

The Village of Alanson

Minutes

Village of Alanson
7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706
Regular Council Meeting of May 8th, 2023.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Village President Greg Babcock at 6:01pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited

Council Present: Trustee Mark Fairbairn, Trustee Josh Larson, Trustee Scott Latva, President Greg Babcock.

Council Absent: Trustee Doug Larson

Staff Present: Jason Losey, Jennifer Murphy, Craig Wilson

Approval of Agenda: *Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to accept the agenda as amended adding Randolph Bricker Sr. to "Visitor Presentation A.", for May 8th, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0 Motion carried.


Approval of Minutes: *Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of April 10th, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: Samantha Fairbairn proposed an alternative to the cancellation of the 4th of July parade by hosting a 4th of July event in the park. Fairbairn said that the Fire Dept. could still sell their hot dogs and other businesses could also participate. Fairbairn mentioned that the Petoskey Steel Drum Band is still available and that WW. Fairbairn would pay for the band, as in the past. President Babcock asked Jason Losey if the Fire Dept. would be interested. Losey advised that the Fire Dept. is having their meeting this coming Wednesday (May 10th). Jason would inquire.

Resident Brad McPhall mentioned he has spoken to Street Commissioner Jason Losey on the missing speed limit signs on Cheboygan & Spring Streets. McPhall offered to volunteer his time to improve his road. President Babcock responded that they cannot accept volunteer labor due to state restrictions. Losey reported that he is working to have gravel brought in.

Visitor Presentation:

- A. **Randolf Bricker Sr.- 7661 Bass St.:** Bricker inquired if he would be able to place an Amish-built shed on the Village property that is currently leased next to Bricker's residence on Bass St. Bricker also mentioned that the condition of the existing seawall is bad. Bricker is looking to have a survey and appraisal completed on the leased property. President Babcock mentioned that in the lease agreement it states that you cannot put a permanent structure on the property. Bricker is getting quotes to work on the seawall.

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 'JB', a signature that looks like 'MJ', and a signature that looks like 'Ked'.

Motion by Trustee Josh Larson to approve a non-permanent Amish-built shed on lot 23. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 4/0 Motion Carried.

- B. **Artesian Springs Community Water System:** Artesian Springs RV Resort Business Owner Charles Rehmann reported that he is looking to update the 26 year-old Community Water System. Currently it has too many connections. Rehmann said that the RV Resort will upgrade to a Type I water system. Discussion ensued. Rehmann read the stipulations required by the State to upgrade the system.

Babcock inquired if Rehmann had prepared a formal resolution. Rehmann read the resolution to the board. Further discussion ensued.

Motion by Trustee Scott Latva to approve Resolution 2 of 2023- refusal of ownership and operation of the updated Artesian Springs Type I water system. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. Roll call vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Absent, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

- C. **Alanson Swing Bridge Labor Day Walk:** Business owner Charles Rehman explained he is working with Doug Houseworth on the upcoming Labor Day event. It was brought up at the last meeting the need to bring in fill to level an area of the park. Rehman mentioned the need to apply for an earth moving permit. President Babcock responded by encouraging Rehman as the DDA Chair to apply for the permit. Rehman mentioned there are funds assigned to different DDA projects that can be used. Rehman also mentioned that Houseworth is looking to extend the time River Street is blocked off from 9am until 6pm. Babcock asked Street Commissioner Losey his opinion. Losey responded he hasn't seen a proposal for the closure. Babcock asked Rehman to have Houseworth provide a diagram of what he is proposing for the street closure.

Wayne Blomberg introduced himself and mentioned he's also working on the event with Doug Houseworth. Blomberg commented that "the village docks are in very bad shape. They need dredging, and the existing seawall is in very bad condition" Blomberg said "working on the boardwalk is a waste of time until the seawall is repaired. The docks are dangerous in its current condition." Blomberg suggested a "band aid" by replacing the deteriorated fasteners to shore the docks up until they can be redone properly. Discussion ensued. Blomberg said he'd "like to see the village to apply for a DNR permit to redo the seawall, boardwalk and finger piers." Resident Brad McPhall commented that he agrees they are in bad shape and offered to volunteer his time to help. President Babcock commented that at the last DDA meeting people were working on getting quotes and would like to apply for a grant.

