

The Village of Alanson

MINUTES

Village of Alanson
7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706
Regular Council Meeting of December 11th, 2023

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Village President Greg Babcock at 6:02pm.

Pledge of Allegiance- Recited

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

Council Absent:

Staff Present: Jason Losey, Jennifer Murphy, Craig Wilson

Agenda: Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to accept the agenda as written for December 11th, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: *Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of November 13th, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: Kelly Kitchen from Hillside gardens wanted to applaud the Alanson Open house and looks forward to doing it again next year.

Charles Rehmann gave an update on the Sanctuary Island project. Rehmann reported he received a letter from an individual who oversees the MSU College of Engineering student projects. The group won a Mechanical Engineering Award for Best Project. Rehmann said he has received the final report. The group plans to come back in the spring to assemble the final components. President Babcock commented that the group has gone over budget. Any additional expenses need to receive prior approval by Council. Rehmann asked if Council would consider giving the group an award. Babcock said the Village is not able to give out awards but could provide a letter.

Visitors: N/A

New Business: N/A

Old Business: N/A

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Fairbairn wanted to thank Trustees Josh & Doug Larson for setting up the holiday light display. Fairbairn also wanted to thank Charles Rehmann for the Sanctuary Island project.

Five handwritten signatures in blue ink are located at the bottom of the page. From left to right, they appear to be: a large, stylized signature; a signature that looks like 'DL'; a signature that looks like 'JB'; a signature that looks like 'DL'; and a signature that looks like 'Ked'.

Fairbairn commented that the Alanson Open house needs porta pottys and trash cans to be brought in. Fairbairn said "it was a zoo with people wanting to use the bathrooms".

Trustee Josh Larson- N/A

Trustee Doug Larson- Larson reported that the ordinance codes are now digitized and are online. Larson said the 2023 grant reports have been completed. He also mentioned to the council we will be able to apply twice to the Community Foundation for grants next year, not just one time.

Trustee Scott Latva – Wanted to thank Trustees Doug & Josh for a good job on the Holiday light display.

President Greg Babcock- Babcock reported there is an upcoming Sewer Authority meeting this month. At last month's meeting the Sewer Authority discussed implementing a 5% rate increase each year. Babcock said the system is getting older and is in need of more repairs. Discussion ensued. Babcock reported he met with Wade Trim, MDOT and Gosling/Czubak on the streetscape project. They plan to start work in mid-April with a finish date of June 1st, 2024.

Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy- Report included. – Murphy mentioned the budget will be on the next agenda. She asked the council to consider what they would like to include in the new budget.

Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson – Wilson reported the Planning & Zoning meeting moved and will be held on Wednesday January 3rd at 6pm.

Street Commissioner: Jason Losey reported Kevin Phillips will be out of town December 22nd-27th. Losey commented he does not have a backup as Justin Hall is not available this year. He said he is holding off posting a seasonal position. Losey reported the new blower is here and that they are waiting on a part to come in. Losey also commented that he has the DDA Open House banners and will hold them at the DPW building.

Monthly Bills: *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to pay the current monthly bills. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 5/0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Charles Rehmann commented that there are several groups at MSU that do various community projects. Rehmann mentioned there are many undeveloped waterfront parcels along the river. Rehmann suggested we reach out to a group to come up with a new plan. Rehmann said the only plan that was done was the DDA plan. Rehmann said the costs would be minimal using one of the MSU groups.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.