November 21, 2017

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 4:05 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public ----- 3 Reporters ----- 1

The Meeting was called to order by Council President McCorristin.

Pledge of allegiance.

Roll call:

Council President McCorristin

Councilman Covington

Councilman Dean

Council Vice President Deever

Present

Present

Council Vice President Deever Present Councilwoman Hudanich 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
William McCormick, Chief of Police
Shawn Carr, P.E., Mott Macdonald, LLC
Steven Camp, Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities
Dean Marcolongo, Esq., Consultant
Dr. David LaPuma, Director, NJ Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory
John Cuthbert, Representative, AHLOA

Council President McCorristin read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Notice of this Work Session was included in the Annual Schedule of Meetings dated June 28, 2017. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Discussion regarding Resolutions concerning Council on Affordable Housing.

Jim Waldron explained Council has two separate Resolutions for consideration. The first Resolution addresses the most recent court ordered assessment on COAH cases that is in the amount of \$1,000.00. This is pursuant to an order of Judge Johnson entered on September 18, 2017 requiring each of the communities in a certain category to pay an additional \$1,000.00 to the Superior Court. The draft Resolution before Council authorizes that payment and is listed in the bill list for this evening as well. The second Resolution follows up on a closed session discussion at the November 8, 2017 meeting and involving a settlement of the litigation involving the Council on Affordable Housing. To provide a brief synopsis, in March of 2015 the NJ Supreme Court entered an order, the effect of which was to abolish COAH and to turn the responsibilities of the Council on Affordable Housing over to the Superior Court of New Jersey. In administering the previous constitutional mandate for affordable housing, the matter was assigned to judges in each vicinage or in each combination of vicinage that have expertise and are able to preside over all cases which have originated since the original Mount Laurel case. As a result of that decision, Avalon authorized the filing of a declaratory judgment action filed by July of 2015. The Borough also engaged a Planner specifically for COAH issues from a firm based in Trenton. Also at that time, Dean Marcolongo was appointed as Special Counsel to represent the Borough, consistent with his then-duties as Solicitor for the Planning Board. Between 2015 and the current time, the Borough has also participated in a state-wide litigation involving the COAH requirements, as well as the declaratory judgment action that's been pending in this vicinage. Recently, as a result of ongoing negotiations, a potential settlement was reached, subject to Council's ratification and approval. That settlement was addressed by Dean Marcolongo in the closed session of November 8, 2017. There have been certain technical modifications to the agreement, which are sanctioned in this Resolution as well. If the Borough does not address an affordable housing need, the court will impose a housing program on the Borough. This is a plan which allows the Borough to address the needs of affordable housing over the course of the next several years, and begins with a very minor approach. The obligation

Jim Waldron (continued) imposed upon the Borough by the courts is 399 affordable housing units. The courts recognize the Borough does not have the capability to provide that number of affordable housing units, however it is possible to begin a process through an overlay in the B-1 District. Presently, Council will need to approve the two Resolutions regarding this issue, which will trigger a fairness hearing before Judge Johnson hopefully to be scheduled in early 2018. If the court finds that the agreement to implement a program of affordable housing consistent with the established guidelines is fair, equitable, and meets the constitutional mandate imposed upon every municipality in the state, the Borough would then be required to approve an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Ordinance amendment would be required to be enacted within 90 days of the final decision of the court based on the fairness hearing. This agreement provides that Fair Share Housing Corporation has endorsed the plan and has recognized that there are unique situations in Avalon and similar communities that prevent those communities from providing the number of affordable housing units imposed upon them by the courts. The Fair Share Housing Corporation has announced their support of the plan in the event of an appeal. This agreement meets the Borough's constitutional mandate in a manageable way, and ends the litigation as well as the expenditure of funds, which have been extensive in terms of fighting the litigation on a statewide level. He expressed that the agreement is fair, equitable, and meets the Borough's needs, and recommended Council support this agreement.

