

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2011**

The meeting opened at 7:35 with a prayer and the pledge of Allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Donnelly, Lloyd, Narcisi, Powell, Repp and Sefick. Also present: Megan Jones representing the Borough Solicitor, Dilmore, Police Chief Kokoski, Chester Engineer Representative, Rosensteel and Judy Brogan. Mayor Haslett and David Dixon were absent.

No Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Council Meeting

Lloyd moved:

“To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 21, 2010 and the Adjourned Meeting of December 30, 2010 as submitted.

**CARRIED
(Donnelly abstained)**

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Dilmore stated that he received a final response letter from ALOM (Allegheny County League of Municipalities) regarding the February dinner and meeting. Please let Dilmore know if anyone plans to attend.**
- **Received letter from QVCOG (Quaker Valley Council of Governments) on a Sustainable Community Essentials Project. Will forward the letter to Mr. Narcisi for possible consideration by his group.**

VISITORS:

Mary Marous of 320 California Avenue read a report she had obtained through the Right To Know Law, concerning the delinquent garbage accounts in Avalon.

She had statistics supporting her findings stating that Council was not doing their job because they do not know correct amount owed by the delinquent account holders in the Borough. She reported that there are 315 delinquent accounts with 8% owing more than \$1,000, 2 accounts owing more than \$2,000, 26% owing \$300 to \$999 and 56% owing for 2 or more years.

She demanded to know how Council could not know how much money is owed to the Borough for delinquencies stating that there are Council members who are delinquent on their accounts. She demanded that they abstain from voting on any motions that concern the garbage collection in Avalon until they pay what they owe. She named Jonathan Berstein and Pat Narcisi and asked if they had received bills for their accounts and what options were offered to them to pay their delinquent accounts. She stated she thinks it is wrong for them to decide what her bill should be when they haven't paid their own.

There are also Northgate School Board members and one Bellevue Council member on the delinquent list.

Marous also chided Narcisi for having his deceased father's name on the list. She feels he should have paid the account before it got this far out of respect for his late father.

She insists that the Borough is collecting more than Waste Management charges the Borough but she also admitted that by offering the discount the Borough is losing money.

She feels that the non payers will remain non payers if the fees are increased by the Borough. She stated that the Borough is owed \$136,000 and she wants to know if the Borough is delinquent with Waste Management and if they are not where did the Borough get the money to pay them. If the Borough is late in paying Waste Management, where will they get the money to cover it?

She informed the residents that it cost her \$22.00 to obtain the information she was reading and reminded them that Council works for them not the other way around and they – the residents – should do what they can to know what is going on in the Borough and hold Council accountable for their actions and decisions.

Donnelly stated that she was on the Quaker Valley Council of Governments when Avalon decided to go along with the other members to get a cheaper rate with Waste Management. She pointed out that it would have been more in 2007 if they had not joined the QVCOG and signed a five year contract which is coming to an end this year.

She pointed out that the office staff showed her a book with letters and court cases that had been sent to delinquent residents. Many of whom are more than one (1) year delinquent.

A resident from City View objected to having her bill increased because of the dead-beats who refused to pay. Repp stated that was not the reason for the increase and Joe Sictar of 627 City View quoted a report in the January 7, 2011 Citizen where Donnelly stated that the increase was to make up for those residents who do not pay their fees.

Repp stated that the correct reason for the increase is because the final option year is coming to a close and the Borough is not sure what the new cost to the Borough will be. Siktar asked if Repp was accusing him of lying. Repp stated that is not the case, because he also heard Donnelly say that but the actual reason for the increase is to cover the anticipated increase from Waste Management. He pointed out that Waste Management charges the Borough whether the resident pays or not. He stated that the discount is offered because the Borough needs the money as soon as possible to pay Waste Management.

Mary Mauris asked Bernstein if he had been taken to court and he stated that he had not.

Cortese noted that a fuel cost is also added to the cost.

Donnelly stated that she did not intentionally mislead anyone when she gave her reports in the past. That was not her intention.

Al Dingman of 711 Sylvan Avenue stated that he has lived in the Borough for 44 years and he wants to know what Council is going to do about this situation. He cannot believe that Council has all these facts and has done nothing about it.

He stated that Donnelly did not answer the question

Jackie Yurkovich of 649 Grandview Avenue stated that she has received several calls from her neighbors who cannot attend the meetings so she is getting information for them. She asked why she was lied to at the December Council meeting when she was told that the Borough was owed \$80,000 in delinquencies when the actual amount is twice that amount. Why is the Borough hiding the truth from the residents?

Dilmore stated that the office staff member who works on the garbage bills several days a week could address the group and answer some of their questions.

Laurie Lawless of 823 Jackman Avenue stated that she works for a collection agency that collects for a garbage company and there are ways to collect these delinquencies that the Borough is not using.

She stated that the Borough can refuse to pick-up people's garbage if they do not pay and then the police can cite them for putting their garbage out.

She stated that the Borough could go to Sheriff sales on these properties because people will pay when you knock on their door.

She wants to know whose job it is to collect this money. She expects Council to do their job.

Michael Bodycombe of 523 Eugene Street stated that he owns property on Ohio River Boulevard that he is renovating. The property is empty but he is still getting billed for garbage pick-up. He wants to know why he has to pay when there isn't any trash being put out for pick-up.

Dilmore explained again, that Waste Management bills the Borough per unit. If people move in or out of the area the Borough is still charged

for that unit. Thus, the owner must be billed by the Borough to cover this fee.

He told Dilmore that he has a dumpster at the site and he refuses to pay a garbage fee on top of that. He wants to know why the Borough is bothering with this when they can just have Waste Management bill them.

This community is already suffering so why is the garbage such a big problem.

Narcisi wanted to put a motion out that everybody will find their own garbage company to pickup their trash and they can pay them. He stated "why should the Borough be bothered with the billing and collection of fees when there are so many other things in the Borough."

Loud voices and arguing pursued and Repp called order to the meeting.

Donnelly stated that there are things that need to be negotiated such as owners paying for garbage removal when the property is vacant. But when Waste Management takes over the billing and collection, there may not be any negotiations.

Repp noted that the Borough has options, and a decision needs to be made. Bernstein asked if a motion could be made to change the bill for this year to eliminate the discount and charge only the amount Waste Management charges the Borough. Then a disclosure could be posted as to the exact amount charged by Waste Management and the amount charged by the Borough.

More screaming. Yurkovich asked "how did this get so out of hand?" "How could Council sit there and overlook all of that?"

Narcisi stated that they do not get all of the figures every month so they cannot make the garbage a full time job. Yurkovich stated that is why they are elected.

Narcisi noted that Yurkovich had an opportunity to be a Council member but she turned it down. He agreed that she did have personal reasons but so do some of the current members.

Cortese asked how many delinquencies are being pursued and Judy Brogan showed him the book with all of the names and what attempts have been made to collect the outstanding debts.

Judy spoke about the efforts made by her and Lorraine to collect the delinquencies, some going back as far as 10 years.

She stated that the people should not be concerned with their neighbor's bill because there are absentee owners who allow their properties to be used as homes for vermin and other critters as well as squatters and drug users.

She explained how she and Lorraine follow the process by contacting the owners, offering Promissory Notes with payments in line with their income, accepting partial payments, monthly payments, and minimal payments in line with fixed incomes.

She expressed their frustration when residents who owe for more than one year are buying pool passes, remodeling their homes, buying cars, etc. but totally ignoring the collection letters.

She also explained the process of taking delinquencies to the local magistrate, then notifying the Prothonotary's Office, then the lien is placed so when property is sold or a credit check is run, that lien shows up. Oftentimes, when a property is sold, the Borough can collect when a lien letter is requested.

There are times when a Sheriff Sale is held and the Borough can collect or they can collect through bankruptcies or refinances. All of these options are viable resources for the Borough but they do take time.

Once a Bankruptcy is declared, people resent getting bills from us even though the bankruptcy is for a previous year. So they don't pay either.

Judy stated that they have collected thousands of dollars on Sheriff Sales alone and thousands are still owed.

She tried to explain that the policy followed by the Borough is set through Ordinances and the correct process. Lori Lawless argued that a Sheriff sale can be initiated within thirty days after being notified but

most people will pay rather than have the signs posted that their property is being put up for Sheriff sale. Judy again stated that they have to follow the process as written in the Ordinances. She explained that she accepts quarterly payments, monthly payments, \$12.00 payments and anything that will encourage people to pay on a regular basis and maybe eventually pay it down or off.

