

**Borough of Alburtis**

Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2021

The September 29, 2021, 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	Vanessa Taggart	Chad Atkins
Kathleen Raines	Hector Vazquez	John Aleszczyk	

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager
Kathleen Palmer, Mayor	

Visitors in attendance:

Vikram	Gary DeRoner	Linda Reinbold
Steve Reichenbach		

PUBLIC COMMENT – Resident, Linda Reinbold, was present to ask Council what was done after her family was at the July with neighbor complaints. She was told all of her neighbors received letters for their weeds and grass. She asked if the attached neighbor did as well and was told yes, this neighbor has been sent a fine. Mrs. Reinbold stated that the neighbor did not receive the violations that were put in the front door because they do not use that door. The tree out front has not been cut back and is less than 12 feet per the Ordinance. Sharon will send them a letter stating if it isn't taken care of by a certain date, the Borough will cut it back and charge them for the work. Mrs. Reinbold asked what was being done about the cars in the yard. The cars are all registered and there is no Ordinance regarding parking in your yard. Hector Vazquez suggested putting berm at the rear of the property and John Aleszczyk stated that if you do it for one, you will have to do it for everyone else. Dave Knerr does not recommend that we block the property. After Mrs. Reinbold stated that the Borough does nothing, Ron DeIaco explained that it may seem like we are doing nothing, however we are doing as much as we are able to according to the law. Unfortunately, we cannot make people change the way they take care of their property just because we do not like it.

Hector Vazquez has reached out to Ryan Mackenzie's office regarding the truck traffic. He received an email today with links to Wayz, Google Maps, etc. to send updates to for mapping changes. The information received states that, according to the FMCSA, if restrictions are posted on commercial truck traffic, fines up to \$11,000 per company and \$2,750 per driver can be imposed. Sharon will forward this to the Chief. Dave Knerr reminded Council that this is off the agenda and should not be acted on per the new Sunshine Law.

MAYOR'S REPORT – The Mayor was contacted by the organizers of the Hope Run that is taking place this weekend at the Fire Company. They usually close half of School Street but asked if they could close all of Third Street for the motorcycles to line up. After discussion, it was decided that School Street should be closed for the start of the run.

MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2021 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 8, 2021, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to pay the bills of September 29, 2021, Chad Atkins 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

FISCAL CONSULTANT'S REPORT – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to accept the Fiscal Consultant's Report, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

## ADMINISTRATION

107 N. Main Street – Conditional Use Zoning Decision – A Conditional Use Hearing led by Dave Knerr, was held regarding the property at 107 N. Main Street, Alburtis, PA. The applicant, Alburtis Exxon, LLC, is proposing to be open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with exterior lighting on at all times. No one in the room or on Zoom had any questions or objections. With no issues from Council concerning the application, Dave Knerr will draw up a Zoning Agreement for the next meeting and Council will vote on their final decision at that time.

Pension State Aid – The Borough received a direct deposit of \$67,161.95 from the Commonwealth for general municipal pension system state aid. A letter was reviewed from Dave Knerr regarding the Pension State Aid, which recommends that the Borough place \$63,034.90 into the Police Pension Plan and \$4,127.05 into the Non-uniformed Pension Plan. Hector Vazquez made a motion to direct Sharon to write the checks and make the deposit as recommended in Dave Knerr's letter dated September 29, 2021, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed. As required, the MMO was presented to Borough Council and will be attached to the minutes.

Fire Department – Sharon received an email from the Fire Department regarding the contribution Council makes for training. They asked if they could combine this year's contribution with next year's contribution so that they can have a more expensive training done by an outside instructor. Council does not have a problem with this and instructed Sharon to give this year's contribution to them to put aside.

MS4 – Annual Report – The Annual MS4 Report was prepared by Ott Consulting and sent to DEP yesterday. Hector Vazquez made a motion to accept the report, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

MRM Workers' Compensation Loss Control Report – Sharon and Donnie Derr met with a representative of MRM in regard to our practices. Overall, we are complying with their standards and the representative sent internet links for additional training.

Liquid Fuels 2020 Audit Report – The annual audit was performed, and the Borough is in compliance with Liquid Fuels regulations. Tracy Malinowski has met with the new liquid fuels representative, and they discussed using liquid fuels money for bigger projects. Steve Hill made a motion to accept the report, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission – Limeport Commons Subdivision – A review letter was received from the LVPC and Council has no comment at this time.

Resident Concern – Resident, Gary DeRoner, asked what the status is at the intersection of School St. and Franklin St. The water is still ponding. We are waiting for the contractor to repair this. This was not approved by PennDot and needs to be repaired. He wondered who was liable in the winter and was told the contractor is liable until it is approved. Sharon will talk to the Engineer this week regarding this.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Session was called at 7:46 p.m. for Personnel and ended at 8:42 p.m.

A motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. was made by Kathleen Raines, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vanessa Taggart and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.