Dean Marcolongo added the Borough has been in litigation with the Fair Share Housing Corporation, and a tentative settlement has been negotiated. The proposal indicates that the Borough will create a municipally funded 10 unit accessory apartment program. As part of the agreement, the Borough agrees to create an affordable housing overlay zone, which will have the exact boundaries as the B-1 zone, otherwise known as the business district. This overlay zone would be adopted through a Zoning Ordinance amendment. This overlay zone will encourage affordable housing to be developed in and around commercial units. These affordable housing units could be achieved through new construction, the retrofitting of existing commercial space, or the rehabilitation of existing apartments. The Borough is required to incentivize this program. It is proposed that the Borough offer subsidy money in the amount of \$20,000.00 for a moderate income unit, \$25,000.00 for a low income unit, and \$30,000.00 for a very low income unit. All affordable housing units would be required to have a deed restriction imposed upon the unit, which will guarantee the designation of affordable housing for ten years. Additionally, any developer of affordable housing will be limited to the amount of rent permitted to be charged for the unit, which would be determined by the affordable housing program. Furthermore, the Borough will be creating a list of eligible tenants. That list will be readily available, and will be used to select tenants for the affordable housing units. Landlords must accept the first tenant on the list. He stressed that these affordable housing units will not be Section 8 housing. A vacant land adjustment was obtained by Clarke, Caton, Hintz. That study proved, at the satisfaction of Fair Share Housing Center, that it would not be possible for the Borough to provide the required 399 affordable housing units. An additional requirement contained within the settlement agreement is the mandate to create a town-wide affordable housing set-aside, which will apply to any new multi-family residential development. If a developer wishes to construct five or more residential units as a rental property anywhere within the Borough after this agreement is adopted, it will be required to set aside 15% of those units for affordable housing. If the developer intends to sell the units, it would be required to set aside 20% for affordable housing. Any subsidy money offered as an incentive for developers to build affordable housing units can either be funded through the general fund or through a Development Fee Ordinance. This agreement is very similar to Stone Harbor's proposed agreement. He added a meeting hosted by Council President McCorristin was recently held with Borough realtors regarding this proposal. The meeting was very productive, with many realtors and business owners participating in the discussion and suggesting alternate resolutions in term of how affordable housing might be developed. He expressed the opinion that this program could be beneficial to not only the community, but to the property owners.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> added this settlement will cover the current phase of the affordable housing program, which will expire in approximately eight years. There will be a review of the program in four years. At the time of the review, there are hopes that many affordable housing units will be constructed or being built. If there is no development at that point, the Borough may be required to revisit the programs and incentives to promote affordable housing unit construction. He thanked all who attended the meeting.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> added if this plan is approved by the courts, Avalon will have immunity from builder's remedy lawsuits to and through June of 2025. At that point, the fourth round obligations will be issued to the Borough.

Councilman Covington asked how the Borough will obtain the eligible tenant list.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> explained the Borough will be creating the list. In previous years, the Borough had adopted a Housing Liaison position. That person would be required to advertise to the region that this program is active in Avalon, and applications to be placed on the tenant list will be accepted. The Housing Liaison will verify each applicant's income and compile the list.

Councilman Covington asked if the Borough will be required to market this program.

Dean Marcolongo responded yes and explained there is an affirmative obligation to market it.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> inquired if this program should be advertised prior to any affordable housing units being built.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> responded yes, and noted the creation of the list prior to any available units will be helpful, so that there are eligible tenants when units are built, rather than those units remaining vacant until a list is created.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> asked if any members of the public had any questions for Mr. Marcolongo.

<u>Anthony Zurawski, 6266 Ocean Drive</u> asked if one bedroom units could be designated as affordable housing.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> responded yes, and indicated eligible affordable housing units could be up to four bedrooms.

<u>Anthony Zurawski</u> expanded on his original question and asked if the Borough's obligation would be fulfilled by developing ten one-bedroom units.

Dean Marcolongo responded yes.

Anthony Zurawski questioned what the rent would be on those units.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> estimated the rent could range from \$800.00 per month for a very low income units to \$1,100.00 for moderate income units.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> asked who will be enforcing the review of plans for affordable housing units.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> indicated the Housing Liaison would be required to monitor that plans for affordable housing units comply with the requirements. That employee will be in contact with the Planning Board to see what plans are coming before the Planning Board. They would also be in contact with the Construction Office to see what is being built. Some communities have gone as far as hiring outside contractors to handle this responsibility, such as Triad Associates.

Martha Wright, 632 7th Street, asked if this program could be first offered to senior citizens that are current Borough residents willing to divest their costly home in exchange for an affordable rental unit in order to remain residents of the borough.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> explained the Borough cannot show preference or put weight on the order of the eligible tenants on the list based on residency.

