

Borough of Alburtis

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018

The January 10, 2018 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

Kathleen Raines

Steve Hill

Stephen Kaufman

Sherryann Oels

Hector Vazquez

Vanessa Taggart

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor

Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager

Kathleen Palmer, Mayor

Visitors in attendance:

Gary DeRoner

Denise Holland

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Palmer asked if JP Mascaro would be fined for missing trash last weekend. Ron DeIaco responded that the intent was to fine them, but the weather was bad on Saturday, the roads were icy and trash stuck to the ground. They were forced to stop collection because the dump closed early. They came back on Sunday morning to finish collecting.

Mayor Palmer informed Council that residents of the Hill at Lockridge are upset with their water readings. They are all over the place and one reading was the same as last quarter. She told them to come to Council. Sharon replied that they should call the office so they can set up an appointment for maintenance to check them out.

Mayor Palmer asked about the status of the Historic District. We have not been contacted regarding this yet.

POLICE REPORT – Ron DeIaco noticed that we are way down on traffic stops and asked if that means things are getting better. The Chief replied that things are not better, but he is down on guys right now and he does not want to give out a \$400 ticket right before Christmas.

Chief Palmer would like to fill his last part time position. He would like to offer employment to Daniel Wiedemann, a retired Allentown policeman with 21 years of experience. Steve Hill made a motion to offer part-time employment to Daniel Wiedemann, contingent on passing the psychological and physical evaluations, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Chief Palmer also informed Council that Civil Service has met and the applications for a full time officer are out. The written test is scheduled for February 10.

MINUTES OF December 27, 2017 – Kathleen Raines made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 27, 2017, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

MINUTES OF January 2, 2018 – Sherryann Oels made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 2, 2018, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – January 10, 2018 – It was questioned why maintenance was not purchasing paper towels and cleaning supplies from Costco. Sharon will remind them to use Costco for supplies. Sharon was also asked about the website provider. Council approved using another provider, but that provider has not responded. Sharon is looking for something affordable. Steve Hill made a motion to pay the Bills of January 10, 2018, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Kathleen Raines made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Vanessa remarked that we did very well last year.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comments – Resident, Denise Holland, was present to discuss a parking issue on Park Lane. She requested parking lines to avoid vehicles from parking all over the place. Cars are often blocking the site distance at the stop sign because the curb is not painted yellow. The curbs do not need to be painted yellow for a ticket to be issued since this is a law. Hector Vazquez believes this is a safety issue and the police should be called. She is concerned that her daughter, who works late at night, has to find parking on another street because of the lack of spots. A neighbor is renting out rooms to his house and this has created more parking issues. Council understands her concerns and Sharon will confirm with the owner of this home and will arrange for a rental inspection, if warranted. The Highway Committee will meet regarding painting lines. We will check with the Maintenance Supervisor on the yellow being painted. Ron DeIaco said Donnie Derr has done a great job for the Borough and will take care of it, if necessary. There are other issues for the Highway Department to meet on also. Steve Hill asked Ms. Holland to be patient because issues like this take a while. She understands this and thanked Council for their time.

Basketball Court – Park and Recreation Chair, Kathleen Raines, informed Council that the Basketball Court needs to be resurfaced and painted. Vanessa Taggart and Denise Holland agreed that the Court is in bad shape and it is heavily used. Kathleen Raines received a quote from Donnie Derr, but this quote is for supplies only. Sharon will ask Donnie to gather several estimates and this will be placed on a future agenda.

Resident Concern – Moty Drive – Sharon received correspondence from a resident on Moty Drive regarding people parking in front of her mailbox. She was asking for yellow lines to be painted to prevent this, however, Sharon received a phone call from the resident this morning and was told not to proceed with the request because she is moving her mailbox to the other side of the street where there is no parking.

Fire Police Request – There is a request for Fire Police for a private function being held at the AACC. Sherryann Oels contacted the group and told them that the Borough does not manage events at the AACC and they are responsible for finding their own traffic control. Ron asked if we could find out if the Fire Police would be paid and we will put this on the next Agenda.

Macungie Ambulance Corps – The monthly report was reviewed. There were 10 calls in the Borough last month.

Water Leak – Our water usage has been up and the maintenance department has been popping manholes and listening near curb boxes to find a leak. They found the issue at a twin home on Franklin Street. The landlord was contacted and this is a private issue.

Hills at Lockridge – LCA is currently TVing the sewer lines in the Hills at Lockridge. If there are defects found, they will need to be fixed prior to us taking over the roads.

Police Contract – Steve Hill asked the status of negotiations. Dave Knerr has not heard anything from the neutral arbitrator and contact with the police attorney has been very limited.

A motion to adjourn at 7:36 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.

Executive Session – An Executive Session was called at 7:36 for a personnel issue and ended at 7:55.