



ALBERT TOWNSHIP

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Albert Township Hall

September 16, 2025

ROLL CALL: Board Members: Supervisor Michael Szukhent, Clerk Sandy Raffin, Trustee Mark Bowser. Also, in attendance were Deputy Treasurer Shannon LaPointe, Fire Chief Doug Baum, Secretary Hope Rosso, and 6 attendees.

ABSENT: Treasurer John Righi, Trustee Marsha McDonald, Zoning Administrator Jeff McDonald, excused.

ORDER: The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Szukhent.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the flag was led by Szukhent.

1. Agenda.

Motion made by Raffin to approve agenda. Second by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

2. Public Comment: Sabrin Smith lives at 2815 County Road 612, raised concerns about the speed limit in front of her house. The curve is posted at 35 mph. Smith was corrected by Ted Orm from the road commission, posted speed limit is 55 mph. The sign is a yellow sign and it is recommended to go 35 mph. Orm noted the concerns and will relay to the road commission. Baum also explained townships do not set the speed limit the MSP does after a study has been conducted.

3. Approve Minutes.

a. August 19, 2025

b. August 28, 2025 – Special Meeting

Motion by Raffin to approve minutes as a consent agenda for August 19, 2025 August 28, 2025 as presented, second by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

4. Public Hearing on the Fire/EMS Special Assessment Millage.

Motion by Raffin to open the Public Hearing at 7:07 p.m. concerning the 2025 Special Assessment for funding the Fire and Ambulance Department and to waive the reading of the resolution, seconded by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

Szukhent explained to the public that the purpose of this public hearing it to examine the estimated costs and to redetermine the requited levy for the operation, maintenance, and capital improvements of the Albert Township Fire Department and Ambulance Service for the next succeeding year. The township board has proposed the millage rate of 5.1 mills which is the same millage as last year to fund the township fire department and ambulance service, which is estimated to raise \$1,016,783. The special assessment district was previously established pursuant to law and affects all taxable real property in Albert Township.

Public Comment:

Cynthia Damoth, 12616 Kohlman Road, Atlanta, MI

"Has this already been voted on? Does this have an ending date? Or is this something new?"

Raffin: This is a renewal of the past, so we are voting to have it reinstated, and must have a public hearing.

Szukhent: This has been done for several years, and we are renewing it.

Motion by Raffin to close the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m. concerning the 2025 Special Assessment for funding the Fire and Ambulance Department, seconded by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

Motion by Szukhent to fund the Fire and Ambulance Department for 2025 through a Special Assessment at the rate of 5.1 mills to be placed on the 2025 winter property tax bill. Seconded by Raffin.

Roll Call: Szukhent, Raffin, Bowser, Yea. 0 Nay **Motion passed.**

5. Human Resources Service Update.

Szukhent informed the board, Vanessa is still doing interviews and will have an update for our October board meeting.

6. Irrigation for Albert Twp Park (Bids)

Review of 3 bids were talked about among the Board Members. Szukhent compared the bids to each other. The bid that the board agreed on was from C&W as presented. Baum will send Raffin a work agreement that the Fire/EMS Department uses.

Motion by Bowser to hire C&W for the irrigation for the park, seconded by Raffin.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

7. Chromebooks for Township Boards

Review of 3 bids were talked about among the Board Members. Szukhent compared the bids to each other. Szukhent said this will save money in the long run, there will not be a need to make multiple copies for so many members. Baum suggested to also look on the website MI Deal for pricing.

Motion by Bowser to get 25 Chromebooks and not to exceed the lowest bid presented which is \$1,124.78. Seconded by Raffin.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

8. FEMA Update

Szukhent stated we had our 1st meeting and there will be many more.

9. Other tabled Items (5/13/2025)**a. Lights over doors for \$300.00 by Dan.**

Lights are completed.

b. Well pump control switch for a generator is \$4,200.00 (called 8/6 for updated quote)

Pump control will be completed in 30 days.

c. Playground Equipment for Bingham Park.

360 Landscaping will have it completed before the snow falls this winter.

10. Clerk’s Report

Raffin hired Cynthia Damoth as her Deputy Clerk. Cynthia worked prior at Avery Township as the Deputy Clerk.

Raffin stated the beach will start to get ready for winter in a couple weeks.

Raffin stated we need to get a bagger for a mower for the maintenance department.

Raffin presented a bid from Ginop Sales for \$4,600.00 for a bagger for the mower. And to take the trailer off the budget.

Raffin made a motion to approve the purchase of the bagger for \$4,600.00 seconded by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

Motion by Raffin, to approve list of bills as presented, for August 1, 2025 to September 8, 2025. second by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

11. Treasurer’s Report

Shannon LaPointe, Township Deputy Treasurer, presented all the township balances for the accounts to the board. LaPointe informed the board, 89% of the taxes have been collected for the summer.

Motion by Raffin, to accept report as presented. Second by Bowser.

All in favor: 3 Yeas 0 Nays **Motion passed.**

12. Staff Reports:

Zoning

Jeff McDonald, Zoning Administrator, information is in the packets.

Accepted as presented, received, and filed.

Fire & EMS

Doug Baum, Fire Chief, gave hard copy of report to the Board.

Maintenance

Szukhent reported the island dividers for the stop signs have been cleaned out and will be filled with concrete by the Road Commission, there is one left to do.

Road Commission

Ted Orm the road commission has their FEMA meeting set up for September 23rd.

Orm also reported there has been so much theft of street signs. It is starting to be a major issue, if there is an emergency 1st responders will not know where they need to go. Signage is missing. Orm thinks there is theft of the signs due to scrap prices rising.

13. Board Comments - None

14. Adjournment

Motion by Raffin, seconded by Bowser to adjourn at 7:47 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:

Hope Rosso, Albert Township Secretary