<u>Martha Wright</u> suggested that this program be marketed very strongly to current residents as soon as possible. She spoke in support of offering affordable options first to the people who have been in the community.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> suggested offering a seminar through the library to educate local residents on this program, however mirrored Dean Marcolongo's statement that preference cannot be shown.

<u>Councilwoman Hudanich</u> agreed with Council President McCorristin that in the spirit of the law, the affordable housing program is open to all residents within the region, and the process cannot be manipulated or show favoritism.

Council Vice President Deever asked how developers would receive subsidy money.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> explained the developer would approach the Borough and suggest interest in participating in the affordable housing program. The developer would then be required to submit plans for review. Once those plans were verified to comply with the program, that unit could be built. Once the unit is successfully deed restricted, they would get a check from the Borough.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> asked Mr. Marcolongo to go into more detail regarding a Development Fee Ordinance possibly funding for the subsidy money.

<u>Dean Marcolongo</u> noted the Borough created a Development Fee Ordinance in 2008, however it was never adopted. The Development Fee Ordinance can require payment of 1% of the equalized assessed value on residential development and 2.5% on commercial development. Another option could be assessing these fees to commercial development only.

Council agreed to proceed with Resolutions to be considered at today's Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding bids received for Solid Waste Materials, Recycling and Bulk Waste Materials.</u>

Jim Waldron reported the Borough has received bids from three bidders regarding the Solid Waste, Recycling, and Bulk Waste materials. It appears that the apparent low bidder for Solid Waste and Recycling is EarthTech Contracting. The bids have been reviewed by the Purchasing Agent, who has recommended an award. A legal opinion from Alan Gould has been received indicating that the bids are in order and recommending that they be awarded. There was a slight mathematical error in the bid tabulation, however an opinion has been obtained from counsel that the bid specifications permit that to be corrected. The figure of \$10.00 was listed as an annual charge, however it should have been \$120.00. That is well within the province of the Borough to correct, according to the Purchasing Agent and the legal opinion received from Mr. Gould. A legal opinion has also been received from Mr. Gould with respect to the Bulk Waste Contract. That bid has been found to be in order, conforming in all respects, and recommends award to Gold Medal Environmental.

<u>Bill Macomber</u> noted the pricing bid for the Solid Waste and Recycling Contracts are lower than the costs associated with these contracts during the years of 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.

After brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the December 13, 2017 Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding Resolution for South Jersey Power Cooperative for Natural Gas Supply Service.</u>

<u>Scott Wahl</u> reported everything is in order and has been reviewed by the CFO. It is recommended to move forward, as it provides the Borough with good pricing.

Council agreed to proceed with Resolutions to be considered at today's Regular Meeting.

<u>Discussion regarding bids received for Contract M-105, Reconstruction of 39th Street, First Avenue to Dune Drive.</u>

This item was deferred to the December 13, 2017 Work Session Meeting pending legal opinion.

Discussion regarding Ordinance concerning release of two story height restrictions.

