

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Attendance: Public ----- 5

Reporters ----- 1

The meeting was called to order by Council President McCorristin.

Pledge of allegiance.

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

Also present:

Mayor Pagliughi
Scott Wahl, Business Administrator
James Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator
Nicole Curio, Esquire, Borough Solicitor
William McCormick, Director of Public Works/Utilities
Jeffrey R. Christopher, Chief of Police
Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Mott MacDonald
Joseph Maffei, Planning & Zoning Board Engineer

Council President McCorristin read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Notice of this Work Session was included the Annual Schedule of Meetings dated June 24, 2020. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Council President McCorristin thanked fellow Council members and all Borough employees for their hard work and dedication during the COVID-19 pandemic. He continued to show his gratitude to Councilman Deever for his service as an elected official and expressed how much he will be missed. With a heavy heart, he bid farewell to Councilwoman Hudanich and reminisced about many years serving on Council together and added her dedication to the Avalon Municipal Budget is legend-worthy. He stressed Councilwoman Hudanich's instrumental role in guiding Avalon's mission through insight and expertise. He expressed his gratitude for her diligence, dedication and passion over the last three decades, which helped shape Avalon into what it is today. He concluded his statement by wishing Councilwoman Hudanich many years of happiness and enjoyment in future endeavors.

Presentation of Proclamations by Mayor Martin L. Pagliughi to Dr. Nancy Hudanich and James Deever.

Councilwoman Hudanich thanked the Mayor and Council President McCorristin for their kind words and reminisced about her time on Council over the past 32 years. She thanked the public for their continued support, noting Council is a synergistic group made up of individual minds and she celebrated the expertise of each individual. She noted that throughout her time on Council, she has served the people of Avalon with love and dedication.

Councilwoman Juzaitis thanked Councilman Deever for his many years of service and for doing a fantastic job as a Councilmember and citizen. She expressed her heartfelt thanks to Councilwoman Hudanich for serving Avalon with love over the past 32 years. She further thanked Councilwoman Emeritus Hudanich for her guidance and service and expressed how much she will be missed.

Councilman Wierman expressed his happiness of having the opportunity to serve on Council with Councilman Deever over the past two years. He reminisced about their time spent together and thanked Councilman Deever for his support. He also recognized Councilwoman Hudanich for her guidance, not only as a fellow Council member, but also as his Vice Principal during school.

Chuck O'Hara, President of the Avalon Home and Land Association, thanked Councilwoman Hudanich and Councilman Deever for their service to the Borough of Avalon. In recognition of Councilman Deever's efforts through the Recreation Department, AHLOA has made a contribution to the Avalon Department of Recreation in Councilman Deever's name to support children's sports and education. He noted Councilwoman Hudanich's efforts of Fiscal responsibility and her efforts to provide education to the public, through annual budget presentations. In recognition of those services, AHLOA has made a contribution in the to the Cape May County Special Services District Education Fund in Councilwoman Hudanich's name.

Chief Christopher spoke about his experience with Councilwoman Dr. Nancy Hudanich and Councilman James Deever from a law enforcement perspective, noting Council's love and dedication to the Borough is very evident during the Council meetings. He commended both Dr. Hudanich and Councilman Deever for their dedication to the Borough Avalon and for their attention to minor details just as much as major decisions that affect the quality of life for the citizens, residents, and visitors. On behalf of the Avalon Police Department, he expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the years of service Council provided, and specifically the support they have shown to the Police Department.

Charles Covington bid his heartfelt farewell to Councilwoman Hudanich and thanked her for her contributions as a member of Council. He noted the most important role she played was on the Finance Committee, which positively impacted the Borough. Throughout her time as a Council member, Councilwoman Hudanich always served in the best interest of the Avalon homeowners and her love of Avalon. He wished her the best in the future.

Discussion regarding Resolution establishing standing committees and designating appointments of Borough Council.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the July 2, 2021 Reorganization Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution designating the official newspaper of the Borough of Avalon.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the July 2, 2021 Reorganization Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing a proprietary contract in connection with Water Meter Replacement Project.

