

ALAMO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
7901 NORTH 6th STREET
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49009

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING

6:00 PM

REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING and Budget & Truth in Taxation Hearing

March 10, 2014

7:00 pm

Supervisor Conti called the Special Assessment Hearing to order at ~~7:00pm~~... 6:00 pm...

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited and an invocation was given by Trustee Potter-Williams.

PRESENT: Supervisor Conti, Treasurer Stoneburner, Clerk Endres, Trustee Potter-Williams, & Trustee VanderWeele, and Attorney Lohrstorfer.

Others in attendance: 56 +/-

Supervisor Conti opened the HEARING sighting a report on the condition of the roads and the Special Assessment (see attachment a) and before taking citizen comment reminded audience of the 3 minute time limit.

- A. **CITIZEN COMMENT:** The following Comments were heard regarding the Special Assessment to repair the Junk roads and increase the rate of maintenance:

Citizen made a comment that after roll is set if you object to it you will have 30 days to go to the board of Review to contest it. Other citizens opposed the assessment on grounds they did not like how it was written, how is was set up, did not like the redetermination option allowing a 10% accumulated increase per year by the board they would rather pay more and lock it in, don't like farmers rate of assessment, prefer a millage. Other concerns were that the roads should be done correctly to raise property values, expressed the importance that the wording needs to be clear, precise, and without questions, how parcels are defined (Trustee Potter-Williams clarified the assessment is determined on how the assessor has the parcel set on the tax roll). Others thanked the Board for taking action, in favor of proposal, plan is reasonable; willing to pay more, reasonable compromise, reasonable modest amount, and glad board is trying to do something to fix the roads.

The next step is to establish the Assessment Roll (this is done by the Assessor). Every parcel owner will receive a notice as to amount being assessed.

Supervisor Conti suggested the option of combining parcels to cut back on cost.

The Road Committee worked alongside the Kalamazoo County Road Commission to come up with the figures and the Stress test was developed by Belden Smith. Life expectancy of road after it is fixed is 25 years, 7 years before any maintenance should need to be done.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to approve the **RESOLUTION** to establish a Special Assessment District to raise approximately \$790,000.00 over 7 years to be assessed per year as follows: residents, mobile homes, duplex, and apartment units, \$60.00; residential property without houses, \$20.00; commercial, industrial and

agricultural (with houses) \$60.00; productive agricultural \$30.00; and non-productive agricultural \$-0- *MUST FILE AND SIGN A WAIVER* and to direct assessor to set Roll, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams.

Upon Roll Call Vote the following voted "YAE": Trustee Potter-Williams, Supervisor Conti, and Trustee VanderWeele.

The following voted "NAE": Treasurer Stoneburner, and Clerk Endres.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to adjourn the Special Assessment Hearing, 7:00pm Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion carried 5-0.

The Regular portion of the Alamo Township Board meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm...

Clerk Endres requested adding a Resolution to combine the precincts for the May 6, 2014 Special Election to the Clerks Report portion of the Regular Township board meeting Agenda. Supervisor Conti explained in order to change the Agenda the request would require a 4/5 vote of the board.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to add the resolution to combine precincts to the clerks report of the agenda, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.

- 1) Approval of February 24, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes: Treasurer Stoneburner requested adding the amount of the raises to the Salary Resolutions, Trustee VanderWeele pointed out needing to record the vote for the Resolution on setting the Hearing date for the Special Assessment, and Clerk Endres presented an addition that will be added to the meeting minutes.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to approve the meeting minutes with the above changes, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 4-1 (Treasurer Stoneburner Opposed).

- 2) Authorization of Liabilities: Treasurer Stoneburner questioned not getting permission to hire a structural engineer for the 5th Street Bridge Project. Supervisor Conti said he received the request from the Parks Board.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter -Williams to allow the Clerk and the Treasurer to pay the Liabilities, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 4-1 (Treasurer Stoneburner Opposed).

- 3) Clerk/Sexton Report: Clerk Endres began by stating she had received 2 letters of general correspondence and 9 letters concerning the special assessment.

Liabilities for February 2014 - \$32,968.21. **Cemetery** Income for February 2014 \$ 0.00.

Elections the ballot for the May election has an OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL for both Otsego and Plainwell Community Schools

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district

to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

MOTION was made by Clerk Endres to approve the **RESOLUTION** to allow Alamo Township to Combine Precincts for the upcoming May 6, 2014 election, Supported by Treasurer Stoneburner. Upon Roll Call Vote the following voted "YAE": Treasurer Stoneburner, Trustee Potter-Williams, Supervisor Conti, Clerk Endres, and Trustee VanderWeele.

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and was duly adopted on the 10th day of March 2014.

