

# The Village of Alanson

## Minutes

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of March 20th, 2023.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Village President Greg Babcock at 6:05pm.

### Pledge of Allegiance

**Council Present:** Trustee Doug Larson, Trustee Scott Latva, President Greg Babcock.  
Trustee Mark Fairbairn arrived at 6:13pm.

**Council Absent:** Trustee Josh Larson

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

**Approval of Agenda:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to accept the agenda for March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as written. Seconded by Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 3/0 Motion carried.

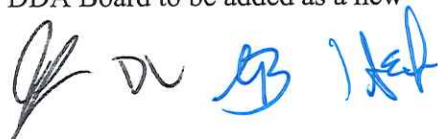
**Approval of Minutes:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 3/0 Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** N/A

**Visitor Presentation:** N/A

### New Business:

- A. **Ordinance Book Update:** Trustee Doug Larson reported that he has been working on obtaining a quote from American Legal Publishing to build and update the Code of Ordinances. The quote came in at \$2,150.00 to update, adopt, and digitize the code and to be made available online. *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to send the ordinance book into American Legal Publishing, cost not to exceed \$2,150. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 3/0. Motion carried.
- B. **Top O Michigan Outboard Racing Club Request Letter:** President Greg Babcock reported receipt of the annual letter from Top O' Michigan Outboard Racing club requesting the "no wake" restriction be lifted for August 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 11a-2pm, and for the swing bridge to be left open during the race. *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve the Top O' Michigan Outboard Racing Club's request to lift the "no wake" restriction for August 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> from 11a-2pm, and to have the swing bridge remain open during the race. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 3/0. Motion carried.
- C. **Approval of Bob Evans appointment to the DDA Board:** President Greg Babcock informed the Council that Bob Evans was approved via vote by the DDA Board to be added as a new



member. Evans introduced himself. DDA Board President Charles Rehmann added that there had been a unanimous vote by the DDA board approving Evans.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve the nomination of Bob Evans to the DDA Board. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 3/0. Motion carried.

**D. Jason Losey Reimbursement- MDOT Physical** – President Greg Babcock reported that Jason Losey is seeking a \$150 reimbursement for a physical required by MDOT, for Losey's commercial driver's license. Babcock informed Council that this has not been reimbursed in the past. Losey commented that he is asking for the board to reimburse him for this expense that is now required annually by MDOT.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to reimburse Jason Losey for \$150 for the MDOT required physical. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. Roll call vote. Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 3/0. Motion carried.

#### **Trustee Mark Fairbairn arrived 6:13pm**

**E. Bridge Tender Bid Posting:** President Greg Babcock advised that it's time to again advertise the Bridge Tender position. Babcock inquired if the board wanted to continue bidding the job out, or to offer the position as a seasonal position. Trustee Doug Larson responded that it's too late in the year to change how we post the position and believes it's best to stick with taking bids.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to post the seasonal Bridge Tender position. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

**Old Business: - N/A**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Mark Fairbairn-** Reported that his father, Tom Fairbairn Sr., is asking for the boat house area name to be changed to Weidenhammer park. Trustee Fairbairn also commented that Lake Street is in terrible condition. Fairbairn mentioned it needs to have fabric put down under the gravel to prevent it from washing away.

**Trustee Josh Larson-** Absent

**Trustee Doug Larson:** Reported that he is disappointed with how the park bathroom project is coming along. Larson stated that he's not sure where the contractor has been. He advised that the contractor failed to order several critical items and that the stall was not a part of the quote, leaving the installation to the DPW to finish. With the project being so behind, it is endangering the Village's ability to receive other grant funding. Larson mentioned he's not sure if we're going to be eligible to receive the grant for the kayak launch because of the delays with the construction company. Larson advised Jason Losey that the DPW will need to paint the bathroom once it's completed. Losey commented that he hasn't seen the contractor working in over a week.

**Trustee Scott Latva-** N/A

**President Greg Babcock:** Babcock reported that he attended the recent Crooked River Lock meeting. The 2023 Lock schedule runs April 24<sup>th</sup> - Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>. They are looking to possibly receive funding to install a backup generator and a well. The lock currently does not have a well.