Jim Waldron indicated Council presently has two pending applications with respect to a release of a two story height restriction. It is believed that there are at least two more pending. As a result of reviewing the process, it has been determined that there are some areas where the procedure can be streamlined, which would result in a uniform decision making process. This could speed up the process and reduce the cost to the individual applicants. Currently, each application for a two story height restriction release is treated on an individual basis. The applicant is asked to post an escrow amounting between \$1,500 and \$3,500 dollars, which is administered by the Clerk's Office. The Clerk's Office then conducts an investigation, lists the item for a work session with a Resolution at the following meeting scheduling a public hearing. When the public hearing is conducted, it is generally taken under advisement, at which point Council has the opportunity to consult with legal counsel. At the next meeting, Council makes findings of fact and adopts a Resolution either agreeing to dismiss, or to retain the restriction. That process is very time consuming, and there have been significant citizen complaints due to settlements on property sales being delayed due to this process. A new process is now being proposed. This new process would be to adopt an Ordinance establishing a legislative process. The Ordinance would give a blanket notice that between 1950 and 1970 the Borough, at a time when it was trying to encourage a ratable base, sold vacant land with the expectation that it would be developed. Those properties had been restricted to a two story height limitation. This occurred prior to municipal zoning and the adoption of the Borough's Master Plan. These deed restrictions were also put in place prior to an amendment to the Local Lands and Buildings Law in 1971 which says that in conveying land, a municipality cannot impose any restriction that is more burdensome than what is required by the local Zoning Ordinance. The local Zoning Ordinance is controlling. The Clerk's Office and the Administration Office have worked together to compile a preliminary draft Ordinance. The draft has been sent to Steve Barse, who is in the process of reviewing the document. It is anticipated that a more detailed discussion of this item will take place at the December 13, 2017 Work Session. The purpose of the current discussion is to obtain conceptual approval for this approach. In some cases, this proposed process will eliminate the need for a public hearing, although the Borough retains that right. Provided this Ordinance moves forward, there would be a public hearing held in January regarding the Borough's intent to release these two story height restrictions provided that there is a satisfactory showing. At that point, as applications are received, they would be investigated internally. There is a mechanism that involves a review by the Solicitor and a review by Council along with the submission of documentation. If that process shows that a public hearing is needed, then a public hearing could be held. However, the expectation is that in most cases, that second hearing can be eliminated. There is some question under the statute, and Steve Barse has raised an issue to put the Borough on notice that there is no case that interprets the approach that is being attempted by this process, however there is no case that prohibits the Borough from adopting such a process. He expressed the opinion that the proposed procedure is fundamentally fair to citizens, expedites the process, protects the Borough and the property owner, and produces a uniform result and procedure. He asked for Council's permission to finalize the Ordinance for further discussion at the December 13, 2017 Work Session and future introduction.

<u>Councilwoman Hudanich</u> asked if one blanket release can be done for two story height restrictions.

Jim Waldron added it has been found that Judge Callinan had entered an order declaring that particular restriction void and unenforceable. That decision is binding on the Borough.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> pointed out the Zoning Ordinance is now based on height, rather than the number of stories.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> further noted there is a developing theory that the height restriction is controlled by the new flood maps in FEMA.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> agreed that the two story height restrictions have outlived their useful life and asked what official action is being proposed.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> indicated it is proposed to introduce an Ordinance and hold a public hearing on the Ordinance. When that public hearing is advertised, it would be advertised as a public hearing under the statute for release of restrictions, and the Borough would identify the properties as specifically as possible.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> asked if a new public hearing would still have to be held for each property that arises in the future.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> responded no and explained if this Ordinance is adopted, every application that is submitted after that will come before Council. If Council is satisfied with releasing the restriction, a Resolution will be adopted. If Council determines there is not sufficient information, the Borough retains the right to hold a public hearing.

Councilman Covington clarified that this process would eliminate the need for a public hearing.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> indicated that is possible. If the Ordinance moves forward, the notice of public hearing for that Ordinance will include a description of the property as all properties located in the geographical boundaries of Avalon that were conveyed between a certain time period that contained a two story height restriction. He pointed out this action may not be necessary due to Judge Callinan's order that rules this restriction as null and void. He noted Steve Barse will be evaluating this matter further.

<u>Steve Barse</u> agreed with Jim Waldron and noted there was no published decision on that specific case, however Judge Callinan issued a letter decision. Once a copy of that letter decision is received, an idea of Judge Callinan's rationale for the order can be perceived. The order states the rule is void for vagueness, which suggests that if the other restrictions are worded similarly, that would have what is called a collateral estoppel effect.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> expressed unrest that this procedure would eliminate the public's opportunity to protest, and would allow the Borough to make the decision to release the restriction with no public input.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> noted if this moves forward there would be an initial public hearing informing the public of the consideration to the release these restrictions.

Marie Hood indicated there is a currently a deed restriction release request for the property located at 35 East 23rd Street that needs to be addressed, and a public hearing needs to be set.

Jim Waldron recommended that public hearing be scheduled for January 10, 2017 at 3:45 p.m.

Council agreed to discuss this matter further at the December 13, 2017 Work Session. Council also agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the December 13, 2017 Regular Meeting scheduling a public hearing on the release of a deed restriction at 35 East 23rd Street to be held January 10, 2018 at 3:45 p.m.