Thomas Thornton explained the Borough is embarking on a Borough wide program to replace 5,000 water meters with the meters equipped with antennas and sensors. These antennas and sensors would transmit the meter information to a single location, which will generate the bills for service. Council previously authorized Mott MacDonald to proceed with the design of the system. Prior to awarding a contract, it is necessary to pass a Resolution to allow for a proprietary contract which is required in this case. It is in the Borough's best interest to maintain compatibility between the existing meters and the new meters. Neptune meters have been installed in recent years and there is no need to replace them.

Scott Wahl added Qualified Purchasing Agent Joe Clark has reviewed the information and has recommended Council move forward with this project.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the July 14, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Update regarding the status of Pennsylvania Harbor

Scott Wahl reported this item was recently discussed with Council, with Mott MacDonald being given preliminary authorization to survey the harbor, which has been completed.

Thomas Thornton reported a significant amount of shoaling has been discovered in Pennsylvania Harbor. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recognizes this is an emergency situation. The next step would be to prepare the plans and specifications in order to receive bids from contractors to proceed with the work. An expedited schedule is recommended for this project. Robert Deems of the Regulatory Branch of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has approved this project.

Council President McCorristin asked for more detail concerning the project timeline.

Thomas Thornton replied municipalities are not bound by public bid laws in emergent situations; therefore, contractors bidding for the project must be available to complete the work immediately. This project schedule is proposing a contract award date of July 14, 2021, assuming the contractor will submit insurance certifications and a performance bond within a week. It is assumed the contractor would be ready to mobilize within a week of the notice to proceed and that the project would take three weeks, which generates an estimated project completion date of August 18, 2021.

Council President McCorristin stressed the importance of navigation safety and voiced his concerns with the lack of markers in the waterway to indicate the extent of safe water.

Thomas Thornton noted the U.S. Coast Guard would oversee approving navigational markers, which have no avenue of immediate approval. Typically, this process takes 45 days and the Borough would be responsible for any costs associated with those markers.

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

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing Garrison Architects to provide bid services for the project known as Avalon Fire Department 2021 Station Addition and Renovations, Contract No. GA 19-49.

James Waldron reported Council approved a Bond Ordinance, which showed funds being available for this project to occur. Garrison Architects previously gave a presentation to Council as to the nature and extent of the planned renovations. Council now must authorize the advertisement and solicitation of bids for this project. The schedule has been drafted to allow a sufficient amount of time from the receipt of bids, to allow for all procedures and reviews to take place, which would make certain the bid specifications are met and complied with. The volume of work that needs to be done for bid specification compliance review will be done by a committee, headed by Paul Short. The project schedule has been reviewed and agreed upon by the architect, the Purchasing Agent, the Borough Clerk's Office.

Paul Short explained a proposed schedule has been provided to Borough Council. The anticipated effective date of the Bond Ordinance for this project is August 16, 2021. The estimated project award date is September 28, 2021 with bids being accepted August 10, 2021 at 2:00p.m.

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

Discussion regarding Resolution appointing a Class IV Member, Alternate #3, to the Borough of Avalon Planning/Zoning Board

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

Discussion regarding Ordinance amending Avalon Borough Code, Chapter 8, Section 14.1 "Parking Prohibited at all Times on Certain Streets"

James Waldron noted this Ordinance has two components for discussion and consideration by Council. Previously, the 21st Street Marina sought and received final site plan approval from the Planning/Zoning Board. As part of this approval process, there is an extended curb cut that extends the entire length of the marina property, which is Block 19.11, Lot 1 for a total area of 242 feet. The property owner has requested the Department of Public Works and the Avalon Police Department to establish signs designating this area as a no parking zone as well as the installation of additional no parking signs on the northerly side of 21st Street in the 800 block. This led to Mr. Maffei, Planning/Zoning Board Engineer, conducting an on-site inspection and developing a parking plan. The parking plan includes six isolated parking places that would be available for parking should Council decide to adopt the plan. The first option to consider authorizes the no parking signs for the area in front of the marina. The second option would be to adopt a no parking zone with limited parking consistent with the parking plan, which is being presented. This is a matter within Council's control, as the governing body controls the parking on public streets.

Council President McCorristin asked if the plan reflects six spots along the road and three spots at the end of the road.

