

## September 11, 2023- Township Board Meeting Minutes

The Board Meeting of the Alamo Township Board of Trustees was held at the Alamo Township Hall, 7901 North 6th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009.

### Board Members Present:

Supervisor: Gail VanderWeele

Treasurer: Mary Stoneburner

Clerk: Barb Venema

Trustee: Russell Scott

### Absent:

Trustee: Jason Scheffers

The Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor VanderWeele at 7:02 pm. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

12 people in attendance.

Treasurer Stoneburner made a motion to excuse Trustee Scheffers from this Board of Trustees Meeting. Supported Trustee Russell. Motion passed.

Julie Johnston was invited to the podium and spoke to the Board. The Planning Commission has recommended that we hire her to help with Land Use Plan. She spoke briefly about her credentials. She has worked for many townships. Trustee Scott mentioned she comes highly recommended. The Board did not have her information in front of us. She was going to resend it to Trustee Scheffers. The Board will review and wait till Trustee Scheffers could be at the Board Meeting, before we vote. She stated that her pay would be \$9,800. We would be responsible to pay for maps that are developed through Prein and Newhof, also. She would be employed by our Alamo Township for approximately a year. She suggested we take a look at Hartford's maps online. They would be similar to our Township, just for a reference.

Supervisor VanderWeele invited Lt. Baker to speak. He spent almost a year away, with an illness. He is back to work, and gave us an update on the job position that he is currently in.

**Citizens Comments:** John Spencer, District Manager for Matt Hall, our Michigan Representative. He spoke a few minutes, and gave an update on what is happening in Lansing.

Steve T. wanted to say that the quad at the ball park was very well taken care of. It will be transferred to Lee Stoneburner on Sept 13, and put under the care of the Fire Dept.

### Consent Agreement

A. Minutes,

B. and Approval of Liabilities, a motion made by Supervisor VanderWeele to approve the minutes and liabilities, with Treasurer Stoneburner supporting, motion passed.

### Received Reports:

**Clerks Report:** Death Report:

I have been attending Clerk’s meetings, we have been learning more about the changes to Elections, and the 9 day early voting, specifically.

Cemeteries: New foundations, new monuments, residents continuing to buy plots, many appointments set up.

The deputy clerk and clerk are removing the flags currently. Summer flowers, etc. will be removed by Oct 1.

Deputy Clerk and Clerk will be attending a Clerk’s only seminar at the end of September.

Preparations are being made for the November 7 Election.

**Treasurers’ Report:**

Insured Cash Sweep: \$ 369,993.66  
 Current tax: \$ 10,386.68  
 Trust & Agency: \$ 23.53  
 General Account: \$ 145,566.37  
 ARPA Account: \$ 201,706.98  
 Special Fire Protection: \$150,679.46  
 Fire Withholding: \$

**Kalamazoo Community Foundation:**

**Building Department Report: August 2023**

Building Permits	8	\$1932.00
Electrical Permits	1	\$80.00
Mechanical Permits	11	\$540.00
Zoning/Compliance Permits	1	\$ 25.00
<b>Totals</b>	21	\$2,577.00

**Planning Commission Meeting**

Planning Commission did not meet in September.

**Fire Department Report**

Given by Chief Kizer.

For the month of August, 2023 Alamo Fire Department responded to 41 Incidents. The total calls for the year is at 289.

\*Signing of papers for the new fire truck, will be on Sept 14 and 15, 2023.

\*The Fire Department will be having their Annual Pancake Breakfast on September 30, and October 1, 2023.

It will be at the Kalamazoo Speedway, 8 am to 11 am.

Supervisor VanderWeele prompted Chief Kizer to explain that the Fire Dept would like to purchase a new side by side or gator or 4 wheeler. For rescues on trails in park. Chief Kizer will try to obtain a quote and info to attain a grant.

Treasurer Stoneburner expressed her disappointment in how the current 4 wheeler is stored at Rector Community Park. She also expressed disappointment in how many weeds were around bleachers.

S. Tolliver stated again that the quad was taken care of. The park will close on Oct 1.

Trustee Scott stated that there will be helicopters flying around checking high lines/wires/towers. Clerk Venema stated that Foliage spraying is taking place in our township Sept 5 to Oct 5.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Museum** – Fire Chief Kizer told us that Kalamazoo City would like to use the Museum for training. Maybe our fire department may use it a bit after the city. The City would take care of the destruction of the building. Our fire department would take care of it after.

Waiting for environment testing quotes.

**Bell:** The bell was dropped off and put into the Hall, last week. Supervisor VanderWeele suggested we order a plaque to hang on the wall. A suggestion was made to put the plaque on the bell. Discussion is reopened on displaying the bell outside. It takes up too much room in the Township Hall. It also is going to be a hazard if children climb on it during a rental of the Hall. The entire Board will get ideas on how to display it.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Fire Department Special Assessment:** Supervisor VanderWeele introduced the Assessment and no comments or changes. Clerk Venema read the Resolution for approving Special Assessment For Fire Protection for 2024. A motion by Treasurer Stoneburner was made to accept the assessment, Trustee Scott supported. Roll Call Vote proceeded.

Supervisor VanderWeele, YES, Treasurer Stoneburner, YES, Trustee Scott, YES, Clerk Venema, YES. Motion carried and adopted.

**Signs:** Supervisor VanderWeele brought up a suggestion from her and our Enforcement Officer. They would like to have “No Dumping Signs” on “C” Ave and Ravine. Discussion was held. Not sure signs will deter anything. Cameras were also a suggestion. Nothing was decided. 2 citizens spoke and suggested we show the residents were trying by putting up the signs, and shouldn’t leave it the way it is.

**Citizen comment: None**

**Board Comments:**

Treasurer Stoneburner asked if the Hall doors have been repaired yet. They are not legal for a public facility. Supervisor VanderWeele stated she does not have the cost yet.

**Adjournment**

Supervisor VanderWeele made a motion to adjourn. Clerk Venema supported the motion. Motion passed. Adjournment @ 8:40 pm.