

The Village of Alanson

Minutes

Village of Alanson
7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706
Regular Council Meeting of June 12th, 2023.

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

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 written for June 12th, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: *Motion* by Trustee Mark Fairbairn to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of May 8th, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 4/0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: Village resident Brad McPhall presented photos of standing water on his property and in ditches on Cheboygan & Spring streets to Council. McPhall stated that his property is flooded. McPhall said that he is not able to mow his grass because it is too wet. Discussion ensued. President Babcock asked Street Commissioner Jason Losey if he's looked at the ditches with M&M Excavating. Losey responded that he did and is expecting a quote from M&M this week. Brad McPhall thanked Losey for putting up the speed limit signs. McPhall said "they are working". Losey told the Council that he has multiple calls out to other excavating companies. No one else is calling him back. Trustee Mark Fairbairn mentioned that he's been calling Reith-Reily Construction and has not had a call back. Brad McPhall offered to call Reith-Reily Construction as well.

Visitor Presentation:

- A. **Randy Bricker** - Bass Street resident -Bricker presented Council with a copy of a survey completed June 8th, 2023 by Northland Surveying & Mapping LLC. Bricker highlighted several facts of the survey. Of note, he stated that the creek is located 37' from the edge of the house. President Babcock stated that the Village will have lot 22 appraised. Bricker inquired where he needs to go to apply to put up a non-permanent shed. Babcock

told Bricker to fill out a Village of Alanson Zoning Application available on the Village website. Clerk Treasurer Murphy provided Bricker with a Zoning Application.

B. Tom Fairbairn Jr.- streetscape - Not present.

C. Charles Rehmann-

A. Can the village street dept. crews help in moving picnic tables, trash containers etc.

Regarding the Labor Day Bridge Walk -Township resident Doug Houseworth requested that the Village provide and place trash bins and picnic tables in Memorial/ Morgan Park for the Labor Day event. President Babcock asked Jason Losey to move the tables and bins over from the pavilion on Friday prior to the event. Losey asked for a diagram to where Houseworth would want them placed.

B. River Street Closure; 9:00 am to 6:00 pm- Doug Houseworth provided a diagram of the proposed River Street closure. The closure would affect West St. to Woodland St. Houseworth allowing people an area to congregate. Houseworth mentioned the event will include the Marilyn Jean from IWRHS, arts & crafts, a bouncy house, a stage, and food vendors. "For safety and traffic blocking, 9a -6p is ideal for the event," Houseworth said.

a. Houseworth also provided a record of the \$6,900 recorded deposits, projecting another \$2,000 committed. He stated that the cost of the Labor Day Bridge Walk book could increase.

Motion by Trustee Mark Fairbairn to close River Street from the intersection of West St. to Woodland St. from 9am-6pm on Labor Day. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 4/0 Motion Carried.

C. Place a banner on the abandoned R-O-W Chicago Street? Doug Houseworth asked if they can put up a banner advertising the Labor Day event on the "new Chicago Street property" at the M-68 intersection and on the Swing Bridge. President Babcock and the other Trustees gave permission. Banners will be up this week per Houseworth.

D. Bob Evans- sprinklers on "Chicago Street" green space. - Not present.

Trustee Mark Fairbairn spoke for Bob Evans who had spoken with him seeking approval to put sprinklers on the abandoned road that was Chicago St. President Babcock responded that he has no issue with the sprinklers but added that he would like to hold off until the streetscape project is complete.

New Business:

A. Approve new DDA Member - Dave Dohnal: President Babcock informed Council Members of the DDA recommendation to appoint Dave Dohnal, Owner of the Smash Club. Dohnal was introduced.

Motion by President Greg Babcock to approve David Dohnal as a new DDA member. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Old Business: -

- A. **Village of Alanson Clean-up Day:** Babcock reported that he had been in contact with the Emmet County Transfer Station regarding vouchers. Babcock stated that a voucher proof had been sent to the Treasurer's office to be included with the upcoming tax bill on July 1st and expire on September 1st.