Dilmore stated that it is the Borough policy that all buildings with three (3) units or less have to be under the Borough contract for garbage removal. Waste Management has a base payment for each unit. He further explained that when they were looking for bids on the trash removal, Waste Management was one of the lowest bids. Their low bid eliminates perks such as picking up trash from porches and yards.

Dilmore explained that Judy works everyday on the garbage and lien letters everyday. She also does the Promissory Notes and sets up the payment amounts. She also does the payroll for the Borough.

He stated that \$200 may have been too much and he wonders if everyone would have showed up for this meeting if it had been raised to \$185.00.

Another resident stated that her mother lives in West View and they also use Waste Management. Her mother only pays \$42.00 per quarter. It was pointed out that Avalon's quarterly amount is \$41.25 but it is not billed quarterly. If residents want to pay the quarterly amount that is acceptable.

One resident asked why Avalon residents cannot pay quarterly and Repp stated that they can.

Lawless asked why we don't go after the absentee landlords and property owners and Repp pointed out that they might be in another state such as Florida. Lawless stated that we should go to Florida to collect. Judy noted that there is a cost factor there and it makes no sense to travel to Florida to collect a debt that will equal or exceed the amount of the debt.

Lawless stated that there are a lot of things that can be done that are not being done and she wants the Borough to look into them.

Narcisi asked if there is a State law requiring the Borough to use a commercial garbage company. Dilmore asked who else would do it and Narcisi stated that he wants an answer to his question.

A resident stated that his mother lives in an area where each property owner hires their own pick-up company.

Narcisi stated that if there is nothing that requires the Borough to use one company, then we should consider whether we want to hire one company or have the residents hire their own removal service individually.

Dilmore stated that would be too many trucks in the area all week.

Narcisi pointed out the time the office staff uses a lot of time working on the bills and it is a great burden on the Borough all around. He pointed out that innuendos and accusations of kickbacks were referenced and he thinks the solution would be to have each resident hire their own contractor.

Repp had to call for order again since there are too many people talking too loud to make any progress.

Pete Zubic of 625 City View Avenue said Narcisi is threatening residents with individual contractors and he told them to wake – up. Narcisi stated that he is not threatening anyone and Repp stated that Narcisi’s suggestion was just that – a suggestion to be discussed by Council along with other ideas and options.

Zubic stated that the question is “what are we going to do with the contract this year? Not the future.”

Repp stated that this year’s contract affects future. He stated that the Council is being accused of hiding behind closed doors when in fact; these issues have been discussed at other meetings the Zubic did not attend.

Zubic asked “what are you going to do about the contract” “What are you going to do about the delinquencies?”

Repp stated that the Borough can lower the bill but there will be no discount. There were other suggestions and ideas put on the floor but for the most part, these were drowned out by spectators wanting their voices to be heard.

Linda Hudgins of 307 Fisk Street stated that she has no problem paying the full amount but she does not think a discount should be offered. She thinks adding \$1.00 to cover postage rather than forcing the payers to pay for the delinquents.

She also stated that she does not think individual haulers would be a good idea.

Bernstein wanted to make a motion to change the Waste Management charge. Dilmore stated that it would have to be done as soon as possible because the Borough needs the money to pay Waste Management.

Dilmore explained that to worry about next year is not accomplishing anything but the bottom line is that a decision has to be made at this meeting because the bills are ready to be mailed.

Bernstein stated that his motion would charge \$162.12 up to March 31st then charge \$200.00. Dilmore suggested charging \$165.00 with no discount and then \$200.00 after the due date.

Bernstein stated again that he would like to make a motion to charge \$165.00 with no discount and Dilmore added the penalty would be assessed on April 1st.

There was some problem with the wording with everyone adding an opinion.

Repp then called a five minute recess to have everyone calm down and the motion to be worded correctly.

Meeting resumed.

Bernstein stated that he would like Donnelly to make the motion he discussed before the break.

Donnelly moved to change the Avalon Borough garbage fee to \$165.00 if paid by March 31, 2011 and after that, April 1, 2011, a penalty of \$35.00 will be assessed for a total will be \$200.00.

Narcisi asked Dilmore he endorses this motion and Dilmore stated that he does endorse it as long as the fees are paid. He believes that Council should address this issue again next year.

Repp stated that he agrees with Dilmore that the reduced fees must be paid; otherwise, the Borough will have to come up with the money to pay Waste Management another way.

A vote was taken and the motion was...

**CARRIED
(Powell abstained)**

Donnelly moved for the Secretary to advertise for a collection agency to collect the delinquents.

Dilmore asked if this is a service or will it be open for bids.

Repp stated that he wants this discussed further at a Finance Meeting before he would give a decision.

Narcisi asked what a collection agency will charge and it was explained that was the purpose of the advertisement.

A vote was taken and the motion was...

**CARRIED
(Powell, Narcisi and Repp – nay)**

Repp stated that he would like to see the people at future meetings.

Rankin stated that she has the list to be published and it will be in the next publication.

Pete Zubic thanked Council for listening to the residents and Repp invited him to attend all future meetings.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- **Dilmore stated that he finished the final paperwork as directed by Council on the 2011 Tan Loan with Fidelity Bank and monies were transferred to the General Fund account on January 14, 2011. He thanked the people at Fidelity Bank for their work on the loan.**
- **Auditors from Maher – Duessel have been in the office for the past two (2) weeks working on the 2010 final audit. They will be back in February to complete work and all has gone well.**
- **Dilmore worked with John Jakela of the Quaker Valley Council of Governments (QVCOG), Doug Sample and Katie Hale of the Bellevue Administration Office and the Allegheny County DCED on preparing an application for funding on the West Bellevue Road Project.**

SOLICITOR:

NO REPORT

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Shawn Rosensteel stated that was assisting Avalon Borough and the Quaker Valley COG and on January 31st the semi-annual report will be sent to the Allegheny County Health Department.

FINANCE:

“To accept the Tax Collectors Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted.

CARRIED

“To direct the Secretary to advertise for a new Solicitor for Avalon Borough.”

CARRIED

Powell stated that the Tan Loan did go through.

Harry asked Shawn Rosensteel about R & B Construction Company and Shawn stated that the work would begin on January 24, 2011.

SAFETY:

Narcisi moved to approve a handicap parking space in the vicinity of 932 Clive Street.

CARRIED

STREETS:

Lloyd stated that the Street Crew is doing a good job keeping the streets cleaned and thanked them.

Lloyd moved to authorize the Secretary to file the paperwork with the Allegheny County Airport Authority for participation in the Pennsylvania Airport Hazard Zoning Overlay Requirements and be eligible for Grant reimbursement.

Dilmore stated that the Borough needed to submit a letter by February 1st to be eligible for Grant money. Allegheny County has set aside money to reimburse 90% of the cost for doing the zoning overlay on the zoning work for communities in the flight path of the airport so nobody plants a tree that grows to high and other things. Dilmore wants to submit a letter but he wants to talk with Bellevue so they can go together and use one Solicitor and split the money. He believes it will be a good thing for the Boroughs to do.

Repp called for a vote and the motion was...

CARRIED

Lloyd moved to accept the bid of Howard Johnson, Inc. of 128 Farragut Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15202, for \$8,290.00 on the two (2) Ford F350 dump trucks.

CARRIED

PROPERTY:

NO REPORT

HEALTH:

NO REPORT

CORP/PLANNING

Bernstein reported that he is working with an energy company to get reduced rates. He will get the information and report back to Council.

INTER-BORO:

Donnelly moved too approve Resolution No. 1071 authorizing the filing of an application for fuel with the Allegheny County Department of Economics in the amount of \$370,000.00 for the West Bellevue Road Sewer Project.

Cortese asked if the cost amount is correct and Rosensteel confirmed.

Shawn Rosensteel spoke about the project stating that the construction is difficult because sewer lines need to be replaced and the estimated cost will be approximately \$370,000.00. Dilmore stated that a lot of people worked on this project and got it through.

Repp called for a vote and the motion was...

CARRIED

Donnelly stated there will be a Quaker Valley COG meeting on January 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

She also stated that the Borough Association Banquet information is available in the Administration office for sign up.

PARKS:

Cortese stated that an ad for lifeguards and manager will need to be placed in the Citizen in the near future.

