

Borough of Alburtis

Meeting Minutes
December 26, 2018

The December 26, 2018 meeting of Borough Council was called to order by Council President Ron Delaco at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, 260 Franklin Street, Alburtis, PA.

Council members in attendance:

Steve Hill	Sherryann Oels	Stephen Kaufman
Kathleen Raines	Ron Delaco	Vanessa Taggart

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager
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Visitors in attendance: Gary DeRoner

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Report

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2018 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 12, 2018, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT – DECEMBER 26, 2018 – Kathleen Raines made a motion to pay the bills of December 26, 2018, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

FISCAL CONSULTANT'S REPORT – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to accept the Fiscal Consultant's Report, Sherryann Oels 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Comments – Resident, Gary DeRoner, was present and asked if the Registration Forms we require are for Earned Income Tax. He was told they were not and Berkheimer collects our Earned Income Tax. Mr. DeRoner added that another municipality was requiring them from landlords so that all renters paid their taxes to that municipality. Dave Knerr informed him that we have been requiring that for many years now.

2019 Budget – The Budget has been advertised and reflects no increases of any kind. Kathleen Raines made a motion to adopt the 2019 Budget, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Maintenance Department Letter of Resignation – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to accept a maintenance employee's letter of resignation, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. A temp can be hired at \$15 per hour in the interim at Donnie Derr's and Sharon's discretion. Sherryann Oels made a motion to advertise the position, Kathleen Raines 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Ordinance No. 552 – Steve Hill made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 552, an Ordinance establishing the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year 2019 at 3.83 mills (3.75 for general Borough purposes and 0.08 mills for fire purposes). Which is the same as the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2018; confirming a 2% discount on Real Estate Taxes paid within two months of the date of the tax notice and a 10% penalty for failure to pay such taxes within four months after the date of the tax notice; confirming with no change in rates for 2019 the Per Capita Tax, Earned Income Tax, Local Services Tax, Realty Transfer Tax, Water Rentals, and Fees, Sanitary Sewer Rentals and Fees, and the fees for collecting municipal waste and recyclable materials. The motion was 2nd by Vanessa Taggart and a unanimous vote followed.

Ordinance No. 553 – Compensation – Stephen Kaufman made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 553, an Ordinance revising the compensation or compensation ranges for certain positions of employment or appointment by the Borough, effective January 1, 2019, including certain administration employees, maintenance employees, and professionals; and confirming the existing fidelity bond requirements for certain Borough employees. The motion was 2nd by Vanessa Taggart and a unanimous vote followed.

Steve Hill made a motion to establish the hourly pay rates for the Maintenance Department as follows: Donnie Derr \$29.93, Russell Kressley \$26.38, Gary Hartman \$22.70. The motion was 2nd by Stephen Kaufman and a unanimous vote followed.

Resolution No. 2018-15 – Independent Auditor – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-15, a Resolution appointing France, Anderson & Basile, P.C. as Independent Auditor for Fiscal Year 2019. The motion was 2nd by Kathleen Raines and a unanimous vote followed.

Resolution No. 2018-16 – Police Pension Plan – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-16, a Resolution reducing contributions by Police Officers to the Borough of Alburtis Police Pension Plan for the Year 2019 to four percent (4%) of compensation. The motion was 2nd by Steve Hill and a unanimous vote followed.

Development Agreement for 315 East Stone Alley – Steve Hill made a motion to accept and sign the Development Agreement for the apartment building at 315 E. Stone Alley, Vanessa Taggart 2nd, Sherryann Oels abstained and the balance were ayes.

National Road Utility Supply, Inc. – Badger Meter will be changing the meter readers shortly and a cloud based system is now available. The quote is for \$24,124.40 and it includes 48 new meters. This is a costars company. The change is not required right now, but will be made mandatory eventually. Vanessa Taggart made a motion to purchase the new system, Stephen Kaufman 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

East Penn School District Taxes – The School District sent late notices out to all of the installment payers in the Borough the day after the due date. This created an issue for the Borough Tax Collector and the office. Some people were waiting at the Tax Collector's home and threatened her with their lawyer. Ron wants the Borough to know that the Tax Collector did not do anything incorrect. The School District sends all the bills and notices and have since sent an email stating that the late notices should not have been sent out. Resident, Gary DeRoner, stated he was upset because he didn't know what happened to his check. The checks were all deposited properly. Steve Hill asked that people be patient and not overreact when they have a question.

DEP Cornerstone Realty – A letter from DEP stated that they are in receipt of the final report regarding the fuel spill.

Personnel – Vanessa Taggart informed Council that they had a Personnel Meeting last week and will go over the details of it at the next Council Meeting.

Non-Uniformed Pension Plan – Due to resignation of the maintenance employee and his not being vested, there will be a forfeiture of these monies. He would like to prepare the amount due for the pension contribution over the weekend and have a check prepared from the office on Monday for deposit. Steve Hill made a motion to authorize the staff to write a check on Monday based on Dave Knerr's calculations, Vanessa Taggart 2nd and a unanimous vote followed.

Snow Removal – Sharon has not been able to find a company to help with sidewalks this year. Most contractors have the schedules booked already. She will continue to search.

A motion to adjourn at 7:40 was made by Vanessa Taggart, 2nd by Kathleen Raines and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.