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

Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 4:03 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public -------------------- 3 Reporters ----------------------- 2

The Meeting was called to order by Council President Hudanich.

Pledge of allegiance.

Roll call: Council President Hudanich Present

Councilman Burns Present

Councilman Covington Present

Councilman Dean Present

Council Vice President McCorristin Present

Also present:

James Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator

Stephen D. Barse, Esquire, Borough Solicitor

Lawrence Pepper, Esq., Gruccio, Pepper, DeSanto & Ruth, P.A., Labor Attorney

William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities

Police Chief William McCormick

James V. Craft, Chief Financial Officer

Edward Dean, Fire Chief

Council President Hudanich read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Notice of this Work Session was included in the Annual Schedule of Meetings dated June 22, 2016. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing electronic sales and distribution of beach tags.

James V. Craft, Chief Financial Officer, explained this is a mobile App for Android and Apple users which would allow purchase of beach tags with a credit card and there is a processing fee. The Borough would get the full cost of the tag and the fee would go to the processing company. The idea is to start with Holiday Tags, then move on to pre-season, season and daily. The tags would be purchased online and picked up at either the Tax Office (for pre-season tags), Beach Taggers or the Beach Booth. A QR Code validates and authenticates the purchase. Detailed reports will be received showing number of tags sold, which location they were picked up and what days, etc. Sea Isle City reported they had much success and had no complaints regarding the system or the fees. They did not do it for weekly tags because of timing concerns.

Council President Hudanich, expressed concern regarding the fee structure.

Mr. Craft, said the user is charged a transaction fee of 2.9% + $1.30 .

Councilman Burns, said it would allow an added option and convenience of purchasing online.

Council President Hudanich, feels Council should always be aware of the needs of the people and this increases the fee of a beach tag but understands the convenience factor and also questioned the security.

Mr. Craft, said the purchase completed through a bank called Braintree and it’s a fairly new company that started last year.

Council President Hudanich, continued to express concerns.

Councilman Burns, felt it was an important feature to offer as an alternate. Since Sea Isle had zero problems, he suggested another check of the validity and strength of the company. He had no problem offering the service.

Council President Hudanich, asked if the Borough would have to go out to bid for the service.

Mr. Craft, said no. It would be handled as a concession. There is one other company that offers a similar product, however that is for a virtual tag.

Brief discussion followed.

Stephen D. Barse, Esquire, Borough Solicitor added Braintree is a subsidiary of PayPal.

Councilman Covington, asked if the Auditors have been contacted.

Mr. Craft, responded no, but they audit Sea Isle City as well.

Council agreed to have Mr. Craft contact other towns who offer the service and the Auditing firm and report back to Council for further discussion at the October 26, 2016 Work Session. There is potential a Resolution will be adopted at the Regular Meeting on October 26th.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing an Emergency Appropriation and Bond Ordinance for Replacement of the Sewer Main on Ocean Drive.

James V. Craft, said the Resolution is for the 5% down payment required by law and the Bond Ordinance supplements Bond Ordinance 722-2015 for additional funding due to the extension of the project from 40th Street to 62nd Street.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the October 26, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding 2016 Best Practices Inventory.

James V. Craft, said the questions were reduced from 50 to 30 and the perspective option was eliminated, not that the Borough used it.

Brief discussion followed.

Discussion regarding Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Avalon and the Avalon Volunteer Fire Department concerning stipend program.

James A. Waldron requested this item has been consolidated with the Closed Session discussion.

Council agreed.

Discussion regarding Resolution establishing a policy for the use of video equipment during Borough Council Meetings.

James A. Waldron, explained last year Councilman Dean signed an Executive Administrative Order regarding the use of this equipment and the reason is that’s tied into two other entities that use it. Originally it was put here for the judiciary to handle arraignments so prisoners were not brought over from Cape May Court House. It has multi use today, but its tied into the security system and procedures promulgated by the Administrative Office of the Courts. It was suggested the Administrative Order Mr. Dean signed be a formal policy by Resolution.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the October 26, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution approving a form of Tort Claim Notice.

Mr. Waldron, explained the Atlantic County Joint Insurance Fund (ACJIF) has recommended for adoption a standardized form for Tort Claims. Avalon has not done so up to this point. ACJIF and MEL requested be approved by formal Resolution of the Governing Body.

Council President Hudanich, agreed with a standard form.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the October 26, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution renewing the contract for Post Event Disaster Recovery Assistance Following a Natural or Manmade Disaster.

Mr. Waldron, reported the current contract with Phillips & Jordan contained an option to renew for an additional term of one year subject to the same terms and conditions and the Administration recommends renewal.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the October 26, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Public Comments:

Martha Wright, 632 7th Street, commented on the discussion regarding the use of video

equipment for Borough Council Meetings. She referenced an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer

concerning Jersey shore communities and the large number of property owners that live out of

town. She felt meetings are 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. are difficult to attend for the people who

live out of town and suggested Council consider the possibility of live streaming Borough

Council Meetings to allow homeowners participation. She also commented on the high back

chairs and feels they are not inclusionary and the public is not able to see the documents and

exhibits presented, speaking mainly regarding the Planning Zoning Board. At the few Planning

Zoning Board meetings she attended, it was helpful and a more efficient way for the neighbors

and concerned citizens to comprehend and overcome the issues by having the blueprints and

plans up on the screens. With the discussion today regarding new technology with beach tags,

she suggested broadening the technology scope to include streaming Borough Council Meetings

and publish the policy for the use of the video equipment for anyone that is participating can

make use it.

Council President Hudanich, thank Ms. Wright for her comments. She said streaming of

Borough Council had been discussed in the past. There are two ways of looking at this with

regard to air time with the Comcast cable company agreement and the Borough’s station.

There is a very finite number of hours because it is shared with other communities. She

understands the issues concerning the high back chairs and agrees the audience at Planning

Zoning Board meetings should be able to see plans projected on the screens.

Elaine Scattergood, 75 30th Street, questioned why trees were cut down today in the

Dunes on 56th Street.

William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities, explained twice a year as a part of the

Community Forestry Management plan, Mr. Lomax identifies hazardous and dangerous trees

around Avalon and provides a list of the trees to be removed or pruned. The trees Ms.

Scattergood speaks about on 56th Street were removed as a part of the hazardous tree assessment

completed in May.

Motion made by Councilman Covington, seconded by Councilman Burns to adjourn the Work Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Burns Aye

Councilman Covington Aye

Councilman Dean Aye Council Vice President McCorristin Aye

Council President Hudanich Aye

Work Session adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marie J. Hood, Borough Clerk

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Nancy M. Hudanich, Council President