

ALAMO TONWHSIP
7901 NORTH 6th STREET
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49009

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
December 9, 2013 7:00 PM

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Conti at 7:00 pm...

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited and an invocation was given by Trustee VanderWeele in honor of the Vels children.

PRESENT: Supervisor Conti, Treasurer Stoneburner, Clerk Endres, Trustees otter-Williams and VanderWeele.

Others in attendance: 45 +/-

Supervisor Conti opened reading the Policy on Public Comment.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to approve the November 11, 2013 meeting minutes with correction to Treasurers report- Treasurer Stoneburner did not give a report for the Kalamazoo foundation, . And under the Road Committee report the miles of junk roads should read 6.5 miles of junk roads, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 4-1 (Treasurer Stoneburner opposed).

AUTHORISATION OF LIABILITIES:

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to grant permission to pay outstanding invoices, supported by Supervisor Conti. Motion Carried 5-0.

PRESENTATION given by the Kalamazoo County Sheriff Department: Lieutenant Christiansen reported Alamo Township having 114 total Calls for Service the majority being car collisions. This places Alamo Township 10 out of 16 in Kalamazoo County for Service Calls. The new Jail should be fully functional in two weeks.

REPORTS:

- **SUPERVISOR:** Supervisor Conti spoke of his efforts in expanding the recycling program to include batteries, tires twice a year and now used clothing and shoes. He reminded all that this month is the last month for recycling for this year; the next one will not be until March 8, 2014.
- **CLERK/SEXTON:** Liabilities for November \$ 33,933.02.
Clerk Endres asked permission to take out of Contingency the amount which was set aside as a loan to Stone Ridge to repair their roads, for recording purposes it will be recorded into a new account called Capital Outlay-Roads 101.101.72710.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to allow taking out of contingency the \$56,000.00 that was set aside to pay for Stone Ridge road repairs, supported by trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

ELECTIONS: It appears at this point that there will be a nearly county wide election on May 6, 2013. However Alamo Township as of 12/5/2013 will NOT be part of it.

CEMETERY: Income for November: \$400.00

I would like to thank the volunteers that came out to help clean up the Cemeteries this past month. Your hard work and dedication to the township is greatly appreciated.

In preparing a grave site for a burial at the Liberty street cemetery I ran into a problem with a tree root the size of a dinner plate intruding into the grave site hindering the ability to dig the grave without compromising the integrity of the tree making it necessary to have the tree removed. VanderVeen Excavating fell the tree, removed it, and its stump making it possible to prepare the site for burial the next day. This cost the township \$1,000.00.

- **TREASURERS FINANCIAL REPORT:**

General Fund-	\$ 143,243.55
Fire Truck Fund-	\$ 8,237.58
Surplus Account-	\$ 61,951.01
Kalamazoo foundation-	No Report Given
PNC CD-	\$ 50,910.62
First National Band CD-	\$ 100,032.87
Trust and Agency-	\$ 227.71
Current Tax-	\$ 25,025.28
First Rate Money Market-	No Report Given

Supervisor Conti reported Kalamazoo Foundation balance of \$89,169.88

- **BUILDING DEPARTMENT:**

Building Permits-	1	\$ 919.00
Electrical Permits-	3	\$ 420.00
Mechanical Permits-	7	\$ 590.00
TOTAL-	11	\$1,929.00

It was reported that it has been a banner year for building in Alamo Township.

- **FIRE & RESCUE:** Chief Kizer reported responding to 26 incidents for the month of November.

- 6 Medical Emergencies
- 6 Vehicle Accidents
- 1 Power Line down
- 3 Structure Fires
- 2 Move up cover assignments (Oshtemo, Gobles)
- 4 Control burns
- 4 Miscellaneous

TRAINING- Continued Education, Apparatus Training, Power Outage.

Operations- Generator has been installed waiting for it to be hooked up. The Regional Communication Grant has been closed and provided the Township with \$ 16,044.64 worth of equipment for a total of \$3,208.93. The SCBA Grant has been delayed by the Federal Government, we should know more in April.

Public Relations- the Annual Food Drive was a great success.

