

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2019

The August 14, 2019 meeting of Borough Council was called to order by Council Vice-President Steve Hill at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, 260 Franklin Street, Alburdis, PA.

Council members in attendance:

Steve Hill	Sherryann Oels	Kathleen Raines
Hector Vazquez	Stephen Kaufman	Vanessa Taggart

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager
Kathleen Palmer, Mayor	Robert Palmer, Police Chief

Visitors in attendance:

Rep. Ryan Mackenzie	Gary DeRoner	Howard Savacool
Victor Lauer	Laura Savacool	Donald Smith, Jr.
Linda Lauer	Randy Trexler	

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Palmer had Police Chief, Robert Palmer, attend the meeting so that Council could ask their questions about fireworks. Steve Hill questioned why there was only one officer on duty on the fourth of July. We had told residents last year that we would have extra coverage. Chief replied that he was down 1 full timer and 1 part timer and others have other jobs. The Chief was on vacation that week. There were no citations given that night and there were only 7 calls to the police. Vanessa Taggart stated that she called three times, as did some of her neighbors, so there had to be more calls. She also noted that the policeman on duty drove around a firework canister and did nothing. There was car damage on Roberts Street. It was a huge problem. Chief Palmer advised Council that he has told his part time officers that everyone will work next year. Some will be in plain clothes using their own vehicles and the Borough will have to reimburse them for mileage. Hector Vazquez noted that Labor Day is just around the corner. The Chief has two people on duty for the holiday. On another note, the Chief advised Council that National Night Out was a success.

POLICE REPORT – No Questions

MINUTES OF JULY 31, 2019 – Hector Vazquez made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 31, 2019, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – AUGUST 14, 2019 – Kathleen Raines made a motion to pay the bills of August 14, 2019, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – The report submitted by Jeff Ott, Borough Engineer, was reviewed.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS MONTHLY REPORT AND ACT 8 REQUIREMENTS – The report and proposed budget were reviewed. There were 15 calls in the Borough in July.

ADMINISTRATION

REP. RYAN MACKENZIE – Rep. Mackenzie was in attendance to present Proclamations to Donald Smith, Jr. and Randy Trexler for the dedication to the Alburdis Fire Department. Donald Smith, Jr. served as chief and has been with the Department for 21 years. Randy Trexler served as Asst. Chief and has been with the Department for 43 years. Both have stepped down as officers while merging with Lower Macungie Township Fire Department and have taken on different roles within the Organization.

Public Comment – Linda Lauer was present to see what can be done about the chicken smell coming from her neighbor's yard. Council had instructed her to call the police, but the police say it is not a police matter and that it only smells when the wind blows. It was suggested that they get an attorney and in the meantime, Steve Hill asked the Mayor to have the police check on it.

Resident, Howard Savacool was present to see if something can be done about a house on Church Street. They burn something every evening that stinks. He is not sure what it is that they are burning. They also party until 1-2 a.m. every night. The Mayor will have the police check on this.

Parking Ordinances – An email from Stephen Kaufman was reviewed. There are some spaces that need to be painted over in Ridgeview. Sharon will give this to Donnie Derr.

Spotted Lanternfly Permits – A representative from the Department of Agriculture stopped at Borough Hall and informed Sharon that the Borough needs to be permitted for the Spotted Lanternfly. Sharon took the required tests and the permits will be mailed. Sharon will meet with the employees to go over the logs that need to be kept and hold a training. The police must also follow these procedures.

Meals on Wheels – As requested at a previous meeting, Sharon checked with Meals on Wheels to see how many residents of the Borough were receiving meals. There have been two and the cost has been \$492.00. Council decided not to make a contribution at this time.

Sewer Meter in Ridgeview – At the monthly Engineer Meeting, Jeff Ott voiced a concern about a lot of water still entering the system. He would like to place a meter at Flint Hill and Ridgeview to see if it is from there or to be able to eliminate this section. LCA will handle the installation of the meter and the cost will be reflected on our quarterly bill. Borough Council had no issues with this.

Lower Milford Township - Correspondence – A draft Ordinance regarding zoning amendments was reviewed. Borough Council has no comment at this time.

213 Flint Hill Road – Sharon has received many complaints regarding this address. The house is vacant, there is garbage on the deck and the grass is extremely high. The owner of the property never gave a forwarding address and does not respond to letters or the phone number on file. Sharon asked Council if this is something we can take care of and she was instructed to send a certified letter to the address first to inform the owner that we will be taking action.

Walnut Street – Maintenance has completed the storm sewer pipe run down Walnut Street. The intersection by the school will need to be paved. Donnie Derr is obtaining a quote from Kuhn's and Anthony.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Session was called at 7:39 and ended at 7:46.

A motion to adjourn at 7:46 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.