

Minutes

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of December 13th, 2021.

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

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

Council Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Jennifer Murphy, Glen Pemberton, Craig Wilson

Approval of Agenda: *Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to approve the agenda as written for the regular council meeting of December 13th, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

Approval of Minutes: *Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of November 8th, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

Public Comment: N/A

Visitor Presentation: N/A

Pay Raise for DPW Employee Jason Losey: Street Commissioner Glen Pemberton reported that Jason Losey has worked for the village since 2019 without a pay increase. Discussion ensued. Trustee Doug Larson suggested a \$1 an hour including a 3% "cost of living" increase, making the pay \$20 an hour. *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to increase Jason Losey's hourly wage to \$20 an hour. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. Roll call vote: Trustee Mark Fairbairn – Y, Trustee Doug Larson – Y, Trustee Josh Larson – Y, Trustee David Stepanovich – Y, President Greg Babcock –Y. Motion carried 5/0.

Sewer Clerk: President Greg Babcock reported that Sewer Clerk - Sue Anne Kilgore was injured and will not be able to return to the office for 3-4 months, and that she also now lives 3-4 hours away. Babcock mentioned that the sewer payments are getting backed up. Discussion ensued on whether the Village should hire a new Sewer Clerk or someone to fill in. Babcock mentioned Heather Armock is interested in the position.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to remove Sue Anne Kilgore from the Sewer Clerk position. Seconded by Trustee David Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to appoint Heather Armock as the new Sewer Clerk effective immediately. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

Request for Boathouse visitor group to put up a tent in the parking lot Sept 2023.-

President Greg Babcock reported that an Antique and Classic Boat group emailed the Village mentioning they would like to come to Alanson in September 2023. They are looking to have permission to put up a tent in the boathouse parking lot.

Motion by Trustee David Stepanovich to approve the boat group to set up a tent in the boathouse parking lot in September 2023. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Thanked Trustee Doug Larson for his work on putting up the holiday light display. Fairbairn also thanked the DPW for the hard work on getting Alanson looking good for the open house.

Trustee Josh Larson-N/A

Trustee Dave Stepanovich- N/A

Trustee Doug Larson- Reported that the light show is up and that he is wrapping up the Grant report.

Glen Pemberton-

DPW- Reported they have been working on some indoor painting. He reported that with the ground not yet frozen that the plow has been tearing things up. Pemberton also reported that the seals on the backhoe are failing and leaking hydraulic fluid. He noted that there are no maintenance records for the backhoe. Pemberton has someone that can come out in the Spring to look at them. He believes it can be repaired. He also reported having made a few new small purchases such as a new vice.

Marvin Blumke called, mentioning that River Street was flooding east of the swing bridge. Pemberton commented that they've cleaned out the pipe. The pipe is 12" and isn't big enough. He had the Emmet County Road Commission come out and flush it. It's not plugged. The pipe is rusting out and failing. The pipe runs across private property. Pemberton said that the water runs down Lagoon Drive which is a private road onto River St.

Pemberton also reported that the Township is looking to officially hire Kevin Phillips as the new joint employee. Pemberton has used him for plowing. He stated that Phillips plans to get his CDL license.

Planning & Zoning- Pemberton asked the council if they need to replace Sue Anne Kilgore on the Zoning Board. President Greg Babcock mentioned that he believed a formal complaint need to be filed in order to remove Sue Anne Kilgore from the Zoning board despite residency mandates. Babcock was going to look into it further.

Ordinance Enforcement- Haven't done much in the last month. There were a couple of car violations he spoke to residents on.

Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy- provided written report in packet.

Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson- Reported having received a call from a Beaver Trapper. The Trapper mentioned having seen a beaver dam outside of Youngs Bait & Tackle. He let the Village know if we needed his services to call. Trustee David Stepanovich reported that he has had calls from a neighbor and the Beavers have taken some trees down and there are power lines that may be impacted by the beavers. President Greg Babcock requested that Deputy Clerk Wilson call the Trapper to resolve the issue.

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

Roll call vote: Trustee Mark Fairbairn – Y, Trustee Doug Larson – Y, Trustee Josh Larson – Y, Trustee David Stepanovich – Y, President Greg Babcock –Y. Motion carried 5/0.

Public Comment:

Resident Deanna Yockey inquired if there were any updates on the blight issues. Ordinance Officer Glen Pemberton responded as to not having any new updates on them this past month.

Littlefield Township resident Megan Osier mentioned to the council that now that the Nicolet Bank has closed there is no safe and easy way to walk down to the Citizens National Bank. Osier offered to volunteer her time to help fundraise or help write grants to try and put a sidewalk in. Osier mentioned that with the upcoming MDOT project it would be a good time to do that project. Trustee David Stepanovich mentioned having spoken with David Talon from MDOT about it and other people have brought that issue up as well. President Greg Babcock responded that he would reach out to MDOT and see what could be done.

Adjournment: *Motion* by Trustee David Stepanovich to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.