LIBRARY:

Cortese stated that Dave Mayernik is going to resign form the Library Board due to his job.

Megan Jones, Solicitor, stated everything was ready for the 501C application amendment. The IRS wanted an amendment and they tried to do one but the IRS wanted two. The 501C is the Tax Exempt status form required by the State for the Library to be exempt.

4th JULY:

NO REPORT.

Cortese moved to adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9: 30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

**Harry W. Dilmore
Manager**

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 2011**

The meeting opened at approximately 7:30 p.m. with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Dixon, Donnelly, Lloyd, Narcisi, Powell, Repp, Sefick. Also present were Dilmore, Chief Kokoski, Solicitor Canciello, Rob Arnold, and Judith Brogan and Ed Klicker, Tax Collector. Absent: Mayor Haslet.

No Executive Session prior to the Regular Council Meeting.

Lloyd moved:

“To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 19, 2010.”

CARRIED

Powell noted one change on page 10

He did not abstain to motion to change the garbage fee to \$165 if paid by March 31, 2011. Bernstein did abstain to that motion.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Dilmore stated that he received a letter from the Allegheny County Summer Lunch Program. Avalon will take part in that program again this year. Letter was turned over to the Parks Committee.
- Letter from the YMCA on the 2011 5K run. This information was given to Council members for their review. A motion will be made this evening.
- Letter fro the Northgate Winter Ensemble on the 2911 Home Show, requesting use of the swimming pool for their parking. The letter was forwarded to the Parks Committee for their permission to allow the request.

- Letter from Arcadia publishing on an Avalon book. They publish books on different communities. They do most of the work and there is no cost to the community. They collect the money when they sell the books.
- Letter from Senator Pippey's office on a town hall meeting on the State Budget. Posted on the board in office,

VISITORS:

Linda Hudgins of 307 Fisk Avenue thanked Council for the clean up work that was done after her complaint at the January meeting.

Brandon Gillingham spoke on the 5K run to be held on Saturday, July 16, 2011. Narcisi asked Brandon to attend the Safety meeting to discuss the run. Brandon stated that the race is scheduled to coincide with the Bellevue sidewalk sales and the route will be the same as previous years.

Jeff Mouris, 320 California Avenue stated that the lot he complained about at the previous meeting is cleaned and he thanked Council for getting it done.

Jeff also commended police Chief Kokoski and the two officers that were mentioned in the Citizen a few weeks ago concerning their drug bust. The officers were injured and he appreciates all of the effort to get the drugs off the street.

He also asked questions about the gas company tearing up the streets and he had asked Dilmore what was going to be done about the repairs. Dilmore had told him that a temporary fix would be done until spring but the resurfacing would be done when the weather allows.

Jeff then asked about an article in the Citizen concerning a street opening ordinance in Emsworth and he stated that it would be a good idea if Avalon had such an ordinance. Repp stated that the utilities do have to patch the area they tear up according to Avalon's specifications and Dilmore stated that Avalon does have an ordinance that other municipalities have used as a template for their own. He stated that all of the companies working on the streets in Avalon are required to

submit a street opening application. Jeff asked what the specifications are for the openings and Dilmore stated that the companies are charged by the square foot and what type of work they are going to do after they dig up the street. The specifications are in place through an ordinance and are available by request.

Jeff asked if Avalon has a weight restriction similar to Emsworth for trucks traveling through the area. Chief Kokoski stated there is a weight restriction and he has registered two officers to attend a class hosted by the State Police. Avalon does not have the scales necessary to weigh these trucks but the class will be helpful to the department. Jeff stated that he thinks it would be worth looking into for the future of Avalon.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- Dilmore stated that we are working with Maher-Duessel on the final stages of the 2010 audit. We need to schedule exit meetings with the Finance Chairman and the President of Council. The auditors will stay late so the Council can come in to speak to them if there are any questions.
- Dilmore stated he is working with Bellevue and the Quaker Valley Council of Governments on the West Bellevue Road paperwork and preparing to set up advertising and construction meetings. Rob Arnold will speak about that in his report.
- Dilmore stated he attended the 2011 Emergency Mitigation meeting with Allegheny County officials and need to meet with the Safety Committee and the Fire Department to update the current plan. The North Boroughs is grouped in with Neville Island and is in the stage two (2) category. He will keep Council informed.
- Dilmore stated he is working on the CD36 grants for completion and assembling the CD37 work projects for April submission. Any ideas for possible projects would be appreciated.

SOLICITOR:

Canciello stated that Dixon will present a resolution tonight that if passed will authorize Council President to sign off on an agreement with Bellevue Borough. This calls for a 50/50 split on any cost over-runs on the West Bellevue Road project. Grant money will pay for most if not all of the work but if there are any cost over-runs they would be split 50/50, however, he set it clear in the agreements that this will not set any precedence. Previously, it had been agreed upon that all costs would be split 50/50 but research shows that only 13% of the waste was from Avalon. With the grant, the split will not be an issue and if there are any cost over-runs, it is agreed that they will be split 50/50.

Canciello also discussed that 202 California Avenue is falling down and once it comes down completely, the Borough will be permitted to purchase the property for \$1.00. The Borough can then sell the property and put it back on the tax list.

Dixon asked if it would be possible to put a cap on any cost over-runs because Bellevue does have the greater percentage of usage. Narcisi agreed that it should be a consideration.

Dilmore explained that the grant was applied for and granted based on the 50/50 split so they cannot change it now.

Rob Arnold of Chester Engineers stated that they strive to put together a representative yet conservative cost estimate so when the bids come in the cost will be representative of the amount and the grant or conservative amount will be enough to cover the cost.

Cortese asked if Chester Engineers fee is included in the total and Dilmore stated that some of their fee is included. Arnold stated that something very ineffective would have to occur for the cost to go over the grant amount.

Dixon asked how long Chester engineers numbers/figures are good for – for example if the study was done in September and it is now going into March – are the figures or estimates still good. Arnold explained that although John Jakeila received the letter allowing the grant, the engineering company has not finalized anything yet. As soon as the bids

are completed work will be started. Dilmore reminded them that they are under a court order to do this work. Without the grant it would be out of pocket and the Boroughs cannot afford it. The fact that we got the grant was because we had a shovel ready project. There were a lot of people who applied for the stimulus money but they did not have a project ready to go and that is why the bids and studies were done in advance.

Dixon asked if the Resolution is passed tonight will that be the last of the problem. Dilmore stated that it would be unless Council wants to fight over any over costs for the 13%. He stated that the bids are coming in and they are hoping this will resolve the problem.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

NO REPORT

FINANCE:

Powell moved

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To accept the Tax Collector’s Report as submitted.”

Klicker thanked Council for putting a freeze on the delinquent taxes last month which allowed him to collect more taxes than was anticipated.

The motion was then....

CARRIED

“To pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

**CARRIED
(Dixon voted no)**

Powell stated that the Borough Committees need to slow down on the spending because they are going through the Tan Loan and its still the first quarter.

He also stated that the names for delinquent garbage accounts will be sent to Jordan Tax Service for collection. Jordan Tax will have the authority to do what needs to be done to collect the delinquent accounts.

They also have the authority to send report to the Credit agencies.

Donnelly stated that Jordan tax Service will still have the authority to take them to court and put liens on the property.

SAFETY:

Narcisi move too purchase a new police patrol vehicle under the SHACOG purchasing agreement.

Dixon asked which vehicle will be replaced and Dilmore stated it was not a replacement purchase.

Cortese asked if the payments will be deferred and Dilmore stated he is working on that.

Dixon asked if it was going to be a car or another Explorer. Dilmore stated it would be a car.

Narcisi asked Chief Kokoski if he had anything to report and Kokoski stated that he will have actual numbers for the next meeting and he will show that property crimes have dropped since the drug busts began.

Narcisi moved to raise the parking fines from \$4.00 to \$10.00.

Donnelly asked if the increase is for street sweeping or for both sweeping and meter parking. She also asked if the fine would be \$10.00 every hour the vehicle is illegally parked.

Kokoski stated that they cannot give tickets every hour because of the manpower it would take. He stated that the parking issue has to be about enforcement and they do not have the manpower to travel the length of the Avenue giving tickets. In response to a question about the city coming into the area to boot or ticket vehicles he stated that the city has the power and the resources to boot and ticket in the city but they cannot cross city line into the suburbs to ticket or boot; however, the state can tow, ticket or boot in any area.

