

APPROVED

Borough of Alburdis
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2024

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The April 24th, 2024, meeting of Borough Council was called to order by Council Vice President Steve Hill at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, 260 Franklin Street, Alburdis, PA. The meeting was also live streamed on Zoom.

Council members in attendance:

Steve Hill

Hector Moss

Chad Atkins

Mehmet Birtek

Ashlynn Rivera

John Aleszczyk

Associates of Alburdis in attendance:

Dave Knerr- Solicitor, Stephen Nemeth-Borough Manager, Kathleen Palmer- Mayor, Tony Alsleben- Police Chief, Mike Preston- engineer, East Penn Press

Visitors in attendance: Gary DeRoner, Mike Gerhart, Howie Savacool, Rose Nonnemacher, Ray Ricketts, Nan Perna, Denny Barthol, Pat Kollar, Ray Ricketts, Marisa Kozak

Visitors on Zoom: Tom, Brooke, Samsung sm t22.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Terry Herring- asked if the dirt ditches that are being put in the project are ADA required. Steve Hill mentioned yes, we got a grant to do the street pitch from the road going up to the driveway. It must be a certain pitch and in order to get that pitch, that way they are putting the grass strip in. Terry Herring mentioned I can't put stones in it, because kids will just kick it all over and throw it at cars. The only thing that grows in it is dandelions and dirt and that's it. they sync the ones in Barry Acres. No one ever says anything about it, but if someone goes by there with a wheelchair which I've never seen but someone goes by there with a wheelchair, and the wheel goes into that hole. They're gone. They're down. Those things are terrible, their safety hazards, those ditches because you can't take care of it. The grass is too small to take care of. Mike Preston mentioned that I think that you know for continuity between the edge of the project at each second through Lock Ridge Lane to Church Street. You know our intent was to kind of provide some type of uniform, you know. Appearance through there, for Ada reasons first and foremost, secondly, just so that as you look down the down the street, that everything you know meshes, and you know, I think, that the from the Boroughs standpoint, you know, they're investing a significant amount of money into this project. Terry Herring mentioned no one is going to take care of those. No one, no one didn't bury acres. There's one person with a 3-foot patch that's very nicely taken care of. Every single one is nothing but weeds and dirt, and they're all sunken. They're terrible. That's what's going to happen along our street. No one's going to take care of those. Because they don't take care. Nothing's enforced, either. The neighbor across the streets had his grass for 18 inches at many times.

Pat Kollar asked if there was a latest on the yard waste facility. Steve Hill mentioned, there were 2 votes taken into 2 previous 2 out of 3 previous meetings, I think both time being shot down. It was voting down 4 to 3. Stephen Nemeth mentioned that he spoke to Upper Milford that they plan to have it on their May agenda for discussion. Upper Macungie requested to wait til later in the summer after they work out the kinks with North Whitehall Township. Rose Nonnemacher mentioned that I just make a statement from what I the way I live on Front Street, and we have apple trees in the back. There's shrubbery all around, and we have a pine tree, so it's not just grass clippings which yes, you can mulch them in, but sometimes you can't. The first mow of the season right now we're cleaning stuff up. And to me the people that you're hurting by not having the yard waste. Are the people who are making an effort to keep their properties looking good? You talk about looking good properties. But here's something where I have one neighbor who doesn't do anything. Steve Hill mentioned somebody who voted different way, or somebody has to come up with a different proposal, such as so all is not mentioned yet. I mean, other municipalities are at least agreeing to listen to. But the idea of using the one down there is completely gone. We can't strong arm somebody to change their vote. Kathy Palmer mentioned well, number one, I just want everybody to breathe. Let us have the opportunity to get an answer from the other

municipalities. That's number one number 2. Let's give us a chance to figure something out. I don't know if we're going to financially do anything until the project is complete down here.

Howie Savacool mentioned So we were told before by you and everything will go back to the way it was at the beginning, or my driveway would be 8 inches. But I've also be 8 inches for great the way it was beginning not being done. My driveway was where they cut it. They cracked further back, then saw cut. I'm still waiting to see what they're going to do with it. This is framed out from what I saw today, corrected they. Forward to some side wallboard sidewalk part is 5 inches deep. But oh, yeah, it's not 8 inches deep, some spots are 6 inches. Most of its 5 inches deep. My neighbors are like 7 inches deep at day poured. I measure. I took pictures. Mike Preston mentioned understood and I told you earlier was that if you got an 8-inch pad it would be replaced in kind. I'm going to honor that. I have photos from my field inspector that show a minimum of an 8-inch form to be poured. and I'm happy to share that with you. I don't have the ability to do it right now, but I'd be happy to share that with you, and so we will honor that 8-inch depth. Howie Savacool asked What are you going to do about the crack that happened further back on where they cut it. Mike Preston mentioned that I think that's up for discussion with us and the borough. I'm not certain that that crack was the fault of the saw cut, and so we can certainly discuss that. You know. As you know, the borough is on a very tight budget. As far as the project goes and if that's the case, I did ask the contractor for any videos they were supposed to go through and video, the area before they started work so that we could confirm that, and I haven't heard back.

