

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 4:02 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.

<u>Roll call:</u>	Council President Hudanich	Present
	Councilman Deever	Present
	Councilwoman Juzaitis	Present
	Councilman McCorristin	Present
	Councilman Wierman	Present

Also present:
Scott Wahl, Business Administrator
James Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator
Nicole Curio, Esquire, Borough Solicitor
Paul Short, Code Enforcement Official
William Macomber, Director of Public Works/Utilities
Jeffrey R. Christopher, Police Chief
Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Mott Macdonald
James Craft, Chief Financial Officer
Monica Coskey, Owner of 7 Mile Publishing
Eleanor Cifaloglio, Recording Secretary, Avalon Library Board of Trustees

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 27, 2019. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Discussion regarding Professional Services Contract with 7 Mile Publishing for Public Relations and Advertising Services.

Scott Wahl introduced Monica Coskey and stated what a tremendous help she has been to the Borough of Avalon with regards to publications, advertisements, and campaigns. It has been past practice of Council to consider a Professional Service contract with 7 Mile Publishing for a variety of services on an annual basis. A copy of the proposal has been provided to Council and is very similar to past years, with one exception. This year, the proposal includes the inclusion of a Storm Preparedness Guide as part of the 2020 Spring Newsletter, which would be a four page insert into the newsletter and will include the flood map, FEMA program information, and a listing of all methods to obtain information during an emergency through various communication channels. The last time such an addition was included in a newsletter was 2009, therefore it is the recommendation to provide updated information to the residents and visitors of Avalon through this medium. This measure is also recommended, as it would serve as an important emergency management component piece to the newsletter.

Monica Coskey reported this Professional Services Contract would provide the Borough with the same services that were provided in 2019, with the addition of the Storm Preparedness Guide, as Scott Wahl indicated. As part of this contract, 7 Mild Publishing will be printing an Information and Recreation Guide, which includes recreation, beach and other various vacation information, as well as two newsletters issued in spring and fall. All publications will be mailed to every homeowner, as well as distributed through town. Digital formats of each will also be available on the Borough website.

Council President Hudanich commended Monica Coskey and 7 Mile Publishing on their hard work and professionalism, and spoke in favor of adding the Storm Preparedness Guide to the 2020 Spring Newsletter.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Shared Services Agreement with Avalon Free Public Library and Avalon Schools

James Craft explained there are changes in Shared Services Agreement; most of which being between the library and school. The sole change between the Library and Avalon Borough was in Section 205, "Management Service Fee and Annual Adjustment". In the new agreement, the cost of living increase is no longer automatic, and must be requested prior to December 1st. In the previous agreement, the automatic increase had not been enforced since enacting of the return of excess surplus law. The new language in that section of the agreement includes a provision that if the Library's statutory tax levy were to decline, the library would be able to ask for a reduction in the management fee by the same percentage of the decline. However, the fee cannot go below the current level of \$157,500.00.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Update regarding Council's authorization of a Special Event to take place June 5, 2020 at 30th Street Beach.

James Waldron explained at the last Council meeting, Administration was tasked to conduct some investigation regarding whether there would be any impediments at the State or Federal level for any contractual obligations to have an event at the beach with a recreational fire. He reported Mr. Yoskin and Mr. Lomax have offered verbal opinions that there is no impediment to holding such an event, shall Council choose to do so. Furthermore, both have reviewed the draft Ordinance, and have confirmed no violation of the Beach Management Plan. Mr. Lomax has made some specific recommendations, which are included within a written memorandum provided to Council.

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

Discussion regarding bids received for Contract No. 20-01, Fourth of July Firework Shows for the Calendar Years 2020-2022.

Scott Wahl reported one bid was received from Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc. for a three-year contract to provide fireworks on July 4th of each year ranging from 2020 through 2022. This contractor happens to be the same contractor that has provided these services to the Borough of Avalon for a number of years. The bid received was favorable, and holds the rate for the first and second years, with a slight \$2,000.00 increase on the base bid for the third and final year. Also, built into the bid is an option to postpone the show in the event of a weather delay that can be executed within 24 hours in advance of the scheduled event. Mr. Gould has reviewed the bid and has issued an opinion that everything is in order, and the CFO has authorized certification of funds. If Council is inclined to accept this bid, Avalon will be provided with the same Pyrotechnical Engineer, to help ensure consistent quality of the fireworks shows. It is recommended that Council consider awarding this contract to Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc. If Council is inclined, Administration would suggest awarding this contract to Pyrotechnics for a 3-year agreement with the Borough of Avalon.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution scheduling a public hearing to release a two-story height restriction previously imposed upon the property known as 129 18th Street, Block 17.03, Lot 27

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution scheduling the public hearing to take place on March 25, 2020 at 3:55 p.m. to be considered at today's Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing final Change Order for Contract No. M-111, Reconstruction of Various Streets

Thomas Thornton explained this is the final Change Order to adjust for quantities. There is a total of \$70,000.00 of additional work, however the Change Order also reflects \$85,000.00 in deductions for a net reduction to the contract in the amount of \$13,851.63.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for today's Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing Change Order Nos. 1 & 2 for Contract No. M-115, Reconstruction of Various Streets

