A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 7:04 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public ----- 2 Reporters ----- 1

The Meeting was called to order by Council President Hudanich.

Pledge of allegiance.

Roll call: Council President Hudanich Present

Councilman CovingtonPresentCouncilman DeanPresentCouncilman DeeverPresentCouncil Vice President McCorristinPresent

Also present:

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator

Stephen D. Barse, Esquire, Borough Solicitor

Paul Short, Code Enforcement Official

William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities

William McCormick, Chief of Police

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

Dr. Stewart Farrell, Stockton University Coastal Research Center

John Cuthbert, Representative, AHLOA

Tom Quirk, Executive Director, Atlantic Cape Coalition

Edward J. Mahaney, Jr., Former Mayor, Cape May City

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.

Presentation by Dr. Stewart Farrell regarding Public/Private Partnership between the Atlantic Coastal Coalition and the Borough of Avalon

Scott Wahl read the following report:

Introduction: The Atlantic-Cape Coalition is an organization comprised of municipal officials and volunteers from Cape May and Atlantic counties that meets on a regular basis to discuss flood hazards, mitigation efforts, financial challenges, and collective strategies to deal with flooding along the Jersey Shore. Avalon is an active member of this coalition and recently joined the Public Information initiative to share and receive flood strategies from other coastal communities to learn new ideas and to gain more points in our Community Rating System rating.

Meeting: On Friday, May 5th a meeting was held in the Mayor's office with Mayor Pagliughi, Scott Wahl, and Tom Quirk, the Executive Director of the Coalition. Mr. Quirk presented the Borough with a proposed private/public partnership agreement that would result in one community from each Cape May and Atlantic counties to participate in the agreement. Avalon was selected due to its proactive efforts meeting current and future flood concerns in our community. As a result of the meetings Mr. Quirk had with the mayors in Avalon and Longport, both communities have agreed to participate in the study, pending Council's approval.

<u>Proposal:</u> The proposal is to have Avalon, Longport, and the Coalition enter into an agreement with the Stockton Coastal Research Center and Dr. Stu Farrell to conduct a 24/7 monitoring program for nuisance flooding. The cost of the contract is \$31,250.62. The Coalition has secured funding to pay for half of the contract. Avalon is geographically larger than Longport, so 60% of the remaining balance is dedicated to Avalon, putting Avalon's obligation at \$9,375. There is a certification of available funds from the Chief Financial Officer.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> gave a presentation regarding nuisance flooding that is attached to these minutes.

Councilman Covington inquired about the Steel Pier measurement system.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> explained the measurements from the Steel Pier tide gauge would be used for any kind of warning for the public. Events measured by that tide gauge occur approximately two hours prior to impacting Avalon's Back Bay.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> asked if that tide gauge would trigger an early warning system over the places being studied to identify potential hazards.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> responded yes and explained with the warning system, an individual would be required to monitor the HOBO sensors when nuisance flooding is expected. It would also be prudent to keep a tide calendar nearby to aid with determining the best times to monitor the system.

Councilman Covington asked what levels the HOBO sensors measure.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> explained when the HOBO sensor is placed, the elevation of the sensor will be recorded. When the water level rises above the level of the sensor, the sensor will record the depth of the water. By collecting the data, over time it could be used to determine what type of flood events impact certain areas, which could allow for earlier predictions and warnings to property owners. The sensors are fixed depth gauges.

Council President Hudanich inquired if the locations for the sensors have been selected.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> responded that the locations have not been selected, however that selection process is in the first phase of the project. To select the locations, meetings will be held with the Department of Public Works and the Office of Emergency Management to review where flooding occurs. The sensors will be placed within a piece of PVC pipe.

<u>Councilman Dean</u> mentioned that barometric pressure was not addressed in the presentation, and suggested that it be considered as a factor to flooding.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> stated the barometric component was left out of the presentation to avoid complexity, however it will be considered, as it is a large factor to flooding.

