

APPROVED

Borough of Alburtis
Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2024

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The March 27th, 2024, 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 Mehmet Birtek Chad Atkins Hector Moss John Aleszczyk

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr- Solicitor, Stephen Nemeth-Borough Manager, Kathleen Palmer- Mayor, Tony Alsleben- Police Chief, East Penn Press

Visitors in attendance: Gary DeRoner, Mike Gerhart, Howie Savacool, Tom Caskie, Richard Kulbaba, Rose Nonnemacher, Ray Ricketts, Nan Perna, Denny Barthol, Pat Kollar

Visitors on Zoom: Tom, Brooke, Ann, iPhone Kathy, Aunt Jane, Samsung sm t22.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Pat Kollar asked about the yard waste facility, mentioned that he heard there was a rumor floating around that Alburtis will no longer have dumpsters for grass and yard waste, would love to hear the reason why. Kathy Palmer mentioned that there has been a lot more put into our bins than what we're supposed to go in there every time there is contamination we pay extra on the bill. We've had out of town contractors that have come through here and dumped into our dumpsters. If we put the gates up, we would need somebody down there to mend those gates. Now you're looking into hiring someone to do that and you must check Id, to make sure they are a resident of town. It's not as easy as it sounds, and unfortunately, that cost would then have to be passed on to the residents. Ron mentioned there's a cost involved that escalated higher than we had anticipated. Much of that, if we thought well, one of them is because, in fact, in 2022 was 41, And that was because a lot of a lot of dumps. The stuff that was put in was not branches or leads, or whatever it was, junk. They would pick it up. Look at it and say we can't put it over for recycling. They would dump it in the landfill, and that would be an extra cost which they surcharged us. Those were all costs that we absorbed. But we hadn't budgeted. we've talked. Some of us have talked about the fact that we knew that there we wanted to see if anybody noticed. I mean, if anybody was really using it in the borough, or whether it was all the people dumping were people from somewhere else and there are a number of people. There are 3 of you here. I'm sure there are. There are many more of you women didn't show up at this meeting and would like to see this continue. I think it's not an unreasonable request other than that. What's the solution? What are we supposed to do with our yard waste, particularly in the fall? Stephen mentioned other townships have bigger areas, and then fenced off. many of them have partnerships with other municipalities also, like Macungie, is partnered with Emmaus to do all theirs. Upper Mac and North Whitehall are partners to do a lot of their stuff we have. We're one of the only municipalities that must outsource our dumpsters. Everybody else has compost and areas where they compose over the rest portal. I'm in discussions with Upper Mac to do something like that. Ron mentioned we need to have that discussion. Residents have indicated that they would like to have someplace to take through the stuff. We will table this for discussion at the next meeting.

Ray Ricketts a tree fell from behind my property onto my property, destroying my fence.

This happened 8 years ago also. Before the fence it fell. I came to the township, they told me it was the train people, the train people said it's not theirs. That's not our property, but it fell into our property, and nobody claimed ownership of it and so again, here comes another tree. This time I have a fence. Now it has damaged my fence. What do I do with a tree? That's not my own, that fell on my property. What do I do with that? How do I get rid of them? Ron, unfortunately it's not our property. Ray mentioned That's why I was asking. I understand that. And that's why I was asking whose property it's on, because if it's not Norfolk Southern, then whose property is it? Ray mentioned that there are two more trees and one already fell on the other tree.

and they're both now destined to come down on my yard again. Another portion of the entire Stephen mentioned that he will meet up with Ray tomorrow to investigate the matter.

Richard Kababa there's a lot of cracks up at my house. There's one that goes cross the whole street, and me. concrete berm is sinking because of the water getting in there. And it's slowly just eroding it away and I talked to Steven about. You know three years ago you went around and sealed cracks, I believe. Yeah. And you know, I was wondering if that was something as if it continues. It's just dropping every. There's a joint there, and it's doing this. And it's opening up a crack in the concrete berm for the driveway and in front of my house and it's just going down, and there's a crack from my house over to the neighbor's house and it was seal But now it's opened up over the last 2 and a half 3 years, and I was just wondering if somebody could look at it. Stephen mentioned that he will come check it out on his route tomorrow.

