

Borough of Alburtis
Meeting Minutes
January 14th, 2026

The January 14th, 2026, 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 streamed on Zoom.

Attendance:

Council: Ron DeIaco, Steve Hill, Michael Gerhart, Ashlynn Rivera, Chad Atkins, John Aleszczyk, Mehmet Birtek
Associates: Stephen Nemeth- Borough Manager, Hector Moss- Mayor, Dave Knerr-Solicitor, East Penn Press (zoom)
Visitors: Kathy Palmer, Gary DeRoner, Victor Lauer, Linda Lauer, Geoff Whitecomb, Nick(zoom), Tom(zoom), Mary N(zoom)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ron DeIaco began by reading the First Amendment of the Constitution. Geoff Whitecomb mentioned that he was here to introduce himself as a candidate for the 187th Pennsylvania congressional seat. Geoff asked if there was anything that he would like him to attempt to focus on if elected. John Aleszczyk mentioned that it would be great if he could push for speed radar for municipal police departments. Dave Knerr mentioned that another one to watch is the state laws on cellphone policies in school districts. Geoff Whitecomb mentioned that one of his main focuses will be to seek more adequate funding for EMS services. No further public comment was made

Executive Session for potential legal-

At 7:07pm- Ron DeIaco mentioned that we would be going into a brief executive session to discuss a potential legal item. At 7:23pm- Council returned from executive session to continue the council meeting.

MEETING MINUTES of December 29th, 2025:

Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 29th, 2025, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

MEETING MINUTES of January 5th, 2026:

Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 5th, 2026, Mike Gerhart 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Amend agenda:

John Aleszczyk mentioned that he believes we should make an official motion to purchase the police vehicle. Dave Knerr confirmed that we should have a motion to amend the agenda to purchase the police vehicle. Steve Hill made the motion to amend the agenda to add the purchase of a police vehicle. Motion was 2nd by Chad Atkins, and a unanimous vote followed. Chad Atkins made a motion to purchase the police vehicle, Mehmet Birtek 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to pay the bills, Mike Gerhart 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Reports:

Mayor's REPORT:

Hector mentioned that he wanted to officially welcome everyone to the meeting. Also wanted to welcome newly sworn officer April Knerr to the borough. Stated that he is currently working with the Chief on a few items, and wanted to know the status of the PCs, Steve mentioned that the purchase needs to be approved by council. Hector also asked for an update on the speed radar sign, Steve mentioned that it was last voted down by council. so would need to be placed back on the agenda. Hector mentioned that he was working with the borough manager to see if we can do something to celebrate the America 250th. Hector also mentioned that he would like to start a mayor's imitative program, like an incentive program to get residents to participate more in the community. Kathy asked if this was a program based out of the AACC or from the borough, Hector mentioned it would be to get all businesses and residents to participate, he noted that he seen the Alburtis elementary school was cancelling its bingo night because of not getting enough volunteers, stated that it was sad

and this program would go to support that. Gary DeRoner mentioned about what if the person's health or schedule prevents them from volunteering, but they have volunteered for many years.

POLICE REPORT:

No comments were made. Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the December Police Report, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Mehmet Birtek made a motion to accept the December Treasurer's report, Steve Hill 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Michael Gerhart made a motion to accept the December Engineer's report, Chad Atkins 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS

Ron DeIaco mentioned in the report stated 515 calls for Macungie Ambulance in December, with 14 being in the borough. Michael Gerhart made a motion to accept the September Ambulance report, Chad Atkins 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Lower Macungie Fire Department 2025 statistical review report:

No, comments were made. Steve Nemeth mentioned review if you have commented the fire chief is hoping to be at the next meeting. No motion was needed.

New Business:

Ron DeIaco mentioned that he had to leave for an appointment and was handing meeting over to Steve Hill to run the rest of the meeting.

Maintenance- request to purchase mower

Steve Nemeth mentioned this is a request to purchase a new mower, would like to go with the quote from Deer Country Farm and Lawn. John Aleszczyk mentioned that he believes this will be over budget already in that line item, Steve mentioned that he split it up in many of the departments not just water, sewer, and highway when he budgeted it out. Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve the purchase of a John Deere X580 Select Series Tractor with 54in Mower Deck from Deer Country Farm and Lawn. Ashlynn Rivera 2nd the motion, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0.

Police- request to purchase AED

Steve Nemeth mentioned this is to make sure that we have an AED in all three marked vehicles, currently the unmarked did not have one so this just prompts us to make sure all three are actively ready for any situation. Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve the purchase of an AED. Ashlynn Rivera 2nd the motion, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0.

Speeding concerns

Michael Gerhart mentioned that he wanted this on the agenda to discuss different ways for traffic calming solutions. Recommended the possibility of speed cushions which are like speed humps but are easier on emergency vehicles and public works vehicles. Steve Hill recommended that the highway committee look at the issue and report back.

Parking, ordinances pertaining to abandoned, unregistered and expired inspection for vehicles

Tabled for further review and research.

FEMA NIMS Courses

Steve Hill mentioned that these are great courses and help the borough get FEMA funding in times of need. Stephen Nemeth confirmed.

Resources for Elected Municipal Officials

Stephen Nemeth stated this is mostly informational, said it's a listing of all the helpful resources and organizations that are out there for elected and appointed officials.

Adjournment

Steve Nemeth mentioned that he wanted to send his condolences to the family of Jim Van Wert, who was a 45-year member of the Lower Macungie Fire Department, spent 25 years as an Assistant Chief based out of Wescosville station but all the stations work to cover the area.

A motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. was made by Michael Gerhart, 2nd by Mehmet Birtek and a unanimous vote followed.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by:

Stephen Nemeth

Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.