

March 9, 2022

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

Attendance: Public ----- 8 Reporters ----- 0

The meeting was called to order by Council President Juzaitis.

<u>Roll call:</u>	Council President Juzaitis	Present
	Councilwoman Coskey	Present
	Councilman McCorristin	Absent
	Councilman McDermott	Present
	Councilman Wierman	Present

Also present:
Scott Wahl, Business Administrator
James Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator
Nicole Curio, Esquire, Borough Solicitor
Jeffrey R. Christopher, Police Chief
Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Mott MacDonald
William McCormick, Director of Public Works and Utilities
Paul E. Short, Sr., Code Enforcement Officer

Council President Juzaitis read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Notice of this Regular Meeting was included the annual Schedule of Meetings dated June 23, 2021. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Council President Juzaitis read the following statement:

“For the convenience of the public, the Borough is offering, on a trial period, the option of public comment via remote access as described herein. Public who participates remotely will be muted during the Council Meeting except at the public comment portion of the meeting. Any person attempting to disrupt the remote broadcast of a meeting may be denied access at the discretion of the person administering the meeting. Public is reminded of a five-minute limit per comment. In the event remote access is unavailable due to a technology malfunction, or other reason beyond the Borough’s control, the Borough will not pause or stop the live meeting. Borough Council Meetings are held in person with no capacity limits on attendance at a meeting. The best way to ensure an individual’s ability to publicly comment is to attend in person so that comments may be made in the event of a technology malfunction. The Borough reserves the right to discontinue offering public comment via remote access at its discretion for any future meeting.”

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing a Person-to-Person Transfer of Alcoholic Beverage License 0501-33-004-003 from 21st Street Corporation to 24th Street, LLC.

Danielle Nollett reported this transfer is for a license that is currently inactive, held by 21st Street Corporation, trading as Jack’s Place. This transfer application is a Person-to-Person transfer only at this time, and will be remaining inactive until a Place-to-Place transfer application is received. A background check is still forthcoming from the Police Department.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 23, 2022 Regular Meeting, subject to a clear background check.

Discussion regarding Resolution approving a membership in the New Jersey State Firemen’s Relief Association.

After brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be considered at today’s Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding revised proposal for Professional Engineering Services concerning the project known as 23rd Street Pier Replacement.

Thomas Thornton explained this project had been previously discussed by Council. As a result of recent discussions with the Public Works Department, this project will no longer be publicly bid; therefore, the bidding services have been removed from the original proposal in connection with this project. When projects are constructed by the Borough, certain plans and specifications are provided; however, some technical language and direction can be removed, which results in a reduction of fees charged to the Borough. Overall, this proposal realizes a net decrease of \$7,900.00. It is expected that construction would take place on this project in the spring of 2023.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 23, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing Mott MacDonald's services pertaining to CRS Program and Cycle Verification.

Scott Wahl indicated the Borough of Avalon recently attained a Class 3 designation in the Community Rating System (CRS) Program, becoming one of 11 municipalities nationwide to reach such a classification. This designation is attributed to proactive flood mitigation efforts, plans, and policies. Because of this classification, the Borough of Avalon is now held to a higher standard in the program, which requires a plan to be developed and implemented every three years and submitted to FEMA.

Thomas Thornton added the majority of these services are provided by another representative of Mott MacDonald, Frank Bruton, who is the primary lead on the CRS Program and has helped the Borough of Avalon throughout the years in achieving and maintaining the assigned CRS designation. This proposal is to advance the cycle verification, which is required to be demonstrated to FEMA every three years, which is required to maintain the Class 3 rating. The proposal also includes Mr. Bruton's attendance at coastal coalition meetings to the benefit of the Borough, as these meetings are hugely related to stormwater improvement and flood protection. The third aspect of the proposal general maintenance and implementation of the CRS program.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the March 23, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing Mott MacDonald's services pertaining to 2022 Backpassing Project.

Scott Wahl reported it is the past practice of the Borough of Avalon to rent equipment and have the Department of Public Works conduct sand backpassing projects, when necessary. This year, many supply-chain issues have been encountered, requiring the expansion of the scope of services needed from Mott MacDonald. Many rental companies have been contacted regarding acquiring the necessary equipment; however, all companies have indicated their inability to provide the equipment. As a result, this project will need to be put out to bid. It is imperative to repair certain erosion zones in the north end beaches in advance of the summer season. Recent beach surveys show a slower erosion rate of the beaches between 9th and 12th Streets, which can be attributed to the recent improvements done to the 8th Street jetty. The beaches showing the most significant erosion are from 12th Street to 17th Street. Typically, all sand taken from the borrow area is typically replenished by the flow of sand during the project time frame.

Thomas Thornton stated bidding services and additional specification services are included within the report before Council today. The specifications will include parameters for the contractor to grade the beach neatly to maintain safe beaches. Meetings will be held to ensure desired outcomes are achieved. The proposal also includes the additional efforts of Mott MacDonald which will be necessary for the project, in terms of inspection and supervisory services during project completion. Permit plans have been submitted. It has been confirmed that the beaches within the borrow area are showing more sand in their profile compared to this time last year, which is what is necessary to replenish the north end beaches.

Scott Wahl noted on average, approximately every three years, a hydraulic beach fill is done to replenish Avalon's beaches. It is expected that an upcoming hydraulic beach fill will be funded by Congress, allowing for a hydraulic beach fill between the 2022 and 2023 beach seasons. This hydraulic beach fill should eliminate the need for a backpassing project in 2023.

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

Discussion regarding Resolution amending Resolution 8-2022 pertaining to a change in law firms of Borough Solicitor.

James Waldron noted Council is being asked to amend Resolution 8-2022 to reflect that Nicole Curio, Borough Solicitor, has changed law firms from Gruccio, Pepper, DeSanto & Ruth, to Blaney, Donohue, & Weinberg. The law firm of Blaney, Donohue & Weinberg is currently appointed as Special Counsel and Conflict Counsel. This amendment would simply catch up with the law firm change.

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

Public Comments:

Martha Wright, 632 7th Street, referenced the Person-to-Person transfer application discussed earlier today and inquired how to find out the owner of 24th Street, LLC.

Danielle Nollett indicated the information is on file in the Borough Clerk's Office and can be obtained by submitting an Open Public Records Act request.

Martha Wright expressed concerns about where this liquor license would be used in the future due to a recent attempt made to open a liquor-serving establishment on the boardwalk.

Scott Wahl clarified no such attempt was officially made; the Borough had not received any official applications to conduct such a business on the boardwalk.

Council to check over the agenda for the Regular Meeting:

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

Motion made by Councilwoman Coskey, seconded by Councilman McDermott to adjourn the Work Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

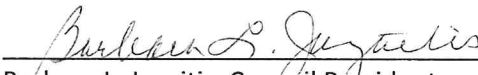
Councilwoman Coskey	Aye
Councilman McCorristin	Absent
Councilman McDermott	Aye
Councilman Wierman	Aye
Council President Juzaitis	Aye

Work Session adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Danielle Nollett, Borough Clerk



Barbara L. Juzaitis, Council President