

Village Of Alanson

7631 US 31 N Alanson, Mi. 49706

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2018

1. At 6:00 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 accept the November 12, 2018 regular meeting minutes. This motion was seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski. All in favor, motion to accept minutes approved.
3. Trustee Marv Blumke made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2018 special audit meeting. This was seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All in favor, motion to accept minutes approved.
4. Public Comments:
  - Dawn White expressed appreciation with the Alanson Open House
  - Joanne Galloway from Chippewa County was in attendance to show support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Paul Fairbairn asked why the medical marijuana dispensary was on the agenda again after the residents had already had their say. President Babcock stated if it is asked to be put on the agenda, we have to discuss it.
  - Ann Billiard, Alanson resident was in attendance to show support for the medical marijuana dispensary
  - Jeff Prater, Alanson resident was in attendance to show support of the medical marijuana Dispensary.
  - Mike Kazanowski with High 5 spoke of the 58% of Littlefield Township voters who approved the recreational marijuana.
  - Tom Fairbairn, Alanson business owner, spoke against the medical marijuana dispensary. Stating the voters only came out for the marijuana vote.
  - Richard Scott, Redmond Twp. Showed his support for the medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Jeff Moeller spoke of his support for the medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Chris Rowe, Chippewa County showed support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Greg Billiard, Alanson resident showed support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Mike Hinderman showed support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Tyler Watermand showed support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Kathy Smithers, Chippewa County showed her support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Carolyn Penniman showed support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Dickson Detera showed support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - Rachel Graham, Alanson resident showed her support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
  - David Auger showed his support for a medical marijuana dispensary.
5. Visitor Comments:
  - Mike Lambert spoke with council about his property on River Street and the sewer billing. Trustee Marv Blumke briefly went over sewer policy and asked to make sure Mr. Lambert was given a copy

of the sewer ordinance as there are a couple options. This issue will be on the January 2019 council meeting agenda.

-Mike Kolkmeier, Adam Kazanowski and Mike Kazanowski with High 5 presented to council why they want to put a medical marijuana dispensary within village limits. Stating the water here in Alanson is some of the best in the world. Plans are in place for other businesses as well.

6. Trustee Dave Stepanovich spoke of DPW worker Robert Burwell who has passed the new hire drug test. Trustee Marv Blumke also spoke, stating he is doing a great job and willing to get his CDL. A motion was made by Trustee Blumke to permanently hire Robert Burwell for the DPW. This motion was seconded by Trustee Stepanovich with a roll call vote following:

-Trustee Doug Larson: Yes

-Trustee Preston Grobaski: Yes

-Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Yes

-Trustee Marv Blumke: Yes

-President Greg Babcock: Yes

All in favor, motion carried.

7. The land dispute with Jim Benham was discussed with President Greg Babcock stating the 3 options that were spoke about with the village attorney. One being to buy the property to which Mr. Benham is against. Another was to go ahead and do a land swap which could cost the village \$10000 to \$15000. The third option is to put the alley back where it was originally and remove the asphalt from Mr. Benham's property. As Mr. Benham is not in town at this time, Trustee Marv Blumke made a motion to table this issue until such time that Mr. Benham can meet with council. This was seconded by Trustee Doug Larson with all council in favor.

8. The medical marijuana ordinance was on the agenda for a vote with Trustee Doug Larson reviewing the ordinance for those in attendance who had not had the opportunity to review as this ordinance has been on the village website for public review since June of this year. Trustee Larson spoke of his support for the medical marijuana but also stated the village does not have the capacity to oversee this issue. Trustee Larson also expressed concern of circumventing the zoning board, who have a say in this issue. The village does not have the capacity for a dispensary in Trustee Larson's opinion and he would vote against this ordinance for those reasons. A motion to adopt the ordinance as written was made by Trustee Dave Stepanovich and seconded by Trustee Preston Grobaski with a roll call vote taken:

-Trustee Marv Blumke: No

-Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Yes

-Trustee Preston Grobaski: Yes

-Trustee Doug Larson: No

-President Greg Babcock: No

With 3 no votes and 2 yes votes, motion to adopt medical marijuana ordinance is not approved.

9. At 6:51, President Greg Babcock called a 5 minute recess

10. At 6:56, President Babcock called the meeting back to order.

11. Committee Reports:

-Trustee Preston Grobaski did not have anything to report other than enjoying the open house.

-Trustee Marv Blumke stated the open house went great other than a little confusion on where Santa was to be. As for the DPW, if anyone sees something needing to be done, please let him know. Robert Burwell is going to study for his CDL and Trustee Blumke stated he did drive around and show Mr. Burwell dead end roads that need to be plowed. The sewer authority approved the

2019 budget at their last meeting. Trustee Blumke also advised council of a bill from the sewer authority for the raising of the manhole covers. This is to be paid out of the Village R&R account that is already in place with the sewer authority.

-Doug Larson expressed appreciation for Vanessa with VBH Photography for her free Santa portraits at the open house. The Alanson DDA will send her a thank you card. The grant report on the Community foundation grants is due soon. This grant was successful. A letter of intent has been submitted to the Health Department in hopes of securing funds for the Bass Avenue park project. Trustee Larson did state he is working with Jim Allen on this project to get it broke down into more manageable blocks of construction which could give more opportunity for grant funding on the whole project if done in phases.

-Trustee Dave Stepanovich had nothing new to report.

- Enforcement Officer Allen Bersonnet advised council he had suspended clean up enforcement until spring

12. A motion was made by Trustee Marv Blumke to approve paying the monthly bills, this was seconded by Trustee Doug Larson.

-Trustee Doug Larson: Yes

-Trustee Preston Grobaski: Yes

-Trustee Dave Stepanovich: Yes

-Trustee Marv Blumke: Yes

-President Greg Babcock: Yes

Motion to pay monthly bills approved.

13. President Greg Babcock announced to council the January 14, 2019 meeting would start at 5:30 as we have the joint meeting with Littlefield Township and LAMA. President Babcock then adjourned the meeting at 7:21 pm

Chris Adams  
Village Clerk