

July 27, 2022

A Work Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, 3100 Dune Drive, Avalon, New Jersey.

In-Person Attendance: Public ----- 2                      Reporters ----- 0

Remote Attendance:    Public - - - - - 0                      Reporters - - - - - 1

The meeting was called to order by Council President Wierman.

Pledge of allegiance.

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

Also present:

Scott Wahl, Business Administrator  
James Waldron, Assistant Business Administrator  
Nicole Curio, Esquire, Borough Solicitor  
William McCormick, Director of Public Works/Utilities  
Jeffrey R. Christopher, Police Chief  
Thomas R. Thornton, P.E., Borough Engineer, Mott MacDonald  
Paul Short, Code Enforcement Official  
Eleanor Cifaloglio, Tax Collector

Council President Wierman read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

Notice of this Regular Meeting was included the annual Schedule of Meetings dated June 22, 2022. It was given to the news media and posted on the Official Bulletin Board as required by law.

Council President Wierman read the following statement:

“For the convenience of the public, the Borough is offering 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 the extension of the grace period for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Property Taxes.

Eleanor Cifaloglio reported during the months of June and July, Tax Collector's Offices are tasked with waiting for the County's certified tax rate, at which point the bill calculating and printing process can begin, with the tax bills being mailed upon completion of this practices. This year, the process began on July 18, 2022, which delayed the process. Unfortunately, it was not possible to release the tax bills prior to July 26, 2022, therefore an extension of the tax grace period is requested.

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

Discussion regarding purchase of a Bucket Truck from Altec through the Sourcewell National Cooperative Contract #1102421-ALT.

William McCormick explained the Borough's existing bucket truck is approximately 21 years old and is in dire need of repairs that exceed its value; therefore, Council is being asked to authorize the purchase of a new bucket truck to replace the existing equipment. Time is of the essence when placing the order for the new equipment, as it is possible the replacement will take 18 to 24 months to be delivered.

Scott Wahl added funds for this project are included in the 2022 municipal budget.

Council agreed to proceed with a Resolution to be prepared for the August 10, 2022 Regular Meeting.

**Discussion regarding property to be sold at a public auction on August 6, 2022.**

Scott Wahl reported this auction, which is typically held annually on the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend, was cancelled this year due to inclement weather. The Chief of Police has requested this auction be rescheduled for Saturday, August 6, 2022.

Captain McNair noted the Police Department wishes to give the public an opportunity to purchase some of these items, rather than arranging for the items to be destroyed.

Scott Wahl expressed hopes for a high turnout for this event, as it will be taking place during the height of the summer season.

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

**Public Comments**

Council President Wierman recognized former Councilmember Dave Ellenberg as a member of the audience at this meeting and thanked him for attending.

Martha Wright, 632 7<sup>th</sup> Street, referenced a recent press release notifying the public about the introduction of smart electric meters and inquired if these meters will impact the recent ordinance passed by Council allowing electric meter platforms to encroach within the established property setbacks.

Scott Wahl indicated smart electric meter installation will begin in September county-wide, with all installations being completed by March 2023. When Atlantic City Electric was asked if these meters would eliminate the need for electric meter platforms on homes, their response was that these platforms are currently used for meter readings, maintenance, and troubleshooting to preserve safety. Due to safety concerns, these platforms will still be required.

Martha Wright noted the Avalon Planning/Zoning Board is potentially amending the Master Plan to include a hotel overlay within the B-1 Zone and suggested the Borough consider also amending the Master Plan to increase the pervious coverage requirement to 15 percent per property, as stormwater runoff and ground coverage remain large issues.

Councilman McCorristin commended the Avalon Beach Patrol for their recent accolades collected this season during many Beach Patrol events, namely the David J. Kerr, Jr. Memorial Lifeguard Races.

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


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

Motion made by Council President Wierman, seconded by Councilwoman Coskey to adjourn the Work Session.

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

Work Session adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
C. Danielle Nollett, Borough Clerk

  
Samuel D. Wierman, Council President