

October 11, 2021 - 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 - Absent
Clerk: Cindy Snyder
Trustee: Russell Scott
Trustee: Jason Scheffers

The Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor VanderWeele at 7:00 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Fire Dept Chief and Assistant Chief Recognized Retirement of Priscilla LoBretto (firefighter) with 36 years of service on Alamo Fire Dept. Her Son, Jerry LoBretto pinned her retirement badge on. The Association presented her with a Shadow Box.

Supervisor VanderWeele made a motion to excuse Treasurer Stoneburner from the Meeting and Trustee Scott supported; motion passed.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Minutes
- B. Approval of Liabilities

Supervisor VanderWeele made a motion to approve minutes and liabilities as submitted Clerk Snyder supported. Motion Passed

Received Reports:

Clerks Report:

- Continue to Work on Website
- Receiving approx. 50% of Absentee Ballots Returned (Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority Millage Renewal)
- Very Busy with Election Work.
- Greenbauer Cemetery large tree cleaned up.
- Completed Workman's Comp Audit – Done Yearly

Treasurer Report:

First National Bank:

Insured Cash Sweep: \$365,127.23
Current tax: \$193,728.92
Trust & Agency: \$ 1,134.03
General Account: \$227,007.18
Fire Withholding: \$ 13,058 = 7263 Ravine Road still holding

Kalamazoo Community Foundation: \$261,815.09 As of August 31, 2021

Building Department Report:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----|---------|
| Building Permits | 12 | \$1,701 |
| Electrical Permits | 6 | \$570 |
| Mechanical Permits | 4 | \$320 |
| Zoning/Compliance Permits | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 22 | \$2,591 |

Planning Commission Meeting

Planning Commission discussed training available and no further business was discussed.

Fire Department Report: (Chief Kizer reported):

For the month of September 2021, Alamo Fire Department responded to 35 Incidents. The nature of these calls are as follows:

Incidents:

- 14 EMS calls
 - 4 PI Accidents
 - 10 Misc.
 - 2 Dispatched & Cancelled
 - 1 Fire
 - 3 Unauthorized Burns
 - 1 Cover Assignment (Otsego)
- YEAR TO DATE: 317

Training:

- 9/13 CAD Training
- 9/20 Water Drafting

Operations:

- Three bids received for Firetruck. Pierce, HME and Allied (Allexis) are the companies that bid.
HME = \$643,495
Pierce = \$595,012 (\$19,896 discount if we do financing thru Pierce or upfront payment)
Allied (Alexis) = \$594,789

Personnel:

- Firefighter Priscilla LoBretto retired after 36 years on September 30, 2021.

Public Relations / Fire Prevention:

- Planning on Halloween Candy Check 2021 October. Supervisor VanderWeele stated she will have some handouts to the children; not candy.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor VanderWeele inquired with Attorney & said the more normal route would be to use the SAD funds if you need \$500,000 over 5 years. Or use a Police & Fire Special assessment Statute the Board creates a township – wide special assessment district and the annual approves the amount, to be supported by the budget. It lasts forever and you only need to publish a notice and hold a hearing each Sept to determine the amount – after it is set up. Several townships have used (Kalamazoo since 1950s) to provide partial fund for the police and fire. The limitation is 10 mills of taxable value in any given year; however, if you go up by more than 10% you need to notify the residents in the district by mail and by publication.

Millage – 1 mill = \$144,000

.25 mill for 1 year = \$36,000 x 10 years = \$360,000

.50 mill for 1 year = \$72,000 x 10 years = \$720,000

Much discussion on Millage versus Assessment. Millage allows taxpayers to vote but Assessment Guarantees the financing. One of our Fire Truck is in critical condition and if we wait for Millage it will not go to vote until next year and therefore, puts the truck order behind another 6 months to a year. As of Jan 1 2022, the cost of fire truck will increase.

The Board voted to table until November's Meeting to vote as a Board whether to Assess or Millage.

Trustee Scott Made a Motion to table the vote until November Board Meeting. Trustee Scheffers supported.

Role Call:

Supervisor Vanderweele – Yes

Trustee Scheffers – Yes

Trustee Scott – Yes

Clerk Snyder – Yes

Motion Passed to table.

NEW BUSINESS:

Museum – Supervisor VanderWeele inquired with Attorney & said donation works better than auction. Still have 50% approx. of items left. Three Museums have come and picked up their items.

What items are left are considered “abandoned items”. We have to decide what to do with the Abandoned Items?

Township will have to decide in months to come what to do with the building.

Trustee Scheffers made a motion to Winterize the Museum (\$300 Approx.) Supervisor Vanderweele supported.

Motion Passed.

BOARD Of Trustees Comments

Trustee Scott said Fire Truck financing is going to be a big project.

Trustee Scott said Fricano's will be closing until the first of the year.

Supervisor VanderWeele said Recycling on October 23.

Supervisor VanderWeele called Allegan Co. Drain Commissioner and they reviewed there is not enough fatal accidents to put a guard rail on the S Curve on Ravine Road. (heading N on Ravine)

Citizens Comments

- Resident mentioned few items lacking on the township Web Page.
- Resident thanked the Board for Shutting the Museum.

Adjournment

Clerk Snyder made a motion to adjourn at 8:49 PM. Trustee Scott supported.
Motion passed.