

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2021

The May 12, 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:

Phillips Armstrong, LC Executive	Chad Atkins	Matt Mumma
Manny Rodriquez, AACC	Mehmet Birtek	Martha
Gary DeRoner	Michael Wambaugh	Sherryann Oels
Steve Nemeth	Steve Reichenbach	TH Miller
Thomas Gorr		

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Palmer has been asked when Council will begin receiving the police report again and she was told by the Chief that he would get to it after he finished his donut. Council President, Ron DeIaco, acknowledged that something was said in regard to donuts and that they will be more careful about comments.

MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2021 – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 28, 2021, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – MAY 12, 2021 – Hector Vazquez made a motion to pay the bills of May 12, 2021, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Hector Vazquez made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Steve Hill 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMIN. REPORT – APRIL – Hector Vazquez made a motion to approve the Admin. Report, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MAINTENANCE REPORT – APRIL – Hector Vazquez made a motion to approve the Maintenance Report, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE REPORT – The monthly report was reviewed. There were 8 calls in the Borough in March. Hector Vazquez made a motion to accept the Macungie Ambulance Corps report, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

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

ADMINISTRATION

Lehigh County Executive – Phillips Armstrong, Lehigh County Executive, was present for his annual visit with the Borough. Mr. Armstrong spoke of additional stimulus money coming from the federal level directly to municipalities. The CARES Funding was funneled through County and they believe they did a good job in the way they split it between municipalities, fire companies and businesses. Steve Hill asked if Lockridge Park was still in the County budget for improvements and he was told, yes and Rick Molchany is working on a Capital Improvements Plan. Mr. Armstrong noted that the bluebells were beautiful this year. Ron DeIaco asked if other municipalities are facing the same problems as the Borough and was told yes, he had a conversation with Liesel Gross of Lehigh County Authority regarding funds to do an upgrade to the sewer system. County is looking to help with new digital radios for fire companies and hope to purchase them in mass quantities at a cheaper rate. Hector Vazquez questioned if the walking path and driveway repairs will be done at Lockridge Park and, after checking, Mr. Armstrong told him that the paths and driveways are scheduled to be paved. Ron thanked Mr. Armstrong for attending and for lending his support.

Public Comment – Mehmet Birttek of Racite Road informed Council that the walkway into the park is now in place. He would like Jaindl Land Development to plant trees there. Matt Mumma added that Jaindl saved a lot of money eliminating the east/west path and he should plant something there. Sharon checked with representatives of Jaindl Land Development and was told they were not planting anything there at the time being. Sharon checked the Agreements, and it states there that when Lot 85 is developed, a buffer will need to be put in place at that time. Resident, Ted Miller stated that he would like to see it seeded and Hector replied that it is part of the plan once the lot was graded. Mr. Miller stated that he has three concerns for when Mr. Jaindl comes back in with a proposal for the empty lots. 1. He is concerned about what will be left as far as the buffers, 2. It states that the owner of Lot 85 maintains the walkway. What happens if there are multiple owners, and 3. There is a concern about the stormwater management system on Lot 85 and 86. Ron replied that he believes the buffer zones would remain in place, maintenance of the walkway will have to be worked out at that time and the stormwater issue must be address and Jaindl is aware of this.

Park and Rec - Ballfield – Kathleen Raines explained to Borough Council the need to put up poles and netting to see if this will stop the balls from damaging properties. She met with Stephen Kaufman and they spoke with some of the neighbors about the issue. John stated that we have not seen a plan and wants to know the cost. Kathleen Raines said he should give this idea a chance and the costs have been given at the last couple of Council meetings. Stephen Kaufman said he would like to see the scope of work. Pictures were shown and Manny Rodriguez of the AACC was present he explained what it would look like when finished. Hector asked how the poles would be attached and he would like to see an actual diagram. Manny replied that the poles would be secured with cables. Kathleen Raines would like to have this done and would like to set a cap at \$600. Kathleen Raines made a motion to have the Borough contribute \$600 based upon drawings that Manny will provide via email. The motion was 2nd by Steve Hill, John Aleszczyk and Hector Vazquez were opposed and the balance were ayes. The motion passed 5:2.

Street Sweeping – Street sweeping will be done in the Borough on May 19th and 20th.

Executive Session – An Executive Session was called at 7:54 p.m. for Personnel and ended at 8:26 p.m.

A motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. was made by Kathleen Raines, 2nd by Hector Vazquez and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.