**7222**

June 24, 2015

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on

Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 7:05 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public -------------------- 6 Reporters ----------------------- 3

The Meeting was called to order by Council President Covington.

Pledge of allegiance.

Roll call: Council President Covington Present

Council Vice President Dean Present

Councilman Ellenberg Present

Councilwoman Hudanich Present

Councilman McCorristin Present

Also present:

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator

James Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator

Stephen D. Barse, Esquire, Borough Solicitor

William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities

Captain Jeff Christopher, Police Department

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

Harry DeButts, Emergency Management Coordinator

Notice of this Work Session was included in the Annual Schedule of Meetings dated June 25, 2014. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Council President Covington read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Discussion regarding proposals from Hatch Mott Macdonald concerning the following:

Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Hatch Mott Macdonald, LLC gave an overview of the 80th Street Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Safety Study. He said there was a concern about safety near the hotel and beach and Hatch Mott was contacted to do a study. He explained data would be collected on the traffic volume and speed from vehicles, bikes and pedestrians from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on a weekday and weekend. He said Hatch Mott would provide a report and recommendations based on their analysis.

Council President Covington asked if Stone Harbor would be involved.

Mr. Thornton said the study will look at the Municipal boundary.

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator explained the issues at the site and that he is in contact with Stone Harbor and it will be a joint effort including the costs.

Council President Covington pointed out there were no crosswalks at the location and no stop signs going north.

A brief discussion between Council ensued about the site and its dangers as well as getting Stone Harbor involved.

Resolution to be prepared for the July 8, 2015, Regular Meeting.

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Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Hatch Mott Macdonald, LLC gave an overview of the Borough Wide Roadway Evaluation. He said the Borough continues to invest in its infrastructure and Hatch Mott will do a visual inspection of all the streets in the Borough recording the features of each street. He explained the information collected will be recorded in a spreadsheet giving each feature a weight to determine the order in which the streets will be repaired. He said Hatch Mott will develop a five-year road program to submit to Council.

Councilman McCorristin asked if the project would include County roads.

Mr. Thornton said no County roads would be included.

Resolution to be prepared for the July 8, 2015, Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing Hatch Mott MacDonald to prepare plans, specifications design services and authorize to go out to bid for Public Works Emergency Generator.

Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Hatch Mott Macdonald, LLC explained this project involves replacing an old emergency generator at the Department of Public Works. He said the Borough applied for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation grant and received $100,000.00 to offset the cost of the new generator. The new generator would be a 500 kilowatt based on an analysis of the Borough’s demands. He said the emergency generator will be placed outside of the building and the proposal includes electrical and site engineering services.

Harry DeButts, Emergency Management Coordinator spoke to why the generator is needed and all the uses it services. He urged Council to strongly consider replacing the generator which will have a 30 year lifespan. He said before Hurricane Sandy the Borough was to receive $200,000.00 but the money was recast after the disaster and Avalon was the only town to receive money which speaks to the confidence in what the Borough can do and has done in the past.

Council President Covington asked for clarification in the professional services proposal for what is included regarding the generator.

Mr. Thornton said Hatch Mott would specify a generator and the electrical engineering cost related to tying the generator into the existing system.

Resolution to be prepared for the July 8, 2015, Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Extension of Premises for the Whiterbrier Beach Club for a Cornhole Tournament to be held on July 25, 2015.

John Tracy, Jr. described the cornhole game. He said they are partnering with an organization Philadelphia Cornhole League, charging a $60.00 entrance fee, $20.00 of which will go to two non-profit charities, Friend In Need and the Brett Fitzpatrick Memorial Fund (a former Avalon Lifeguard) to pay for EMT or schooling. He said the event would be strictly outside and smaller than Octoberfest. He said he has worked with Chief Dean to make sure of safety.

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator said the Safety Committee has signed off on the event.

Council President Covington asked Mr. Tracy if he was aware of the special conditions for the event.

Mr. Tracy said they are similar to the Octoberfest special conditions. He said the start time was changed and it was acceptable. He said there will be no bands, but there will be amplified music.

Council President Covington asked for special condition number 3 be changed to amplified music and narration of the event on the same speaker system.

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A brief discussion ensued about the event and Council agreed to proceed with the event on July 25, 2015.

Discussion regarding Resolution establishing meeting times of the Governing Body with proposal to change the first meeting of the month to 4:30 p.m.

Council President Covington said it was suggested to change the first meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Hudanich said she knows that other towns start their meetings at 4:00 p.m. and she would like to have a discussion to have the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

A discussion ensued about the time, attendance, parking and most municipalities having earlier meetings. Council decided to change the first meeting of the month to 4:00 p.m. A Resolution has been placed on the Regular Meeting tonight.

Discussion regarding 2015 Jitney License.

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator said there are a few additional jitney licenses. He said background checks have been done and they have been cleared by the police department.

Councilwoman Hudanich asked if we regulate Uber drivers.

Mr. Wahl said we don’t regulate them but pointed out that the Borough does due diligence in vetting the taxi and jitney licenses and have educated the public to look for the oval blue sticker so they can have confidence the drivers have been vetted.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing refund for Post Dredge Survey for Richard Ferroni, 620 22nd Street in the amount of One Hundred Fifty ($150.00) Dollars.

Council briefly discussed this matter and a Resolution has been placed on the Regular Meeting tonight.

Public Comments:

Martha Wright – 632 7th Street – Opposes changing the meeting time to 4:00 p.m. She

said it may be difficult for residents who don’t live here full time to make an earlier

meeting

Councilwoman Hudanich understands the comments and will take them under

advisement, however, there is still a 7:00 o’clock meeting once a month. She said going

back in history, there used to be 10:00 a.m. meetings in the 1980’s/1990’s and

only one work session and regular meeting a month at 7:00 o’clock. She said this

Council changed it to two meetings a month, a regular and work session on the 2nd

Wednesday and a regular and a work session on the 4th Wednesday. She added over time

there has not been a change for any opportunity for the public because there has always

been one regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. and when you reflect back, the Borough is still

offering the same opportunity. She added very few councils have 4 meetings a month.

Brief discussion followed.

John Cuthbert – 63 W. 22nd Street – opposed changing the meeting time to 4:00 p.m. and

feels ALOHA doesn’t support it.

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Motion made by Councilman Ellenberg, seconded by Councilman McCorristin to adjourn the Work Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Council Vice President Dean Aye

Councilwoman Hudanich Aye

Councilman McCorristin Aye Councilman Ellenberg Aye

Council President Covington Aye

Work Session adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marie J. Hood, Borough Clerk

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Charles P. Covington, Council President