

# The Village of Alanson

## Minutes

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of March 11th, 2024

**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 Doug Larson, Trustee Josh Larson, Trustee Scott Latva, President Greg Babcock

**Council Absent:** N/A

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

**Approval of Agenda:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to accept the agenda as written for March 11th, 2024. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

### Approval of Minutes:

- A. Regular Meeting February 12th, 2024:** *Motion* by Trustee Josh Larson to approve the minutes as written for the Regular Council meeting of February 12th, 2024. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** N/A

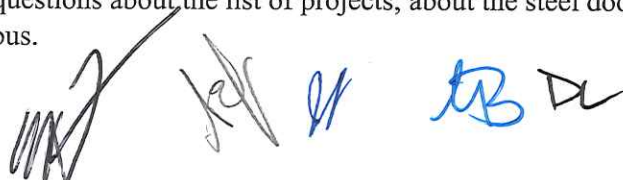
### Visitor Presentation:

- A. Rachelle Cook - Alanson Public Schools - Bond Proposal:** Alanson Public Schools Superintendent Rachelle Cook presented the proposed Bond and Sinking Fund requests on the upcoming ballot on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. (Attached handout). The 2014 bond will be falling off. The new bond request is for \$2.2 million over a 10-year term. Cook said, "we are asking to renew the bond with a small increase." Cook also stated that the bond is for the specified projects list.

The Alanson Public Schools are also asking for a renewal of the Sinking Fund ("Rainy Day Fund").

Trustee Doug Larson asked Cook clarifying questions confirming that the current bond is expiring, that the school is asking for a new bond with a slight increase; and that the sinking fund we are already paying but needs to be renewed. Cook confirmed.

Resident Matthew Weeber asked several questions about the list of projects; about the steel doors, locker rooms, and the purchase of a new bus.



**New Business:**

**A. Ballfield Project Resolution Approval**

**Village of Alanson Resolution #2 of 2024 (Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Development Grant):** See attached resolution.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve Village of Alanson Resolution #2 of 2024. Larson read the resolution into record. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. Roll Call Vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

**B. Street Commissioner Resolutions regarding Chicago St. and Bonz St.**

**1. Resolution #3 of 2024 - Street Add Certification:** See attached resolution.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve Resolution #3 of 2024. Larson read the resolution into record. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. Roll Call Vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

**2. Resolution #4 of 2024 - Street Decertification/ Vacation:** See attached resolution.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve Resolution# 4 of 2024. Larson read the resolution into record. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. Roll Call Vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

**C. Mobile App - DPW Time Clock:**

Street Commissioner Jason Losey requested access to the time clock system mobile app. He mentioned he would like to be able to check his and Kevin Phillips' overtime hours as well as Losey sometimes forgets to clock in. He stated that he needs administration to set up the app for access. President Greg Babcock stated that he felt uncomfortable deciding on his own as the previous board set up the time clock system. Trustee Doug Larson asked if there is an additional expense. Losey advised that there was not. Discussion ensued including comments that limited access could be set up for viewing without mobile punch in/out.

*Motion* by Trustee Mark Fairbairn to grant Jason Losey limited access to the mobile app for the time clock with access to look at the hours but not to clock in. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All votes in favor. 5/0. Motion carried.

**D. Permit Application - Village Docks (Morgan/ Memorial Park):**

Clerk-Treasurer Jennifer Murphy reported that she had spoken with Paul Fairbairn who discussed with Wayne Blomberg the reconstruction of the Village docks. Murphy said, "they have the labor; they just need the permits signed and they need future funding for the materials". Trustee Doug Larson asked for clarification that Fairbairn & Blomberg are looking for authority from the village to start the permit process. Murphy confirmed.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to authorize Jennifer Murphy to complete and sign the permits for the Village docks project in Morgan/ Memorial Park. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 5/0. Motion carried.

## **Old Business:**

### **A. Appraisal - Bass St.:**

President Babcock reported that the appraisal for the leased land next to Randall Bricker Sr.'s home at 7661 Bass St. had been completed and the appraised value came in at \$40,000 (see attached appraisal). Babcock told the council that Bricker had submitted an offer to purchase the land for \$15,000. Bricker stated that he felt the appraisal was too high. He stated that he cannot build on the lot and that he would like to build a new seawall which is \$60,000. He cannot build within 50' of McPhee Creek, he wants to make the area look better. He says he cannot put a boat on the river there due to the sand exiting the creek. Resident David Stepanovich expressed concerns that the offer was too low. Stepanovich said that it can eventually be part of the park once the lease is up. He also expressed concerns that Bricker will sell the property once he purchases it from the Village. Resident Matthew Weeber asked if the Village had a need for \$40,000. Resident Marvin Blumke stated that in his position on the board, they never discussed improvements to the area. Trustee Doug Larson stated that he believed all of the improvements were completed. Larson stated that \$15,000 vs \$0 over the next 78 years is better than nothing. Trustee Mark Fairbairn agreed. Trustee Scott Latva asked if we could submit a counteroffer. Further discussion ensued. Trustee Mark Fairbairn suggested splitting the difference at \$20,000.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to counter Bricker's offer at \$20,000. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 5/0. Motion carried.

