

Borough of Alburtis

Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2022

The September 28, 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

Tony Alsleben, Police Chief

Visitors in attendance:

Gary DeRoner

Steve Werley

Sherryann Oels

Ashlynn Rivera

Tom Moss

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

POLICE REPORT – Police Chief, Tony Alsleben was present to talk to Council about a grant. The grant is designed for technology, and he understands that the Borough is eligible for up to \$1,000,000. The grant project must be used to reduce crime. The Chief believes cameras on poles throughout the Borough would be a good use of the grant. He would have them placed at high activity areas like the school, Norm's, etc. He has reached out to The Wire Guys. They do really good work and they use a grant writer that specializes in this. There is an upfront fee of \$1,500. Everything else would be covered by the grant, if awarded. Hector Moss asked about body cams, but the Chief stated the cameras on the poles work better and the body cams need to be turned on at the scene. John Aleszczyk questioned if the installation would be covered and was told yes. Hector asked about speed signs, but was told that a fixed permanent sign would be better, and speeding is not considered a crime. Overall, Council liked the idea of the cameras and Steve Hill made a motion to proceed with The Wire Guys and apply for the grant with the upfront fee of \$1,500. The motion was 2nd by Stephen Nemeth and a unanimous vote followed.

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Report

MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2022, Stephen Nemeth 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – SEPTEMBER 28, 2022 – Stephen Nemeth made a motion to pay the bills of September 28, 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, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMINISTRATION

Ordinance No. 573 – Steve Hill made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 573, an Ordinance substantially amending Chapter 25 of the Alburtis Codified Ordinance (relating to storm water management) to conform to the updated 2022 Model Stormwater Management Ordinance developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection; including articles titled general provisions, definitions, stormwater management standards, stormwater management (SWM) site plan requirements, inspections, fees and expenses, operation and maintenance, prohibitions, enforcement and penalties and references. The motion was 2nd by Hector Moss and a unanimous vote followed.

MMO – Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2023 – As required, the MMO was presented to Borough Council. The amount to budget for the Alburdis Police Pension Plan is \$62,161.40 and the Non-uniformed Pension Plan is \$27,366.25. This will be attached to the Minutes.

Truck Traffic – Scenic View Drive – John Aleszczyk has a concern about the truck traffic coming through the Borough from Scenic View Drive. There is currently no signage along this road. He recommends that we place a sign on Church Street, so that these vehicles can be cited. Sharon reached out to Lower Macungie Township, and they are looking into placing a sign prior to Schoeneck Road. She has not heard back from them yet. Chief Alsleben mentioned that the truck GPS is now directing the trucks onto Sauerkraut, which is not yet complete. Sharon spoke with an engineer from Barry Isett this week and was told the project will continue in the fall and the road should open next year. For now, Council decided to place signs on Church Street. John Aleszczyk made a motion for the solicitor to prepare and Ordinance for a new sign, Hector Moss 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Halloween Parade – A parade meeting was held on September 27th and there is a lot of interest in the parade. Registration Coordinator, Ashlynn Rivera reported that 38 organizations have contacted her and a few more did tonight as well. The deadline to register is October 14th. The original route needed to be altered. The firetrucks cannot make the turn from the gym onto Franklin Street and the parade looks to be too long to include Maple Court because it would jam up when it gets to Church with no where for the parade to continue. John Aleszczyk asked what the distance of the parade was, and it is believed to be about 1 ½ miles. There will be food trucks on S. Main Street between Third Street and School Street. This area will remain closed longer. Hector Moss asked what could be done with donations for the parade and Sharon said a separate escrow will be created so that anything left could be used next year. A Banner has been donated free of charge. They could not use our current Borough logo, so another one was created. Council has no problem with this but would not want to change the actual Borough logo because it is in use already in many places. Mehmet Birtek asked where to drop off donated candy and was told Borough Hall will accept this. Ron DeIaco thanked the committee for all of the work they have done. We have all lost two years, and he has noticed that people have been angry. This gives everyone a chance to share some joy together.

Park and Recreation - Stephen Nemeth would like approval to put a bike rack up at the upper ball field. John Aleszczyk asked where the money would come from and was told there is still room in the playground budget. Mulch has not been paid for yet so there may not be enough. John stated he spoke with Donnie Derr, and they would rather see a picnic table and benches placed there. Stephen will hold off until the mulch is purchased, and Ron asked Stephen to also price out picnic tables and benches.

Liquid Fuels – The estimated allocation for Liquid Fuels for 2023 is \$65,552.27.

Fire Relief – Act 205 – \$14,961.11 has been received in Fire Relief Funds. This will be sent to the Fire Department.

Eagle Court of Honor – Ron DeIaco informed Council that he attended the Eagle Court of Honor for Zachary Bernhart. It was a very nice and well-deserved function.

Borough Manager – Sharon announced to Council that she will be retiring in February and will give them an exact date in the near future.

A motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. was made by Hector Moss, 2nd by Mehmet Birtek and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.