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January 27, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public - - - - - - - - - - 6 Reporters - - - - - - - - - - 1

The meeting was called to order by Council President Dean.

 Roll call: Council President Dean Present

 Councilman Burns Present

 Councilman Covington Present

 Council Vice President Hudanich Present

 Councilman McCorristin Present

Also present:

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator

James A. Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator

Stephen D. Barse, Esquire, Borough Solicitor

William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities

Captain Jeffrey Christopher

Harry deButts, Office of Emergency Management

Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Hatch Mott Macdonald, LLC

Council President Dean read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Notice of this Regular Meeting was included in the Annual Schedule of

Meetings dated June 24, 2015. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Minutes:

 Work Session, Agenda Session, Regular Meeting – December 22, 2015

 Motion made by Councilman McCorristin, seconded by Councilman Burns that the minutes be approved as submitted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Abstain

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

 Work Session, Agenda Session, Regular Meeting, Closed Session – January 13, 2016

 Motion made by Councilman Covington, seconded by Council Vice President Hudanich that the minutes be approved as submitted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

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Public comments regarding Resolutions:

None.

Resolution No. 28-2016: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF

 CERTAIN CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE

 BOROUGH OF AVALON FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 14, 2015 CONCERNING MATTERS THAT

 HAVE BEEN SETTLED OR CONCLUDED

Motion made by Council Vice President Hudanich, seconded by Council President Dean that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Resolution No. 29-2015: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS WITH

 CERTAIN APPROVED STATE CONTRACT VENDORS

 FOR CONTRACTING UNITS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.

 40:11-12 (a) AND N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 (c) FROM

 JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016

 Motion made by Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Covington that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Resolution No. 30-2015: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFIED

 LIST OF INDIVIDUALS QUALIFYING FOR

 2015 LENGTH OF SERVICE PROGRAM

 CREDITS

Motion made by Council President Dean, seconded by Councilman McCorristin that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

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Resolution No. 31-2015: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX

 ASSESSOR TO FILE CROSS APPEALS AND/OR

 MUNICIPAL APPEALS ON BEHALF OF THE

 BOROUGH OF AVALON

Motion made by Council Vice President Hudanich, seconded by Councilman Burns that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Resolution No. 32-2015: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE PROTECTED BATHING BEACHES FOR 2016 DESIGNATING BEACHES FOR THE USE OF

 RAFTS, SURFING BEACHES AND AREAS WHERE VOLLEYBALL WILL BE PERMITTED; AND DETERMINING THE DATES DURING WHICH LIFEGUARDS WILL BE ON DUTY

 Motion made by Councilman Burns, seconded by Council Vice President Hudanich that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Resolution No. 33-2015: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF

 BOROUGH CONTRACT NO. 15-02, MAINTENANCE

 OF BOROUGH OWNED GROUNDS AND GARDEN

 PLOTS FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM COMMENCING

 FEBRUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31,

 2016 (11 MONTHS) IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO

 HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FORTY-

 SEVEN ($268,047.00) DOLLARS

 Motion made by Councilman McCorristin, seconded by Council President Dean that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

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Resolution No. 34-2015: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HATCH

 MOTT MACDONALD TO PROVIDE

 DESIGN SERVICES, PREPARATION OF PLANS AND

 SPECIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENT

 FOR BIDS FOR SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT –

 DUNE DRIVE FOR A LUMP SUM FEE OF TWENTY-

 SIX THOUSAND ($26,000.00) DOLLARS

Motion made by Council President Dean, seconded by Councilman McCorristin that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Resolution No. 35-2015: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF

 BILLS

 Motion made by Councilman Covington, seconded by Council Vice President Hudanich that the resolution be adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Reports and Recommendations by Mayor and Officials:

Reports of Officials:

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator, provided the following report to Council:

Administrator’s Report

Dredging project: The dredging project was suspended shortly in advance of the approaching coastal storm. At that time, Mobile will be back on site beginning January 25 and will be removing pipe from Gravens Thorofare (north), Princeton Harbor, Pennslyvania Harbor, 3rd Avenue Waterway (north) and Cornell Harbor.  They will be installing pipe for the southern section of the project , running south out of the CDF, down Gravens Thorofare, Oler Thorofare, 3rd Avenue Waterway (south), and Porpoise Lagoon.  The contractor is scheduled to beginning dredging again on February 1st in Porpoise Lagoon.

Peermont Project: Construction at the Peermont Substation was stopped during this past weekend’s winter storm.  Activity has resumed this week at the construction site.  A temporary platform has been constructed on the west side of the Substation that will be used to load electrical equipment into the building.  Both transformers have arrived on site and have been secured inside the new building.  On Friday, medium voltage switching gear will be taken inside the building.  Each of the transformers must have a process of oil placed inside.  That process begins on January 26th with a small tanker present on 61st Street.  The oil has to be placed slowly into each transformer and properly heated.  This is a 24-hour process and Graycor is using a quiet generator in order to get the oil into the transformers.

There will be excavation work at the Peermont site.  On the southestern side of the building, ground is being dug for the placement of a duct system that connect the new Substation to the new transmission utility poles.  Arthur Henry continues to work on Ocean Drive from 59th Street to 60th Street for more duct work in the roadway; this will also help connect the Substation to the new transmission poles.

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Administrator’s Report – Continued:

There will be some paving conducted on 60th Street this week, weather permitting.  Spots in the roadway that have been dug will receive temporary patches; before this project is completed, brand new streets will be installed by the utility on both 60th and 61st streets.