- **PLANNING COMMISSION:** Chair Covault reported working on zoning update/cleanup with future plans to go through the Ordinances to make them consistent. He reported 2 Zoning requests, and taking the sign Ordinance off the Planning Commissions list of things to do.
- **ROAD COMMITTEE REPORT:** Supervisor Conti gave a presentation for the Road Committee on their findings and suggestions for addressing the junk roads in the Township. The Township has gone from 6.5 miles of junk roads a year ago to currently having 8.7 miles. Together Al Lappin, **Lappin** Brad Holmes, John Lovett and a

representative from the Kalamazoo County Road Commission have assessed the roads and have come up with a workable solution to rebuild these roads and continue maintaining the other roads we have. The township currently receives \$39,901.00 annually in matching funds from the state to maintain the roads; none of the money received from the State can go into the repair or up-keep of the failed roads. There are three ways in which we can fund the repairs to these roads:

1. A Special Assessment
2. A mileage increase
3. A per household fee to those members who live n the roads being fixed. (payments would range from \$2,500.00 to \$14,000.00 per household)

The most recommended option is through a Special Assessment that would be implemented over a 7 year period at \$60.00 per year to each residential household in the township. In addition to these funds the Township would use \$400,000.00 of its \$728,000.00 Surplus fund and set aside an additional \$30,000.00 from the budget every year for 7 years. Postponing the work on the roads will only lead to greater costs for our community.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. New WebSite:
Motion was made by Supervisor Conti to allow spending an additional \$300.00 on web site for ongoing development and create coordinated electronic input of information, supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 4-1 (Treasurer Stoneburner opposed).
2. Cemetery Trees: all five trees slated for removal have been removed and the headstone will be reset in spring allowing the ground to settle.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Park Board reorganization: The park board requested increasing its membership from the current 5 members to 7 members, members are not paid nor do they receive any compensation from the township they are strictly volunteers working to keep the park clean, safe while creating a healthy environment for all.
MOTION was made by Trustee VanderWeele to allow increasing the Park Board membership to 7 members, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 4-1 (Treasurer Stoneburner opposed).
2. Nominations to boards:
MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to appoint Mike Martin to the Board of Review to fill the remainder of retiring member Marshall Champions position, Expiration date December 31, 2014, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.
MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to appoint Dan Ferrarah to a three year term to the Parks Board, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.
MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to appoint Jim Endres to a three year term to the Parks Board Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 4-0 (Clerk Endres abstained).
MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to appoint Dave Cramer to the Parks Board to fill the remainder of Jack Landons term, Expiration date December 31, 2014, Supported by Supervisor Conti Motion Carried 5-0.
MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to re-appoint Tim Britain to a 3 year term on the Parks Board, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to re-appoint Steve Hoogstraten to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three year term, Supported by Supervisor Conti Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to appoint Mike Lisak to a three year term to the Planning Commission, Supported by Supervisor Conti. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Trustee VanderWeele to re-appoint Dave Veenstra to a three year term to the Planning Commission, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to re-appoint Newt Covault to a three year term to the Planning Commission, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 4-1 (Treasurer Stoneburner opposed)

3. Cemetery Committee: Supervisor Conti proposed creating a Cemetery Committee to review and enforce cemetery policy and advise the township Board on improvement and to volunteer to help maintain the appearance and beauty of these areas.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to establish a Cemetery Committee by Resolution, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

4. 2014 Poverty Guidelines:

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to accept the 2014 Poverty Guidelines set forth by the State with an asset level test, Supported by Supervisor Conti. Motion Carried 5-0.

5. 2014 Household Hazardous Waste Contract:

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to extend the Household Hazardous Waste contract for up to \$2,600.00 with the Kalamazoo County Health Services, Supported by Supervisor Conti. Motion Carried 5-0.

6. 2014 Meeting Schedules:

MOTION was made by Clerk Endres to adopt the meeting schedule for the Alamo Township Board of Trustees Meetings to be held the second Monday of each month to be held at the Township Hall at 7:00pm., and the Alamo Township Planning Commission Meetings to be held the first Tuesday of each month to be held at the Township Hall at 7:00pm., Parks Board Meetings to be held the Last Tuesday of each month to be held at the Township Hall at 7:00pm., and the Fire & Rescue Officers Meetings the fourth Tuesday of each month to be held at the Fire Station, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

CITIZENS COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Comments were heard regarding Small Claims Case, Meeting Minutes, and Attorney Bill for \$720.00 for attending the May 25th Meeting, the Kalamazoo Nature Center encroaching onto neighboring properties, and advocating against sexual harassment.

BOARD MEMBER TIME: Supervisor Conti took a moment to recognize Nelson Mandela as a great person.

ADJOURNED:

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter –Williams to adjourn meeting at 9:07, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Endres, Alamo Township Clerk