

June 8, 2022

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

In-Person Attendance: Public - - - - - 0 Reporters - - - - - 0

Remote Attendance: Public - - - - - 4 Reporters - - - - - 1

The meeting was called to order by Council President Juzaitis.

<u>Roll call:</u>	Council President Juzaitis	Present
	Councilwoman Coskey	Present
	Councilman McCorristin	Present
	Councilman McDermott	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 McCormick, Director of Public Works/Utilities
Jeffrey Christopher, Police Chief
Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Mott MacDonald

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 construction permit refund in the amount of \$185.00 concerning 128 36th Street, Block 36.03, Lot 28.02.

Scott Wahl indicated all supporting documentation regarding this refund request have been forwarded upon the recommendation of the Construction Official that this refund be approved.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 22, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution establishing meeting dates for the governing body for the period covering July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 22, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Discussion regarding Resolution accepting the Cops in Shops Summer 2022 Grant in the amount of \$1,920.00.

Chief Christopher requested Council accept this grant funding to continue the operations permitted through this program. The amount granted to the Borough is less than previous years, as it is dependent upon activity observed by Police during the programs each year.

Councilwoman Coskey questioned how the establishments are chosen for the program.

Chief Christopher replied most establishments are chosen by way of partnership with the State.

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

Discussion regarding proposed changes to the Borough of Avalon's vision plan.

Scott Wahl explained a review of Human Resources practices has discovered the Borough's vision plan is used by only 37 percent of participants. The current vision plan requires covered individuals to go to one of five locations for coverage, all of which are located in southern New Jersey. It was decided to research vision plan options that would be of more use to covered employees and retirees. Multiple avenues were explored, with it being recommended for Council to consider approving a new vision plan through VBA, which has a broad, nationwide network of providers, and offers an increased benefit package including, but not limited to annual exams, coverage of frames and lenses with a capped exposure to the covered individual, and negotiated lower costs of frames and lenses. Additionally, VBA has agreed to a four-year rate hold for this vision plan.

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

Discussion regarding Resolution authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Cape May for the 78th Street Pump Station Project.

Scott Wahl announced the first preconstruction meeting was recently held for this project, which has been years in the making. During the planning process, the Borough of Avalon initiated contact with the County of Cape May in an attempt to demonstrate that Ocean Drive is a county road, and while the pump station construction primarily benefits Avalon residents, the construction will also provide a benefit to the County by providing flood relief to the county road. The County has approved a Resolution that would allocate \$672,000 in funding for this project by way of a Shared Services Agreement. He thanked the County for partnering on this project, and noted the County Engineer's participation in the preconstruction meeting, where the project scope and timeline were discussed.

Thomas Thornton noted the County stressed the importance of aligning this project timeline with the upcoming reconstruction of Ocean Drive. Those deadlines were communicated in the bid specifications and also during the preconstruction meeting. The contractor agrees to comply with the timeline, and all agencies are in agreement with all project scopes and timelines as well.

Councilman Wierman inquired if the Shared Services Agreement offers County participation with future maintenance of the pump station.

Scott Wahl indicated all future maintenance will be the responsibility of the Borough of Avalon; however, the County may be willing to participate similarly with future pump stations.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the June 22, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Public Comments:

Martha Wright, 632 7th Street, inquired what time Council Meetings will be held beginning July 1, 2022, as discussed earlier today.

Councilwoman Juzaitis responded all Council Meetings will begin at 4:00 pm.

Martha Wright suggested maintaining livestreaming and the opportunity of remote access to meetings by the public on a permanent basis, as much of Avalon's population have primary residences elsewhere. She referenced comments she made during public comment periods of previous Council Meetings concerning the Sport Fishing Center, and noted Resolution 2-2011 was adopted by Borough Council, designating the Mayor or his designee as the administrator of the Sport Fishing Center. She requested that Council reevaluate this Resolution and align the duties to a different department, such as Recreation. She further requested that Council reconsider the leasing of the commercial facility located on that premises and opening up the space to other uses.

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Council to check over the agenda for the Regular Meeting.

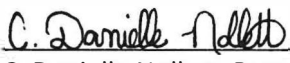
Council proceeded to check over the agenda for the Regular Meeting.

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

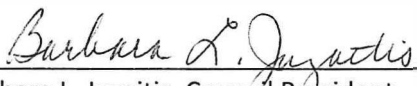
<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Councilwoman Coskey	Aye
	Councilman McCorristin	Aye
	Councilman McDermott	Aye
	Councilman Wierman	Aye
	Council President Juzaitis	Aye

Work Session adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Danielle Nollett, Borough Clerk



Barbara L. Juzaitis, Council President