

The Village of
Alanson
MINUTES

Village of Alanson
7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706
Regular Council Meeting of July 8th, 2024

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

Pledge of Allegiance- Recited

Council Present: Trustee Mark Fairbairn, Doug Larson (not present at roll call arrived 6:02), Trustee Scott Latva, President Greg Babcock

Council Absent: Trustee Josh Larson

Staff Present: Jason Losey, Jennifer Murphy, Craig Wilson

Approval of Agenda: *Motion* by Trustee Scott Latva to accept the agenda with the addition of Doug Houseworth under Visitor A. for July 8th, 2024 regarding the Labor Day Bridge Walk. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 3/0 Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: *Motion* by Trustee Scott Latva to approve the minutes as written for the Regular Council meeting of June 10th, 2024. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 3/0 Motion carried.

Trustee Doug Larson arrived at 6:03pm.

Public Comment: Matt Leirstein- Undersheriff in Emmet County introduced himself stating that he is running for Emmet County Sheriff. Local Business Owner Charles Rehmann inquired if there was going to be a forum. Leirstein responded there is not a plan for a forum at this time. Ordinance officer Jamie Breithaupt suggested having one so the public can learn more about the candidates. Leirstein said he would be happy to answer questions after the meeting.

Local Business Owner Pam Ignatowski commented that at the last meeting it was discussed to revisit the River Street closure for the flea market for July 20th.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to add the River Street closure for the Flea Market to the agenda under Old Business A. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor 4/0. Motion carried.

Visitors:

A. Doug Houseworth - Labor Day Bridge Walk: Houseworth presented a handout requesting permissions for the Labor Day Bridge Walk event. Discussion ensued.

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 'JL', a signature that looks like 'MB', and a signature that looks like 'GL'.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to close River Street from the West Street intersection to the east side of the Swing Bridge from 12:30pm to 2:00pm on September 2nd. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to close the Swing Bridge from 12:45 pm until 2:00 pm on Sept 2nd. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

New Business:

A. N/A

Old Business:

A. Closure of River Street for the Flea Market on July 20th: Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Chair/ Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson stated that at the last DDA meeting the approval was made to move the Flea Market to the Alanson Village Park. Local Business Owner Pam Ignatowski mentioned she had concerns that we will need to use both the park and River Street.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to close River Street on July 20th and August 17th from 7:00 am until 2:00 pm if needed. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Fairbairn: Reported having complaints on parking during the 4th of July parade. Fairbairn reported having several people ask about the details of the 4th of July parade. Fairbairn asked where the event was being advertised. President Babcock responded that the event was advertised on social media. Discussion ensued about having fliers/signage available.

Trustee Josh Larson: Absent

Trustee Doug Larson: Reported the banners and brackets have been delivered and the grant is complete. The Fall Grant has been tentatively approved for the remaining brackets.

Trustee Scott Latva: N/A

President Greg Babcock- Reported the Harbor Springs Area Sewage Disposal Authority meeting is this Thursday (July 11th). Babcock reported that Travelers Insurance Company denied the claim on sewer line damage. Paul Repasky (Wade Trim) is working with MDOT which said that damage should be covered. Babcock reported receiving a letter on blight from Harvey Kasuske who is working with the Ordinance Enforcement Officer.

Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy:

CLERK- TREASURER -SEWER BILLER REPORT

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- Tax bills were sent out 7/1/24.
- DNR grant awaiting final approval.
- CNB- request to allow external account transfers up to \$40,000 per two week period.
- All other CNB motions were complete and the tax account has been set up and is ready for use.
- Fantozzi,Anthony- 7122 US 31 S: Anthony has been carrying a balance on his account of -\$90. There is an auto payment that is made via e-bill payment. It is requested that we refund the overage of \$90. Asking council for approval to refund.
- Will be submitting for streetscape ARPA funds through Emmet County for the lights.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to approve the sewer overage refund of \$90 to Antonio Fantozzi at 7122 US 31 S. Seconded by Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Doug Larson to approve external account transfers with Citizens National Bank up to \$80,000 a month. Seconded Trustee Scott Latva. All votes in favor.4/0. Motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson: Reported that he received an email from Robert Kennedy resigning from the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board.