Nan Perna wanted to thank Steve Nemeth for getting her a steel plate to access her driveway.

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Mayor Report.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 10th, 2024– Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 10th, 2024, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd the motion, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0.

Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay	Birtek- yay
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BILLS FOR PAYMENT – April 24th, 2024 –Ashlynn Rivera made a motion to pay the bills of April 24th, 2024, Mehmet Birtek 2nd the motion, and John Aleszczyk opposed due to bill 24294, motion passes with a 5-1 vote.

Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-nay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay	Birtek- yay
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FISCAL CONSULTANT'S REPORT –Chad Atkins made a motion to approve the Fiscal Consultant's Report of March 27th, 2024, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd the motion, and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 6-0.

Hill- yay	Moss- yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Rivera- yay	Birtek- yay
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MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS –Steve Hill mentioned report stated 362 calls for Macungie Ambulance in March, with 10 being in the borough. No further comment was made on the Ambulance report.

Resolution No. 2024-10 – A RESOLUTION APPOINTING RAY RICKETTS TO THE ALBURTIS PLANNING COMMISION-Mehmet Birtek made a motion to approve Resolution No 2024-10, motion was 2nd by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

Hill- yay	Moss- yay	Aleszczyk -yay	Atkins-yay	Rivera- yay	Birtek- yay
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Mailbox Ordinance: Dave Knerr mentioned that this is just a discussion today. Dave Knerr mentioned amending Chapter 59 of the Alburtis codified ordinances relating to the right of way management to establish regulations

for the installation and maintenance of mailboxes within the public right of way. including requirements for obtaining permits, standards for mounting phones and containers. Maintenance obligations and duties and property owners provide mailboxes for tenants requiring existing installations to be brought into compliance by December first, 2024, and establishing penalties for violation. This is covering the whole general issue of mailboxes. So that's why we have a bigger discussion within the scope of this thing. There's statement of what requirements are. And I was talking with Steve, and he's found a type of mailbox that would fit. That would be appropriate in this area in that little grass area. Stephen Nemeth asked if we could make a motion to select the appropriate mailboxes for the current development that is under construction so that the correct ones can be placed back in and no holdup to the project happens. Dave Knerr mentioned that the person who wants to get a mailbox permit has to use the appropriate form that the manager gives. Manager looks it over it and either allows it or denies it. Then put whatever conditions on they find are necessary. If you don't like that, you can come to the council and ask counsel to review what the pro manager's decision was. If everything is okay, the Borough Manager issues a permit. Now, this permit does not require that you have to get it renewed every so often or whatever, but it does require it to be revoked at some point. If this, if the conditions up have changed, for example, if the if new regulations come along, or if something is up that hasn't been properly maintained, or if something's in place that does not meet the standards and at any point that permit can be revoked.

Hector Moss made a motion to approve the vertical style mailboxes for the bicentennial village location, motion was 2nd by Ashlynn Rivera. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

Hill- yay	Moss- yay	Aleszczyk -yay	Atkins-yay	Rivera- yay	Birtek- yay
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Maple court tree follow-up and quotes-.

Hector Moss made a motion to approve the quote from Craico Tree Services for \$850.00, motion was 2nd by Chad Atkins. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes on a vote of 6-0:

Hill- yay	Moss- yay	Aleszczyk -yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Rivera- yay	Birtek- yay
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Playground Slide Replacement – Steve Hill requested that we table this for the time being since this is the second time it was vandalized recently, doesn't see why we should repair it at the moment just for it to get vandalized again. Rest of council agreed.

LMFD Centennial Book Stephen Nemeth mentioned that Lower Macungie Fire Department is looking for businesses sponsor their centennial book.

Macungie Ambulance touch a truck event May 18th, 2024. Flyer was handed out, Steve Hill mentioned the touch a truck event will take place at Lockridge Park on May 18th from 11am to 1pm. No further comment was made.

Steve Hill mentioned that we will be going into an executive session for personnel, he then asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. was made by Hector Moss, 2nd by Chad Atkins and a unanimous vote followed.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by:

Stephen Nemeth

Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.