Thomas Thornton reported these Change Orders are in connection with a project that is currently underway. Change Order No. 1 was necessary due to conflicts with the sewer laterals and gas lines crossing in the area where the stormwater pipe was shown on the original drawings. Because of those conflicts, the pipe, which was originally going to be 18 inches in diameter, was reduced to 12 inches so the utilities could bypass that area without issue. An evaluation of the situation was conducted to determine there would be no detrimental effect to ability to drain stormwater. Due to the use of a smaller and less expensive pipe, that Change Order amounts to a reduction in the amount of \$27,220.00. Change Order No. 2 was necessary in connection with the electric, cable, and telephone utility lines to be installed underground that had to be relocated due to being in direct contact with the 12-inch pipe.

Council President Hudanich asked if this is a new conduit.

Thomas Thornton replied yes and explained it had to be relocated to a greater depth to bypass the stormwater pipe.

Council President Hudanich asked if this service can be aggregated by cost on the whole Change Order.

Thomas Thornton replied it could be pieced together to be reflected that way.

Council President Hudanich stated underground wiring installation is at the cost of the homeowner.

Thomas Thornton stated when combining the two Change Orders, it reflects a net reduction to the contract cost.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution amending Professional Service Contract with V-COMM for small cell development plan

Scott Wahl read the following report:

Summary: The Avalon Borough Council is being asked to consider an amendment to the contract previously awarded to V-Comm of Exton, PA. This amendment is in the amount of \$23,940 and would specifically address the task of creating a small cell deployment plan for Avalon that would handle all future 5G requests by telecommunications carriers. A copy of the proposal is included in Council's reading folder.

Background Meetings: A small committee was formed that included Scott Wahl, James Waldron, Councilman Wierman, Nicole Curio, Dominic Villecco and Erica Villecco. Meetings were held involving most of these individuals over the past several months. V-Comm has informed the Borough that due to the fast future implementation of 5G technology, and due to pending legislation in Trenton, it is in the Borough's best interests to develop a plan for which carriers would have to follow to implement their 5G needs. Without an established and approved plan, and under proposed legislation, carriers would have the ability to implement the plan as they wish without regards to safety and aesthetics.

Assisting the Plan: Courtesy of a prior approval by Council, the aerial mapping of the Borough that will be conducted over the next few to several weeks will greatly assist with this effort. It will allow V-Comm to have a clear picture of current structures and infrastructure in the Borough, including all of the improvements made five years ago by Atlantic City Electric with new poles.

Goals of the Plan: The goal is to present Borough Council with a firm recommendation on how to accommodate the future requests by cell phone carriers. Today, the most common implementation methods are with cellular nodes (large boxes) attached to wooden utility poles, with antennas on top of the poles. In some places, ground cabinets would have to be installed to house some of the equipment. Another method is through the implementation of stealth poles. These would be new poles installed in the Borough that blend in with the current aesthetic environment, with the equipment needed for 5G and the antenna both imbedded in to the pole. These poles may also provide ancillary benefits including but not limited to additional street lighting. It is contemplated that any plan will be considered and approved by Borough Council. Various deliverables and tasks are outlined in the proposal.

Councilman Wierman noted V-Comm will take a map of Avalon and provide a layout of the options, which will help implement a plan.

Council President Hudanich said this is analogous with what Avalon did in connection with the real estate on water towers, which brought in approximately \$750,000.00 over the last 6-8 years. She spoke in support of this contract amendment.

Scott Wahl stated the goal is to have a final report to Council in advance of Labor Day Weekend.

Councilwoman Juzaitis also spoke in support of the contract amendment, and expressed great concerns about the proposed legislation if nothing is done.

Councilman Deever expressed happiness that Council did not rush into a decision, and inquired if the stealth poles proposed previously were similar to those being offered now.

Scott Wahl explained there are many different options now, including shorter poles and different designs that encase all necessary electronics.

Councilman Deever spoke in support of the contract.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing renewal of Agreement with Coastal Broadcasting, Inc. and authorizing a further Agreement with Cape May County Herald for media services for the 2020 calendar year.

Scott Wahl explained the past practice of Council has been to consider Resolutions, which have certification of funds from Jim Craft, for the various promotional needs for the Borough, including advertisements for events and initiatives as well publishing helpful information concerning Emergency Management. Both proposals have no rate increase over prior years, and are largely managed by the Public Information Officer. It is recommended that Council consider continuing these services.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Public Comments:

None.

Council to check over the agenda for the Regular Meeting:

Council proceeded to check over the agenda for the Regular Meeting.


March 11, 2020

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

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Councilman Deever	Aye
	Councilwoman Juzaitis	Aye
	Councilman McCorristin	Aye
	Councilman Wierman	Aye
	Council President Hudanich	Aye

Work Session adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


C. Danielle Nollett, Borough Clerk


Nancy M. Hudanich, Council President