Blomberg encouraged the council to look at improving the riverfront once the highway project is completed.

New Business:

- A. **L-4029; Millage Rate Approval:** President Babcock reported the annual milage rates need to be approved and submitted to the county.

Motion by Trustee Josh to accept the milage rates as proposed. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. Roll call vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Absent, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

B. DDA Appointee- Gail Greenwell Approval:

Motion by Trustee Scott Latva to approve Gail Greenwell to the DDA board. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

- C. **Approval of Resolution for Village TAP Grant Match:** Resolution provided. President Babcock asked Clerk/ Treasurer Jennifer Murphy to read the resolution.

Motion by Trustee Josh Larson to adopt resolution 3 of 2023 as presented. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. Roll call vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Absent, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

- D. **Appointment of Ordinance Enforcement Officer:** Babcock reported that he and Trustee Doug Larson met with resident Jamie Breithaupt who had expressed interest in the Ordinance Enforcement officer position. Breithaupt works the night shift and was not able to attend the meeting. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Trustee Josh Larson to approve Jamie Breithaupt as the Ordinance Enforcement Officer. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Old Business: -

- A. **Village of Alanson Clean-up Day:** - President Babcock reported that at the last meeting the council explored different options for the village residents since the spring cleanup day was cancelled. Issuing vouchers to the residents would cost the village \$15,576 if everyone turned their vouchers into the Emmet County Transfer Station. Babcock mentioned he spoke to the Village of Pellston who did a curbside pickup. The cost to the village was almost \$22,000. Discussion ensued. Babcock explained they are having a difficult time finding volunteers for the cleanup day and that we may want to try the voucher system to see how it works. Babcock mentioned that the Emmet County transfer station prints the vouchers and sends them out to the residents. Trustee Mark Fairbairn suggested making the vouchers valid for only one month after being issued, versus good for a year. The voucher would be for one cubic yard of bulk waste. Household trash and yard waste are not accepted.

Motion by Trustee Mark Fairbairn to offer the voucher for one cubic yard of waste to go out when the tax bills are issued, and to be valid for one month. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Fairbairn commented that several roads in the village are in terrible condition. Fairbairn said "if we have the money fix the roads". Fairbairn told Street Commissioner Losey to get the roads quoted for repair. Losey responded that he has been working on it and has several calls out, no one is getting back to him. Losey said he would continue to put calls out. Fairbairn suggested Losey call M&M since they are here already working on the US 31 project. Brad McPhall commented that his road is in terrible condition and that the ditches on Cheboygan Street need to be worked on. Trustee Latva mentioned that Cheboygan St is getting a lot of potholes. Trustee Fairbairn said that he has been asking to get the roads fixed for years and nothing has been done.

Trustee Josh Larson- Reported having had complaints about speeding on Milton Rd. Larson said he saw State police officers on Milton Rd on the way to the meeting.

Trustee Doug Larson: Absent

Trustee Scott Latva- Reported having had complaints on speeding on the detour route. Latva said there is a speed limit sign off M- 68 but not off River St. Asked Commissioner Losey to post a speed limit sign.

President Greg Babcock: Sewer authority doesn't meet until this Thursday.

Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy- Report included. Met with the auditors. Interim audit. Did the F65 for us. Get us more funding. Working on the TIF report.

Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson- Reported having had many calls on the fountain being closed and regarding the cancelled cleanup day. Wilson also reported complaints on trucks jake breaking near the apartments on Milton Street. Resident Brad McPhall and resident Deanna Yockey commented that they hear trucks jake breaking all over town. Discussion ensued. Wilson also reported that MDOT contacted the village and there is a new form required by the Coast Guard to be filled out by the Bridge Tender.

Street Commissioner: Jason Losey. - Reported he is going to start patching on Wednesday. Losey reported he has been working on doing burials. President Babcock asked Losey if they're making patch right now. Losey responded that yes, they are making patch. Losey mentioned that he is hoping to get the park bathroom painted this week. They are still waiting for the toilet to come in. Business owner Charles Rehman asked if Losey had gotten bids on a compactor? Losey said he is going through Taylor rental to see if they have one. Rehman commented that a compactor is worth the investment.

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

Public Comment: N/A

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.