Babcock received an update from MDOT on the US 31 Construction project last Wednesday. MDOT cannot start construction until April 10<sup>th</sup>. Resident Kim Morgan asked what the deadlines are. Babcock responded that the Deadlines are: Section C (River St to M-68), must be done by Memorial Day, Section B (River St south) must be done by the end of June. The other two sections A & B must be completed by November 10<sup>th</sup>. If the contractor does not make the deadlines there is a \$10,000 per day penalty.

**Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy-** CD Major Street expiring. She requested to allow the CD to expire and shop around for better rates. She advised receipt of information from Horizon Bank with a rate 4.48% and that the Village could be making much more. Expire 3/24/23. Murphy requested permission to allow expiration and shop for a higher rate.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve Jennifer Murphy to pull money out of the current CD and shop around for a better rate. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Murphy advised receipt of an invoice for Joint-Employee; Kevin Smith. Murphy requested approval to pay the Township. Has reached out to the auditors because it spans a couple of prior audited years.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to pay the invoice for \$19,523.11 to the Township for the 1/3 joint employee share. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. Roll call vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Murphy reported that settlement was complete and went well. Amount on Clerk-Treasurer report to be received from the county.

Jason updated the street fund equipment rental sheet. Approval to make the transfer.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve the transfer of funds. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

**Street Commissioner: Jason Losey- Quote 4 Ton Falcon Asphalt Recycler & Hot box trailer.** Quote included. Losey reported that a brand-new trailer with a dump box is \$25,000+. They currently have a used unit for sale for \$8,000. It does not have a dumping box. This unit would also allow the DPW to apply cold patch. The current trailer purchased from the County will not maintain heat any longer. Street Commissioner Losey is asking the Board to approve the purchase of the used unit for \$8,000. It would include a 2-year warranty. Losey commented that the burners have been updated and overall in pretty good shape. It would be available for immediate delivery.

Business owner Charles Rehman asked if a compacting plate was included. Losey responded by saying the plate is not included in the \$8,000 quote. The compacting plate costs approximately \$1000. Rehman responded by saying the compacting plate works much better and should be included. Losey agreed. Trustee Doug Larson inquired if this is a purchase that can be purchased outright or would need to be financed. President Babcock responded by saying that it can be purchased outright and that he would

prefer not to finance the purchase. Trustee Doug Larson commented that if this helps the DPW do their job he's in favor.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to purchase the 4 Ton Falcon Asphalt Recycler and hot box trailer based on the quote presented. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. Roll call vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Losey also reported that he has looked into the sewer hookup at the DPW building. Losey called two other contractors to quote the job and has not heard back from them. Losey will reach out again when he gets back from vacation.

Losey also received a quote to install new windows in the DPW building for \$7,500. Losey mentioned he wants to get a couple of more quotes.

Losey reported he will be out of town 3-23-23 until 4-3-23. He has spoken to Kevin Phillips and Justin Hall, and they will be filling in while he is out of town.

**Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson-** Wilson reported that people have been asking about the Clean-Up Day in May. Babcock responded that it is cancelled due to the MDOT construction project. Discussion ensued. Mention of giving out vouchers to the public to be redeemed at the transfer station could be an option. Babcock stated that he would talk to the Township about this option. Trustee Doug Larson asked if we could get a fixed price on a voucher. Larson said we should discuss this at the next meeting. Trustee Mark Fairbairn inquired on how much it costs the Village to do the cleanup day. Jennifer Murphy advised. Business owner Charles Rehman suggested giving out vouchers, and to see if the Transfer Station will only charge for the vouchers that are redeemed.

Wilson also reported that the Zoning Board meeting is coming up on Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Wilson mentioned people have been calling asking how to apply for the Craft Show. The Village of Alanson's website "Event Page" has the craft show and other events listed such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Jason Losey responded that the Fire Department is going to cancel the parade this year due to the construction project. Murphy to edit the website information.

**Monthly Bills:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to pay the current monthly bills. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried 4/0.

**Public Comment:** N/A

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.