Tom Quirk thanked Dr. Farrell for his presentation, and thanked Council for considering the project. The Atlantic Cape Coastal Coalition is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization incorporated in the State of New Jersey. Foundation funding has been received, and the objective is to either focus attention on coastal flooding, flood mitigation, or solutions to problems created by flooding. Dr. Farrell has helped the Coalition to review several different parameters of what flood mitigation can be in the future. The primary goal of this project is to minimize the damage incurred by Mother Nature during flooding events. By participating in this project, it is a step in the right direction. Tourism is the second largest revenue producer in the State of New Jersey, and most of that revenue is generated by the barrier islands. By documenting the flooding issue, that data can then be presented to State Legislators for assistance.

<u>Council President Hudanich</u> notified Mr. Quirk that if Council agrees, a Resolution will be prepared for the June 14, 2017 Regular Meeting.

<u>Tom Quirk</u> added that the attorneys for all parties have the necessary documentation to move forward. There are hopes that this project will begin approximately July 1, 2017. He commended Tom Thornton, Scott Wahl and Mayor Pagliughi for their help in progressing the project to its current status. He again thanked Borough Council for their consideration.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 14, 2017 Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding Resolution approving the site agreement with the Avalon Chamber of Commerce for placement of Webcams at Community Hall and the Sport Fishing Center.</u>

Scott Wahl reported this agreement has worked well for both parties in the past with no identifiable issues. He added the cameras are beneficial to both the Borough and the Chamber of Commerce and recommended the agreement be renewed.

<u>Council President Hudanich</u> suggested preparing a Resolution to authorize a three year agreement for this item, as it has worked so well in the past.

Steve Barse noted he will review the contract and ensure the proper language is in place to renew for a three year period.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution authorizing a three year agreement to be prepared for the June 14, 2017 Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding renewal of Shared Services Agreement with the County of Cape May for Traffic Signal Maintenance.</u>

<u>Scott Wahl</u> reported a proposal has been received from the County for a seven year agreement with an increase of \$4.00 per signal, per year. He added the agreement has worked well and strongly recommended moving forward.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 14, 2017 Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing Mott Macdonald to proceed with survey and base map preparation for Surfside Park.</u>

Tom Thornton explained this Resolution would allow for a head start on the design of the proposed Surfside Park. Having the base map and survey completed prior to the authorization of the design of architectural and engineering services would be beneficial to the timeline of the project. The proposal for both services is in the amount of \$4,800.00.

Councilman Covington inquired if this will be funded from the money set aside for the studies.

Council President Hudanich responded ves.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 14, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution approving the application for a taxi license from Irma Guy.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be considered at tonight's Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding Resolution approving a Raffle License for the Wetlands Institute to be held on Saturday, July 29, 2017 at Icona Golden Inn from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.</u>

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 14, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Public Comments:

Martha Wright, 632 7th Street, commended Dr. Farrell for a terrific presentation and spoke in support of the partnership with the Atlantic Cape Coastal Coalition. She questioned if the HOBO sensors will also be monitoring flooding as a result of rainfall.

<u>Tom Quirk</u> explained there are three types of flooding: coastal storm flooding, rainwater flooding, and nuisance flooding. The primary focus of this partnership is nuisance flooding, however the HOBO sensors monitor all water depending on their location, so it would be possible to place the sensor in areas prone to rainwater flooding to monitor that type of flooding.

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Martha Wright suggested including rainwater flooding in the project, as that is a concern within the Borough.

<u>Dr. Farrell</u> agreed that it would be possible to place HOBO sensors in areas prone to rainwater flooding to collect that data.

<u>Council President Hudanich</u> thanked former Mayor, Ed Mahaney, for attending the meeting to view Dr. Farrell's presentation regarding the Atlantic Cape Coastal Coalition.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Councilman Covington	Aye
	Councilman Dean	Aye
	Councilman Deever	Aye
	Council President Hudanich	Aye
	Council Vice President McCorristin	Aye

Work Session adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mancy M. Hudanich, Council President