After further discussion, the motion was....

CARRIED

Narcisi move to approve a handicap parking space at 304 Fisk Avenue.

CARRIED

PROPERTY:

Narcisi moved to authorize the Secretary to advertise for prices for the roof on the DPW/Fire Department service building.

CARRIED

STREETS:

Lloyd moved to authorize the Secretary to advertise for the sale of old motor vehicles.

Donnelly asked if they are inspected and was told the sale would be in "as is" condition.

Dixon asked why they don't put the Suzuki in on the sale and was told it already is included.

The motion was then.....

CARRIED

Lloyd asked if a motion had to be made to approve Laurel Mountain Leasing Company for the purchase of the dump trucks and Dilmore explained that the Finance Committee had already accepted the rates with Laurel Mountain Leasing. Dilmore asked the Solicitor if it would be necessary and Canciello stated they should put it on the floor as a motion.

Lloyd moved to accept the proposal of Laurel Mountain Leasing Company for the loan for the two new dump trucks.

CARRIED

Dixon asked why they are putting a motion for Laurel Mountain Leasing Company if they do not have all of the figures yet and Dilmore explained that they do have the figures needed to make their decision but Laurel Mountain told him they may be able to give them a better rate than previously stated.

After discussion the motion was...

CARRIED

Lloyd asked if it would be possible for the Quality of Life would be permitted to put flowers or mini gardens in the empty lot on California Avenue. Dilmore stated he would have to check with the County and the State for permission.

HEALTH:

Dixon refused to make the motion on Resolution No. 1071.

Powell moved to accept Resolution No. 1071, entering into an agreement to split the cost of West Bellevue Road 50//50 on any cost over-runs on the project.

CARRIED

CORP/PLANNING

Bernstein stated that he has satisfied his delinquent garbage account.

He also stated that he is looking into an energy program for the Borough through Energy Savings Inc. He stated that this company worked for Hampton Township and he is looking into this and other ways to reduce energy costs.

He stated that if the Borough takes part in the program offered by Energy Savings Inc. they offer 25% off of the electric and gas but they will have to commit to a three year contract.

Donnelly asked if there would be a change in the usage of light bulbs and Dilmore stated that the lighting inspection has been completed by the county.

Repp asked if there is anything from the Tri Boros and Powell asked if all of the seats are filled. Bernstein stated that there is no alternate for Avalon Borough.

INTER-BORO:

Donnelly stated that she is still the President of the Quaker Valley Council of Governments and there will be a meeting on February 16th in Emsworth.

She stated that Recycling Day is scheduled for May 7th.

The QVCOG has extended an invitation to the West View Water Authority to attend one of their meetings. She believes they will be interested on the new plans for the Quaker Valley Council of Governments.

Donnelly moved to join Allegheny County in submission of proposed local ordinances for a three year period starting January 1, 2011 thru December 31, 2013.

Narcisi asked her to explain it and Donnelly stated that it is for informational advertisements on the County web page.

The motion was then...

CARRIED

Donnelly moved to purchase a floor scrubber for Avalon Volunteer Fire Department at a cost of \$3,900.

Powell stated that he is concerned with the timing and he is not saying "no" to this purchase but he is saying "not now."

Narcisi stated that it is important for the fire department to have this because there is a need since the one they have is broke.

Donnelly stated that they could change the motion to have the scrubber purchase approved to be purchased at a later date.

Powell asked if a scrubber could be rented as opposed to purchasing it and Narcisi asked if he knew how much it would cost to rent as opposed to purchasing. Powell did not have that information at this time.

Lloyd asked if the Fire Department can purchase a scrubber and submit a bill for repayment in May.

Dixon stated that the scrubber they have is between ten (10) and fourteen (14) years old and they have been "nickel and diming" it for the past three years. They asked for a new one last year and was told to ask again this year.

Dixon stated that the building needs a lot of work and if the scrubber is not approved they will not clean up when the hall floods. He stated that the creek there floods the hall and the scrubber is not a luxury but a need. He stated that it is not a threat but they need the scrubber now.

Repp asked if Donnelly would amend the motion and Dilmore asked when it would be purchased if approved and would it be on the List of Bills for March.

Donnelly moved to remove her motion to purchase a floor scrubber for the Avalon Volunteer Fire Department at a cost of \$3,900.00.

**CARRIED
(DIXON ABSTAINED)**

Narcisi asked Donnelly to allow Dixon to make the motion for the floor scrubber and she declined.

Repp asked what Council wants to do about the motion.

There was some discussion about when the scrubber would be purchased and when it would be billed. Dilmore stated that they can purchase it anytime but bill the Borough at a later date.

Donnelly moved to purchase a floor scrubber for the Avalon Volunteer Fire Department at a cost not to exceed \$3,900.00 on or after May 1, 2011.

Dixon asked if they were sure they were going to go through with the purchase and was assured that they would vote on it tonight and it could be purchased any time but not billed to the Borough until May 1, 2011.

The motion was then...

**CARRIED
(CORTESE ABSTAINED)**

PARKS:

Cortese thanked Ron Franke for the donation of \$5,000 for the work and the flowers for the California Avenue Park.

Cortese moved to permit the organizers of the 5K race/walk on Saturday, July 16, 2011 to use the Avalon Borough public streets.

CARRIED

Cortese moved to authorize the Secretary to advertise for the positions at the Avalon Pool for the 2011 season. These positions to include pool manager, life guards, pool clerks and concession stand operator.

CARRIED

Cortese moved to have the Secretary submit the paperwork for the Allegheny County Summer Lunch Program for 2011.

CARRIED

LIBRARY:

Cortese moved to appoint Ed Klicker as a member of the Library Preservation Board with a term running until 2014.

CARRIED

Cortese stated that he was going to resign from the Library Board but he has reconsidered and will not resign.

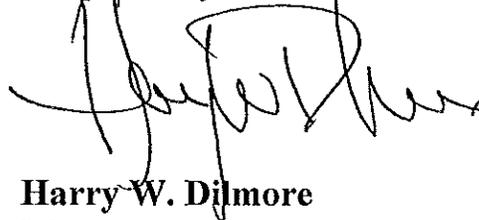
4th JULY:

Connie Rankin stated there is progress on the plans.

Powell moved to adjourn.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry W. Dilmore", written over a horizontal line.

**Harry W. Dilmore
Manager**

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 15, 2011**

The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Dixon, Donnelly, Lloyd, Narcisi, Powell, Repp. Also present were Dilmore, Chief Kokoski, Solicitor Canciello, Rob Arnold and Judith Brogan. Absent: Mayor Haslett.

No Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Council Meeting.

Lloyd moved:

“To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 15, 2011.”

**CARRIED
(Sefick abstained)**

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Dilmore stated that he received a letter from the Allegheny County Department of Emergency Services. Copies were sent to the Safety Committee for discussion on Tuesday. The next meeting will be on April 17, 2011 which will include an update on the hazard mitigation and emergency safety plan for the Borough. Dilmore will attend the meeting and report to Council in April.**
- **Letter received from Chester Engineering on the 2010 Chapter 94 annual wasteland management report. The engineer will include these details in his report at this meeting.**
- **Letter information on the 2010 Census Report for Avalon. Copies of this report were given to Council members.**

- 32 40
- Letter from Penn Dot on work to begin on or around June 11, 2011 on the S. Birmingham Bridge on Route 65. There will be one (1) ten (10) foot lane in each direction during construction.
 - Receipt of ISO insurance report on the Avalon Fire Department. It was discussed at the Safety Committee meeting. Fire Chief Carney has a copy of the report. This report is what insurance companies use to base the homeowners insurance rates.
 - Letter from Waste Management on the Open House invitation to Council to see how a landfill operates.

Repp asked Dilmore to announce the presentations to be made at this meeting. Dilmore asked Police Chief Kokoski to tell the attending residents about the reason for the Presentations to Officers Sean Kirley and Walter Johnson.

Kokoski stated that on a recent sting operation using the officers and surveillance to apprehend and arrest a drug dealer in the area, the officers went over and above their duty. While in pursuit of the assailant, they jumped over a twenty (20) foot wall and Johnson also jumped over a five (5) foot fence. Johnson injured his leg which required surgery and Kirley received numerous cuts and scrapes but the assailant was caught.