- B. **Morgan/Memorial Park-** President Babcock stated that he has reached out to Damien Henning with Littlefield Township to see who maintains the Township's flower beds and parks. Babcock has reached out to the Township's contact to improve Morgan/Memorial Park. He is awaiting a response.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Fairbairn stated "Jason has been doing a great job." He thanked Street Commissioner Losey for doing a good job filling potholes around town. Brad McPhall commented that there is a big pothole behind the Post Office. Losey responded that "it's on the to do list". Babcock commented that he is not sure who owns that area. Losey said he plans to fill the pothole so it doesn't get worse.

Trustee Josh Larson- N/A

Trustee Doug Larson- Absent

Trustee Scott Latva- Reported that he had a resident ask who to call if they have a blight complaint. Latva asked if there was a committee for that. Babcock responded that we have a new Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Jamie Breithaupt. The Officer's contact information is on the website. Babcock reported that the Breithaupt has gone to several houses already.

President Greg Babcock - Reported that he had gotten an update from the new Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Jamie Breithaupt. Breithaupt has gone to several residences; 2 residences on Milton Rd. - 1 he had spoken to and the other the people were not home. 1 residence on Warren Street- people were not home. 1 residence on River Street who he had spoken to, and the issue is resolved. 2 homes on Lake St- 1 the issue is resolved, the others were not home.

Harbor Springs Sewer Authority meeting- Babcock reported there is not much of an update that involves the Village. The Sewer authority has an agreement with the TOMMBA bike association and is putting mountain bike paths behind the plant.

Babcock reported at the last DDA meeting, the DDA moved to give \$500 from their budget to go towards making repairs to the Village docks. They are asking for permission from the board. Babcock mentioned Wayne Blomberg, and any volunteers would need to sign the liability waiver form.

Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy- Report included.

Regarding:

Bridge Tender contract needs to be updated with indemnification clause and to fix typo in original contract year.

President Greg Babcock made a motion to amend the Bridge Tender contract for the 2023 season, seconded by Trustee Scott Latva.

Budget:

Our budget for Zoning Admin/ Ordinance Enforcement Officer was \$3,000, please confirm amount to be paid to our new OEO; Jamie Breithaupt.

President Greg Babcock stated that he was “Ok” with giving full \$3,000 to OEO Breithaupt.

Load Rating QA/ QC Compliance Issues

Rich Kathrens at Spicer Group is putting together a quote to assist in clearing up the issues.

Motion by Trustee Josh Larson to approve the Spicer Group bid to not exceed \$2,000 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.

Not included in the written report:

Sewer Biller Jasmine Blumke resigned via text message today (June 12th). President Greg Babcock stated that he would reach out to Melissa Krusell who had previously applied for the position to gauge her interest before reposting the position. Trustee Fairbairn thought this was a good idea. President Babcock to reach out.

Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson- N/A

Street Commissioner: Jason Losey. – Reported he purchased lumber to fix the flower boxes in the park. Losey reported removing the horseshoe pits today (June 12th). Losey reported that he was told the park bathroom had not passed inspection yet and is waiting to hear back on the status of the bathroom.

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

Public Comment:

Village Resident/ DDA Member - Gail Greenwell asked who she would need to speak to regarding updating the information boxes in Memorial/Morgan Park. Greenwell mentioned the flyers were falling down and faded. Street Commissioner Jason Losey mentioned Greg Warner has the key. Babcock commented that the Alanson Improvement Group (AIG) had put the boxes out. Greenwell asked if she could reach out to Greg Warner. Babcock responded yes.

Bridge Tender - Eric Mink- Reported that he has installed internet and phone services in the Bridge Tender house. Mink said that a Crooked River Lock operator gave out his personal contact information and he had been receiving calls from boaters on his cell phone. Mink offered the Village use of the internet if they wanted to install security cameras or live webcams. Mink had reported people trying to drive through the barricades and getting stuck on the bridge. Doug Houseworth commented there was an altercation there a couple of years ago with people fighting. Clerk/ Treasurer Jennifer Murphy commented that there is grant funding for safety related items which would include security cameras. Resident Brad McPhall mentioned that he thought a live camera feed would be a good advertisement for Alanson. President Babcock commented that you can't use live webcams as a security camera. There would need to be two different camera systems. Resident Greenwell advised that a sign needed to be posted if security cameras were in use. Babcock said that he feels the village should pay for the internet and phone service if the village uses it. Babcock inquired as to what the monthly bill was. Mink responded that he has not had his first bill come in yet. Mink also reported that he has hired two other people and it's working out well.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

