

Borough of Alburdis

Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2023

The August 30, 2023, 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. The meeting was also live streamed on Zoom.

Council members in attendance:

Ron DeIaco Steve Hill Chad Atkins Hector Moss Ashlynn Rivera John Aleszczyk

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager
Kathleen Palmer, Mayor Tony Alsleben, Police Chief

Visitors in attendance: Gary DeRoner

Visitors on Zoom: Brooke, Tom

PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment

MAYOR'S REPORT – Kathy Palmer mentioned that everyone has been made aware of our current police vehicle situation. If everyone remembers last year it was budgeted at the end of the year. Tony has one that is available, the company is aware of the situation and is willing to move us to the front of the line, the quote from Koch 33, it would be for 54,768. That's with it being ready to hit the road. If we can get the approval to move forward today, the other vehicle 902 has not been the greatest since it was involved in an accident a few years ago. Hector asked if he saw the numbers, but there were additional numbers that we were waiting to see regarding painting. Chief Tony Alsleben mentioned that the paint and decals would ultimately come to about \$1,500.00. Additional. The one thing with the Koch quote is that it would be ready to go, everything would be installed there. To expand on what the mayor said, we reached out to Whitmoyer and a few others, those places it would just be the car then you need to run around to get it outfitted. Koch has cars that should be in this week, they will take them to be painted then drop them off at the borough. This is normally the fleet ordering period of the year, so they have several orders coming in, we would be moved to the front if approved tonight. Ron asked what does the budget look like for now for a car. Steve Nemeth mentioned what we would like to do since we have not received the water pump invoice yet; take the water pump out of the water fund and take the car out of ARPA. Kathy mentioned that there is a grant that Steve and Tony are working on, so that we can use that for a vehicle next year. We can't keep running these vehicles on 7-10 years. Tony agrees with Kathy, what we should have been 3 marked vehicles because if one goes down, and 2 officers are working. The black unmarked can be used; but not ideal for patrol; that can be used for enforcement activities. Also, that is about 11 years old as well. What Steve and I are trying to do is get this grant so that it would give us that additional vehicle to put in the fleet which is very much needed. As you can see with what we are dealing with at the moment. If 902 goes down, not sure what we will be doing. Hector mentioned that you had mentioned that we had money set aside for this in the budget; Kathy said in the ARPA; if you remember Sharon said out of the ARPA funds in the final quarter. Hector asked so the money for the car would come out of the ARPA funds. Stephen and Kathy confirmed. Hector just to play devil's advocate; once we approved this to come out of the ARPA, and you said we are still waiting on the invoice for the water pump asked how much that was again; Stephen Nemeth said 67,000. Which would then come out of the water fund. Hector asked if we have enough in the water fund, Steve stated, yes, we have about \$476,700. John mentioned that we don't have money in ARPA for a vehicle. We used it all up with the police software, water pump, and playground equipment. John asked how much to pay for one vehicle. Kathy said 54,000. +1,500., so that would be around 57,000. John said you will say that we need it, but what we need to do is to watch how we spend. Kathy said what we need to do is keep a better rotation of the fleet, can't expect these cars to keep going 8-10 years. These are not like everyday vehicles. John said we don't need 3 vehicles for 2 officers; we don't have 6 maintenance trucks for 4 maintenances.

guys. Think we need to purchase one, not against it. Hector Moss made a motion to purchase police vehicle from Koch 33, and Chad Atkins 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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Kathy asked if they are permitted to submit the grant application. There are 2 grants, one for vehicles, the other is for body cameras and upgrade of car cameras. Stephen Nemeth mentioned that this grant is a non-matching grant, just have a \$100.00 application fee; then work with Mackenzie and Coleman to advocate for our grants. John asked if there was any engineering for this grant; Steve Nemeth and Ron Delaco mentioned no engineering is needed for this grant since it is just specs they will need. Chad Atkin made a motion to approve that Stephen Nemeth apply for LSA grants, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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- i. Resolution No. 2023-15 Chad Atkin made a motion to approve the Resolution No. 2023-15, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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- ii. Resolution No. 2023-16- Chad Atkin made a motion to approve the Resolution No. 2023-16, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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MEETING MINUTES OF August 9th, 2023 – Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 9, 2023, Hector Moss 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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BILLS FOR PAYMENT – August 30th, 2023 –

