

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2020

The May 27, 2020 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	Kathleen Raines	Vanessa Taggart
John Aleszczyk	Stephen Kaufman	Hector Vazquez	

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager	Kathleen Palmer, Mayor
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Visitors in attendance:	Gary DeRoner	Jordan Keuler	Kathryn Gonzalez
	Chad Atkins	Steve Reichenbach	

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Palmer had no report but asked Sharon to let her know if any more masks or supplies are needed.

MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 13, 2020 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2020, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – MAY 27, 2020 – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to pay the bills of May 27, 2020, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comment – None

Covid-19 Procedures and Guidelines – Hector Vazquez made a motion to use the guidelines obtained from CDC and Lehigh County with updates as needed, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Phone System – As requested by Council, Sharon received a quote for a Voice Over IP Service with our current provider. The cost for ten new phone sets is \$1,570 and the monthly cost for the system is \$135. Currently, we are paying \$204 per month and this includes the maintenance phone. John Aleszczyk stated that it would take 20 years to get the return on what is being saved. It is not sure if new phones are needed or if this could work with the current phones. Hector Vazquez would be fine moving forward with this and said we need to plan for the future now because we do not know if this will happen again. Kathleen Palmer asked if it is the same system County is using and Stephen Kaufman said it would be similar. If there is an app that can be used on the cell phones, then the handsets would not have to be moved. Many residents now have Sharon and Tracy's personal cell phone numbers. John Aleszczyk stated that this is the new normal and many people use their own cell phones. He also stated that we were not sealing the parking lots to save money and he would like to know where the money would come from. Ron DeIaco said there are potentially three options: 1. Keep the current system 2. Change to Voice Over IP, and 3. Hold off until the next meeting to decide. Council asked Sharon to see if new phones needed to be purchase and if an app could be used. This was tabled until the next Council Meeting.

Main Street Lehigh Valley Grant – Sharon informed Council that she had the grant ready to submit for new flags and solar lighting for the Welcome to Alburdis signs but has not submitted it because she wasn't sure Council would want to spend the money due to the current situation. The total amount is \$3,796 and the Borough is responsible for half of this. Hector Vazquez made a motion for Sharon to submit the Gant, Stephen Kaufman 2nd, Steve Hill was opposed, and the balance were ayes.

Interim Act 537 Plan – Sharon emailed Council the Interim Act 537 Plan for their review. Liesel Gross was at the virtual SW Comprehensive Plan Meeting last night and will also join the virtual meeting with the Alburdis Planning Commission in June. This will come to Council for approval at a future date.

Ballfield – Sharon was asked by the coordinator of the baseball league if they can begin to prep the field once we are in the Yellow Phase. Council agreed to this if guidelines are adhered to. Kathleen Palmer suggested the area is posted with the guidelines. Sharon will take care of this. Council also decided to open all recreation areas and have them posted as well. The police department should do checks to see that people are following the guidelines.

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission – Emmaus - Cascades – Correspondence was received from LVPC regarding the apartments being proposed in Emmaus. Council has no comment currently.

East Penn Business Council – Sharon attended this virtual meeting yesterday morning. No major projects are being done by municipalities. The Emmaus Library will be having a drive through “Brown Bag Book Sale” on June 5.

Grass and Brush Dumpsters – Sharon was asked to find out more regarding Lower Macungie Township's suggestion of allowing our residents to use the Township dump site. Each household would pay \$25 a year to use the site. She has not heard back from the Commissioner, but the Asst. Manager will look into it. Council is not sure residents will want to drive over to the Township to discard their grass and brush. We will wait to hear more.

Speed Humps – Hector noted that the speed humps on W. Penn Avenue look good.

A motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. was made by Vanessa Taggart, 2nd by Hector Vazquez and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.