

## **Borough of Alburtis**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**February 12, 2018**

The February 12, 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:**

Howard Savacool

Lacie Savacool

Nan Perna

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Palmer attended the Eagle Banquet for William Papp. It was very nice. While there, one of the Boy Scouts mother asked about any potential projects. She told them about the pavilion and they will attend the next meeting.

The Mayor has asked the Chief and Sharon to post information online about the “Grandparent Scam” that is happening throughout the County right now. Many people are being scammed for money thinking it is for their grandchild. You should never send money and always check with the authorities first.

**POLICE REPORT** – No Report

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 31, 2018** – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 31, 2018, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**BILLS FOR PAYMENT – FEBRUARY 12, 2018** – Steve Hill made a motion to pay the bills of February 12, 2018, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Kathleen Raines made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Stephen Kaufman 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**Public Comments** – None

**Dog Park** – Kathleen Raines and Kyle Bower looked at the Tot Lot together for a possible location of a Dog Park. Kathleen also looked at two other locations. There were issues with all three sites. The Tot Lot has a 20 ft. easement, the site on Church Street floods and there may not be enough room where the cell tower was previously proposed. Per the Zoning Officer, we are not zoned for a dog park and would have to go to the Zoning Hearing Board for a variance. In addition to a fence around the park, trash cans, 2 gates, bags and signs would also have to be purchased. Residents Nan Perna and Howard Savacool have concerns regarding parking along Lockridge Lane and Roberts Street. It is already parked full. The neighbors all around the tot lot own dogs and this would create a problem. It is also very muddy in the Tot Lot. Kathleen Raines is concerned about the Borough's liability and feels that we do not have a space large enough for a dog park. Council was in agreement and this will no longer be considered. It was also noted that there was a Beware of Dog sign in the tot lot. This should not be on our property.

Fire Department – Ron DeIaco mentioned that several members of Council attended the Fire Department Banquet. It was very nice and the video of what the department does was very good. The Fire Department responded to 205 calls last year.

Exchange Zone Sign – Sharon informed Council that the cameras show the one side of the parking lot, so Donnie Derr would like two signs on one pole so that it is more visible. The cost will be about \$140.00. Hector Vazquez made a motion to purchase the signs, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed. Kathleen Raines asked what the liability would be if the cameras were not working and something happened and she was told it would not be an issue.

Basketball Court – Kathleen Raines met with Donnie Derr regarding the basketball court. Donnie said the Maintenance Department could pave the court. The cost of us doing this would be \$3,000 for the materials and between \$800 and \$1,200 for the line striping. The lines would need to be done professionally. Sherryann Oels said that price does not include the cost of removing what is there. Kathleen Raines said this is her budget and she would like it approved tonight. Stephen Kaufman asked if the line striping needs to be professionally done and said it sounds like a good Eagle Scout Project. Kathleen Raines does not want a scout to paint the court. Steve Hill would like to defer a decision until the end of the year to see what money is left. Kathleen replied that extra money was put into the budget for this. Sherryann Oels stated that the maintenance department's time will be consumed on Walnut Street. Stephen Kaufman agreed that Walnut Street should be our biggest priority. Vanessa Taggart lives by the basketball court and said that kids are on the court all year long and it is in bad shape. Steve Hill does not think the court is in that bad of shape. Hector Vazquez agrees that the lines could be done by a scout and he would volunteer to supervise it. Mayor Palmer will check with the high school coaches in regards to the line striping. Stephen Kaufman made a motion to authorize Donnie Derr to black top the basketball court as he sees fit, Hector Vazquez 2<sup>nd</sup>, Steve Hill was opposed and the balance were ayes.

Walnut Street – Stephen Kaufman asked if Council can get a timeline for Walnut Street. Sharon will ask the engineer. Mayor Palmer asked what was decided regarding the curbing at the end of Front Street. The engineer suggests that it is put in. A change order will be made to see if the curbing could be included in the grant.

Maintenance Request – Maintenance is requesting permission to replace the current snow blowers. They are old and not working correctly. The cost of this \$2,295 and they will have a trade in also. They are also requesting a plow for the front of the John Deere tractors. The cost of the plow would be \$1,089.35. The reasoning for this is because we will have more sidewalk along Walnut Street and also along Scenic View once we take over the roads. Council is not in favor of making any purchases at this time since they just approved a backpack blower and a new dryer. Hector would like to see if this could wait until the end of the year. Ron asked Sharon to check with Donnie to see if they need them right now or could they wait until later in the year.

2017 Bridge Inspection – There are some suggestions on the bridge and Sharon will review this with Donnie. There is a picture that shows a hole from runoff and this looks to be a priority.

Service Electric Cable TV – Franchise fees in the amount of \$17,084.06 have been received from SECTV.

RCN – Franchise fees in the amount of \$18,778.79 have been received from RCN.

William B. Butz Memorial Fund – \$2,500 has been received from the Butz Fund for the Church. A thank you will be sent. Sharon will check with them regarding the Bird Sanctuary.

Resolution No. 2018-9 – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-9, a Resolution authorizing the Borough Manager to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Alburdis and the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested PA Small Water and Sewer Grant.

Police Contract – An Executive Session between the arbitrating lawyers is scheduled for February 28.

A motion to adjourn at 7:52 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.