

Village Of Alanson

7631 US 31 N Alanson, Mi. 49706

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2018

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 Grobaski and Trustee Dave Stepanovich
2. Trustee Dave Stepanovich made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2018 regular meeting. This was seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski, all in favor.
3. Visitor Comments:
 - Bill Culp advised council of a couple areas on Terrace and South Pine Streets that are in need of repair.
 - Letter from Pennie Reid
4. Village tax rate was discussed for the L-4029. After the last storm, lots of areas are in need of repair. Roads have collapsed near ditches and drains due to over flowing water. Current tax rate is 7.4165 for the General Law: Operational and the General Law: Street Repair is 3.9690. The street repair is already maxed out. Trustee Doug Larson made a motion to raise the General Law: Operational to 8.000 for 2018 only, to help fund these major street repairs. This was seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski with a roll call vote being taken with results as follows:
 - Trustee Marv Blumke: Aye
 - Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Aye
 - Trustee Preston Grobaski: Aye
 - Trustee Doug Larson: Aye
 - President Greg Babcock: AyeAll in favor, motion carried.
5. President Greg Babcock presented the board with the cost of new forks for the Tractor. Cost new is \$1395.00 but Ginop Sales of Alanson will sell to the village for \$955.00 Trustee Doug Larson is requesting council purchase these forks as the cost of renting them is almost as much as the purchase and these forks will be needed for the installation of the new mulch for the playground area of the park and can be used for other purposes later on. As this will be used to install mulch that was purchased with the Community Foundation Grant, the tractor forks can be purchased with the Grant Match fund. A motion to purchase the forks was made by Trustee Doug Larson and seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich with a roll call vote being taken with the results as follows:
 - Trustee Doug Larson: Aye
 - Trustee Preston Grobaski: Aye
 - Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Aye
 - Trustee Marv Blumke: Aye
 - President Greg Babcock: AyeAll in favor, motion carried.
6. A formal letter requesting permission to hold Riverfest was received by the Alanson DDA. They plan on holding Riverfest on August 9th thru the 12th. The DDA is also requesting the closure of River

Street from Friday morning at 6am until 7pm Sunday night. A motion to approve both request was made by Trustee Doug Larson and seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski. All council in favor, motion carried.

7. President Greg Babcock presented council with a new sewer resolution. This resolution will increase the sewer rates by \$2.00, raising monthly bills from \$41.00 to \$43.00. The rate increase will help offset the cost of both the current sewer bonds that are due each year with increasing prices as well as the repairs and replacement of sewer pipe lines that are in need of replacement. Trustee Marv Blumke made the motion to accept the new resolution and was seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich with a roll call vote being taken. Results as follows:
 - Trustee Marv Blumke: Aye
 - Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Aye
 - Trustee Preston Grobaski: Aye
 - Trustee Doug Larson: Aye
 - President Greg Babcock: Aye.All in favor, motion carried.
8. Trustee Dave Stepanovich made a motion for council to change the regular schedule meeting time to 6pm. Trustee Preston Grobaski seconded this with all council in favor. Motion carried. Trustee Doug Larson stated that with the MMLA surveys being discussed at the June meeting, council should wait until the July 2018 meeting to make this change official as lots of residents will be in attendance and might not be notified early enough. All council agreed with the new time and date to start in July.
9. LAMA rep Brooke Milbrandt has turned in her resignation effective June 2018. President Greg Babcock advised that we are looking for a replacement. This person must be a village resident. And that the township is in the same situation as the township rep, Dan Plascencia is also resigning. This position requires residency within Littlefield Township.
10. President Babcock updated council on the planned treatment of the invasive milfoil weed in the Crooked River. The watershed council is looking into diver assisted suction removal versus using the chemicals. At the April council meeting, all council was in agreement to spend up to \$1000.00 for the chemicals. President Babcock stated that if this need bid comes in within a few hundred dollars of the original chemical bid, to go with the suction method. All council agreed. There have been letters sent to residents living on the river informing them of said plans.
11. Committee Reports:
 - Trustee Preston Grobaski updated council on memorial park. He is looking for volunteers to help plant flowers at the park that he plans to purchase from Tiger Lilly's. He is also looking to purchase more mulch for the park.
 - Trustee Marv Blumke advised council that cleanup was almost finished and cold patch repairs to start soon. Trustee Blumke also stated the water fountain behind the library broke when the water was turned on. President Babcock advised this could be removed as with the Community Foundation Grant, we are getting a new fountain. Trustee Blumke stated the bathrooms also needed to be opened and he would put the DPW workers on these issues. The bridge Tender, Paul Davison been asking that the stop sign at the swing bridge be pushed back away from the bridge. Council did discuss this and have decided to leave the sign where it is currently. Mr. Davison also asked for a concave mirror so he can see cars approaching the bridge. Trustee Dave Stepanovich advised council he already has a mirror located in his store that he is not using and that can be taken to the bridge.The sewer system is running good and the audit went well.

The condos off M-68 are starting work again and it was discovered that they are tapped into the sewer system but have never paid the hook up fee. Trustee Blumke advises sending out a letter on this and charging the monthly fee for only one hook up as the other units are not finished or livable.

-Trustee Doug Larson update council on the community foundation grant, the mulch has been ordered and work should be started sometime in June with a work bee planned for this event. The new fountain and waste receptacles have also been ordered. Trustee Larson is also working with the Conservation District to submit another grant to the Revenue Sharing Board for a "Butterfly garden" for the park.

The USA Pickleball association has offered a free demonstration along with a free net pull down kit. Trustee Larson will be contacting the association to set up this demo. Trustee Marv Blumke then asked if during the work bee, the sand box behind the swings could be revamped as it is falling apart. To which Trustee Larson stated he does not see an issue with this request.

-Trustee Dave Stepanovich nothing to report as Trustee Blumke as street commissioner has already updated council on personnel.

12. A motion to pay the monthly bills was made by Trustee Marv Blumke and seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. Roll call vote results as follows:

-Trustee Marv Blumke: Aye

-Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Aye

-Trustee Preston Grobaski: Aye

-Trustee Doug Larson: Aye

-President Greg Babcock: Aye

All in favor, motion carried.

President Babcock then spoke of the Cleanup donations received. The village took in \$92.00 in donations at the cleanup, President Babcock would like to give this money to the Alanson/Littlefield Fire Department as this event could not be done without their help. All council members agreed.

13. Allen Bersonnet updated council on ordinance enforcement in the village. He stated he has been doing a lot of driving around and taking pictures of areas he feels are non-conforming. As of the time of the meeting, no complaints have been brought to Mr. Bersonnet's attention.

14. At 7:53 pm a motion was made by Trustee Doug Larson to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Marv Blumke. All in favor, meeting adjourned

Chris Adams
Village Clerk of Alanson