

## **Borough of Alburtis**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**October 30, 2019**

The October 30, 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, Alburtis, PA.

#### **Council members in attendance:**

Ron DeIaco	Steve Hill	Vanessa Taggart	Kathleen Raines
Hector Vazquez	Sherryann Oels	Stephen Kaufman	

#### **Associates of Alburtis in attendance:**

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager
Kathleen Palmer, Mayor	Robert Palmer, Police Chief

#### **Visitors in attendance:**

Gary DeRoner	Sam Augustine, J.P. Mascaro
Muneel Khoiratty	

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Palmer informed Council that due to safety and resident concerns regarding the weather, she changed Trick or Treat to Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Kathleen Raines said that the weather was going to be fine on the 31<sup>st</sup> for Trick or Treating, but Stephen Kaufman said changing it was the best thing to do.

Kathleen Raines asked the Mayor if she received an answer regarding why an officer attended a crime prevention convention. Chief Palmer gave her a list of what the officer does with this training. Kathleen Raines asked if the child ID kits were given out at events and was told that they are.

Hector Vazquez asked the Chief for an update on the car. The car has been painted and the paint needs to set for a period of time. It is scheduled to have the decals done on November 12<sup>th</sup>. They are still waiting on the new shields and once that is in place, the car will be put into service. The Durango will be sold when the new car is completed.

**POLICE REPORT** – Chief Palmer was present to let Council know that he would like to join the Consortium for Police Entry Level testing with the other police departments. We will need to have a Civil Service Meeting to change the procedures. Hector Vazquez made a motion to join the Consortium, Stephen Kaufman 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed. Hector Vazquez made a motion to pay the one-time amount of \$413 to join the Consortium, Stephen Kaufman 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Officer Lubenetski would like to apply for several grants for the department. Steve Hill made a motion to allow him to apply for grants, Hector Vazquez 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2019** – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 9, 2019, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**BILLS FOR PAYMENT – OCTOBER 30, 2019** – Kathleen Raines made a motion to pay the bills of October 30, 2019, Steve Hill 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

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

**MACUNGIE AMBULANCE MONTHLY REPORT** – The Ambulance Corps report was reviewed. There were nine calls in the Borough in September.

## ADMINISTRATION

J.P. Mascaro – Sam Augustine was present from J.P. Mascaro to speak with Council about the bid submitted. Their bid was the only one received and he would like the Borough to consider taking the option for the next six years instead of extending the contract for another year. This would cost the Borough \$100,000 more the first year but Mascaro believes the new option is in the Borough's best interest since they believe waste industry rates are sure to heighten negatively in the future. Landfill space is dwindling and regulations governing the transportation and disposal of waste have been heightened. Council believes they will receive more bids next year and tabled the topic until next meeting.

Muneel Khoyratty – Muneel is a Boy Scout with Troop 80 in Emmaus and is working towards the rank of Eagle. He met with Mayor Palmer and, for his project, he is proposing to build a box for old flags to put outside of Borough Hall. Once a year, the flags would be collected and given a proper retirement ceremony by the Troop. Borough Council likes this idea and would like Muneel to come back with updates.

202 Lockridge Lane – A letter was received from the resident of 202 Lockridge Lane concerning the storm sewer drain in her yard. The drain is in disrepair and is affecting the neighboring properties as well. She believes the Borough should be responsible for the repairs. Steve Hill said that the Borough is not responsible for this storm drain and we never promised to repair it. The storm drain was put in by the developer and is not listed in the Borough's storm sewer system. Borough Council asked Sharon to send a letter to the resident informing her that the issue is of the homeowner.

Maintenance Dept. Bucket Truck – Three quotes were received for a used bucket truck for the Maintenance Department. Hector Vazquez made a motion to purchase a truck at the cost of \$12,500, Stephen Kaufman 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

PA Small Water & Sewer Grant – Recommendation to Pay Standard Pipe Services – Per the recommendation of the engineer, Hector Vazquez made a motion to pay Standard Pipe Services \$22,466.48, the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephen Kaufman and a unanimous vote followed.

PA Dept. of Environmental Protection – Draft NPDES Permit – A Draft NPDES Permit was received from DEP. A notice of the draft has been posted at Borough Hall for a 30-day comment period. Once this is completed and no issues arise, the actual Permit will be issued.

Shredding Event – A Borough shredding event has been scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup>. The company will shred documents for the Borough for approximately one hour and then open it up to residents for another two hours.

Bird Sanctuary – Sharon and Ron met with two PA Foresters in the Bird Sanctuary. They do not recommend timbering at this time. The Borough should consider a Forestry Plan and at some point, trim to allow more light to enter so that the forest will continue to thrive.

Sewer Dig and Replace Bids – The bids were received, and the engineer recommends awarding the contract to BP Paterson, Inc. for \$433,275.02. Stephen Kaufman made the motion to award the contract to BP Paterson, Inc., Steve Hill 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Bollards – Sharon has been in touch with the property owners on Main Street that had their home damaged several times by a tractor trailer. They would prefer not to have bollards placed there but would not be opposed to something more attractive like a flowerpot. Sharon will continue to work with them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Session was called for a Personnel Issue at 7:52 p.m. and ended at 8:25 p.m. with no action taken.

A motion to adjourn at 7:52 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.