

**ALAMO TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
AND BUDGET HEARING
7901 NO. 6TH STREET
KALAMAZOO, MI 49009**

**MARCH 12, 2012
6:45 pm**

Members present: Supervisor Vlietstra, Treasurer Stoneburner, Clerk Sportel-Bogard, Trustee Feniger, Trustee Potter-Williams, Deputy Supervisor Fisher.

Also Present: 20 interested persons.

Adoption of 2012-2013 Budget

Supervisor Vlietstra went over several aspects of the budget.

Motion by Trustee Feniger to accept the 2012-2013 budget, support by Supervisor Vlietstra. Roll call vote: Treasurer Stoneburner-no, Trustee Potter-Williams-no, Trustee Feniger-yes, Supervisor Vlietstra-yes, Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes. Carried.

Clerk Sportel-Bogard highlighted the Appropriation Act Resolution: Budget is \$498,562.00; First National and PNC will be Township's banks. Siegfried Crandall will remain as Township Auditors and Ford, Kriekard, Soltis & Wise as Township Attorneys. **Motion** by Clerk Sportel-Bogard, supported by Trustee Potter-Williams to accept the appropriations as described. Roll call vote: Trustee Feniger-yes, Supervisor Vlietstra-yes, Trustee Potter-Williams-yes, Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes, and Treasurer Stoneburner-yes.
Carried.

Supervisor closed the budget hearing.

Supervisor opened the regular board meeting with the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Clerk Sportel-Bogard, supported by Trustee Potter-Williams to accept the February 13, 2012 minutes with amendments. - 1) KCRC will be doing B Avenue to C Avenue (not C to D). 2) Even Cut mowing same price as last year 3) Fire Department to purchase turnout gear and helmets. 4) Fire Chief to purchase 14 portable radios, 3 pagers, 2 mobiles. Motion was carried. Treasurer Stoneburner opposed.

Building Department

Building department reported three mechanical, six electrical, and two building permits for a total of \$1,536.10.

Clerk's report

February liabilities \$30,524.01. Election went well, voter turnout just under 20%.

Fire and Rescue

Chief Kizer reported 19 incidents in the month of February. 10 medical emergencies, 1 vehicle accident, 3 structure fires, 1 smoke removal and 2 power lines down. Training was for C.E. Credits and ice water rescue. The department has received the communications grant that will give the department 100% banding for their radios.

Parks Board

Lou Conti reported: 1) Eagle Scout (T. Finch) would like to build the bridge in the park. 2) rent a stump grinder 3) searching for persons to donate trees.(certain species) Trees and stump grinding would take place on the workday in March. 4) would like a park capital improvement fund to replace the restricted fund. Cost for stump grinder and tree mover approximately \$400-\$500. Board will be reporting hours worked, and money used as this can be applied towards a grant for the park. 5) would like monies left in 2011 budget rolled over into 2012 budget. Supervisor will check with auditors.

Motion by Trustee Potter-Williams, support by Supervisor Vlietstra to seek advice from Siegfried Crandall as to roll approximately \$777 to next years budget. Roll call vote: Supervisor Vlietstra-yes, Trustee Feniger-yes, Treasurer Stoneburner-no, Trustee Potter-Williams-yes, and Clerk Sportel-Bogard-no. Defeated.

Planning Commission

Chair Goyings brought to the board reasons for contracting with consultant regarding the sign ordinance. Charge will be \$95.00 per hour, with free phone calls. Using a consultant would save the township money and time. Attorney fees are higher.

Motion by Trustee Feniger, support by Treasurer Stoneburner to hire the Preim Group to work with the Planning Commission on the sign ordinance, not to exceed \$1500.00 in costs. Roll call vote: Trustee Potter-Williams-yes, Trustee Feniger-yes, Treasurer Stoneburner-yes, Clerk Sportel-Bogard-no, and Supervisor Vlietstra-yes. Carried.

Chair Goyings explained the noise ordinance.

Supervisor Vlietstra motioned that this ordinance be tabled at this time. Support Treasurer Stoneburner. Roll call vote: Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes, Treasurer Stoneburner-yes, Trustee Potter-Williams-no, Trustee Feniger-yes, Supervisor Vlietstra-yes. Carried. Trustee Potter-Williams felt board was 'dragging it's feet' on the issue.

Planning Commission also approved a special exception use permit and additional antenna for the tower at 7833 Adobe Road.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer reported: General fund \$193,101.32, Fire Truck fund \$18,314.16, Parks fund \$357.95. Settlement papers were brought to the County on Friday at 2:00 p.m. [and she is settled with the County]. Treasurer Stoneburner will give a final report at next month's meeting. Reminded everyone that the Fire Truck fund monies must be used for a fire truck.

Museum

Brian Smith reported the parks board held it's meeting at the museum the night of election. Working with Kalamazoo Symphony's Women's guild for at tour of homes in our area. Details of the fundraiser are not complete at this time. Dates are May 18-20.

Insurance

Supervisor Vlietstra reported our insurance policy is due April 1st. Gave information on some of the coverage and had Kevin (MCM) explain the Firefighters medical coverage. Motion by Trustee Potter-Williams, supported by Treasurer Stoneburner to use MCM Group as our insurance carrier. Roll call vote: Supervisor Vlietstra-yes, Treasurer Stoneburner-yes, Trustee Feniger-yes, Trustee Potter-Williams-yes, and Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes. Carried.

Ordinance 45 (A) –M- (cost recovery for downed wires)

Supervisor Vlietstra reported that Consumers wanted specifics on downed wires. Motion by Supervisor Vlietstra, supported by Trustee Feniger to accept Ordinance 45-(A)-M. Roll call vote: Treasurer Stoneburner-yes, Trustee Feniger-yes, Supervisor Vlietstra-yes, Trustee Potter-Williams-yes, and Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes. Carried.

Resolution (2012-2)

Motion by Trustee Feniger, supported by Treasurer Stoneburner, to approve Resolution (2012-2). Roll call vote: Trustee Potter-Williams-yes, Trustee Feniger-yes, Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes, Supervisor Vlietstra-yes, Treasurer Stoneburner-yes. Carried.

Special Assessment

Association from Stone Ridge requested information on receiving an assessment for black topping their private roads. Supervisor Vlietstra reported they would need a petition with 51% signatures and a hearing. [The Board chose not to get involved with the pursuit of a special assessment district for Stone Ridge.]

MTA meeting

Motion by Supervisor Vlietstra, supported by Trustee Feniger, any board members who wish to attend the April 20 MTA meeting in Battle Creek may do so. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Feniger, supported by Supervisor Vlietstra to pay the liabilities.

Board member time

Supervisor Vlietstra reported that Peter Battani spoke at the Supervisor's monthly meeting.

Citizens' Comments

L. Conti – would appreciate approval to rent stump grinder and tree mover for workday in March. \$144 to rent grinder, move 3 trees at \$100 each.

Motion by Trustee Potter-Williams, supported by Supervisor Vlietstra not to exceed \$500. to remove stumps and move trees. Roll call vote: Trustee Feniger-yes, Supervisor

Vlietstra-yes, Clerk Sportel-Bogard-yes, Treasurer Stoneburner-Yes (\$444.00) Trustee Potter-Williams. Carried.

M. VanderWheele- thanked Supervisor Vlietstra for having the KCRC clean ditch on DE Avenue.

R. Flath-appreciates the work done to get the water flowing also.

Supervisor Vlietstra stated that 8th Street has water flowing over the road. KCRC looking into this.

Motion by Trustee Potter-Williams, supported by Treasurer Stoneburner to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Garilyn Sportel-Bogard
Clerk