

Borough of Alburtis

Meeting Minutes

July 8th, 2026

The July 8th, 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, John Aleszczyk

Associates: Hector Moss- Mayor, Stephen Nemeth- Borough Manager, Dave Knerr-Solicitor, Tony Alsleben- Police Chief (zoom), East Penn Press (zoom)

Visitors: Gary DeRoner, Ray Rickets, Carl Rottenberger, Linda Lauer, Sean Sanderson

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kathy Palmer commented, thank you to the Police Department and Maintenance for what they did during the storm. But to know that Donnie had to climb a ten-foot ladder to get the garage door open to get the backhoe out because there is no generator is upsetting. The crew deserves to have functional equipment.

MEETING MINUTES of June 24th, 2026:

Steve Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of June 24th, 2026. Ashlynn Rivera seconded the motion, and it passed, 6-0.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

Ashlynn Rivera made a motion to pay the bills, and Michael Gerhart seconded the motion and approved unanimously, 6-0.

Reports:

Mayor's REPORT:

Hector Moss commented on the recent storm event, recognizing the significant behind-the-scenes efforts of Borough staff and emergency responders, whose work often goes unnoticed. He noted that the storm developed and passed quickly, creating challenges for the community and response personnel.

Hector Moss commended residents for coming together during the emergency, observing neighbors helping one another by sharing generators, extension cords, water, and assisting with tree and debris removal. He expressed appreciation for the community's willingness to support one another and was grateful that, despite the severity of the storm, everyone remained safe and conditions were not worse.

Hector also acknowledged that power restoration was challenging for some residents, with a few outages lasting until approximately 2:00 a.m., and noted that recovery efforts are still a work in progress.

POLICE REPORT:

Ashlynn Rivera made a motion to accept the June Police Report. Mike Gerhart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously, 6-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Ashlynn Rivera made a motion to accept the June Manager's Report, and Mike Gerhart seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

MACUNGIE AMBULANCE CORPS

Ron DeIaco mentioned in the report 394 calls for Macungie Ambulance in June, with 8 being in the borough. Steve Hill made a motion to accept the June Ambulance report, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. The motion passed 6-0.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Ashlynn Rivera made a motion to accept the June Treasurer's Report, and Steve Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Michael Gerhart made a motion to accept the June Engineer's report, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd, and a unanimous vote followed. The motion passed 6-0.

New Business:

Request to outsource LST and Per Capita to Berkheimer:

- (a) Resolution 2026-9- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BERKHEIMER WHEREUNDER BERKHEIMER IS RETAINED AS THE EXCLUSIVE TAX OFFICER FOR THE COLLECTION, ADMINISTRATION, RECEIPT AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE RESPECTIVE TAX ENACTMENT OF THE GOVERNING BOARD LEVYING AND ASSESSING THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX FOR THE TERM HEREIN DEFINED, TOGETHER WITH SUCH EXTENSIONS AS MAY BE AGREED UPON, SAID TAX ENACTMENT HAVING BEEN ADOPTED UNDER AND PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT (ACT 511, P.L. 1257); AND APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PREPARED BY BERKHEIMER TO ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX.
- (b) Resolution 2026-10- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD TO APPOINT A LIAISON BETWEEN IT AND BERKHEIMER, THE DULY APPOINTED COLLECTOR OF LOCAL TAXES FOR THE DISTRICT, FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF SHARING CONFIDENTIAL TAX INFORMATION WITH THE DISTRICT FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES.
- (c) Resolution 2026-11- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING ITS LOCAL TAX COLLECTOR, BERKHEIMER, TO IMPOSE AND RETAIN COSTS OF COLLECTION ON DELINQUENT TAXES.
- (d) Resolution 2026-12- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING and directing the proper officers of the governing board to appoint Berkheimer as its tax hearing officer under and pursuant to the local taxpayer's bill of rights for the express purpose of adjudicating appeals thereunder.
- (e) Resolution 2026-13 A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BERKHEIMER WHEREUNDER BERKHEIMER IS RETAINED AS THE EXCLUSIVE TAX OFFICER FOR THE COLLECTION, ADMINISTRATION, RECEIPT AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE RESPECTIVE TAX ENACTMENT OF THE GOVERNING BOARD LEVYING AND ASSESSING THE PER CAPITA TAX FOR THE TERM HEREIN DEFINED, TOGETHER WITH SUCH EXTENSIONS AS MAY BE AGREED UPON, SAID TAX ENACTMENT HAVING BEEN ADOPTED UNDER AND PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT (ACT 511, P.L. 1257); AND APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PREPARED BY BERKHEIMER TO ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE THE PER CAPITA TAX.
- (f) Resolution 2026-14- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD TO APPOINT A LIAISON BETWEEN IT AND BERKHEIMER, THE DULY APPOINTED DELINQUENT COLLECTOR OF PER CAPITA FOR THE DISTRICT, FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF SHARING CONFIDENTIAL TAX INFORMATION WITH THE DISTRICT FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES.
- (g) Resolution 2026-15- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING ITS LOCAL TAX COLLECTOR, BERKHEIMER, TO IMPOSE AND RETAIN COSTS OF COLLECTION ON DELINQUENT TAXES.
- (h) Resolution 2026-16- A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF ALBURTIS BOROUGH, LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD TO APPOINT BERKHEIMER AS ITS TAX HEARING OFFICER UNDER AND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL TAXPAYERS BILL OF RIGHTS FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF ADJUDICATING APPEALS THEREUNDER.

Sean Sanderson from Berkheimer was on hand to present about the positives/ benefits of outsourcing LST and per capita. Tabled to the July 28th meeting due to missing a document from Berkheimer, related to fees.

Request to purchase generator/ options for Maintenance shop:

Currently, the maintenance shop does not have a generator, and when the power is out. The maintenance crew must climb the backhoe to open the garage doors. We are requesting to purchase a generator for the maintenance shop so that when the power goes out, they can work in the maintenance shop and access vehicles. It was mentioned to see about getting additional quotes and see what needs to be placed on the generator. Also, it was mentioned to look at getting a possible smaller one. That could be utilized if another generator is not working properly. Tabled until the next meeting.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. was made by Mehmet Birtek, 2nd by Michael Gerhart, and a unanimous vote followed.

Upon adjournment, the Council entered into an executive session for potential legal matters.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by:



Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.