

Borough of Alburtis

Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2022

The October 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.

Council members in attendance:

Ron DeIaco

Chad Atkins

Steve Hill

Mehmet Birtek

John Aleszczyk

Stephen Nemeth

Hector Moss

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor

Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager

Kathleen Palmer, Mayor

Visitors in attendance:

Gary DeRoner

Steve Werley

Sherryann Oels

Garron Stephens

Ashlynn Rivera

Devon Stephens

Jessica Johnson

Jennifer Stephens

Pastor Geoffrey Witcomb

Bob & Sheila Wimmer

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MAYOR’S REPORT – No Report

MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2022 – Stephen Nemeth made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 12, 2022, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – OCTOBER 26, 2022 – Stephen Nemeth made a motion to pay the bills of October 26, 2022, Chad Atkins 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

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

LOWER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT – Chad Atkins made a motion to accept the Fire Department Report, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMINISTRATION

Lockridge Historical Church – Pastor Geoffrey Witcomb was present, however, no information regarding ADA has been obtained from maintenance yet. This will be tabled.

Borough Manager – Retirement Date – A letter was received from Borough Manager, Sharon Trexler, informing Council that she would be retiring effective March 1, 2023. Sharon stated that it has been a pleasure serving Council, their predecessor’s, and the residents of the Borough in her 15 years here.

Park and Recreation – As requested, Stephen Nemeth looked into picnic tables for the upper ball field. He showed Council ones from Uline on sale for \$950.00. Hector Moss made a motion to purchase a picnic table, Chad Atkins 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

There was also a discussion on the dedication of Raines Park. Council asked Sharon to see if Kathleen Raines would want to have this now or wait until Spring.

East Penn Children’s Fitness Speed Humps – Robert Wimmer was present to speak with Council about redoing the speed humps on W. Penn Avenue. He is aware that Council denied this request recently and is very concerned about a child getting hit by a car or truck in the area. There is a lot of foot traffic on W. Penn Avenue due to his business, Drizzle, and the Karate School. Mr. Wimmer is offering to pay for the work. John Aleszczyk asked what the criteria is for the need for speed humps. Without a certain criteria, people will want these on 3rd Street, 2nd Street and by the school. Dave Knerr said that the Borough would need to arrange the work and Mr. Wimmer could then contribute. It is our road, and we must arrange for the work to be done. Hector Moss doesn’t feel like Mr. Wimmer should pay for this. It is our road and, knowing there is an issue, we should take the preventative measures to protect residents. Ron DeIaco stated that we did already have a vote, but if Mr. Wimmer is willing to pay for this, there should be no reason Council should have an issue with it. Hector asked about using the ARPA funds and made a motion to use the ARPA funds to install speed humps, the motion was 2nd by Stephen Nemeth and a roll call vote followed:

Hector Moss – Yes	Chad Atkins – No
Mehmet Birtek – Yes	Stephen Nemeth – Yes
John Aleszczyk – No	Steve Hill – No
Ron DeIaco – No	

The vote failed 4:3. John Aleszczyk and Steve Hill noted they were opposed because no plan is in place regarding the criteria. Mehmet Birtek stated, as a parent, he believes the need is there. He had a close call with one of his children in this area. Stephen Nemeth made a motion to accept a donation to have speed humps installed on W. Penn Avenue, Mehmet Birtek 2nd, Hector Moss and John Aleszczyk were opposed, and the balance were ayes.

Halloween Parade – Hector Moss gave an update on the parade for this Saturday. Forty groups will be participating, and 14 food trucks will be in attendance as well. Chief Alsleben gave an ops plan, no parking signs have been posted and the committee will handle the trash cleanup afterwards. The community is excited for the parade and Hector extended thanks to everyone for volunteering their time and for all of the donations. John Aleszczyk stated that they have done a great job in a short amount of time. Chad Atkins also noted that if it gets bigger next year, they should check with Uline for staging.

Personnel – The Personnel Committee has reported that they try to meet at least every quarter. Everything is going well with both Maintenance and Administration. Maintenance that should be considered are replacing the pressure transfer switch on Mountain Road and a new plow for one of the trucks. Prices will be obtained for both. Regarding Maintenance, Sharon informed Council that they have been working from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. since the start of Covid. They like these hours and would like to have them changed permanently. Council believes it is too dark to get things done during the winter and they should now switch back to what is in the Ordinance.

Cyber Insurance – Our insurance company has asked if we wanted a quote for cyber insurance in the event we were hacked. When Stephen Kaufman was on Council, he did an analysis of what it would cost us to replace pc’s, etc. and since most of our programs are cloud based, he did not see the need for extra insurance. Council believes this still hold true.

A motion to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. was made by Chad Atkins, 2nd by Hector Moss and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.