<u>Discussion of amendments to Avalon Borough Code including possible amendments pertaining to Administration, Police Regulations, Personnel, and Construction Site Standards.</u>

Jim Waldron reported these amendments are being proposed after a review of the code has been done. The first item proposed to be amended is a result of discussions with the Mayor that date as far back as October of this year regarding some reorganization of departments. At the present time, the Office of Public Information exists by way of Executive Order. The Mayor has recommended that the creation of that department be codified and formalized. It has been the practice that the Administrative Code has been amended by way of Council amendments. An additional change within the Administrative Code includes the change of the Department of Law to the Office of Legal Counsel. Another recommended change is that Chapter 5 be amended to conform to the New Jersey law requiring that after September 1, 2011, only New Jersey residents are eligible to be hired to any position in state, county or local government. If the candidate is not a resident when they are hired, that person has one year to become a bonafide state resident, otherwise the position is forfeited. The Local Finance Board has issued a directive that there is no exceptions to this law, and that seasonal employees are included in this mandate. All seasonal employees have one year from their hire date to become a New Jersey resident. The Borough of

Jim Waldron (continued) Avalon terminates all seasonal employees before they are hired for one full year. When those individuals return for the next year as a seasonal employee, the one year requirement starts anew. Additionally, an amendment has been proposed regarding military leave of absence. The language in the current Ordinance is improper. Nicole Curio has drafted an amendment that complies with both the JIF requirements and the State Statute. Another proposed amendment is to prohibit diving and swimming from bridges. Diving and jumping from bridges is particularly unsafe due to submerged objects and tidal conditions. The primary safety concern is that there is going to be an injury or paralysis.

<u>Councilwoman Hudanich</u> noted there is signage already in place asking that individuals to not jump or dive off of bridges.

Jim Waldron explained there is a JIF requirement on this safety issue. Considering the Business Administrator serves on the Executive Committee of the JIF, it is very important that the Borough comply with these requirements. He also noted the final proposed amendment is in respect to demolition bonds in the Construction Office.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> asked if the Ordinance will also prohibit diving and jumping from the 23rd Street dock.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> noted the Ordinance will prohibit all jumping and diving from any Borough owned structures. Bridges are being defined as the bridges at 21st Street, 25th Street, 30th Street at County Road 601, which intersects with 3rd Avenue, the second bridge beyond that, and the Townsend's Inlet bridge.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> referenced the 25th Street bridge and noted it is the only bridge with caged protection. When they built the bridge the cage was constructed because of available federal funding and to keep litter thrown from moving vehicles from hitting the waterway. He expressed the opinion that the cage is an enticement for jumpers and divers, and asked if it is possible to have that cage removed. He noted the cage is showing some issues that could pose a safety concern in the future.

<u>Bill Macomber</u> noted the Borough is not responsible for the maintenance of the bridge or the cage. All maintenance is done by the County Department of Public Works.

Council Vice President Deever inquired if fishing off of the bridges would still be permitted.

Jim Waldron responded yes.

<u>Councilman Covington</u> referenced the hiring practices amendments and asked for clarification on language that requires employees be residents at the time of their appointment.

Jim Waldron explained there is a statute in place which allows municipalities to give preference to residents of their municipality if two candidates are equally qualified. The same preference can be given to a candidate that is not a resident, which will be becoming a resident by the time their appointment is effective. There is a provision in the existing code that indicates that the Borough Clerk and the Borough Tax Collector are exempt, referencing a statute. And that statute doesn't have any applicability. That statute applies to the federal census. These three statutes that involve the appointment of the Municipal Clerk, the Tax Collector, and the Tax Assessor all indicate that they can serve in more than one community, therefore by implication, can be a non-resident. The amendment to those sections are to correct the statute listed.

Councilwoman Hudanich asked if preferences can be given to residents of Cape May County.

Jim Waldron responded yes.

<u>Councilwoman Hudanich</u> clarified that a successful candidate is not required to reside in the County.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> agreed with that clarification. He explained this amendment simply states that if there are two equally qualified candidates for a position, the Borough can weigh favorably upon a resident of the Borough or the County over other candidates. He further noted the Borough has

permission to hire candidates that reside out of state, however that individual is required to move to New Jersey within one year of appointment to the position. If an out of state resident is appointed to a statutory position for a term of more than one year, that position will be forfeited if that individual fails to move within the state in the first year.

Councilman Covington asked if this ruling affects the Police Department.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> responded no, and explained a specific statute governs the Police Department. However, newly appointed Police Department employees must also become residents within one year if they are an out of state resident when appointed.

