

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 N Alanson, Mi. 49706

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

December 11th, 2017

1. At 7:03 pm President Greg Babcock called the meeting to order.
Village Roll Call: President Greg Babcock, Trustee Marv Blumke, Trustee Doug Larson, Trustee Preston Grobaski and Trustee Dave Stepanovich
2. Trustee Doug Larson made a motion to accept the November 13th, 2017 meeting minutes with the modification to reflect his desire to give Alanson School's \$1500 being defeated. This motion was seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All council members in favor? Aye. Motion to accept minutes approved with modification.
3. Visitor Comments: Resident Bryan Burley of 6244 River Street wished his approval of the MMA to be on record. He did state that while he understands the need for this, he does not feel it should be within the center of the village. Mr. Burley asks council to very carefully consider where you place such a facility.
4. Trustee Dave Stepanovich advised the council of his recommendation to hire a new DPW worker. Trustee Stepanovich has interviewed Jeremy Jackson for said position and feels he can do the job. Mr. Jackson will get his CDL as soon as possible. He did start work on December 9th. Trustee Doug Larson then made a motion to hire Mr. Jackson based on Trustee Stepanovich's recommendation. This motion was seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski. All in favor? Aye. Motion to hire Jeremy Jackson carried.
5. President Greg Babcock presented to council an estimate from Ginop's for the purchase of a new tractor with a plow. Tractor price after discounts is \$69500.00 with an additional \$8995.00 for the plow addition for a total of \$78495.00. Ginop's will give a trade in value of \$17000.00 on the village's old tractor bringing the total down to \$61495.00. President Babcock has spoken with the banker at First Federal and the bank is willing to finance this purchase with a 4% interest rate. It should be noted that the village has set aside money (\$25000.00) in the 2017/2018 budget for equipment purchases and this money will bring the financed price down. Trustee Dave Stepanovich asked Trustee Marv Blumke if from the street side of this issue would you recommend the purchase of this tractor? Trustee Blumke stated if we can finance it and it is within our budget, yes. The pick-up truck is getting older and worn out, this tractor could pick up the slack. Trustee Doug Larson stated that with a budget of the \$25000.00 already set aside minus any equipment purchases already made, let's finance as little as possible. Trustee Marv Blumke made a motion to purchase this tractor with the plow pending the finance committee can work out the details and it is within the budget. This motion was seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. A roll call vote was then taken with results as follows:
Trustee Doug Larson: Aye
Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Aye
Trustee Preston Grobaski: Aye
Trustee Marv Blumke: Aye
President Greg Babcock: Aye
All in favor of tractor purchase and financing. Motion carried.

6. The Medical Marijuana Act was again on the agenda for discussion. Trustee Marv Blumke stated he would vote no. he has spoken with a lot of entities and they are opting out. Trustee Blumke feels the village is too small for 3 separate dispensaries that have expressed interest in opening inside the village. How do you decide which one? Trustee Preston Grobaski has spoken with residents who were positive about this issue, while Trustee Dave Stepanovitch agreed with Trustee Grobaski. Stating that businesses are positive, but people do not want to show support because of their positions. Trustee Doug Larson said that regardless of tonight's vote, this issue isn't finished. There is still a number of things to consider such as how small the village is and there should be limitations. Trustee Larson also stated that the Zoning and Ordinance committees should meet in public and even if the village opts in, it can always be repealed. A motion was made by Trustee Dave Stepanovitch to move forward with accepting the MMA and exploring the village's options. This motion was seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski. A roll call vote was taken with results as follows:

Trustee Doug Larson: Aye

Trustee Marv Blumke: No

Trustee Dave Stepanovitch: Aye

Trustee Preston Grobaski: Aye

President Greg Babcock: No

With 3 Aye's and 2 No's the motion is approved.

A zoning committee and ordinance committee will be formed specifically for this issue.

7. Committee Reports:

-Trustee Doug Larson with the ordinance committee presented the board the rough drafty of the new ordinance book. Trustee Larson went over a few chapters that required attention and did have some chapter's that need to be reviewed by the village attorney. Trustee Larson's recommendations are as follows:

- **Scratch 50.08 revert to 50.03**
- **Chapter 90 – Fire pit – Shall be allowed if fire is contained within a controlled fire ring, of reasonable size, to be determined by the fire chief.**
- **110.01 – Need to enforce permits for selling of cars in the village - decide if fees enough**
 - **Strike any language about sales of cars / fees**
- **110.02 - Need to review rules on general exhibitions (ie: riverfest) fees**
 - **strike fees**
- **70.23 – Fines – Do we want to modify?**
 - **Take no action**
- **Provisions to completely strike**
 - **90.01**
 - **(A)(7) – Prohibits begging**
 - **(A)(11) – Prohibits profanity in public**
 - **90.02 – Discusses infectious diseases in the village. Covered by state and federal law**
 - **91.02 – rules for fires in public places. Superseded by 91.25**
 - **91.05 – refers to littering in the park. Superseded by 91.35**
 - **91.06 – Assemblies – Superseded by 91.29**
 - **91.07 – Obscene Language - Unconstitutional**

- **91.10 – Advertising – Superseded by 91.31**
- **91.11 – Defacing Property – Superseded by 91.27**
- **91.26 – Obscene behavior - Unconstitutional**
- **91.28 – Sunbathing - Unconstitutional**
- **91.32 – Sleeping in the park – better clarified in 91.08**
- **91.33 – Sporting activity – Council wanted to remove**
- **91.37 – Vulgar appearance - Unconstitutional**
- **Chapter 114 – Billiards and Pool halls – out of date**
- **130.04 – Radios and Phonographs – out of date**

A motion to blanket strike said ordinances was made by Trustee Doug Larson and seconded by President Greg Babcock. All in favor? Aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Larson to add a special use of firearm ordinance within the village limits with approval of council. This motion was seconded by President Greg Babcock. All in favor? Aye, motion carried.

Trustee Larson also addressed resident Pennie Reid’s concern from the special meeting about the smell from a caregiver’s residence. The village can have an ordinance in place for such issue and this should be drafted by the village attorney. Once all ordinances’s are written and sent in for publication, it will take 60 days. The village should have the ordinance book back and all ordinances will be enforceable hopefully by early spring.

-Trustee Dave Stepanovitch reported that the Planning & Zoning committee will meet on January 5, 2018

-Trustee Marv Blumke reported that at the Sewer board meeting scheduled for Thursday, they would be discussing the 2018 budget.

8. A motion was made by President Greg Babcock for clerk Chris Adams to pay the monthly bills with the addition of billing Quick Care for \$73.50 (for improper handling of specimen), this motion was seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All in favor? Aye. Motion to pay bills and to bill Quick care carried.

9. Public Comments:

-Allen Bissonnette state that he feels the ordinance fines should be reviewed. He does not feel the village should give a judge that kind of inadvertent power over someone for something as simple as a minor violation. Mr. Bissonnette also stated that he feels the river is a huge asset to the community and should have more public access areas. Trustee Blumke advised that the river is on our 5-year Recreation Plan

-David Marvin of River Street and Crooked River Lodge advised council that reviewing the ordinance fines would be a good idea giving an example of a violation of jumping off a pier can be a civil infraction versus a misdemeanor. Mr. Marvin also talked about the MMA issue telling council that while he himself had no strong opinion, he hopes council will keep asking questions and exploring all options. He advised council to be cautious as sometimes it is not easy to repeal an ordinance.

10. At 8:25 meeting adjourned