Dilmore asked the officers to step forward to receive the presentation awards. Dilmore noted that while each award had different resolution numbers the sincerity was the same for both. Dilmore read Resolution No. R-02-11 and R – 03-11:

“AVALON BOROUGH COUNCIL DOES RECOGNIZE OFFICERS JOHNSON AND KIRLEY FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS AN AVALON POLICE OFFICER. YOUR DEDICATION TO DUTY AND TO THE CITIZENS OF AVALON BOROUGH IS TRULY NOTEWORTHY. LET THE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF OUR COMMUNITY SERVE AS THANKS FOR YOUR ACTIONS ON OUR BEHALF.”

VISITORS:

Amy Petcovic of 614 California Avenue spoke about residential parking permits in Avalon Borough. She stated that the parking fines have been increased from \$4.00 to \$10.00 and this places a hardship on the residents. She believes it would be easier on the residents who have to park on California Avenue to have permit parking because she and others are getting tickets because they cannot keep feeding the meters. She stated that since she is unemployed it is costly and she cannot watch the clock and run out to the meter every hour. She thinks Council should address this problem as soon as possible.

She stated that she spoke to someone at the City of Pittsburgh Parking Authority in reference to ordinances that are already in place for areas such as Oakland, Mt. Washington, Dormont, North Side and other areas throughout the city. She presented a copy of the ordinances that are in place. She stated that the City of Pittsburgh has conducted studies to confirm the need for permit parking. She stated that the permits are \$20.00 but she was unsure of the use of the revenue from the permits. She wants to know what can be done to get the permits as opposed to having the police officers use their time writing tickets. She wants to know who she can talk to so she can get answers and possibly action on her request. She also asked for email addresses for Council members and Powell gave her his card.

Donnelly asked if there is a parking lot for her building and she stated there is not. Lloyd noted that the permit parking is for residents only and permits would not be available for meter parking.

Repp stated that this issue has been addressed in the past but Council can revisit the issue and see what if anything can be done.

Jackie Yurkovich asked how the collection for the garbage bills is going and Dilmore stated that a lot of people are taking advantage of the discount period but there are some who do not care that their name was in the newspaper for not paying.

Jackie asked if there is any grant money to get the lights fixed on California Avenue. Dilmore stated that there are plans to get started on that project. She also asked if the Birmingham steps can be cleaned up if

34 42
not repaired. Dilmore stated that there are plans to do that as soon as the weather permits. Other work needs to be put off until tax money comes in to the tax office.

Jackie asked if Avalon gives tickets on Saturday for parking on California Avenue. She asked if anyone is aware that the 500 block of California Avenue is not supposed to get a ticket on Saturdays or Sundays. Kokoski stated that he was not aware of this but he is now and it is noted.

Lavonne Dixon of 624 California Avenue also spoke about the parking situation and parking permits for residents on California Avenue. She stated that she has lived in the area for four (4) years and has been paying tickets but now her work schedule does not allow her to get up and feed the meter every hour all night long.

Repp stated that the situation will be addressed again by Council.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

Dilmore stated that Mayor Haslett was in the office during the day and reported that he would not be able to attend this meeting. He is aware of the parking permit situation and discussed this with Dilmore and wants to find a solution for the residents.

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- Dilmore stated that he attended the Allegheny County Department of Emergency Services Workshop for updated hazard mitigation plans and will continue to update Council as it continues. Chief Carney has a copy of the paperwork and he will contact the necessary people.
- Dilmore attended the DCED workshop at the Alcoa Building last Thursday regarding the rules and regulations for the West Bellevue Road money. There are a lot of rules that must be adhered to because it is "stimulus" money. Items used on the project must be made in America and other strict rules that the engineer, Shawn Rosensteel will discuss at this meeting.

We will be coordinating the efforts with John Jakiela of the Quaker Valley Council of Governments.

- Dilmore stated that he is in receipt of applications for the Solicitors position. These applications were given to the Personnel Committee for review.
- Dilmore stated Avalon is accepting applications for the swimming pool positions for the 2011 season. The Concession Stand is still an area of concern. There will be a meeting with the Parks Committee.
- Dilmore rough draft of the 2010 audit which has been completed by Meyer-Duessell. The draft will be given to Council and the paperwork will be filed by the deadline of March 31, 2011.

SOLICITOR:

Canciello stated that 619 Norwood Avenue has been torn down and the Borough can proceed to purchase the property for \$1.00. The Open Records office agreed with PEMA stating security reasons for the refusal to give the names of the communities.

Canciello stated that Bernstein wanted to address Council. Bernstein then introduced Jim Bahr, President of Energy Savers, Inc. Jim is promoting a program to reduce electric costs for residents of Avalon Borough. This plan is already in use by other municipalities such as Hampton Township. He is here to explain the program and answer questions.

They are offering a new rate as of March 15, 2011 of 6.7 cents/kWh for a twenty – four (24) month fixed rate. He pointed out that Duquesne Light has a petition for a rate increase with the PUC for September 2011. He stated that by locking into this rate of 6.76 cents /kWh there would be a significant saving to the Borough and the public.

He stated that ESI analyzed Avalon Borough’s accounts with Columbia Gas Company and the recommendation is to stay on the current tariff. At this time, Columbia Gas has the lowest rate available on commercial natural gas and their recommendation is to stay with Columbia until they raise their rates. ESI will put these accounts in their MarketWatch

36 ~~44~~
program and contact Avalon Borough when Columbia Gas petitions for a rate increase.

The electric program is already available to Borough residents and ESI will help to market the program by sending letters and using website enrollments. The current offer to residents is 7.17 cents /kWh vs Duquesne Light's rate of 8.89 cents /kWh. Residential rates are a little higher.

Natalie Able is the person who put this packet together and helped with the research and recommendations. She will be the contact person for residents who want to enroll in their program.

Mr. Behr stated that they would ask the Borough to do the mailing to the residents and they would reimburse for the postage. This is only because the Borough gets a better postage rate.

Dixon asked how much ESI will charge Avalon Borough to take part in this program and Mr. Behr stated they make their money from the suppliers. Dixon asked if they are Brokers and Mr. Behr stated they are Brokers. More information is available online at abeln@energysaversinc.com.

Dixon asked if there is an option to withdraw from the program if ESI rates go too high at a later date. Mr. Behr stated that there is no fee to switch back to your original supplier if you notify them within the necessary time frame to allow the switch.

Mr. Behr stated that the oil prices will determine the electric rates in the future but not the natural gas rates.

Lloyd asked if Mr. Behr can leave information and sign up cards for the residents to pick up and use. Mr. Behr stated that he would leave cards.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Rosensteel stated that he also attended the meeting with Allegheny County regarding the West Bellevue Road Project. The main item on the agenda is the deadline to submit the paper work which must be done by March 31, 2011.

The scheduled start date for the work to begin is "by June." The contractor has 60 days to complete his contract which will bring the completion date to September.

Dixon asked if Shawn is still confident with his prices. Shawn stated that the project is funded by ARO which has strict requirements on how the money is spent. Some of the requirements are wage rates, American made products and several Federal requirements. Shawn still feels they will finish within the bid amount.

Dixon does not want the project to go over budget.

Shawn also attended a meeting regarding engineering work to be done between Ben Avon and Bellevue Council.

Shawn stated that the Chapter 94 report basically goes over the status of the system. Dixon stated that Council should be very careful when writing this ordinance because there are many variables such as the braking system and decibel noise from the trucks. If it is not specific enough or too confusing, the Borough will be spending a lot of time in court defending the ordinance.

FINANCE:

Powell moved:

"To forward and accept the delinquent Real Estate Tax list to Jordan Tax Service."

CARRIED

"To accept the Finance Report dated March 15, 2011 as submitted."

Dixon asked if the Tan Loan was included in this Finance Report. He told Powell that he should repeat the "Don't Spend" order. Powell did tell the committees not to spend any money at this time. He believes that the money situation may be better next month.

38. 46
Repp called for a vote on the motion to accept the Finance Report as submitted.

CARRIED

“To accept the Tax Collector’s Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To accept the Treasurer’s report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To Pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

Dixon stated that he thinks paying \$1741.00 for bottled water is ridiculous. Donnelly stated that if she attended the meeting with West View Water. She also read the reports on the drinking water in the area and she stated that if people choose to drink bottled water they can and will.

Repp called for vote on the motion to Pay the List of Bills.