Howie Savacool: Why were we never told that you're going to take 5 feet of our driveway the way. where you were talked about doing the sidewalk and stuff and want to put out. But we were never told you were going to cut into our driveway 5 feet? Mike Preston: There was some discussion early on in the project as far as we're the right of way. the chance that yes, there would be some work done within the right of way right away. It's elusive. So, along Lock Bridge and second street there, I believe there's a cartway of 30 present days. Land that extends from the barely sidewalk public sidewalk. and that's 6 feet. That's not the answer that that you want. Now, in your case, in your case your property was, for you know you repaired yours. There are others down there that we're repairing because they were terrible. Yeah, and they're getting better getting a lot better what it was which isn't fair to taxpay. That's just. I know somebody got their whole driveway, and with the project you have to say on the other one our expense. We fixed what was not the whole driveway the whole. Most of it's been 4 feet, though.

Nan Perna I was wondering if there is there a way that I can have special parking because I have to get to my vehicle? I mean all hours of the night. I don't want to be running down the street. Someone's yard was looking for my car because I had a market down the street. Steve has mentioned that he requested one to be placed at her residence already due to her being a first responder.

MAYOR’S REPORT – No Mayor Report.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 13th, 2024– Hector Moss made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 13th, 2024, Chad Atkins 2nd the motion, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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BILLS FOR PAYMENT – March 27th, 2024 –Mehmet Birtek made a motion to pay the bills of March 27th, 2024, Steve Hill 2nd the motion, and Hector Moss had to abstain from bill number 24223 due to affiliation with the Alburdis Area Community Center, motion passes with a 5-0-1 vote.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-abstain bill 24223	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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FISCAL CONSULTANT’S REPORT –Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the Fiscal Consultant’s Report of March 27th, 2024, Mehmet Birtek 2nd the motion, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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The Yard Waste Facility- Discussed during the public comment section of the meeting, determined that it would be tabled for discussion at the next meeting on April 10th, 2024.



Ordinance 585 –AN ORDINANCE REVISING CHAPTER 95 OF THE ALBURTIS CODIFIED ORDINANCES (RELATING TO FIREWORKS) TO CONFORM TO CHANGES IN THE STATE FIREWORKS LAW -

Hector Moss made a motion to approve Ordinance 585, Mehmet Birtek 2nd the motion and unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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Resolution No. 2024-5 – A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING STEVEN WERLEY TO THE ALBURTIS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, AND APPOINTING GARY DeRONER AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE ALBURTIS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION -

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve Resolution No 2024-5, motion was 2nd by Hector Moss. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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Resolution No. 2024-6 – A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING ASHLYNN RIVERA TO THE ALBURTIS PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION -

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve Resolution No 2024-6, motion was 2nd by Hector Moss. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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Resolution No. 2024-7 – A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING JUNE ELLEN CLAYDON TO THE ALBURTIS ZONING HEARING BOARD -

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve Resolution No 2024-7, motion was 2nd by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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Resolution No. 2024-8 – A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING JUNE ELLEN CLAYDON TO THE BOARD OF THE ALBURTIS BOROUGH AUTHORITY.

Chad Atkins made a motion to approve Resolution No 2024-8, motion was 2nd by Mehmet Birtek. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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Resolution No. 2024-9 – A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING JASON DOUGLAS TO THE ALBURTIS PLANNING COMMISSION.

Hector Moss made a motion to approve Resolution No 2024-9, motion was 2nd by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay
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William B. Butz Memorial Fund donation received- (\$2,500)- informational. Stephen Nemeth mentioned that we received our annual donation of \$2,500.

LVTS Local Bridge Inspection Report- Stephen Nemeth mentioned that Donnie and he met with the bridge

inspectors to discuss the report. Mentioned they were happy that the brush was already cleared up and only gave recommendations on fixing the guiderails to current standards and paving the deck of the bridge. No further comments were made.

Liquid Fuels Audit Report- Stephen Nemeth mentioned that this was our liquid fuels audit that was conducted this year for 2021. John asked 140,000 of that's going to be used for the bicentennial village project. Stephen mentioned that not out of the liquid fuels, it will be the highway reserve which is a different account than the liquid fuels one. Liquid fuels are allocated by the state, and you must follow their guidelines to use it.

Ron DeIaco mentioned that we will be going into an executive session for personnel, he then asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. was made by Hector Moss, 2nd by Chad Atkins and a unanimous vote followed.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by:

Stephen Nemeth

Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.

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