season from the G Avenue site. Product exiting G Avenue over the winter will be predominantly for snow control.

Board members reviewed various options related to the request for an extension to use G Avenue as a haul route and the options to obtain a safety study for use in deliberations.

MOTION by Trustee Feniger to use the Road Commission to select which of the 5 responding traffic engineers would best suit the Township's needs to perform an independent review of the safety study commissioned by G Avenue Properties, **support** by Treasurer Stoneburner. Discussion: Clarification was provided that Aggregate Industries' letter requested temporary approval of G Avenue until April 1, that Aggregate is cognizant that no safety study is in place and offered a one-time escrow payment to enable a study to be obtained. Supervisor Vlietstra offered the study will provide objective and defensible reasons for future decisions/requests related to the use of G Avenue as a haul route.

Citing lack of expertise and timeframes, clarification was provided that the motion is delegating the decision to the Road Commission with input from the Township and that a recommendation will not be forwarded to the Board to make the final selection for the independent review. Trustee Feniger – yes; Treasurer Stoneburner – yes; Supervisor Vlietstra – yes; Trustee Potter-Williams – no; Clerk Sportel-Bogard – yes. Carried.

MOTION by Treasurer Stoneburner to include all but the non-available components of the Township developed specs into the study commissioned by G Avenue Properties, **support** by Trustee Feniger. Treasurer Stoneburner – yes; Trustee Feniger – yes; Supervisor Vlietstra – yes; Clerk Sportel-Bogard – yes; Trustee Potter-Williams – no. Carried.

2. Temporary Extension of the Use of G Avenue as a Haul Route

Clarification provided that the extension, at this time, is to permit Aggregate Industries to retain a route to move its product pending the receipt of the safety study to permit the Board to make an informed decision regarding its October 6th request.

MOTION by Clerk Sportel-Bogard to extend G Avenue as a haul route for 30 days from this date, **support** by Supervisor Vlietstra. Supervisor Vlietstra – yes; Treasurer Stoneburner – yes; Trustee Feniger – yes; Trustee Potter-Williams – yes; Clerk Sportel-Bogard – yes. Carried.

3. Household Hazardous Waste (2008 Amendment/2009 Agreement)

Taking into account use fees for 2008, \$2,000 in use f was recommended for the 2009 Agreement.

MOTION by Clerk Sportel-Bogard to withdraw the motion made at the October 13 Board meeting approving the 2009 Agreement with \$850.00 in fees, **support** by Trustee Potter-Williams. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Potter-Williams to approve the 2009 Agreement with use fees of \$2,000, **support** by Treasurer Stoneburner. Trustee Potter-Williams – yes; Supervisor Vlietstra – yes; Treasurer Stoneburner – yes; Clerk Sportel-Bogard – yes; Trustee Feniger – yes. Carried.

Sufficient funding is not contained in the 2008 Agreement for use fees. This represents the second need for an amendment to cover residents' use of the Household Hazardous Waste program.

MOTION by Clerk Sportel-Bogard to authorize an additional \$300.00 to cover use fees for the remainder of the 2008 Agreement, **support** by Trustee Potter-Williams. Carried.

4. Moratorium for SEUPs for Gravel Extraction

A second amendment to the Resolution extending its moratorium on the consideration of any application for a special exception use permit for the discovery and removal of gravel and other natural resources is needed to permit the Zoning Board additional time to complete its successor ordinance. Other than dates, language is identical to the Resolution approved in May.

MOTION by Trustee Feniger to approve the Resolution to extend the moratorium on the consideration of any application for a special exception use permit for the discovery and removal of gravel and other natural resources, **support** Treasurer Stoneburner. Supervisor Vlietstra – yes; Treasurer Stoneburner – yes; Trustee Potter-Williams – no; Trustee Feniger – yes; Clerk Sportel-Bogard. Carried.

5. Authorization of Payment of Henderson Wages

Supervisor Vlietstra reports the Department of Labor & Economic Growth ruled the Township owes Mrs. Henderson \$544.00 (before taxes); the decision is appealable.

MOTION by Treasurer Stoneburner to pay Mrs. Henderson the \$544.00, **support** Clerk Sportel-Bogard. Carried.

6. Determination of Ordinance Fees

Ordinances are either on the website or will be placed there shortly. Due to the changing nature of ordinances, it is not a sound business practice to copy sets until they are needed.

MOTION by Trustee Feniger to establish the fees as cost(s) plus \$25.00, **support** by Treasurer Stoneburner. 4-1 (Potter-Williams). Carried.

AUTHORIZATION OF LIABILITIES

MOTION by Trustee Potter-Williams to pay the liabilities and authorize the Clerk and Treasurer to pay any others needing consideration prior to the next Board meeting, **support** by Clerk Sportel-Bogard. Carried.

BOARD MEMBER TIME

Trustee Potter-Williams (Request to leave flags on gravesites through November 12)

CITIZEN COMMENT

Roger Flath (Inquired if Davey Tree Service was in the area. Clean up an issue.)

Linda Rayman (Provided a CD to each Board member listing items donated to the Museum.)

Amy Laffler (Expressed lack of appreciation and respect was shown by the Parks Board in sending a letter thanking her for her service on the Friends of the Alamo Township Park Board and its decision to appoint an alternate Board. Extensive dialog and explanation of the history of the Friends of the Park and present status. Supervisor Vlietstra directed Ms. Laffler to the Parks Board. Trustee Potter-Williams stated the Parks Board should be admonished.

Al Sweitzer (Noted the site donated by the Martins has been totally cleaned up, filled in and leveled off)

Richard Allen (Referenced an apology for any inconvenience related to his property clean up. Also provided clarification of easements/right of way as a result of an unnamed party's behavior on Election Day.)

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Trustee Potter-Williams to adjourn the meeting, **support** by Treasurer Sportel-Bogard. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Garilyn Sportel-Bogard
Alamo Township Clerk