

Borough of Alburtis
Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2023

The November 8, 2023, 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	Steve Hill	Chad Atkins	Hector Moss
John Aleszczyk	Ashlynn Rivera	Mehmet Birtok	

Associates of Alburtis in attendance:

Dave Knerr, Solicitor	Kathleen Palmer, Mayor	Stephen Nemeth, Manager
Tony Alsleben, Police Chief		

Visitors in attendance: Gary DeRoner Steve Werley Mike Donschietz

Visitors by zoom: Tom Brooke

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mike Donschietz of 29 W School Street- has a very bad blind spot driveway. Is requesting to have the fire company trim back the trees a little bit more and possibly add a hidden driveway sign to the location of his driveway. John Aleszczyk asked Steve Nemeth to reach out to the fire department to trim back the trees. Steve Nemeth confirmed the request. Ron asked Chief Alsleben if they can move the speed timing sign to that location also, Chief Alsleben mentioned sign will be moved there tomorrow. Mehmet Birtok mentioned that when at the election residents from maple court were mentioning a bug problem that they were having. Steve Hill mentioned that it sounds like the Box Elder bug, they normally go away when it gets cold.

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Mayor Report.

POLICE REPORT- Chief Alsleben mentioned the report has been distributed. John Aleszczyk asked what is the latest on the Police cars and has noticed that the truck stops are down from last month, is that a factor of just having one police car. Chief Alsleben mentioned yes having one car has had an impact on truck stops. As for the status of the police cars. 902 is expected to be finished by November 15th. The new car has finished getting painted, and is just getting stripped, no new date on that one yet. 903 we removed all of the equipment and are currently having the decals removed before we place them out for bid.

Kathy Palmer mentioned that we did have another tractor trailer and train incident on west pen nave. Chief Alsleben mentioned ironically this truck was stopped and cited prior to going this route and getting stuck. Chad Atkins asked was he trying to make the turn, Chief Alsleben mentioned yes. Hector Moss asked if anyone has reached out to Longswamp township about additional signs, Stephen Nemeth mentioned that he has spoken to Longswamp about adding signs at state street and mountain road and on Longswamp road. The only hold up is that they need approval from Penn Dot since these are state roads.

Norfolk Southern Railways Safety First Grant Program – Chief Alsleben mentioned that this is a two-part grant, the first part would pay for the paints and signage at the crossings. Since we are getting into the winter months it would be best to maintain some of these features. The second part would assist in the enforcement portion of the tracks. John Aleszczyk asked in order to do truck inspections you need somebody certified, correct. Chief Alsleben agreed. Ron Asked so all you need is our approval to apply for the grant. Chief Alsleben confirmed.

Hector Moss made motion for the Alburtis Police Department to submit for the Norfolk Southern Railways Safety First Grant Program, Mehmet Birtok 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk-yay	Atkins- yay	Birtok- yay	Rivera- yay
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MEETING MINUTES OF October 25th, 2023 – Steve Hill made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 25th, 2023, Mehmet Birttek 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birttek- yay	Rivera- yay
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BILLS FOR PAYMENT – November 8th, 2023 – Chad Atkins made a motion to pay the bills of On November 8th, 2023, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birttek- yay	Rivera- yay
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TREASURER’S REPORT – John Aleszczyk asked if everyone looks through this; two things to note this year through October we have lost 200 thousand dollars, general funds are down, cash flow we have lost almost 500 thousand, that we have lost, not getting back, 5 years in a row we have lost money. Budget is set to lose money, think we left it at 154 thousand, there are things we have to deal with it and doesn’t want to raise taxes but give a reason not. Steve Hill mentioned that he is concerned also, hasn’t seen the general this low in a long time. Mehmet Birttek mentioned moving forward looking at what has been done, what mistakes have been made that we can learn from. John Aleszczyk mentioned that he has been mentioning the problems for years now, we should watch the projects and we all should be accountable. People claim they want to be focused all on Alburtis everything; this is it; it reflects. John mentioned that we shouldn’t have a budget meeting unless we want to discuss raising taxes, otherwise what else are you going to cut. You have 6 people working in the office and cutting any of them won’t save you the 150 thousand. Chad Atkins made a motion to accept the treasurers report, Ashlynn Rivera 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birttek- yay	Rivera- yay
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ENGINEER’S REPORT – Ron Delaco asked if Mike Preston is here to do a presentation, Stephen Nemeth mentioned that he had Mike attend to answer any questions that may arise from the engineer’s report and the Pay request to Grace, this way responses to questions don’t have to wait. John Aleszczyk asked from what he understands about Chestnut St all of those drains on the hill. What he is hearing now is that we may have missed the liquid fuels deadline for covering this. Stephen Nemeth mentioned that when he had spoken to Sharon about this project she could not recall this project being discussed with liquid fuels. Mike said he had discussions with the liquid fuels rep and received the quotes needed for the project. He will send everything to Stephen so that he has it. John Aleszczyk also asked for an update on the 440 driveways, Mike mentioned that the driveway will be redone by a different contractor, at the cost to the firm. Linde is to fix the inlet issues to complete the punch list. John Aleszczyk asked if the owner is aware of this, Stephen Nemeth mentioned that we met at the property with the owner to discuss how we can fix it. Hector Moss asked where we stand on removing items from the summary report; Mike mentioned that Franklin Streets stands the best chance to get removed. Chestnut street is now in the hands of the contractor to finish the punch list. Hector asked about the hills at Lockridge, last update was 11-1-2023; Stephen Nemeth mentioned those dates listed are when engineer meetings were held, also hills at Lockridge will remain until we get a final determination from Jaindl. Hector Moss made a motion to accept the Engineer’s Report, Mehmet Birttek 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

Delaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birttek- yay	Rivera- yay
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ADMINISTRATION

Request to pay app No. 4 to Grace Industries- Mike Preston mentioned that 95% of the project has been completed, just a few items that Penn Dot has requested the contractor to complete. Came to the idea we have released any of the retainage fee yet. Our idea is to release a majority of the retainage now and then release the rest when they finish those punch list items.

Mehmet Birtek made motion to pay Grace Industries pay App number four., Chad Atkins 2nd and a unanimous vote followed. Motion passes 7-0.

DeIaco- yay	Hill- yay	Moss-yay	Aleszczyk- yay	Atkins- yay	Birtek- yay	Rivera- yay
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Sanctuary at Haafsville letter- Ron requested that Stephen Nemeth search for alternatives for stray dogs. Hector Moss mentioned that he could provide Stephen Nemeth with the contact for Logan's Heroes. Stephen Nemeth asked if we should renew the 2024 Trap Neuter and Return contract. Steve Hill confirmed that we should.

Bridge Inspection- Priority Maintenance Notification- Stephen Nemeth mentioned that this handout is letting you all know that we have to conduct some minor maintenance work around the church st bridge. The pictures on the handout indicate what needs to be addressed

Notice Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Disbursement- Stephen Nemeth mentioned that we received our disbursement of \$400.00 for the year.

A motion to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. was made by Mehmet Birtek, 2nd by Ashlynn Rivera and a unanimous vote followed.

Meeting minutes were taken and submitted by:



Stephen Nemeth, Borough Manager.