

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2021

The January 13, 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	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager
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Visitors in attendance:

Gary DeRoner	Chad Atkins	Emily McFarlane
Tom Moss	Martha	Sherryann Oels
Evan Fegely	Nicole N.	Steve Reichenbach

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Report

MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 30, 2020 – John Aleszczyk made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 30, 2020, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – JANUARY 13, 2021 – Hector Vazquez made a motion to pay the bills of January 13, 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.

LOWER MACUNGIE FIRE DEPARTMENT – Chief, Dave Nosal, was present to give Council 2020 statistics. The Fire Department responded to 684 calls. On August 4th, they responded to 80 calls in a 24-hour period due to the hurricane. They typically average 45 calls a month. Out of the 684 calls, 576 were in the Township and the Borough. 108 were assists to neighboring municipalities. 61 of the calls were in the Borough. Chief Nosal continued with some more stats that are available in their report and an update on a new truck that should arrive in July. Lastly, Chief Nosal wanted to recognize the Trexler family. Matt Trexler just completed 15 years of service and his father, Randy just crested on 45 years of service. He thanked the family for being dedicated to the Fire Department.

Hector Vazquez asked the Chief how the Fire department as been affected by the pandemic. Chief Nosal first gave kudos to the Macungie Ambulance Corps for only dispatching when absolutely necessary and provided them with protective shielding. Overall, they have been provided with hand sanitizer from local distilleries, N95 masks, tyvek suits and most recently, the Borough provided them with an antistatic sprayer and sanitizer that can be used inside all of the apparatus and station. He is purchasing two more for the other stations. The Fund Drive has been steady. Steve Hill hopes that residents continue to contribute. Ron would like to see the new truck when it is ready and Chief Nosal said they would bring it to a meeting as they did with the last one. Ron thanked the Chief for their services and all they do for the community.

Macungie Ambulance Corps – The monthly report was reviewed. There were ten calls in the Borough in December.

Engineer's Report – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Engineer's Report, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comment – There were several residents in attendance. Resident, Emily McFarlane told Council that this is the first meeting she has attended and will attend more to be more involved in the community.

2021 Budget – Steve Hill made a motion to adopt the 2021 Budget, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Pump Station – At the last meeting, Ron asked Sharon to find the proposal for repairs to the pump station that was submitted in 2019 by the engineer. This has been included in the Council packets for tonight. We recently had two mop heads in the pump station. One in each pump. The system needed to be shut down so that Maintenance could pull the mop heads out. We don't know if this is accidental, or if someone is doing this on purpose. The proposal includes a basket and rail system and security fencing and will cost \$8,000 to \$10,000. This needs to be done to protect our system. If the pumps break, many properties will fill with sewage. Sharon believes we also need the concrete cover and access doors, due to the size of the current manhole entrance to the sewer station. The proposal includes a portable hoist as well. Hector Vazquez believes this was purchased already. Sharon agreed and said it was purchased in 2019. John Aleszczyk stated that we are in the first meeting of the year and already spending money. Ron Delaco answered that it is critical that it be taken care of. John does not believe it needs to be an engineer project. Council would like to see quotes and asked Sharon to have Donnie Derr obtain quotes for the next meeting.

Hensingersville Dam Inspection – DEP performed an inspection of the dam at our Reservoir Hill Road well property. They found no immediate issues.

E. Stone Alley Apartments – Security Release No. 3 – Base on a recommendation of the Borough Engineer, Steve Hill made a motion to release \$4,440.10 to JAR Development, LLC. The motion was 2nd by John Aleszczyk and a unanimous vote followed.

Barry Isett and Associates, Inc. – A letter was received from Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. thanking the Borough for the opportunity to be of service especially during the pandemic.

Bridge Inspection Notice – The Borough received a notice that the Borough owned bridge on Church Street will be inspected in November as required.

Modern Group Power Systems – A Service Agreement was received for the generator at Borough Hall for 2021. The annual cost is \$520.00. Kathleen Raines made a motion to allow Sharon to sign the Agreement, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Council asks, that prior to signing, Sharon check with the company to see if they have a cheaper automatic renewal option.

Spring Creek Development Lot 9 Zoning – Lower Macungie Township has asked if we wanted to one the property using the same inspection company. They use Keycodes and the Township would be billed, and in turn, bill the Borough. The dollar amount is a wash since the developer will pay the zoning fees to the Borough. Dave Knerr believes it would be cleaner if the Borough worked with Keycodes directly. Hector Vazquez made a motion to appoint Keycodes as Alternate Zoning Officer for Lot 9, John Aleszczyk 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Tax Collection – If the Borough wishes to change the rate of the Tax Collector, it needs to be done by February 15. Council will give this some thought and Sharon will place it on the next Agenda.

Recycling – Vanessa asked Council for clarification of any rebates the Borough shares with Macungie Borough. There is a question on a Facebook Page regarding this. The only thing the Borough shares with Macungie is the cost of the Recycling Program done at Macungie Park every year. The two Boroughs split the amount collected at the event and it is broken down on the annual DEP Recycling Report.

A motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. was made by Hector Vazquez, 2nd by Kathleen Raines and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.

An Executive Session was called at 7:56 for Personnel reasons with no action taken and ended at 8:09.