Joseph Maffei explained there are three 22-foot-long parking spaces at the end of the cul-de-sac with three more spots located at the end of Sunrise Drive. There are two driveways associated with the approved site plan.

Council President McCorristin asked if there will be curb cuts associated with each spot.

Joseph Maffei replied yes and explained the driveway along Sunrise Drive is for the residents, with the remainder of parking being for loading and the retail business.

Councilwoman Hudanich inquired if there is a rationale for the various lengths of the parking spaces.

Joseph Maffei explained the first 25 feet is the required length for a no parking zone, while parallel parking spaces are typically 22 feet.

Councilwoman Hudanich asked if lines will be painted to delineate designated spaces and further suggested painting parking space lines throughout Avalon to maximize spaces and to ensure safety for residents and visitors.

Council President McCorristin voiced his concerns with regards to the curb cuts.

Joseph Maffei noted there is enough room for two vehicles to park between the corner and driveway.

Councilwoman Hudanich asked if the 14-foot property driveway is a standard driveway width, and if the 22-foot driveway could be reduced in size to add another parking space on the street.

Joseph Maffei replied yes, 14 feet is a typical driveway width, while the 22-foot driveway is for the residential portion, which allows ingress and egress in that driveway. The layout has been approved by the Planning/Zoning Board and would be difficult to change.

Council President McCorristin asked about the bulkhead at this location.

Joseph Maffei indicated the DEP and US Army Corps had approved the bulkhead permits for this location by the time the property owner addressed the Planning/Zoning Board.

Council President McCorristin asked if anyone considered or suggested parking on an angle towards the bulkhead.

Joseph Maffei explained this issue was addressed during the site plan review with the conclusion being that there would be more parking spaces in the current configuration.

James Waldron asked if Council would like to see another parking plan that will reflect additional parking at this location. If so, it may be best for Council to defer this item until after the July 2, 2021 Reorganization Meeting, where two new Councilmembers will be sworn in.

Council agreed to defer the Ordinance until the July 14, 2021 meeting pending a new parking plan.

Public Comments

Martha Wright, 632 7th Street, thanked Councilman Deever and Councilwoman Hudanich for their service and asked if livestreaming will offer phone calling service for at-home viewers to participate in the meeting remotely.

Council President McCorristin responded teleconferencing was not part of the agreement.

Martha Wright asked when the livestreaming will begin.

Council President McCorristin replied July 14, 2021.

Scott Wahl added when livestreaming begins on July 14, 2021, the public will see and hear the meeting as it is happening without the purpose of interaction. When the meeting is adjourned, a link to the recorded meeting will be uploaded to the website.

Council President McCorristin asked if any other local municipalities offer livestreaming with a teleconferencing option.

Scott Wahl replied he cannot speak with clarity on this item.

Councilwoman Juzaitis noted during the COVID pandemic, teleconferencing was offered as required by the State of New Jersey. Council decided to livestream meetings beginning July 14, 2021; however, there has been no discussion regarding teleconferencing at this point in time.

Martha Wright asked how the public will have access to the livestreamed video.

Scott Wahl stated a meeting will be held next week to discuss this with Mr. Fiedler. At the very least, the livestream link will be posted on the front page of the website.

Council President McCorristin suggested having the link posted to the Avalon Free Public Library website as well.

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Martha Wright spoke in support of offering telephone conferencing lines in addition to livestreaming and requested adding a Zoom meeting option, so people can participate.

Councilwoman Hudanich added there is a plethora of different software programs and browsers. At this time, Council cannot answer Martha's questions due to these different platforms. When considering livestreaming, Council did not consider an interactive meeting at the time. The COVID pandemic pushed Council into the teleconferencing option.

Council to check over the agenda for the Regular Meeting.

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


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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

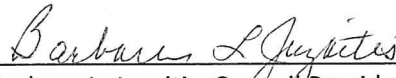
Councilman Deever	Aye
Councilwoman Hudanich	Aye
Councilwoman Juzaitis	Aye
Councilman Wierman	Aye
Council President McCorristin	Aye

Work Session adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Danielle Nollett, Borough Clerk



Barbara L. Juzaitis, Council President