Plumbers and carpenters remain on site.  The start of the roof profile on the Substation is visible along 60th Street.  Masons will be working through Friday to do routine block work.  Temporary roof drains have been installed on the building.  In about two weeks, various fire proofing operations will take place inside the building.

Winter Storm: The evaluation and cleanup from this weekend’s winter storm continues in Avalon. Forecasters were highly accurate in their forecast with this storm and there was plenty of advance warning which assisted with our public information efforts. We began our messaging efforts on Tuesday, January 19th and concluded them on Monday, January 25th. During the storm event we made 28 separate alerts on avalonemergency.org and on the Borough’s website, along with 30 posts on our social media.

Facebook:  30 alerts, including two videos from television stories.  That included one post with 16,776 views, which is an all-time record for Avalon (better than anything in Sandy or Irene).  And a 1,754% increase in engagement (use of Facebook), another record.

We had 200 new people sign up for the email alerts through the emergency page as well, another all-time record.

The analytics on the emergency site which show 171,000 hits on Saturday alone. We did Channel 97, radio, Code Red, too and had interviews on CBS3 and 6ABC.

The Avalon Volunteer Fire Department acted as a temporary shelter for the Borough on Saturday and Sunday with about a dozen individuals seeking the comfort of heat in the fire department. The County opened a shelter in Woodbine on Saturday afternoon which alleviated the situation at our fire house. The Avalon Department of Public Works did a tremendous job handling the severe flooding, snow removal, and debris removal. Avalon Rescue and Police helped our individuals in need and with traffic control during flooding and repairs of various utilities.

Power was interrupted in Avalon on Saturday at around 5:15am, for some came back on for a short time on Saturday, before we went out again. The south end of Avalon came back on Sunday shortly after 1pm, and the rest of Avalon had power by Sunday at 5:30pm. We were in contact with Comcast for repairs for phone, television, and internet service and that was conducted.

Damage to Avalon was primary along the beachfront in the northern section of our community. Eight beach paths have been closed due to scarping along the beaches. Some beach paths were compromised to about eight feet of damage, others received 2-3 feet of damage. We lost some snow fence and some sand in the northern end. Tom Thornton was on the beachfront on Monday, along with our OEM team and eventually representatives from the NJDEP. Dr. Farrell will conduct a post storm survey of our beaches for us and evaluate the availability of sand for a potential backpassing project that may repair dunes and enable us to repair crossovers. We have kept our consultant Howard Marlowe apprised of the beach situation.

Under the direction of the Mayor, the Avalon Department of Public Works is encouraging property owners have debris and other materials damaged in the storm to place it curbside for collection. Collection will run through February 5th. Hazardous materials placed curbside must be labelled to its contents and DPW must be called in order to pick up the hazardous materials.

Other members of our team are here to offer updates on the response and recovery to the storm.

This afternoon, I had an impromptu meeting with the NJDEP enforcement officers Mike Hansen and Marty Bendord regarding the Borough’s plan to collect debris caused by the weekend storm. Mr. Hansen indicated that he uses Avalon as the model for a community that knows how to respond to an emergency, and collect debris. Harry DeButts was in via conference call on today’s meeting and the Borough has clear procedures to follow in order to collect and dispose of the debris.

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Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Hatch Mott Macdonald, LLC, reported Saturday morning was the highest tide overall. He said 8-10 beach baths had erosion and it would take approximately 2,000-4,000 cubic yards of sand to repair.

Harry deButts, Office of Emergency Management, briefed Council on the recovery that followed the coastal storm during the weekend of January 23rd.  He reported that the beaches held up reasonably well and a small quantity of sand as Tom mentioned would be needed to help repair the beach access paths that were compromised during the storm but there is still solid protection in the event of another storm.  He also said that the Borough has established its debris management plan and met with the NJDEP on Wednesday, January 27th, and that he has reached out to a FEMA contact provided by the NJDEP that will help with the seamless documentation of debris removal shall a Presidential declaration be issued. He added he is proud of the community and the people who live in Avalon for taking the time to pay attention and listen to the warnings and felt everyone played a part.

Council Vice President Hudanich thanked everyone again and said the cohesiveness and caring always comes to light and is much appreciated.

Monthly Reports:

Month of November, 2015:

Water/Sewer Control Account submitted by Connie L. DiCola.

Month of December, 2015:

Borough Clerk and Registrar’s Report submitted by Marie J. Hood.

Bureau of Fire Prevention, Licensing, Miscellaneous Construction Collection,

Construction Water and Sewer, Uniform Construction Code, Taxicab, Beach Vehicle Reports submitted by John Tracy.

Code Enforcement Report submitted by Paul E. Short, Sr.

Municipal Court Report submitted by George B. Neidig, Jr.

Police Department Report submitted by Chief William McCormick.

Public Works Department Report submitted by William Macomber.

Recreation Operations Report submitted by Charles O’Donnell.

Tax Collector Control Account Report and Water/Sewer Control Account submitted by Connie L. DiCola.

Zoning Report submitted by Jeffrey R. Hesley.

Motion made by Councilman McCorristin, seconded by Council Vice President Hudanich that the reports be approved.

 ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Pending business.

None

New business

None

Public Comments:

None.

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Motion made by Council Vice President Hudanich, seconded by Councilman Covington to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

 ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

 Councilman Covington Aye

 Council Vice President Hudanich Aye

 Councilman McCorristin Aye

 Council President Dean Aye

Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

 Respectfully submitted,

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 Marie J. Hood, Borough Clerk

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 Richard E. Dean Council President