4) Treasurers Report:

- General Account: \$151,692.39
- Trust & Agency: \$2.71 (money goes in and out)
- Current Tax: \$403,312.09 (paid put twice a month)
- Fire Truck Fund: \$18,238.03
- Surplus Account: \$61,952.55 (not a CD)
- CD (PNC): \$50,936.29
- CD (First National Bank): \$249,369.80
- Insured Cash Sweep Money Market Savings: \$100,058.35
- Kalamazoo Community Foundation: not given

5) Building Department Report:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------|
| • Building Permits | 1 | \$165.00 |
| • Electrical Permits | 2 | \$205.00 (includes additional inspection fees*) |
| • Mechanical Permits | 0 | |
| • Outdoor Wood Boiler | 1 | \$25.00 |
| Totals | 4 | \$395.00 |

6) Fire Department Report: Chief Kizer reported the Fire Department responding to 30 incidents the month of February.

- 17 Medical Emergencies
- 7 Vehicle accidents
- 2 Dispatched/Cancelled en route
- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 Building Collapse
- 1 Miscellaneous

Training for the month of February included CE Credits, Ice Water Rescue, and DEQ Site walk through and elevator evolution.

Chief Kizer is reviewing the Ambulance company contract; the township currently contracts with Pride Care (they have a 12 minute response time).

Kizer introduced a wage proposal for the Township board to consider. He is requesting a pay raise which would bring the Firefighter up to \$14.00/hr, Chief, Assistant Chief & Officers \$15.00/ph, Trainees \$12.00/ph, Work Detail \$10.00/ph, Training & Meetings \$12.00/ph. It is predicted to increase total by \$7,900.00 for the fiscal year. To help cover the increase of wages he intends on charging for calls ran to 131 and its corridor as set forth in the civil recovery act. He is hoping that this will help in his push to recruit and maintain new firefighters,

Alamo currently has 17 firefighters.

- 7) Planning Commission Report: Vice Chair Smith reported having an easy meeting the month of February because of the weather and lack of parking due to the snow. Business covered included: Review of Ordinances, the three member subcommittee is done making corrections and has passed out copies of the revised document to all board members to review before it is brought to the April meeting for approval to send off to the Attorney.
- 8) Park Board Report: The park board submitted a Year End annual Report. See Attachment labeled Park Board Annual Report.
- 9) Budget/Truth in Taxation Hearing: Supervisor Conti reviewed the proposed 2014/2015 Budget by Department. The Fire Departments Pay was discussed as well as the pay rate of the Assessor and her assistant, Building Official, Election Workers, Election Chair, and Board of Review.

MOTION was made by Dawn Potter-Williams to approve the rate of pay for Runs for the Fire Department as follows,

- Chief, Assistant Chief, & Officers \$15.00/ph
- Firefighters \$14.00/ph
- Trainees \$12.00/ph
- Training Pay \$12.00/ph
- Maintenance/Work Detail \$10.00/ph

Supported by Treasurer Stoneburner. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to approve the rate of pay for the Election workers, Election Chair, Building Official, and the Assessor and her Assistant as follows,

- Election Workers \$9.00/ph
- Election Chair \$11.00/ph
- Building Official \$8,400.00 Annually
- Assessor \$ Annually
- Assessing Assistant \$ Annually

Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Clerk Endres to approve the per meeting rate for its Board of Review as follows,

- Board of Review \$58.35/p meeting

Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to approve the **Resolution** to adopt the attached General Appropriations Act for the Alamo Township 2014/2015 Fiscal Year, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Upon Roll Call Vote the following voted "YAE": Trustee Potter-Williams, Supervisor Conti, Clerk Endres, and Trustee VanderWeele. Treasurer Stoneburner Voted No.

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and was duly adopted on the 10th day of March 2014.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to approve the **Resolution** to adopt the attached Alamo Township 2014/2015 Fiscal Year Budget, Supported by Clerk Endres.

Upon Roll Call Vote the following voted Yes: Trustee Potter-Williams, Supervisor Conti, Clerk Endres, and Trustee VanderWeele. Treasurer Stoneburner Voted No.

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and was duly adopted on the 10th day of March 2014.

- 10) Basic Filing Fees for Planned Unit Development s& Condominium Developments: Supervisor Conti and Planning Commission Vice-Chair Smith spoke of the need to establish a Filing Fee for Planned Unit Development and Condominium Developments to conform to the wording in the Zoning Ordinance. It was suggested keeping it the same as Special Exception Use Permits to keep the fees uniform.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to set the filing fee for Planned Unit Developments and Condominium developments at \$500.00, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

- 11) Citizens Comments on Non-Agenda Items: Marty Jansen from the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority introduced himself speaking of the Metro County Connect and the New Smart Phone App that's available which lets you know where the busses are located. A citizen spoke of the option to sign a referendum to oppose the raises given to the elected officials. Other topics of comments were heard regarding the road project and the charges that were going to be imposed for emergency responses that happen on 131 and its corridor.

- 12) Board Member Comments:

Trustee VanderWeele announced the deadline for articles to be submitted for the Spring Newsletter will be March 26, 2014.

- 13) Adjourned:

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm., Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Endres
Alamo Township Clerk