

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2019

The May 29, 2019 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, Alburdis, PA.

Council members in attendance:

Ron DeIaco

Vanessa Taggart

Steve Hill

Hector Vazquez

Sherryann Oels

Kathleen Raines

Stephen Kaufman

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor

Kathleen Palmer, Mayor

Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager

Visitors in attendance:

Gary DeRoner

Richard Burke

Victor Lauer

Rik Longacre

Linda Lauer

William Bumber

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Report

POLICE REPORT – Police Chief, Robert Palmer was present to explain an MOU involving Lehigh County Police Departments. The MOU is for crash reconstruction. Borough Council has no issues with the agreement.

Chief Palmer also informed Council that he is in need of another part time officer. He is down two officers at the moment. He would like to bring former part time officer, Alex Smith, back. Steve Hill made a motion to rehire Alex Smith, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2019 – Hector Vazquez made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 8, 2019, Steve Hill 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – MAY 29, 2019 – Kathleen Raines made a motion to pay the bills of May 29, 2019, Sherryann Oels 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

FISCAL CONSULTANT'S REPORT – Stephen Kaufman made a motion to accept the Fiscal Consultant's Report, Hector Vazquez 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comments – Resident, Victor Lauer, was present to once again discuss a concern regarding his neighbor's chicken coop. He presented sample ordinances to Council to consider, including language that requires chicken coops be 25 ft. from a structure. Whatever Council decides, existing chicken coops would be grandfathered. Linda Lauer stated that they cannot sit out on their deck due to the odor coming from the chickens. They contacted the Center for Disease Control and was informed that you do not need to touch the chickens and feces to contract a disease. You can become ill inhaling the odors. She would like the chicken coop moved so that it is not so close to the house and they can again enjoy their outdoor space. The Lauer's were informed that, as of now, chickens are permitted in the Borough, however, per Ordinance No. 92-106(b) – Defecation of Animals, animal feces must be cleaned up within 24 hours. This means the chicken coop must be cleaned out on a daily basis. Council instructed Sharon to write the resident in question to let her know she is in violation if the coop is not cleaned out daily. This could result in a \$100 per day fine. It is also suggested that she is asked to move the chicken coop to the back of the property.

Greentree Industrial Park – Rik Longacre and William Bumber were present to answer any additional questions Council might have regarding the Conditional Use Hearing. Hector Vazquez mentioned that we were told the parking area was needed because trucks have been parking in the driveway area. He has yet to see a truck in the driveway. Mr. Bumber replied that early on, the trucks were told they were not permitted there and that a parking lot was being proposed for this. Hector asked who would enforce the conditions put upon the applicant. This would be up to zoning to keep an eye on. Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Zoning Decision subject to the conditions outlined in the Zoning Decision. The motion was 2nd by Vanessa Taggart, Hector Vazquez was opposed and the balance were ayes. The motion carried 6-1.

Resolution No. 2019-3 was reviewed. This is a Resolution granting Conditional Preliminary and Final Plan approval to the Greentree Industrial Park Lot Line Adjustment Plan for 8018 Quarry Road and the Greentree Industrial Park Truck Parking Plan for 8018 Quarry Road, and deciding certain waiver and deferral requests in connection with those Plans. Stephen Kaufman recommended that E, G and H, in reference to cartway width, curbing and sidewalk, be deferrals and not waivers. He made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-3 with the changes in section two and four. A roll call vote was taken:

Sherryann Oels	No	Vanessa Taggart	No	Steve Hill	No
Stephen Kaufman	Yes	Hector Vazquez	Yes	Kathleen Raines	No
Ron DeIaco	Yes				

The motion failed 4-3. Kathleen Raines made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-3, as written, Steve Hill 2nd, Hector Vazquez was opposed and the balance were ayes.

Flint Hill Road – Parking Stalls – A request to reconsider the parking lines on Flint Hill Road was reviewed. And for now, the stalls will remain.

W. Second Street – Parking Stalls – Sharon received a request to have parking stalls installed on W. Second Street in Ridgeview. Stephen Kaufman believes this will bring order to what now can be chaos. Sharon will ask maintenance to paint the lines.

Findlay Family – Bench – The Findlay Family have placed a bench in memory of their parents, Gene and Shirley Findlay, at the upper ball field.

MS4 Violation – Per Council’s request, Sharon sent a violation letter to 345 Franklin Street regarding the mud in the alley. The resident was present and said his plan is to put grass in the yard, but the rain has kept him from getting it done. He no longer parks in the yard so he is not dragging the mud into the alley. He stated that it is from his neighbors vehicles. He came home one day to find that his neighbor had a rollback in his yard. He also received a letter regarding his chickens. The chicken coop has been moved to the back of the yard. He feels like he is being harassed to the point that he has had to call the police because one of the neighbors was screaming at him.

Upper Macungie Township – Fire Police Request – Correspondence was received from Upper Macungie Township regarding using the Fire Police to assist with the fireworks on July 6th. Hector Vazquez made a motion to allow the fire police to assist Upper Macungie, Sherryann Oels 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Garbage Contract – Unless the Borough decides to extend the contract for one year, the contract can go out to bid for 2020. Council would like to see costs for twice a week pickup and once a week recycling. Dave Knerr will begin to work on this.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Session was called for a Personnel Issue at 8:30 p.m. No action was taken and the Executive Session ended at 9:15 p.m.

A motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. was made by Kathleen Raines, 2nd by Vanessa Taggart and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.