

Council to sign

**Minutes**

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Trustee Doug Larson at 6pm.

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

**Council Absent:** President Greg Babcock

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

**Approval of Agenda:** *Motion* by Trustee David Stepanovich to approve the agenda as written for the regular council meeting of August 9, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 4/0

**Approval of Minutes:** *Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of July 12, 2021. Seconded by Trustee David Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 4/0

**Public Comment:** Village Resident **Harvey Kasuske** Inquired on the status of blight issues on the homes on West Street and Cheboygan Street. Kasuske had written a letter last month to the Village and Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Glen Pemberton, asking for something to be done. Trustee Doug Larson was going to reach out to Pemberton for an update and report back next meeting.

**Charles Rehman-** update on proposed Waterfront PUD - Rehmann has spoken to Scott Rasmussen at the DEQ. See attached copy with suggestions on the PUD. Trustee David Stepanovich commented that the board will look at the suggestions and discuss at the next meeting.

**Scott Lauer- Littlefield Fire Dept-** Lauer commented that in previous years, the Fire Department was given a \$1000 donation from the Village, after Spring Clean-up Day. Discussion ensued. The Council and Clerk Milbrandt replied that they were not aware of ever having had done so in the past. Milbrandt said she had searched the records back to 2016 with no evidence of such. Littlefield Township has paid this amount to the fire department in the past. Milbrandt to confirm with Kim Morgan

**Brian Drayton-** The September Car show is coming up on Sunday September 12, 2021. The road closures are all set. Barricades and cones placed. River Street to West Street will be blocked from 6am until 4pm. Drayton to notify central dispatch. In the past they had done the Mayors Choice Trophy. Would like to do that again.

**Visitor Presentation:** N/A

Four handwritten signatures in blue ink are located at the bottom of the page. From left to right, they appear to be: a stylized signature, a signature that looks like 'D', a signature that looks like 'ML', and a signature that looks like 'JB'.

**Sewer Refund Request:** *Motion* by Trustee David Stepanovich to approve the sewer refund to Five Brothers Mortgage. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn.

Roll call vote: Fairbairn –Y, Doug Larson –Y, Josh Larson –Y, Stepanovich – Y. Motion carried 4/0.

**Accept Clerk Resignation:** Brooke Milbrandt included a letter of resignation to the council. Milbrandt has been hired as the Littlefield Township Assessor. The resignation date is 10/30/2021.

*Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to approve Milbrandt resignation. Seconded by Trustee David Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion Carried. 4/0.

**Discuss Personnel:** Tabled until next month.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Mark Fairbairn-** N/A

**Trustee Dave Stepanovich-** Spoke with MDOT. Had prints made up of the proposed road work so people can read them easier. Suggested everyone look at it and discuss next month.

**Trustee Josh Larson-** N/A

**Trustee Doug Larson-** Reported having finished up the grant for the holiday lights to expand the light show. The DPW is rewrapping all the old fixtures with new lights. Larson reported that he is working on new grants for in the fall cycle. LAMA is working on a grant to redo the playground bathroom.

**DPW- Jason Losey-** Reported that since they put down gravel on Lake St the condition is much better. DPW installed some drain cut-ins to the side to help drain off water. Still waiting on yellow paint that's on back order. DPW also put gravel down on Spruce St and at the top of Pine ST. Need to go back and put more at the end.

**Clerk Brooke Milbrandt-** Requested adjustments to the General Fund and Major Street Fund. Education needs adjusting to pay for the training with the new CPA and for Jennifer Murphy's accounting classes. The Street Preservation line is over budget with the work that had to be done on the bridge in the spring.

**Treasurer Jennifer Murphy-** Reported F65 report being finalized. Murphy submitted the application for the American Rescue Plan Funds. If approved the Village will receive just under \$80,000 in two installments over the next 2 years. The money can only be used for specific uses. The funds don't have to be used until 2026. If we don't use the funds, we can send them back. Murphy also reported that she has signed up for two accounting classes. Asking the council if they will reimburse her? Murphy is also requesting a pay raise for the additional reporting that she has been doing.

*Motion* by David Stepanovich to reimburse Jennifer Murphy for the cost of her classes for \$199. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All in Favor. Motion carried. 4/0. *Motion* by Josh Larson to increase the education budget from \$750 to \$4200. Seconded by Trustee David Stepanovich.

Roll call vote: Fairbairn –Y, Doug Larson –Y, Josh Larson –Y, Stepanovich – Y. Motion carried 4/0.

*Motion* by Trustee David Stepanovich to increase the Bridge Preservation budget from \$4000 to \$6000. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson.

Roll call vote: Fairbairn –Y, Doug Larson –Y, Josh Larson –Y, Stepanovich – Y. Motion carried 4/0.

**Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson-** Reported that he had been contacted by a resident on River St. Julie Rickert. Rickert was asking if anything could be done on the channel off the Crooked River to prevent boats from blocking the channel preventing her from ingress and egress to her docks. Trustee Doug Larson commented that the Village cannot police the waterway. Wilson also commented Rickert mentioned there are people docking overnight at the municipal slips.

**Monthly Bills:** *Motion* by Trustee David Stepanovich to pay the current monthly bills. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn.

Roll call vote: Fairbairn –Y, Doug Larson –Y, Josh Larson –Y, Stepanovich – Y, Babcock – . Motion carried 4/0.

**Public Comment:** Charles Rehman asked the council if boat parking was allowed on River St. Trustee Doug Larson said he'd have to check the ordinance book and recommended Rehmann file a written complaint.

**Adjournment:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried 4/0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.