Steve Hill made a motion to pay the bills of August 30, 2023, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and followed by a nonunanimous vote followed, concluding with a 5-1 vote in favor of the motion. John mentioned that he is opposed due to the engineering fees.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-nay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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FISCAL CONSULTANT’S REPORT –. Hector Moss made a motion to approve the Fiscal Consultants report, Chad Atkins 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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Ordinance No. 581- AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOROUGH OF ALBURTIS, AS RECENTLY ADOPTED BY THE ALBURTIS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, PROVIDING THAT ALL APPLICATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE PROCESSED BY THE ALBURTIS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (DISCONTINUING USE OF THE LEHIGH COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION CONSORTIUM) AND REQUIRING THAT EACH APPLICANT HAVE A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS OF RELEVANT LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION. No comments were made.

Hector Moss made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 581, Chad Atkins 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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Police vehicle status and request to purchase. –item moved to Mayor’s report, voted on, and motion passed 6-0.

Request to submit two LSA grant applications –item moved to Mayor’s report, voted on, and motion passed 6-0.

Recommendation for Pay Application No. 3 to Grace Industries- Hector Moss made a motion to approve the Fiscal Consultants report, Chad Atkins 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay
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Request by AACC for remaining Alburdis Parade Funds– Ron DeIaco mentioned last year when we did the parade, the borough itself did the parade; it is changing then we need to have a vote on that. Then say we are no longer running the parade. John mentioned that he believes this was already covered because the rec center does the parade. Ron does not argue if they are doing the parade the money should go to them; does not recall any motion that we said that we no longer would like to do the parade other than maybe a verbal. Hector mentioned that he would like to correct Ron’s statement, last year the parade was not put on by the borough, if you remember correctly, you authorized myself to take charge of parade solo and independently from the borough. Then with volunteers were able to put the parade on these funds were solicited by myself and volunteers. Ron DeIaco mentioned that money was then created and placed into a borough account. John Aleszczyk mentioned that last year the borough was not legally responsible for the parade, it was the rec center. Hector said no the rec center either, a group of volunteers and I put the parade together therefore it eliminated any liability on the borough. Ron DeIaco mentioned that so last year neither the borough of the AACC was liable for this. Ron asked Dave Knerr how does the borough legally hand over the money to the AACC. Dave asked what money it was. Kathy Palmer mentioned currently about \$995.53; is in there from donations in a separate line item. Dave Knerr mentioned you can just give it to anybody running the parade. John Aleszczyk mentioned last year we did this because it was just starting and to make it easy the borough just helped by creating a fund. Since it is now being run by AACC that will no longer be needed. John Aleszczyk mentioned that no monetary donation from the borough will be made for this by the borough, just the use of our staff. Chad Atkins made a motion to release remaining Halloween Parade funds to the AACC, the motion was 2nd by Steve Hill. Motion passes 4-0 with two members abstaining from voting.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-abstain	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- abstain
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Macungie Ambulance letter to 2024 budget request letter to council– Stephen Nemeth mentioned that this is mostly informational with budget sessions beginning. We just wanted this to get on everyone’s radar. Chris Greb will be here at the next meeting to answer any questions or for further information.

Winterfest December 3rd, 2023- request to use borough lot to run a blood drive. – Stephen Nemeth mentioned initially intention was for this year, but Keystone Miller Blood bank is booked throughout the rest of the year, wanted approval going forward for the future for next year. Follow up in 2024, no motion is needed at moment.

Ron Delaco mentioned that we would be going into an executive session for litigation matters, with no intention of voting after.

A motion to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. was made by Chad Atkins, 2nd by Steve Hill and a unanimous vote followed.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Nemeth', written over a horizontal line.

Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.