

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2021

The February 10, 2021 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	Kathleen Raines	Hector Vazquez	

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Kathleen Palmer, Mayor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager
-----------------------	------------------------	---------------------------------

Visitors in attendance: David Jaindl, Howard Kutzler, Matt Hook - Jaindl Land Company

Larry Fairchild	Steve Werley	Thomas Gorr	Kris
Matt Mumma	Ted Miller	Gary DeRoner	Chad Atkins

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Palmer wanted to acknowledge everyone's efforts during the snowstorm. The Maintenance Department worked tirelessly, the Police worked with the Maintenance Department, the office fielded many calls, the residents for having patience and resident, Lydia Jones for coordinating meals. Mayor Palmer also received an envelope from Ms. Gonzalez, an Alburdis Elementary School teacher, containing gift cards and thank you cards from her kindergarten class for the employees of the Borough. Ms. Gonzalez stated that while not everyone is showing patience, she wanted to thank everyone for their work.

Mayor Palmer also mentioned to Council that she believes, only Sharon should be telling the Maintenance Department what needs to be done, not others from the Borough. Council agreed and Sharon noted that the office staff keeps her informed of complaints and she has them call Donnie also.

Lastly, Mayor Palmer noted that the bickering on the Alburdis Community Page does not need to be happening. We can all work together.

MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2021 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 27, 2021, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – FEBRUARY 10, 2021 – Hector Vazquez made a motion to pay the bills of February 10, 2021, Steve Hill 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Steve Hill questioned the escrow for the Afflerbach's still on the Treasurer Report. Ron asked Sharon to check into this to see what still has to be done. Vanessa Taggart made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE REPORT – The Macungie Ambulance Corps Monthly Report was reviewed. There were 15 calls in the Borough in January.

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

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comment – Resident, Ted Miller, was present for several issues. His first concern is the plowing done by the developer. Visibility is bad and he wondered what could be done. He did mention that cars are parked along the street when the plow come through, so he understands that could be an issue, but there needs to be something done to make the roads better. Jaindl Land Company representative, Howard Kutzler, was present and told Mr. Miller that he would check on the situation. They are almost in the position to have the Borough take over the roads in the development. All of the improvements are complete and what remains is the walking path, Deeds of Dedication, legal documents, and the bills of sale. It is Jaindl Land Company's goal to have this done very soon.

Mr. Miller's other concern is the relocation of the walking path. He does not think it should be moved from the location on the approved plans. He reminded Council that many residents did not want trees on their property but were told they must be planted because they were on the approved plan. Resident, Matt Mumma, does not agree and does not see the issue with moving the path. Mr. Miller's reply was that the issue is that it is on the plan and nothing else on the plan was able to be changed. David Jaindl was present and said they looked into the alternate path after speaking with Sharon and they have no issue with it. John Aleszczyk would like to see the path remain as it is on the plan and noted that you cannot put a path in a swale. Stephen Kaufman agreed with John and said we would need an engineer to alter the plan and it will get complicated very quickly. The path has been on the Plan for 15 year. Hector Vazquez noted that these residents pay taxes to the Borough and do not get all of the benefits. Stephen Kaufman replied that it is only two or three residents against the path. If it were 200, it would be a different story. Matt Mumma believes his neighbors would help him contribute to the cost of the engineer. To minimize cost concerns, Mr. Jaindl said that his company would foot the bill for the engineer as long as Council authorizes the engineer to perform the work. Steve Hill has no objection to looking into it and Stephen Kaufman suggested we first proceed to ask Leigh County about the change. Ron DeIaco asked Sharon to reach out to Lehigh County for their opinion.

Jaindl Land Company Lot 85 and Lot 85 – Lot 85 and Lot 86 along Scenic View Drive are both zoned Industrial with a lot of Commercial uses. Howard Kutzler noted that as the Alburdis side and the Lower Macungie side are being developed, it does not seem feasible to have commercial uses. They are looking to downsize the zoning to Residential to put in townhouses. Nothing has been drawn up yet, but they would like to know if Council would entertain this. Vanessa Taggart asked how many town houses will be built and this is not known yet. David Jaindl will contact Sharon with a concept plan to see if it works.

Pump Station – Ron DeIaco has asked Sharon to help find a contractor to install a basket into the sewer station. She found a company that will reach out to Donnie Derr next week.

J.P. Mascaro - Correspondence – Council reviewed the warning letter Sharon sent to them regarding late pickups.

Service Electric Cable TV – Franchise Fees – The Borough received \$16,566.82 in Franchise Fees. This continues to go down each year do to people not utilizing cable services.

DEP – Act 537 – A letter was received DEP notifying all parties involved that they would need an extension to review the Draft Act 537 Plan submitted. We will be notified on or before March 29, 2021.

Snow Emergency Route – Hector Vazquez asked Council if Racite Road could be made a Snow Emergency Route. This will be discussed once the Borough takes over the roads.

Hills at Lockridge – Steve Hill asked Matt Mumma and Ted Miller to be patient while things are wrapping up with the development and the walking path. Ted Miller wanted to let Matt Mumma know that he might want to keep the walking path where it is approved because this will give him a buffer between his home and the new town homes being proposed.

A motion to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. was made by Kathleen Raines, 2nd by Vanessa Taggart and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.