<u>Scott Wahl</u> referenced the signage on the bridges and noted the mere presence of signs discouraging individuals from jumping or diving is not enough to release the Borough from liability.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> referenced the proposed amendment to the Construction Office code is to eliminate demolition bonds, as they have not been collected in over 23 years.

Council agreed to discuss this matter further at the December 13, 2017 Work Session.

<u>Discussion regarding Resolutions approving Re-Appointments of Trustees of the Free Public Library and the Alternate Energy Resource Subcommittee (Green Team).</u>

Scott Wahl reported the proposed appointments are as recommended by the Mayor. He recently attended a Sustainable Jersey event at the League of Municipalities with Council Vice President Deever and Nina Ranalli. At that event, Avalon was recognized for obtaining its third certification in the sustainable program. He commended Michele Petrucci for a job well done and her help in maintaining this certification. He thanked various Borough Departments for their tremendous cooperation. There is hope to advance from a bronze certification to a silver certification. Discussions have taken place with Nina Ranalli regarding available grant opportunities through the Sustainable Jersey Program with one of the deadlines coming up in February.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the December 13, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Update regarding Avalon applications to Cape May County Open Space Program.

Scott Wahl reported the Borough had made two applications to the Cape May County Open Space Program. One for the expansion of the bicycle path, another for the creation of Surfside Park. These applications were made with the direction of Council and with support from various organizations in the community including the School District, the Chamber of Commerce, the 7 Mile BCA, and AHLOA. The applications were made on time with the help of Tom Thornton and Scott Taylor. In early September, the Planning Director for the County presented both projects to the Freeholder Board. On November 14, 2017 the Cape May County Freeholder Board unanimously approved funding for the Borough for both projects. The funding for the bike path expansion is \$70,000.00. A pre-construction meeting on the bike path was recently held. The regulations for signage and "share the lane concepts" were reviewed, and as a result of that review, it was possible to reduce the project cost. The awarded \$70,000.00 grant will cover nearly all of the expansion of the bike path project. The Surfside Park application was submitted with a projected project cost of \$1,999,000.00, which has been fully funded. Between both projects, the Borough has been assured \$2,070,000.00 of funding for reimbursements for these projects. Surfside Park is expected to be bid with construction to begin in September of 2018 after Labor Day Weekend, with an opening event of May 2019.

Shawn Carr added the contractor for the bike route extension is Traffic Lines, Inc. He noted the reduction in signs and "share the lane concepts" have reduced the project cost by approximately \$10,000.00, while maintaining MUTCD compliance. There will need to be weather conditions of approximately 50 degrees maintained for approximately a week to complete the project. If those conditions do not exist within the 45 day time period, the project will extend to the spring. Regarding Surfside Park, Mott MacDonald's proposal will be submitted shortly. Once the design is complete, the CAFRA Permit will be applied for.

<u>Council President McCorristin</u> spoke on behalf of Council by thanking the County for the funding, and commending all staff involved in obtaining the funding.

Further discussion regarding Avalon Volunteer Fire Department Stipend Program.

<u>Jim Waldron</u> reported that a legal opinion has not yet been received from Larry Pepper regarding this issue, and requested that Council defer this item for further discussion on December 13, 2017.

Council agreed to discuss this matter further at the December 13, 2017 Work Session.

<u>Discussion regarding Resolution proclaiming November as Adverse Childhood Experiences</u> Awareness Month.

<u>Councilwoman Hudanich</u> reported she had requested this item to be placed on the agenda. She explained this is a county-wide initiative. Cape May County is 15th among the 21 counties in New Jersey with adverse wellness for all age groups. The initiative addresses traumatic experience in childhood, obesity, and personal care. Cape Regional was awarded a County grant and are working with educational agencies to raise awareness. All Cape May County School Districts have been asked to pass a similar Resolution, and the Board of Chosen Freeholders passed this Resolution November 14, 2017. She recommended for the Borough to show support of this initiative.

Council agreed to proceed with Resolutions to be considered at today's Regular Meeting.

Public Comments

None.

Motion made by Council Vice President Deever, seconded by Councilman Dean to adjourn the Work Session.

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

Work Session adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie J. Hood, Borough Clerk

John M. McCorristin, Council President