

Borough of Alburtis

Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2022

The January 26, 2022, meeting of Borough Council was called to order by Council President Ron DeIaco at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, 260 Franklin Street, Alburtis, PA. The meeting was also live streamed on Zoom.

Council members in attendance:

Ron DeIaco	Steve Hill	Vanessa Taggart	Chad Atkins
Hector Moss	John Aleszczyk	Stephen Nemeth	

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

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

Visitors in attendance:

Gary DeRoner	Steve Werley	Mehmet Birtek
Sherryann Oels	Tony Vanim	

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Ron informed the public that Council held an Executive Session prior to the meeting at 6:00 and a decision will be reached tonight as a result.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MAYOR’S REPORT – No Report

MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2022 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 12, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – JANUARY 26, 2022 – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to pay the bills of January 26, 2022, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

FISCAL CONSULTANT’S REPORT – Chad Atkins made a motion to accept the Fiscal Consultant’s Report, Stephen Nemeth 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS – The Macungie Ambulance Corps report was reviewed. There were 18 calls in the Borough in December.

ADMINISTRATION

Police Chief Position – Chief Palmer retired earlier this month and Council will miss him. He did a very good job. Since then, resumes were accepted and sent to three local police chiefs to review. The police chiefs came back with three individuals they believed would be a good fit for the Borough. Council added two names to the list and a committee had the first round of interviews that also included the three police chiefs. All of Council was present for a second round of interviews and it is believed a decision has been made. Hector Moss made a motion to nominate Tony Alsleben for the position of Chief of Police and submit his name to the Borough of Alburtis Civil Service Commission to conduct a non-competitive examination in accordance with the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, Stephen Nemeth 2nd, John Aleszczyk was opposed, and the balance were ayes. Mr. Alsleben was a former Chief in Allentown, and he has agreed to put his name forward. He will have to take a Civil Service test and if Civil Service approves, his name will be brought back to Council from Civil Service. Steve Hill thanked the Committee for their hard work. Vanessa Taggart noted that until someone is Chief, Mayor Palmer is in charge of the department, and this was agreed upon by Council.

ARPA Funds – Allowed Uses – The ARPA Funds can be used for many different things including water, sewer, and stormwater projects. It cannot be used directly for highway. A form has been completed and has calculated that we have sustained a loss since the beginning of the pandemic and therefore, the money can be placed into the General Fund and used for any purposes. Tracy completed the form and our auditor, Chric Basile, has reviewed it to make sure the figures were correct. We are using the funds for the sewer basket system and the security system, and we can now also use it for highway.

Upper Ballfield Playset – Pictures and prices of different playsets were reviewed. These sets were based on a similar one John Aleszczyk had seen in Boyertown. Stephen Nemeth said he contacted Allentown and they used Geo. Ely Associates for their playground and were able to obtain grants. He does not like the sets presented tonight and would like to work with Sharon on a grant. John is not in favor of engineering costs, but said another option is good but we should get the ball rolling by March.

Maintenance – Existing Mower Deck Replacement – Donnie Derr gave Sharon a quote in the amount of \$1,440 for a John Deere mower deck. Vanessa Taggart made a motion to purchase the replacement deck, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Truck Traffic and Signage – Hector Moss received a picture from a resident showing signs on the poles that go across the road. Hector would like to know if we can have the “no truck” signs relocated to the poles going across Spring Creek Road instead of past the intersection. Sharon will check but has been told that the signs must be at the point of the violation. There is another sign back further on Spring Creek Road as well. Hector also asked if traffic cameras could be placed at the intersection of N. Main and Penn Avenue and have fines issued based on the films. Dave Knerr responded that you cannot cite using a camera.

Lower Macungie Township Fire Department Volunteer Tax Credit Certificates – There are eleven firefighters that reside in the Borough that are eligible for the Tax Credit. Vanessa Taggart made a motion to have Sharon sign the Certificates, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

A motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. was made by Vanessa Taggart, 2nd by Hector Moss and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.