Randall Bricker Sr. responded that he would accept the counteroffer of \$20,000.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to sell the leased property next to 7661 Bass St to Randy Bricker Sr. for \$20,000. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 5/0. Motion carried.

*Motion* by President Babcock to add ***Old Business B. Resolution from Consumer's Energy*** to the agenda. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. 5/0. Motion carried.

### **B. Resolution from Consumer's Energy:**

President Greg Babcock advised that we received documents from Consumer's Energy to install the new streetlight at the new intersection of US 31 and Bonz. (See attached resolution).

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to authorize the signing of the Consumer's Resolution (Resolution #5 of 2024). Larson read the resolution into record. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. Roll Call vote. Trustee Mark Fairbairn- Yes, Trustee Doug Larson- Yes, Trustee Josh Larson- Yes, Trustee Scott Latva- Yes, President Greg Babcock- Yes. All votes in favor. 5/0 Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Mark Fairbairn:** Thanked Street Commissioner Jason Losey for taking care of the stop signs at the Milton & Bonz Street intersection.

**Trustee Josh Larson:** N/A

**Trustee Doug Larson:** reported having submitted a grant for \$15,000 for decorative lighting and banners for the new lampposts. Larson said this would include the hardware and one season of flower baskets. Larson said he should hear back on the grant by 4/01/2024. Larson said the grant will not cover specific banners and that the DDA will need to work on those. Larson stated that the grants are very competitive this year.

**Trustee Scott Latva:** N/A

**President Greg Babcock:** Reported there is a Lock Consortium meeting on Tuesday. The Sewer Authority meeting is being held this Thursday. Last week the Sewer Authority reported a mainline broke. Babcock said we will be receiving a large bill for that repair. Babcock explained we would split that cost with Littlefield Township. Babcock reported that we have \$66,000 in our R&R account. Babcock plans on contacting Wade Trim to see if they plan on starting the streetscape project early since the frost laws are off.

**Clerk-Treasurer Jennifer Murphy:** see attached report.

**Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson:** Reported that they have not received any Bridge Tender bids as of yet. Wilson also reported there will be a DDA next Monday.

**Street Commissioner:** Reported that he had installed the new stop signs and other “No Parking” signs. Losey inquired if Council wants to install security cameras at the Swing Bridge and Boat House. Trustee Doug Larson stated that they would have to be included in the Par Plan Fall Grant cycle.

**Public Comment:** Resident David Stepanovich thanked Street Commissioner Losey for putting the street sign up for him. Stepanovich asked when the new streetlamps were going in. Babcock responded that the start date is scheduled to be 4/01/2024, and the project must be completed by Memorial Weekend.

Trustee Mark Fairbairn asked if the streetscape would include changes to the sewer or sidewalks on River Street. President Babcock advised that they are only planning to do the sidewalks on River Street.

Resident Matthew Weeber asked if any new crosswalks were going to be put in. Babcock advised that all crosswalks are in and that they will receive their permanent markings later this Spring.

Resident Marvin Blumke asked if the Village is doing the Cleanup Day this year. Trustee Doug Larson asked Murphy how many people used the vouchers last year. Murphy reported they had spent \$953 in 2023 vs \$5,400 in 2022. Trustee Doug Larson suggested we go back to the Cleanup Day depending on if the Township was interested in participating. Resident David Stepanovich commented that people should take care of their own garbage and that we saved a lot of money last year doing the vouchers. President Babcock suggested we get an update on what the fees will be this year and put this topic on next month's agenda.

Hillside Gardens Representative - Sherry Johnson asked if the Village Event Calendar will be updated on the website. Discussion ensued and it was determined that the calendar is being handled by the DDA.

Resident Matthew Weeber inquired if there could be a crosswalk across from the Village Park. Babcock advised that there is a crosswalk at Warren Street. Weeber mentioned the park is a great draw to the community and that it would be safer for people going over to the gas station to have a crosswalk. Babcock explained that is up to MDOT and there would need to be curb cutouts to make it ADA compliant. With MDOT just finishing the project, Babcock didn't believe they would put another crosswalk in.

