

**Borough of Alburtis**  
Meeting Minutes  
August 14th, 2024

The August 14th, 2024, 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 via in person:

Ron DeIaco   Steve Hill   Chad Atkins   Ashlynn Rivera   Mehmet Birtek   John Aleszczyk

Council members in attendance via zoom:   Hector Moss

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr- Solicitor   Stephen Nemeth-Manager   Kathleen Palmer- Mayor   East Penn Press

Visitors in attendance: Gary DeRoner, Steve Werley, Mike Gerhart

Visitors by zoom: Tom, Brooke

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Eric Seitz mentioned that he is here on behalf of the West Valley Presbyterian Church Sunday afternoons as a Good Shepherd since about April this year. Next Saturday, August 24th We're hosting a community festival from 12 pm to 4 pm. and that's at the church at 135 Quarry Road Alburtis and we'll have free food, games, family, and friendly activities. You're all welcome to come up.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Kathy Palmer mentioned I just thank the good Lord! Everybody was safe from the fire. Great job by the First responders and the police that day absolutely to get them out.

**POLICE REPORT**

Ashlynn Rivera made a motion to approve the police report, Steve Hill 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**MEETING MINUTES of July 31st, 2024**

Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 31st, 2024, Mehmet Birtek 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**BILLS FOR PAYMENT – August 14th, 2024**

Chad Atkins made a motion to pay the bills of August 14th, 2024, Mehmet Birtek 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Stephen Nemeth mentioned that the supplemental docs are to show where we are this year compared to the last 4 years. Mehmet Birtek mentioned that the project over there I see the mailbox and done, and everything. We still have a couple of items left. But overall, we're not spending any money over. We're still within the ground. Stephen Nemeth confirmed. Mehmet Birtek mentioned, so that gives us enough right place with all the additions and everybody who is still in the green, not in the red, that's what I see but we're doing good. Ron Delaco mentioned I know we often look at the numbers but it's always easier when you have graphs. You can see when you've got at least 3 points, you're talking about a trend, and you can see all the data points that are in here. So, you can see where we're trending, where we trended before and where we're trending.

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Chad Atkins made a motion to accept the engineer's report, Mehmet Birtek 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS**

Steve Hill mentioned in the report stated 384 calls for Macungie Ambulance in February, with 11 being in the borough. No further comment was made on the Ambulance report.

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to accept the ambulance report, Chad Atkins 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Halloween Parade Route and Road Closures- AACC**

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve route and road closures, motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 5-0, with two abstain votes:

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-abstain	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- abstain
-------------	-----------	--------------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-----------------

**Ordinance 588**-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 OF THE ALBURTIS CODIFIED ORDINANCES (RELATING TO TRAFFIC CONTROL) BY EXTENDING THE TERM OF EXISTING HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES AND ESTABLISHING A NEW HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF WALNUT STREET AT THE SIDE WALKWAY/STAIRWAY ENTRANCE TO 133 WEST SECOND STREET.

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 588, motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 7-0:

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**Garbage Contract Discussion-**

Dave Knerr mentioned that I've gotten some inquiries, and they were from Waste Management. So, there is probably seriously wants to do these things. If you want to be remembered from the big packet. I had indicated to them that we could have the opportunity of having toters, which would be, you know. containers that they come along with in their automatic equipment, and they just pick them up. They're thinking of doing it and so to do that. What they're basically saying is. We want to do that, both for them for the garbage, and for the recycling site. And so, since they want to just use equipment, automatic equipment, not have guys running around in the streets picking stuff up. They want to make sure that everything is the only thing that can be in these containers. There can't be side bags and stuff like that. I don't think that's a problem, either, but the only question that came into my mind was. that we want to make sure then that they're that they're enough because we used to allow them what? I guess 6 bags? So, I mean, I'll just convert that to gallons and say, Okay, well, you have to have a minimum of, you know so many gallons of totals that you put out there. I mean, I don't care what size you use, but ultimately you have to make sure that they cover at least as much as we've always had. Unless you want to have more. Now, you know, we specified for the recyclables that they be 60- or 65-gallon containers? because the ones that you have told me are really not accurate. Well, no, they're too small. So, we had a choice of that one or a larger one. We chose the smaller one because we weren't sure how many people would have. So, as far as recycling goes, you know, the 1st question had asked me by the by waste management was well, don't you already have them? And I said, well, we do. But we think they're inadequate. And so, what we wanted to find out is what the price would be if you were to supply them. So, you know we're not necessarily going to choose that option. But you know all. I guess I'm saying all they're saying really is that if it's got to be in the in the you know containers, whichever way you go. I mean, I suppose you know there's nothing that stops them from using the old ones and the new ones I mean. I don't see why we would care about that. I just want to make sure that they're going to provide at least enough of the garbage toters to cover whatever the needs are, whatever people used to be able to put in. What I proposed and they haven't asked for anything other than this is. It's your choice. You can pick it up the way you've always picked it up. If you want to use automated equipment. And you want to supply these totters. That's up to you. If that saves you money. But we're not talking about paying you more because you're going to choose to do it that way. If you want to do it that way. You bid it that way. But how you know how you choose to collect it is up to you. If you think that you can fit. This saves you money, you know. You don't have to have the guys running around and, you know, use automated equipment to do this stuff. Hector Moss mentioned I know in other townships they do have scheduled what's called like a bulk item day. Is that something that we can look into as well? For example, I believe it's either Lower Macungie or Upper Macungie once every other week, or something like that. They have bulk day where that's where, you know, they can put out a little bit more garbage like sofas and things like that. So, I don't know if that's something that we can look into as well. If that means that we're going to be limited with the number of cans the residents could use. Dave Knerr mentioned No, we've always had. What we call rifferaff is those big bulk items. They always pick them up. You're allowed to, I think, have one item per collection. Hector Moss stated okay. so that won't change. It's just a possibility of them using an automated system for the cans. Dave Knerr stated Unless you want to change it. Now, that's like I said. The automated equipment runs through and picks up your normal recyclables and garbage but those big items they have a separate truck that goes through and picks those up.

**2023 DCED Audit Report**

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to accept 2023 DCED Audit Report, motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 7-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

**PA Dept of Environmental Protection Draft NPDES Permit**

Chad Atkins made a motion to accept notice of draft permit, motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ashlynn Rivera. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 7-0:

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
-------------	-----------	----------	-------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

John Aleszczyk mentioned the Arpa funds the balance really should be 0 on 614 of last year. We agreed that we were taking the well, the money out, using it for the pumps, bringing the balance to 0. Later, we decided that. Oh, we're going to use some of it for a police car. I think it was miscommunication. I think the balance still should have. The rest of it should have come out of the Arpa Funds versus using the water funds because I would use it up and we'd be done. Stephen Nemeth stated We did take it out of the water fund, which at the time that's if you're looking at things, that's where it makes more sense. We have the water constantly rebuild itself, but it was voted on, and then it was voted on later to reallocate where we're taking them. Mehmet Birtek mentioned you have until the end of this year to 0 out the Arpa funds right? so in terms of accounting, if you want, you can again rearrange the expense out of water fund into the Arpa fund, and I don't know how your accountant will do this, but there's a way to reimburse it from the other side. That would be good. But that's sort of like green that could be an expense and if we don't have any other purpose to reduce that fund to 0 before the end of the year, when it expires right, we should at least look at this exactly to get rid of.

A motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. was made by Mehmet Birtek, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ashlynn Rivera and a unanimous vote followed.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by:

*Stephen Nemeth*

Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.

APPROVED