CARRIED
(Dixon voted no)

SAFETY:

Narcisi moved

“To permit Officer Sean Kirley to attend the state police traffic school in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.”

Narcisi stated that it will cost the Borough nothing to send Sean to this school but it will be valuable to the Borough and he asked Chief Kokoski to speak on the school.

Kokoski stated that it is a 96 hour course on tractor trailers coming through the Borough. There is a greater need for the officers to know how to deal with oversized trailers in the area especially with the Marcellas Shale moving through the municipalities.

Dixon asked if the amendment will include Sean's travel expenses. Kokoski stated it would not be included. Dixon asked if Council could help pay these costs. Kokoski stated that Sean is commuting back and forth for the class which is about an hour drive. Dixon asked about meals and Kokoski stated that Sean will be paid his full salary but if Council wants to compensate him it will be appreciated.

Repp stated that this subject has already been discussed in length at the Safety meeting and he called for a vote on the motion to permit Officer Sean Kirley to attend the state police traffic school in Greensburg.

CARRIED

STREETS:

Lloyd stated that the new trucks are in and they will be placing the ad to sell the old ones.

He stated that beginning April 1st the Crew will begin the street cleaning schedule in Avalon. It is important that residents move their cars to allow the cleaning to be done. He also reminded residents that the fine for not moving the vehicles will now be \$10.00 not \$4.00 as in the past.

PROPERTY:

Sefick stated there will be a meeting at the Borough Municipal Building at 8:00 p.m. to open the bids for the roof for the Fire Hall.

Sefick moved to approve the first and second reading of Ordinance No. 1332 authorizing the Maintenance and Code for 2011.

CARRIED

HEALTH:

Dixon stated that the County is going to change the standards for restaurants. He believes it will be in favor of the restaurants so "buyers beware."

40 48
CORP/PLANNING:

Bernstein moved

“To enter into an agreement with the Energy Savers, Inc. for locking in the electric rate for 2011 thru 2013.”

It was specified that the term will be from April 2011 to April 2013.

CARRIED

Bernstein moved

“To ratify Resolution No. 1071 certifying that Avalon Borough is willing to participate in the energy conservation measure (ECM) retrofit phase of the Allegheny County Energy Program.”

Powell asked how much this will cost Avalon and Dilmore stated that the plan is to get in on the grant phase of the retrofit program.

There was some discussion about this program and Avalon’s participation.

Repp called for a vote on the motion to ratify Resolution No. 1071 and the motion was...

CARRIED

INTER – BORO:

Donnelly stated there will be a Quaker Valley COG meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, March 16, 2011. She will attend.

The Quaker Valley COG will hold the Recycling Day on May 7, 2011 and West View Water will host meeting on March 16th in Bellevue and the Dumpster Day for Avalon will be on June 18, 2011.

LIBRARY:

Cortese moved to nominate Richard McMonagle to the Library Board.

A representative from the Library stated that the Board does not want that motion made.

Solicitor Canciello stated that Councilman Cortese has the right to make a motion and it is in the by-laws.

There was some discussion and then Donnelly seconded the motion.

Lloyd suggested that the motion be tabled until the meeting on Thursday.

Dilmore suggested that you cannot table a motion that has been passed so it has to be done before the vote.

Cortese stated that he spoke to Jon and Tom and he had suggested nominating Richard because he had served on the Board before.

Lloyd again suggested that the motion be tabled until after the meeting on Thursday.

Dilmore stated that Cortese did not make the motion to table the motion so it has to be tabled by someone other than Cortese. Repp stated that he agrees that with the meeting on Thursday, he does not see why they cannot wait to proceed with it next month.

Cortese said he will not table his motion and Repp called for a vote on the motion to nominate Richard McMonagle to the Library Board.

**NOT CARRIED
(1-8 VOTE)**

Cortese moved

“To have Tom Lloyd and Jonathan Bernstein on the Library Committee to serve with Chairman Ralph Cortese.”

Dilmore stated that Council President, Ed Repp appoints the Committees in the beginning of the year and no motion is necessary for him to appoint anyone else. He pointed out that Repp is simply appointing new members.

Canciello confirmed this procedure.

PARKS:

Cortese stated that the applications are coming in for the pool but they are still having concerns with the concession stand.

4th JULY:

Connie Rankin stated that they have a contract with the same company they used last year. She stated that doing it on Friday last year was a good decision and they will do it again this year.

Lloyd stated that the Fire Department held a Fish Fry and Monte Carlo night and it was well attended. They are planning a Fish Fry for Good Friday this year.

Powell moved to adjourn.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted



**Harry W. Dilmore
Manager**

approved 44

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 19, 2011**

The meeting opened at with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Haslett.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Dixon, Donnelly, Lloyd, Narcisi, Powell, Repp and Sefick. Also present were Dilmore, Shawn Rosensteel and Judith Brogan.

No Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Council Meeting.

Powell moved "to dismiss Meyer, Darragh, Buckler, Bebenek & Eck, P.L.L.C. as the Law firm representing Avalon Borough in legal matters and Richard Canciello as the Solicitor."

CARRIED

"To appoint the Law Firm of Goering, Rutter & Boehm as the Law Firm representing Avalon Borough with Megan M. Ott as the Solicitor."

CARRIED

"To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 15, 2011."

Dixon noted a homonym error on page 7 and a phrasing error on page 8. Corrections were noted and the minutes then...

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Dilmore stated that he received a call from Allegheny County regarding Avalon Borough opting in or out of the CDBG Grants for the next three (3) years. Dilmore stated that he is not aware of the reason for this but if Avalon opts out, the Borough will not be eligible for future grants. Donnelly stated that the QVCOG was aware if this option and emails were sent out with no response from

from Avalon Borough. She stated that she has suggested to them that calls should be made to the Boroughs not responding.

- The Avalon Volunteer Fire Department Fire Relief audit came in from the Auditor General and copies were given to the Safety Committee.
- Letter from PIRMA, the liability insurance carrier for Avalon Borough, for the renewal decoration for 2012. Dilmore is meeting with Mr. Lutz on Thursday and he will report back to Council with information for their consideration.

VISITORS:

Jackie Yurkovich of Grandview Avenue thanked Council for the repair of the street lights. She also asked Councilman Cortese to give a detailed pool report because people are asking her questions she cannot answer. Cortese stated that he would give his report at this meeting and answer her questions.

She also stated that the Quality of Life will be holding a clean-up day on April 30th at 8:00 a.m. She was representing her daughter who is in charge of the clean up day. She asked the Councilpersons to be there to help with the clean-up. They will supply the gloves and bags and later serve a lunch. She stated that there are other groups such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Dilmore asked if they have a plan to dispose of the bags and she stated that they did not but would welcome help. Dilmore stated that Council can have the bags picked up and would supply shovels and brooms. He stated that Jackie should let him know what is needed and Council will help.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

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SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- **Dilmore stated that bids for the West Bellevue Road project were opened and Shawn Rosensteel will give a detailed report at this meeting.**
- **All paper work has been filed for the 2010 audit by Maher Duessel. Copies are in the Administration office for review. Dilmore will set up a closing meeting with Maher Duessel and inform Council of the date.**
- **Completed the salt letter to the Quaker Valley Council of Government exercising the 2011 – 2012 Salt Contract.**
- **Met with Megan Ott, the new Solicitor, regarding her taking over the Solicitor position.**

SOLICITOR:

Megan Ott thanked Council for the opportunity to represent Avalon Borough and looks forward to serving the Borough in the order they are expecting. She stated that she will give monthly reports concerning pending litigation and/or other matters of importance to Council prior to the Council meetings.

Narcisi welcomed her and asked if she would be giving written monthly reports every month and Megan stated she would do that if Council requests it; otherwise, it will be only if there are pending issues.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Shawn Rosensteel reported that the bids for the West Bellevue Road contract have been opened. He reported that the high bid was \$342,390 and the low bid was Independent Enterprises at \$278,400. Chester Engineers recommended accepting the low bid with Independent Enterprises. He stated that they have a year to complete the job and he is confident in the company they are recommending.

FINANCE REPORT:

FINANCE REPORT:

Powell stated that with taxes being collected, the money is coming in but the budget still must be followed.

Powell moved:

“to accept the Finance Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To accept the Tax Collector’s Report dated as submitted.”

CARRIED

“To pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

CARRIED

SAFETY:

The Fire Department is having the regular safety check on the fire truck snorkel. Also, there was no asbestos found in the old roof that is going to be replaced at the Fire Hall.

