

## **Borough of Alburtis**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**May 30, 2018**

The May 30, 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

Hector Vazquez

Steve Hill

Stephen Kaufman

Sherryann Oels

Vanessa Taggart

#### **Associates of Alburtis in attendance:**

Jeffrey Ott, Engineer

Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager

#### **Visitors in attendance:** Gary DeRoner

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – The Mayor was not present, but asked for permission to attend the upcoming Mayor's Conference. Stephen Kaufman made a motion for the Mayor to attend the Mayor's Conference, Hector Vazquez 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2018** – Kathleen Raines made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 9, 2018, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**BILLS FOR PAYMENT – MAY 30, 2018** – Steve Hill made a motion to pay the bills of May 30, 2018, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

**FISCAL CONSULTANT'S REPORT** – Steve Hill made a motion to accept the Fiscal Consultant's Report, Stephen Kaufman 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**Public Comments** – None

**MS4 Presentation** – Borough Engineer, Jeffrey Ott, was in attendance for the required annual MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer) presentation. The record will show that no one in the audience came specifically for the presentation. The MS4 Permit renews every 5 years and is set to renew again this summer. Based on calculations set forth by DEP, we are required to remove 10% of pollutants over the next five years. After review, there are two options. The first would be stream bank restoration along the Swabia. This would account for 405 linear feet, but 441 linear feet is required. The second option, and the one the engineer is recommending is a Best Management Practice (BMP) vegetative open channel. There is already a channel behind Maple Court. If this is cleaned up, it would give much more of a pollutant load than required. A rough estimate over a five year period would be \$20,000-\$40,000. Boyertown Borough will be spending \$200,000 and Macungie Borough will be \$190,000-\$290,000. Mr. Ott mentioned other municipalities that are going to be spending much more. They will look for grants to help with the cost. This could also be done as a community event. A Draft Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) has been prepared and needs to be advertised for public review. The review will last 30 days and the final version will be presented at the July 25, 2018 Borough Council Meeting and approval to submit to DEP should happen at that time. Hector Vazquez made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the Draft Plan, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Sanitary Sewer Rehab Project – The sidewalk work has begun on Walnut Street. The contractor plans to have 100 ft. done per day. When the field view was done with the contractor, it was discovered that another inlet would be necessary. The Public Works Department will take care of the installation of this. LCA TV'd Walnut Street and the videos show seven inlets that need to be raised and a gusher that needs to be repaired. We currently have a grant for sewer repair in the amount of \$300,000 and Mr. Ott would like to use these monies for the repairs prior to paving the road so the work should be put out to bid sooner than later. Steve Hill made a motion to allow the Borough Manager to proceed advertising for bids, Hector Vazquez 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Mailbox Ordinance – Ron DeIaco received an email from resident Allen Oswald regarding the mailboxes on Franklin Street. Plows often come through and hit the mailboxes which is why many are damaged. Ron previously was in favor of making all of the mail boxes permanent, but has since changed his mind. Steve Hill questioned as to whether or not we want to be the mailbox police and if so, we should be prepared to spend many hours in court. Stephen Kaufman agreed and noted that we will have endless discrepancies. Ron asked if we could just eliminate five gallon buckets. Hector understands the concerns about regulations, but is concerned about ADA requirements and although the problem is in one area at the moment, over time more mailboxes will get damaged and worn and will end up in buckets and planters. He would like to set the standard now. Kathleen Raines' concern is people will damage the sidewalks by making the boxes permanent and Sherryann Oels wants to know who would be responsible for policing them. Per Vanessa Taggart, the issue really began when the Post Office started billing residents for the P.O. Boxes. The ideal solution would be to have mail delivered to each home, but since we are considered rural, the Post Office will not do foot delivery. Hector has been talking to the post master in Macungie about delivery and was referred to the Alburtis Post Master. This should continue to be looked into. Ron suggested that we send a letter to residents. The office is currently preparing the registration letters and Sharon will have something added to the envelopes regarding mailboxes.

Bird Sanctuary Quit Claim Deed – The executed deeds have been received from the Trust. Vanessa made a motion to sign and complete the necessary steps to have ownership of the Bird Sanctuary transferred to the Borough, Kathleen Raines 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Borough of Macungie Fire Police Request – Hector Vazquez made a motion to allow the Alburtis Fire Police to assist with the car shows in Macungie, Vanessa Taggart 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Upper Macungie Township Fire Police Request – Vanessa Taggart made a motion to allow the Alburtis Fire Police to assist with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks, Hector Vazquez 2<sup>nd</sup> and a unanimous vote followed.

Basketball Court Paint – Kathleen Raines requested that \$750 be put aside to paint the basketball court when it is repaved. Stephen Kaufman thought this was to be a scout project, but Kathleen wants it done professionally so the lines are painted straight. Kathleen made a motion to allocate \$750 towards painting the basketball court. Steve Hill amended the motion to allocate money not to exceed \$750 towards painting the basketball court, Hector Vazquez 2<sup>nd</sup>, Stephen Kaufman was opposed and the balance were ayes.

Lockridge Historical Church – Concrete Work – The insurance company has questioned the status of the sidewalk work that needs to be done at the Church. This is not something the Maintenance Department wants to tackle. Sharon will obtain a quote from the person who previously did the concrete work on the Church.

Macungie Ambulance Corps – The monthly report was reviewed. The Ambulance Corps responded to nine calls in the Borough in April.

J.P. Mascaro - Correspondence – Correspondence was received in regards to the company dedicating the Francesco A. Mascaro Memorial Field and Park in Lower Providence Township.

Ridgeview – Tractor Trailers – A request has been made to have “No Tractor Trailer” signs posted on Ridgeview Drive. Recently, a truck tried to make its way through the development. Council will not act at this time, there are signs prior to the development regarding this.

Fire Company Parking – Sherryann Oels asked if signs could be placed near the Borough’s tree for no parking. Cars are parking along here when there is music at the park and you are unable to see to make a turn. If this is in the sight distance, people should not park there and the police should be notified.

128 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street – Hector Vazquez is concerned about the condition of the property. The porch looks like it is going to fall. Sharon had the Maintenance Department tape off the property and contacted the bank and Barry Isett’s office. Hector asked if it was possible for the Borough to seize the property and was told that the solicitor will need to be consulted on that.

Rolling Stop Sign Cost – Sharon received a quote of \$25.60 for a sign. This will be placed on the next agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Session was called at 8:21 for a Personnel Matter and ended at 8:36.

A motion to adjourn at 8:21 was made by Kathleen Raines, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Hill and a unanimous vote followed. Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by Sharon Trexler, Borough Manager.