

Borough of Alburdis
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2020

The September 9, 2020 meeting of Borough Council was called to order by Council President Ron DeIaco at 7:00 p.m. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19), the meeting was held via video conference. The change in venue was announced on the Borough website and by a posting notice on the Borough Hall doors. The meeting was open to the public where participants could attend the meeting by using an assigned web link and access code.

Council members in attendance:

Ron DeIaco	Steve Hill	Vanessa Taggart	John Aleszczyk
Stephen Kaufman	Hector Vazquez	Kathleen Raines	

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager	Kathleen Palmer, Mayor
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Visitors in attendance:	Gary DeRoner	Chad Atkins	Sherryann Oels
	Tom Moss	Sam Augustine, JP Mascaro	

MAYOR’S REPORT – No Report. Vanessa Taggart questioned the Mayor as to why Council does not receive Police reports anymore. Mayor Palmer will check with the Chief.

MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2020 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 26, 2020, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to pay the bills of September 9, 2020, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Stephen Kaufman noted that we need to be cautious with spending as some areas are overbudget. Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report, John Aleszczyk 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – Hector Vazquez made a motion to accept the Engineer’s Report, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS MONTHLY REPORT – The monthly Macungie Ambulance Corps Report was reviewed. There were nine calls in the Borough in August.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comment – Resident, Chad Atkins, asked Borough Council if Trick or Treat would be held this year. Mayor Palmer replied that she has no intention of canceling. Council suggested that Sharon post this on the Facebook Page and remind people to only approach homes with the porch light on and to practice social distancing. Sharon will also do a phone blast when it gets closer.

Roadwork and Trucks – Hector asked if we could repair the road in front of the AACC from Walnut Street to Flint Hill Road. Sharon will ask Donnie for a quote. John Aleszczyk asked about School Street. We share that street with the Township. John also asked where Council was planning on putting a “No Trucks” sign and was told that it would go where Franklin and S. Main intersect. He believes it should go by Norms Gas Station and Hector replied that it isn’t our property. John replied that we can put one there until Penn Dot says to move it. Dave Knerr advised against this. Sharon will contact Penn Dot to see what can be done.

Solid Municipal Waste – Bid Opening – Solicitor, Dave Knerr reported that only one bid was received. The options and the costs for each was read aloud and are attached to the minutes. John Aleszczyk is not in favor of a choice of one and Dave Knerr replied that we cannot make people bid. Sam Augustine was present at Borough Hall with Dave Knerr and Sharon and said that it is not unusual to have just one bidder. he will send information to all of Council for the next meeting with explanations of why the costs are more. Council will not decide tonight on whether or not to accept the bid. This will be on the next agenda.

Park and Recreation – Kathleen Raines, Chair of Park and Recreation informed Council that a swing was approved last year and the cost is \$3,565. Ron DeIaco does not have a problem with the swing, but is concerned about purchasing anything for the playground while the virus is still here. Kathleen Raines responded by stating the Rec areas are all open and kids are using the playground. John Aleszczyk believes the purchase should be postponed due to current vandalism, Covid and the Budget. Kathleen Raines stated that she worked for four years to put something here for the children. Steve Hill believes now is not the time to make the purchase due to Covid and the Budget. Kathleen Raines wonders what the excuse will be in the Spring and told Council that she gives up. Hector Vazquez does not want her to give up. He also wants the swing, but agrees that the purchase should wait until spring because he is concerned with the safety. Vanessa Taggart stated that we did budget for the swing this year and is worried that the price will go up and added that people that pay taxes might want to see something for the kids. Stephen Kaufman noted that it does not have to be the exact item and would feel more comfortable waiting. John Aleszczyk made a motion to postpone the purchase of the swing, Steve Hill 2nd, Stephen Kaufman, Ron DeIaco and Hector Vazquez were ayes and Kathleen Raines and Vanessa Taggart were nays.

Cyber Liability Insurance – A quote was received for Cyber Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,388.96. Stephen Kaufman believes this is more for a small company than government. The Borough keeps backups and many systems are Cloud based. Council does not believe the insurance is necessary. Steve Hill made a motion to not purchase the insurance, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Vandalism – One of the Borough Gateway signs were vandalized. Maintenance will repair it. Hector asked about the broken speed humps. Maintenance will repair them again. If this doesn't work, they will pave them like has been done in Lower Macungie Township.

Skid Steer – The skid steer currently shared with the Borough of Macungie is broken. Macungie Borough is asking Alburto to split the cost for another one. They have received a quote in the amount of \$45,478.38. John Aleszczyk asked if the split could be different than 50% each, maybe 65% and 35%. Stephen Kaufman asked what the cost would be to rent the equipment. Sharon will get more information and bring it back to Council.

Sauerkraut Lane – Steve Hill received a phone call from Nate Jones, the planner for Lower Macungie Township regarding the extension. The road must be put in by 2021 and they are moving along as fast as they can. Steve said Nate works well with Sharon in regards to the SW Comp meetings and he will give her monthly updates. John asked about the occupancy requirements and Steve said Nate was not aware of it. John asked Sharon if they could get a copy of the Plan. Sharon will email the Township. Steve noted that Council should start going to the Township Meetings and Hector and John both are interested. The next meeting is September 17 and Sharon will call and have them put on the Agenda.

A motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. was made by Vanessa Taggart, 2nd by Kathleen Raines and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.