The Auditor General’s report on the Fire Department was positive as has been the case for the past several years.

The Committee is working on the parking problems in the Borough which will include addressing parking permits and possible ordinances which would require landlords to supply parking spaces.

Sean Kirley passed his test with the State Police regarding the large truck program. Chief Kokoski stated that Sean attended the course which was two (2) weeks and three days. The training covered training

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for inspections for large trucks and was authorized and certified by the State Police.

Chief Kokoski also applied for a grant for breathalyzers to be used by the police. He will report back to Council when he knows if the grant is approved.

STREETS:

Lloyd stated that he attended the Pennsylvania State Association of Municipalities Conference in Harrisburg and Hershey. There is a lot of information available to the municipalities and he will make it available to Council as received.

Lloyd encouraged Council to participate in the Avalon Clean-Up day on April 30th and to support the Apple Blossom Festival on May 4, 2011. The festival will open with a breakfast at the Trinity Church and there will be music and a Chinese auction throughout the day. There will also be children's inflatable rides and a pie eating contest.

He also stated that Keystone Tax Services will hold a free seminar for employers on April 21, 2011 at the Borough Building at 10:00 a.m.

State Representative, Dan Deasy will be conducting a Town Hall Meeting on May 18th at the Borough Building. The Library will have a bake sale and a book sale on Election Day and the Fire Department will host a fish sale on Good Friday.

Lloyd moved "to authorize the Secretary to advertise for part time summer help for the 2011 season."

CARRIED

Lloyd pointed out that he does not know at this time how many part time employees they will hire. They will check the budget before making that decision.

Lloyd moved “to exercise the option year for salt pricing with Morton Salt Company and have the Secretary notify the Quaker Valley Council of Governments of the intent.”

CARRIED

Lloyd stated that when he was in Hershey, Pennsylvania attending the conference, he spoke to several people about the new regulations for the street signs. The street signs will have to be six (6) inches high with reflective capital letters. One of the reasons for this change is that seniors have trouble seeing the ones being used today.

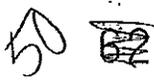
Narcisi asked who was initiating and enforcing this change and Lloyd stated that it is the Federal Government – specifically the Federal Highway Administration.

Dilmore stated that the Quaker Valley Council of Governments of which Avalon is a part, is considering purchasing a machine which costs over \$14,000. The signs will have to be certified every year due to potential changes, and it is more feasible to share the cost of the machine with all of the municipalities in the QVCOG.

Narcisi asked how many complaints have been filed about the street signs and Lloyd stated there were no complaints. The Bush Administration put this in effect to accommodate our growing senior population.

Donnelly stated that street sign colors vary from state to state and this law would make them uniform.

Lloyd stated that he worked with the Library Board for one month and he learned a lot about the library and its operation. There are approximately 250 items per day leaving the library. There were several activities held at the Library last week. They did get the 501C-3 tax status and with their fund raisers, they have turned the Library deficit around and balance their budget.



PROPERTY:

Sefick stated that the bids for the Fire Hall will be opened on May 12, 2011. He also stated that the doors at the Library that had been damaged in the car accident late last year are in and will be installed as soon as possible.

HEALTH:

NO REPORT.

CORP/PLANNING:

Bernstein stated that he continues to work with the Energy Savers, Inc. to get the savings for Avalon residents. He will report back to Council when he has all of the information.

INTER – BORO

Donnelly moved “to authorize sending the Borough Manager to the APMM Conference at Seven Springs from May 17th to May 19th.”

Dilmore explained that APMM is the Association of the Professional Municipal Managers and the conference is being held in Bedford, Pa. this year. He stated that he has attended these conferences in the past but this year he is on the Executive Committee and will have to be there an extra day. He will pay for the expenses for the extra day and his admission to the cocktail party. He is asking Council to approve the balance.

He is asking Council to approve payment for the two days which will include his tuition and certification as well as two (2) days room and meals.

Dixon asked how much it will cost the Borough and Dilmore stated that it will be under \$600.00.

Repp asked for a vote on Donnelly’s motion and the motion was...

CARRIED

Donnelly stated that she attended the Allegheny County League of Municipalities at Seven Springs. She stated that it was a productive meeting because they discussed the 2011/2012 budget.

She also reported that Avalon needs to assign a representative to the Connect Group. Connect Group is a group from the Universities and Grants and it is for Pittsburgh and surrounding municipalities.

She also stated that Bellevue received money via a grant for their Urban Garden. We will also check their web site at www.allegheny.com to find out how much money is available and what needs to be done to apply for a grant. This money may be available for bike trails, walking trails and other community centered activities.

There is also a discussion about what can be done to improve small business opportunities.

Donnelly also discussed the recycling day for the QVCOG which is on the same day as the Sewickley Festival.

She attended a meeting on he CD37 update meeting and the Manager's Meeting. She stated the speaker, Joseph Dinkle, stated West View Water will no longer be putting chemicals in the water.

Repp stated that he would like to make a change to the Library Board. He stated that he wants to move Tom Lloyd from the Library Board and appoint him as the Borough representative to the Tri – Boro Planning Commission.

PARKS:

Cortese moved to hire Cati Makatura as the Manager of the Avalon Swimming Pool for the 2011 season.

CARRIED

Dixon asked if Cati has all of the necessary certifications. Cortese stated that she does.

The pool cover will be removed next week, pot holes will be filled in and needed painting will be done.

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Ten (10) people applied to work at the concession stand and ten (10) people applied for pool guard.

Vandals stole the hockey stick that was part of the new hockey sign in Avalon Park. It will cost approximately \$400 to repair the damage done to the park.

Birmingham Park has a new see – saw and a new spring duck for the children which was bought to replace the old, broken ride.

Cortese stated that there is drainage water running into the baseball field. The workers used a crane to move the 2200 pound blocks and put sand bags in place. Then they put the blocks back. The Street Crew workers are waiting to get their hepatitis shots before cleaning the field. There is a fence there now until the work is completed.

He stated that he has received complaints that someone is dumping trash in the creek behind the park. Dilmore notified Ross Township and they are going to prosecute in their own area.

Yurkovich asked if there is any money available to fix and clean the local monument. Dilmore stated that work is already slated for the monument and he will look at the damage she is referring to because he is not aware of any recent damage other than what happened during the winter months. He is also looking into other options for funds to repair and repaint the monument.

Cortese noted that they are still looking for a manager for the concession stand at the pool. He stated that because of the losses and salaries they are going to have to raise prices. They are looking for other options and workers. They need adult help to manage the kids and accept responsibilities for the workers.

LIBRARY:

Lloyd moved “to accept the resignation of Ralph Cortese from the Library Committee.”

CARRIED

Repp appointed Vickie Donnelly as Council chairperson to the Library Committee.

Donnelly moved "to accept and appoint Erin Zimma and Rich McMonigle to the Executive Board of the Library."

CARRIED

Cortese noted restrictions on the term and replacement rules of the By-Laws.

Donnelly stated there will be a meeting to nominate new positions on April 28th.

^{4th} JULY:

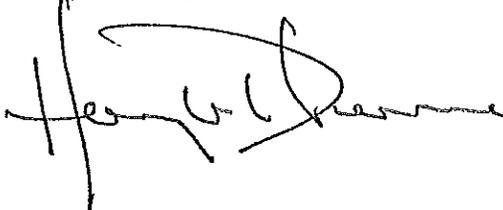
Connie Rankin stated they are making progress on the plans for the celebration which will be held on July 1, 2011.

Cortese moved

"to adjourn."

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted



Harry W. Dilmore
Manager

APPROVED

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 19, 2011
Date changed due to elections**

The meeting opened at with a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Dixon, Lloyd, Narcisi, Powell, Repp, Sefick. Also present were Solicitor Megan Ott, Chester Engineer representative, Jessica, Tax Collector, Ed Klicker and Judith Brogan. Absent: Cortese, Dilmore, Donnelly and Mayor Haslett.

No Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Council Meeting.

Lloyd moved:

“To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 20, 2010”.

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Dilmore stated that he received a letter from Allegheny County Emergency Servicing Unit concerning the CERT training classes to be held in June. The letter was forwarded to the Safety and Fire Committees.
- Received notification from Allison Park Contractors on the bridge work beginning on or around May 31, 2011 at the bottom of Birmingham Avenue. Information was sent to the Fire and Police departments.

