

Village Of Alanson

7631 US 31 N Alanson, Mi. 49706

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

1. At 7:00 pm President Greg Babcock called the meeting to order.  
Village Roll Call: President Greg Babcock, Trustee Marv Blumke, Trustee Doug Larson, Trustee Preston Gobaski and Trustee Dave Stepanovich  
Treasurer Jennifer Carson & Clerk Chris Adams  
Absent: Street Commissioner, Jim Becker  
Guests Present: Greg Warner, Marissa Larson, Alt (Elaine) Holmes, Becky Babcock, Brian Martincheck, Misty Martincheck, Donovan Martincheck, Monique Kilmer, David Marvin and Richard Weidenhamer.
2. Alta (Elaine) Holmes spoke before the board about her concerns with the snow being piled and stored next to her house. She voiced her concern that she believes the snow melting in the spring is causing foundation issues on her home. Alta did state there are artesian wells underground on her property and this home is located right near the river. She also expressed her concern on how close the piles were actually placed to her home. President Greg Babcock stated that there was no easy answer on where to put the snow. It has always been placed on this lot. Everyone who lives downtown is subject to all the snow melting downhill. President Babcock also advised that it would be a good idea to have a contractor come in and look at what needs to be done to install drainage tile. The village is sympathetic with her position but is not liable for maintaining her foundation. If the village did that for her, we would have to do so for everyone. As far as next year the village already has plans to accept bids for snow removal.
3. Greg Warner and Richard Weidenhamer presented an update to the council on progress for the boathouse. They do have a signed building permit and construction hopes to start this spring, after a compression test is done on all the poles that have been set. This will make sure the structure is sound. Construction is planned to be finished by the middle of summer. The boathouse plans are available at the village clerk's office if anyone wishes to see what is being offered. Cost for the boathouse material is \$47500.00 with all labor to be donated. President Greg Babcock asked if the cost of the boatlift was included in this cost and the answer is no, but Mr. Warner believes the lift will be donated. Trustee Dave Stepanovich asked if the reason the permit was delayed was because the plans had not been signed? Mr. Warner stated he knew nothing of unsigned plans, as of this point, the only hold up he knew of was the compression test being performed. The question was asked how much the testing would cost and no estimate has been given at this time. The boat house will be shut down during the winter months.
4. Curbside recycling was discussed with questions and comments from village residents in attendance. Resident Monique Kilmer asked the council to go over the 5-year commitment. The village will be paying for this service for the residents and the % year committee does have flexibility. The county ran drop off site will remain open, this area is free and services the township, not just the village and is the 4th busiest drop off site in the county. While the village has already approved the cost in the yearly budget, there are grants thru the state that can be applied for to help with this cost. Resident Becky Babcock stated that as a resident she personally would love to

have this service and help keep the village clean. As a full-time mom, the ability to run to the drop off center is just not possible at times. Resident Misty Martincheck voiced her approval as well, stating it would be less trips to the drop off center and the grant funding is an area she would like to see the village go for funding. As for cleaning up the town, this may help the lower income families keep their yards and homes cleaner. Resident Richard Weidenhamer was concerned with the recycle bins being open and papers, etc. being blown around. Trustee Doug Larson advised that all bins will have lids or caps. Resident Monique Kilmer asked the council about enforcing the village ordinance on keeping yards clean and was advised by Trustee Larson that the village has already started the process for tickets to be issued to residents not in compliance. As the ordinance book was in such disarray, it has been sent out to be corrected and published. Once this is done, the village will be in a better position to enforce all ordinances. Trustee Dave Stepanovich stated his concern that this money being put to recycling could be used on the streets and equipment that will be needed in the village. The village council then took a roll call vote on curbside recycling with results as follows:

Trustee Doug Larson: AYE

Trustee Preston Grobaski: AYE

Trustee Dave Stepanovich: NAY

Trustee Marv Blumke: NAY

President Greg Babcock: AYE

With 3 votes AYE and 2 votes NAY the Village of Alanson will now offer curbside recycling.

5. A motion was made by Trustee Dave Stepanovich for Monique Kilmer to be added to the Zoning & Planning Board. This motion was seconded by Trustee Marv Blumke. All in favor? Aye Motion was carried with Monique Kilmer as a new board member.
6. Treasurer Jennifer Carson discussed the issue she has with the due date versus postage date on the village tax bills. Once the due date is past, it throws off her system. It was discussed giving a grace period or changing the late fee to after the due date regardless of postage. President Greg Babcock asked if there was any way to change the program to accommodate the postage date. It was decided to table this issue until Treasurer Jennifer Carson has the opportunity to discuss this issue with the software developer, BSA.
7. Clerk Chris Adams asked the board for approval on applying for a credit card thru First Federal with a very small (\$300-\$500) limit to help ease the everyday purchases such as postage. A motion to approve this request was made by Trustee Dave Stepanovich and seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All in favor? AYE Motion to apply approved.
8. Committee Reports:

Street Commissioner Jim Becker was absent, President Greg Babcock did talk with Jim Becker prior to the meeting and stated Jim had nothing new to report. Trustee Marv Blumke brought to the boards attention that the DPW worker, Corey Withey, was interested in selling his lawn care equipment to the village for \$10000.00. He stated that the equipment was a good deal in his opinion and would like the other council members to at least look at the equipment before a decision is made wether or not to buy the equipment.

Sewer Report: Trustee Marv Blumke stated that everything is running smoothly, nothing to report. Trustee Doug Larson for the ordinance committee stated that the ordinances have all been sent in and should take about 4 to 5 months for the publication. Trustee Doug Larson also gave the council the good news that he had acquired a grant for the resurfacing of at least 2 of the basketball courts in the park and that he is looking into any and all possible grants and funding to help with fencing and lighting around the park. It should be noted that when this grant was awarded, the village was

advised that our grant application was the best they had seen. So, thank you Trustee Doug Larson for all your hard work on improving the village.

9. A motion to pay the monthly bills was made by Trustee Doug Larson and seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All in Favor? AYE Motion to pay bills carried.
10. At 8:05 pm President Greg Babcock adjourned the meeting.

Chris Adams  
Village Clerk of Alanson