Motion by President Babcock to approve Robert Kennedy's resignation. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. All votes in favor. 4/0. Motion carried.

Wilson reported mentions during the Fourth of July parade events that there should be porta potties around town during events and down near the municipal boat docks. Wilson reported the DDA purchased the flower baskets for the Streetscape and plans to do larger baskets next year. Wilson also reported there has not been a Planning & Zoning meeting in April/July due lack of quorum and member Monique Kilmer has not been present in some time. He suggested getting more people on the P & Z board.

Street Commissioner: Losey reported he received a quote from M&M Contracting for the Spring Street project of \$98,500. Losey is meeting with Reith Riley tomorrow (July 9th) to get a second quote. Losey will be on vacation from 7/12- 7/21. Calice Lucier will be handling things. Losey reported he's been looking at options for the Stop sign at the Bonz and Milton intersection. Losey asked about putting the stop sign on the left side of the road. Ordinance Officer Jamie Breithaupt commented that he lives near there, and that it isn't likely to have an impact. Overall Breithaupt said the intersection has been great. Trustee Doug Larson mentioned to Council they need to be prepared to do a road expenditure and discuss it at the next meeting. The second round of ARPA funds deadline is September 1st. Breithaupt suggested speaking with the future Sheriff to get additional patrols for the Milton Street intersection issue. Leirstein commented that the Village just needs to call, and they will have patrols out. Losey asked what is the state law on crosswalks. Babcock responded that MDOT said there is no state law regarding crosswalks.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer Jamie Breithaupt: Reported he has been monitoring the Marooners Rock Marina. He paid the marina a visit after a couple of complaints and has taken a lot of pictures. Breithaupt said there is a lot of trash on site which the owner claims she is recycling. There are old campers that are unusable and junk in the back. Breithaupt has given the owner 7-14 days to clean up the property. Breithaupt has spoken to 3 property owners on Valley Rd. One has building supplies all over the property that the owner is working on getting moved out. The other two properties Breithaupt has spoken to the homeowners, and he plans to work with them on getting the properties cleaned up. Breithaupt plans on doing a 2-week email schedule update and holding them to it. 7726 Milton is 75% cleaned up. The Renters have moved out. The property down on Lake Street cleaned up very well. There is a new owner of the property behind the carriage house. They have been working on cleaning that property up. The trailer behind the Marathon owners have been giving Breithaupt the run around. They have 2 weeks to get the van out of there or they will be receiving citations after that. Breithaupt mentioned he has had calls over fireworks being shot off. He asked Council if they want him to write citations over fireworks. Babcock responded that the Village has a fireworks ordinance and for Breithaupt to enforce those. Babcock asked Breithaupt if he had found uniform shirts yet and when he does, the Village will pay for them.

Public Comment: Resident Gail Greenwell asked Trustee Fairbairn if he had ideas for marketing the Fourth of July parade so that the details are out to the public. Greenwell also asked when the banner poles are going to be installed. Losey responded that the location that was picked previously can't be used due to a gas line and fiber optic running underneath. He and Samantha Fairbairn are meeting to discuss a new location.

Local Business Owner Pam Ignatowski inquired as to what needs to be done to complete the new lamp posts. Ignatowski mentioned the lamps really move around if you lean on them. President Babcock responded that they need to finish up some electrical work.

Local Business Owner Charles Rehmann reported he and a group of people have been working on the Pedestrian platform at Sanctuary Island. They expect to have that up and running in the next two weeks. Rehmann said they installed 4 x 6s and larger bolts to shore up the platform. The existing wood was rotted. Rehmann asked how the Village addresses maintenance in the parks. Babcock responded that now that it's been brought to the Council's attention, they will have to look at it. Jennifer Murphy asked Rehmann if he had signed volunteer waivers. He stated that he would get those.

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

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 6:37pm.