**7224**

February 11, 2015

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

Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 7:05 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public -------------------- 25 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

Paul Short, Code Enforcement Official

William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities

Police Chief William McCormick

Beach Patrol Captain Murray Wolf

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

Joe Lomax, Lomax Consulting Group

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.

Introduction of New Recreation Director, Chuck McDonnell.

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator, introduced Chuck McDonnell, but took a moment to thank Sue Ellenberg on behalf of himself and all the department heads for her commitment to her work, attention to detail, as well as her commitment to the children and groups of the community while she served as the Interim Director of Recreation. He pointed out that she worked to improve each process within the Recreation Department including the sports camps. He said working with her was a humbling experience and an education to everyone. He offered his sincere appreciation as the Public Information Officer and the Business Administrator for her exemplary job and her commitment to Avalon. He explained how the role of the Recreation Director has changed and the Recreation Department touches every branch of our community and is the frontline for special events, parades, festivals and other events. He gave a brief overview of Chuck’s background, education and work experience. He explained that Chuck’s duties with the Borough of Avalon will include managing the day to day operations of Avalon Community Hall and other recreational facilities, planning and organizing all recreational sports, sports camps, events in the Borough, working with various business and civic organizations on all special events; and supporting the Avalon Office of Public Information.

Chuck McDonnell, Recreation Director thanked Scott Wahl, Borough Council and Sue Ellenberg and said he is looking forward to being part of a wonderful community and working in Avalon.

Council President Covington told Chuck it was nice to have him on board.

Council agreed and welcomed Chuck McDonnell to the Avalon family.

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Discussion regarding Resolution concerning incentive bonus for beach patrol lifeguards.

Scott Wahl, explained that at the end of last summer season, he met with Beach Patrol Captain Murray Wolf, Steve Barse, Esq. and Jim Waldron to discuss bonuses for the lifeguard staff. He described many lifeguards participate in athletics and have a need to leave early to attend practices. He said the current bonus structure does not benefit some of these individuals. He also pointed out that it has been difficult recruiting and keeping qualified lifeguards.

Beach Patrol Captain Murray Wolf described the challenges he faces. He said the Resolution will define the requirements for lifeguards to obtain their bonuses.

Scott Wahl described the language that is in the Resolution whereby an employee would have to work 50 days during the summer to obtain a bonus and in order to leave before Labor Day, they would have to participate in sports activity as a member of a college or high school inter-scholastic team, but shall explicitly exclude club teams or intramural programs.

Stephen D. Barse, Esquire, Borough Solicitor said they didn’t want to limit the language to varsity because sometimes a junior varsity team is a feeder program to a varsity team. He said he felt this new language covers Captain Wolf’s concerns and allows the Borough to attract beach patrol and also have a structured bonus program that is fair to everyone.

Councilwoman Hudanich clarified that working 50 days is required whether or not they are part of a team.

Council President Covington asked what oversight there would be and who reviews Captain Wolf’s decision of who should get paid a bonus.

Captain Wolf said he sends a spreadsheet to the Treasurer’s office with the employees’ names and the amount of days worked.

Stephen D. Barse, Esq. pointed out that there is a new provision that the Captain or assigned Lieutenant has to certify the eligibility of the person.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Stone Harbor for Alternate Construction Official Services.

Scott Wahl, explained the need for a backup construction official because the part-time construction backup employee had resigned for a career in Wildwood. He said he spoke to Stone Harbor and they agreed they also needed a backup construction official in the event of an illness or vacation. He outlined there would be no compensation. He said he also spoke to Stone Harbor’s Counsel Mike Donohue and he indicated that Stone Harbor would be very supportive of this idea.

Councilwoman Hudanich expressed concern regarding liability.

Stephen D. Barse, Esq. said that the agreement provides each municipality would be responsible for liability for any negligence on the part of its employee. He further clarified that both towns are in the same Joint Insurance Fund so the coverage would be identical.

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Council President Covington said the key term is that our construction official will be ‘acting’ as an agent for Stone Harbor and vice versa and that puts the responsibility on the town they are representing just like it is now.

Brief discussion followed regarding responsibilities of the backup construction official.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing refund of escrow payment to Brian Blair for dredging project in the amount of Three Hundred ($300.00) dollars.

Council had no problem with this refund and agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution approving the appointment by the Mayor of George B. Neidig, Jr. as Municipal Judge for a three (3) year term.

Council had no problem with the appointment and agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution rescinding Resolution awarding contract to Howard Marlowe, Marlowe and Company and awarding contract to Howard Marlowe, Warwick Group Consultants.

Scott Wahl, explained that Mr. Marlowe is changing the name of this company. He said the services rendered will be completely identical to the current business. He noted that all the paperwork is in order. He said Mr. Marlowe is asking the Borough to rescind the current contract and award the contract with the new name of the company.

Stephen D. Barse, Esq. clarified Mr. Marlowe is forming a new company as opposed to a name change.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Public Comments:

None.

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 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marie J. Hood, Borough Clerk

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Charles P. Covington, Council President