**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.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

**CLERK- TREASURER -SEWER BILLER REPORT**

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of

March 11th, 2024

- Actively working with Rich Kathrens from the Spicer Group on Bridge Load Rating/ Compliance Issues. Bridge inspection will take place this fall.
- Reimbursement for the Bridge Tender 2023 Boating Season has been received.
- Tax Settlement is complete. To be distributed by County:

20,068.60	Village Operating
918.29	Village Operating Interest
8,105.46	Street Repair
370.92	Street Repair Interest
10,123.20	Special Assessments
734.46	Special Assessments Interest

- Equipment Rental costs exceed budgeted amounts and what the accounts can support.
  - Major Street FY '24 \$46,643.87
  - Local Street FY '24 \$53,851.00

The Village of  
Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

RESOLUTION #3

STREET ADD CERTIFICATION

At a regular Council meeting of the Village of Alanson, Michigan, held at the Village Hall on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024,

The following resolution was offered by trustee Doug Larson and supported by trustee Mark Fairbairn

Whereas the Village of Alanson did construct a new section of Bonz Street. And whereas it is necessary to furnish certain information to the State of Michigan to place this street within the Village Street System for the purpose of obtaining funds under Act 51, P.A. 1951 as amended.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED:

1. Certify a portion of Bonz Street. This certification of Bonz Street is located between Milton St. and S US 31 Hwy. for a total of 400ft.
2. That said street is located with a Village right-of-way and is under the control of the Village of Alanson.
3. That said street is a public street and is for public street purposes.
4. That said street is accepted into the municipal street system and is open to the public for public use on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Resolution duly adopted 3-11-24.  
Date

Certified to be a true copy, 3-11-24.  
Date

Jennifer Murphy  
VOA Clerk-Treasurer

Village of Alanson Clerk – Treasurer

# The Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

## RESOLUTION #4

### STREET DECERTIFICATION/ VACATION

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED:

At a regular Council meeting of the Village of Alanson, Michigan, held at the Village Hall on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024,

The following resolution was offered by trustee Doug Larson, and supported by trustee Scott Latva

Whereas the Village of Alanson does wish to decertify/ vacate a portion of Chicago Street. This decertification/ vacation of Chicago Street is located between Milton Street and S US 31 Highway for a total decertification/ vacation length of 400ft.

Resolution duly adopted 3-11-24  
Date

Certified to be a true copy, 3-11-24 .  
Date

Jennifer Murphy  
Village of Alanson Clerk – Treasurer



VILLAGE OF ALANSON  
RESOLUTION # 2 OF 2024

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) – Development Grant  
Alanson Ball Fields and Sports Complex Improvements

At a regular meeting of the **Village Council of Village of Alanson**, held in the Village Offices building in the Village of Alanson, Emmet County, Michigan, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024, there were;

The following resolution was offered by Doug Larson, and supported by Josh Larson.

WHEREAS, the **Village of Alanson** supports the submission of the application titled “**Alanson Ball Fields and Sports Complex Improvements**” to the MDNR 2024 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant program for **development of baseball and softball field improvements, new concessions and restrooms, new parking facilities, and new accessibility accommodations** at the Village of Alanson sport field complex; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed application is supported by the Community’s 5-Year Approved Parks and Recreation Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the **Village of Alanson** is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of **\$211,000** matching funds, in cash and/or force account; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Village of Alanson Village Council** hereby authorizes submission of a **MDNR 2024 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund** Application for **\$400,000**, and further resolves to make available its financial obligation in the amount of **\$211,000 (34.5%)**, of a total **\$611,000** project cost, during the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

AYES: 5  
NAYES: 0  
ABSENT: 0

MOTION APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by Village Council of Alanson at their regular meeting held on March 11th 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Alanson, with a quorum present.

Jennifer Murphy  
CLERK

Dated: 3-11-24

RESOLUTION #5 of 2024

RESOLVED, that it is hereby deemed advisable to authorize Consumers Energy Company to make changes in the lighting service as provided in the Standard Lighting Contract between the Company and the Village of ALANSON, dated 11/12/2018, in accordance with the Authorization for Change in Standard Lighting Contract dated 3-11-24,

heretofore submitted to and considered by this  commission  council  board; and

RESOLVED, further, that the Village of Alanson Clerk be and are authorized to execute such authorization for change on the behalf of the Village.

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF EMMET

I, Jennifer Murphy, clerk of the Village of ALANSON do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the

commission  council  board of said municipality, at the meeting held on 3-11-24.

Dated:

3-11-24

Municipal Customer Type: Village