

## Minutes

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Village President Greg Babcock at 6:00pm.

**Council Present:** Trustee Mark Fairbairn, Trustee Doug Larson, Trustee Josh Larson, Trustee David Stepanovich. President Greg Babcock.

**Council Absent:** N/A

**Staff Present:** Craig Wilson, Brooke Milbrandt, Jennifer Murphy, Jason Losey

**Approval of Agenda:** *Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to approve the agenda as written for the regular council meeting of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

**Approval of Minutes:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

**Approval of LAMA Joint Meeting Minutes:** *Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to approve the LAMA Joint Meeting minutes as written for the regular council meeting of March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

**Public Comment:** Allen Fauser, a resident on Spruce St, inquired if there were any plans for road work on Pine St due to the bad conditions and water washout issues. President Babcock replied that work will be done on Pine St when MDOT redoes the Highway in 2023. Fauser asked if there was anything that could be done in the meantime. Jason Losey (DPW), replied they were waiting due frost laws restrictions and the need for things to dry up before starting road repair attempts.

**Visitor Comment:** N/A

**Bridge Tender Contract Bids:** Clerk Milbrandt opened and read aloud the sole bid received from Edward Pelto, in the amount of \$24,000 for the 2021 season. *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to accept the bid from Edward Pelto for \$24,000 with an addendum to increase the amount up to 10% for Pelto to provide liability insurance. Seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**Milton Rd Classification Change:** President Greg Babcock reported that the Village has always classified Milton Rd a local road. Babcock asked the council to consider changing the classification to a major road which would bring in additional revenue. The Village would need to send the change request to the state in 2022. *Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to approve the classification change of Milton Rd

Handwritten signatures and initials in blue and red ink. The initials 'MB' and 'DL' are written in red. There are two blue ink signatures, one of which appears to be 'G. Babcock'.

from a local road to a major road. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**Joe Lucier's Resignation:** President Greg Babcock reported that Joe Lucier had submitted his letter of resignation. *Motion* by Trustee Mark Fairbairn to accept Joe Lucier's resignation as Zoning Administrator. Seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**Disposal of Old Truck:** President Babcock reported that the DPW doesn't have a need for the old dump truck. It is rusted out and not in good condition. Trustee Stepanovich suggested parking it on the street with a sign for bids. Milbrandt asked if any action/posting was required by the Clerk. Babcock said he would post it on the Village Facebook Page. *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve placing the old truck up for sealed bids, with no reserve, with the bids to be reviewed at the next council meeting. Seconded by Trustee David Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**Discuss Clean Up Day 2021:** *Motion* by Trustee Mark Fairbairn to approve holding the annual Clean Up Day on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 so long as Littlefield Township also agrees to participate. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Josh Larson-** N/A

**Trustee Doug Larson-** received an inquiry from a group trying to build momentum to convince the Harbor Springs Sewer Authority to lease a portion of vacant land for a solar farm installation. The group will be drafting a resolution and will be reaching out to the different municipalities for support. Larson had inquired on the potential of using leasing fees to lower the future bond payments.

**Trustee David Stepanovich-** N/A

**Trustee Mark Fairbairn-** N/A

**Jason Losey DPW Update-** Getting things ready for Spring/Summer. Bathrooms now open. Picnic tables out. Losey inquired on whether supplies should be purchased by the Village or LAMA? Trustee Doug Larson responded to go ahead and order supplies through LAMA.

**Treasurer Jennifer Murphy-** Reported that Act 51 and F65 reports had been submitted as of 4/12/2021.

**Clerk Brooke Milbrandt-** She and Wilson met with Trina, the Auditor, via zoom to discuss audit findings and recommendations – copies of the final report were issued to all council members, with their meeting packet. President Babcock will get ahold of the Auditor to have them come in and present the audit findings to the Council. Milbrandt informed council that as a result of deficiencies in the Audit findings, the Department of Treasury had sent an email request for a Corrective Action Plan within 30 days of April, 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. President Babcock asked if Council wanted to hold a special meeting for the corrective action plan. *Motion* by Trustee David Stepanovich to have the Finance Committee (Babcock,

Milbrandt, Murphy, Wilson) formulate and submit a Corrective Action Plan to the Department of Treasury within the 30-day requirement. Trustee Josh Larson seconded. All in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**President Greg Babcock- Sewer Board Report:** Babcock met with the Sewer Authority Board last Thursday. The board had met last year on leasing out taps from local municipalities which lowered the bond payment. Little Traverse Township, Littlefield Township and the Village of Alanson still have additional taps to lease out. Harbor Springs no longer has any additional taps. By leasing out further Village taps it will lower the bond payment further. A new bond payment schedule will be going out later this year. There was a spill off of US 31 near Windjammers last week that was cleaned up in a day. The sewer authority does not believe there are any concerns for ground water contamination.

Babcock also reported having posted vacant openings on the village on Facebook. Three people have responded so far.

**Monthly Bills:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to pay the current monthly bills. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. Roll call vote: Trustee Mark Fairbairn –Yes, Trustee Doug Larson – Yes, Trustee Josh Larson – Yes, Trustee David Stepanovich –Yes, President Babcock – Yes. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**Public Comment:** Jeff Prater asked if it was too late to submit a bid for Bridge Tender for Jaren Kilpatrick. Babcock replied that a bid had already been accepted, when they were opened, near the beginning of the meeting and that council may keep Kilpatrick's verbal bid of "minimum wage" in mind, if needed as a backup.

Charles Rehman asked the Council for a status update on MDOT- President Greg Babcock reported the first hearing will be held on April 28 at 4:30 at the Village Hall. MDOT will be scheduling more hearings in the future.

**Adjournment:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