VISITORS:

Linda Hudgins of 305 Fisk Avenue asked if anyone knew why her neighbors and other residents put their cut grass in the street. She asked if there is an Ordinance concerning what should be done with

50 ~~75~~
cuttings. Lloyd stated that the leaves are allowed to be put in the street but grass cuttings are not permitted.

Linda also stated that some of these same people put their snow in the street after the plow has cleaned the streets. Repp stated that there is an Ordinance concerning the snow shoveling but he is not aware of one for the grass cuttings. Linda asked if the Ordinance is enforced and can she complain about it when she sees the snow being thrown in the street. She was told she can complain and should do so at the time of the incident.

Jackie Yurkovich of Grandview Avenue stated that she made an announcement at the April meeting about clean – up day and only one person showed up to help. She was disappointed that no one on Council cared enough to help.

She stated that the volunteers consisted of teachers, young children, and residents. She stated that the amount of garbage picked up was impressive and she could not believe how many bags were collected. She thinks Council members should have been there and asked them to take part in the clean up day next year. Dixon stated that he would have been there to help but he had to work.

Ruth Lloyd planted flowers and the teachers stayed through the day.

Jackie asked if it is true that the swimming pool is going to be closed for two weeks in August. If it is true she thinks it is wrong because they haven't even opened yet. Repp stated that he did not think that was the case and Brogan agreed with him that there were no plans to close the pool in August.

Jackie also stated that she had been informed from a reliable source that Ralph Cortese was the victim of malicious gossip at the Library on Election Day. She stated that she does not think that any member representing the Borough should take part in gossiping about other Council members. She stated that it was mean and unfair to Ralph since he was not there to defend himself.

Repp stated that he was unaware of the situation and he agreed with Jackie that it is unprofessional and wrong to attack a Borough employee in a public venue in a malicious manner.

Repp thanked her for bringing this information to Council's attention and Dixon stated that he respected her opinion and her wish to defend Ralph but because it is a blanket accusation, Council cannot act on it. Jackie stated that the person who overheard this gossip is ill and unable to attend the meeting and Dixon stated that it is hear-say and nothing can be done about it.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

NO REPORT

SOLICITOR:

Ms. Ott stated that she looked over the existing files that Canciello had been working on and noted that three (3) out of the four (4) had been turned over to the insurance company.

Regarding the intended property donation to Avalon Borough located on Semple Avenue, there were no liens filed and she has asked Dilmore for a summary of what has been spent on the research of this property. After she receives the list, a lien can then be filed. That will wipe out any taxes owed on the property and allow the Borough to move forward with obtaining the property.

Ms. Ott stated that Police Chief Kokoski asked her to review the manual that will be voted on at this meeting. She did review it and stated that she puts her stamp of approval on the manual. Dixon asked if she actually read the manual and Ms. Ott stated that she has read it and approves of it.

Narcisi asked if Canciello has already filed the preliminary objections to the Kersting case. Ms. Ott stated that he had not done that and that as

58-72
of April 20, 2010 a complaint against Avalon Borough had been filed but nothing has been done since May 2010.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Jessica stated that the Allegheny County Economic Development and the Quaker Valley Council of Governments met with the contractor to discuss the necessary administrative requirements regarding funding.

She also stated there will be a pre-construction meeting at the Borough Office with the Quaker Valley Council of Governments, Bellevue and Avalon to discuss the requirements of the contractor. Work is scheduled to begin in mid June and is expected to last approximately forty-five (45) days.

She stated that the requirements for the work being done on Route 65 are within the Penn Dot requirements.

Repp asked if everything is going well on the West Bellevue Road Project and Jessica stated that to the best of her knowledge the project is on schedule.

FINANCE:

Powell stated that his exuberance from last month has waned because the EIT tax has not been coming in at the rate expected.

The Tax Collector, Ed Klicker spoke and stated that the first wave of taxes have been sent to Keystone Tax but some companies are still sending the taxes to the Borough Tax office. Ed stated that the DCED had the wrong information on their web site and he called them to inform them of their error. People are confused about how to pay their taxes but it is slowly coming into place.

Dixon stated that he is being questioned by senior citizens about the letters they are receiving regarding their quarterly bills. Klicker explained that Keystone was sending letters to everyone and anyone who thinks they are receiving letters incorrectly should call Keystone and have their name removed. Keystone is being cooperative about this so Klicker is not expecting any problems.

Powell moved "to authorize the Secretary's submission of the AIM Loan application in the amount of \$70,000.00."

CARRIED

Narcisi thanked Sefick for his work on the loan application.

Powell moved "to accept the Finance Report as submitted."

CARRIED

Repp asked if the last check to the Administrative office is included in this report dated May 19th and Klicker stated that it is not included.

"To accept the Treasurer's report as submitted."

CARRIED

"To accept the Tax Collector's report for April 2011 as submitted."

CARRIED

"To pay the List of Bills as submitted."

CARRIED
(Dixon voted no)

SAFETY:

Narcisi noted that the Fire Company bought a new shed with the grant money and they want to donate the old one to the Streets Department.

Narcisi stated that several of the Borough Police have been injured in the line of duty. He stated that the Union has agreed to allow more part time officers to work more hours to accommodate the needs in the police department at this time and will cut back on the overtime. He thanked the part-time workers and Bob Espy in particular for helping with this situation.

60 ~~74~~
Narcisi moved "to adopt and approve the Policy and Procedures Manual for the Avalon Police Department."

Dixon asked Narcisi if he read the new manual and he stated that he did read it and he found some interesting stuff in it.

Dixon asked if this motion will relieve the Borough of any problems that occurred prior to this manual being adopted.

Narcisi stated that he does not see that as being a problem stating that although he does not normally approve of manuals, he feels this one will be good for the Borough and the officers.

Repp then called for a vote on Narcisi's motion which was...

CARRIED

Narcisi thanked Ms. Ott for her quick response regarding the manual.

STREETS:

Lloyd stated that Yurkovich's daughter headed the clean - up day and he thanked her and Mr. & Mrs. Mauris. He also stated thanked the Trinity Church for preparing lunch and the Girl Scouts and teachers for staying so long and working so hard.

He stated that there were approximately forty (40) people cleaning and planting. He thinks it went well and hopefully it will be carried over to next year with more participation.

State Representative, Dan Deasy held a Town Hall meeting on May 18th and eight people were in attendance. Lloyd stated that he found the meeting informative and interesting. He stated that Dan Deasy has a representative in the Borough office two days a week. Julie meets with people to answer questions and help with any forms or applications.

The Planning Committee is working on the wording of an Ordinance for signs in the area. This will address the size and placement of signs including billboards.

Lloyd noted that people need to cut their grass which is growing excessively because of the frequent rains. The high grass causes visibility problems as well other infestations.

He asked the President to select a committee to open negotiations for the upcoming street contract negotiations.

Repaving on California Avenue has been delayed because of the rain. The contractor is working on other things in the area until the weather allows the paving to be done.

He reminded Council that Dumpster Day is on Saturday, June 18, 2011.

Lloyd asked the President to select a committee to open the contract talks with the street committee to negotiate the contract.

Lloyd moved "to hire up to three (3) part-time crew workers for the summer."

Dixon asked "if we can't pay our bills now, how can we afford to pay \$25.00 an hour for a couple of street crew workers?"

Powell agreed with Dixon and although we need the help through the summer but he can in now way guarantee the results of hiring more people.

Repp agreed that the Borough needs the help but he also agrees that they cannot afford to hire anyone now. He also stated that scheduling would have a lot to do with how new hires would be used.

Sefick noted that part-time help would have to be really part-time.

Bernstein noted that part-time could be a few hours a week to 30 hours per week.

Repp also stated that Dale Regrut would have to be in touch with Harry on a daily basis to determine the part – time hours and how the workers will be used.

62 76
Repp then called for a vote on the motion to hire up to three (3) part-time crew workers and the motion was...

CARRIED

(Bernstein & Dixon voted no)

Lloyd also stated that the Street Crew has begun filling the potholes

Lloyd stated that last year there was a motion made to repair the Birmingham Avenue steps and it was going to cost over \$10,000. Since we do not have the money I move "to rescind the contract with Intex Construction Inc. for the repair of the Birmingham Avenue steps."

CARRIED

Lloyd stated that the Street Crew will work to repair the steps for the time being. Yurkovich stated that the steps cannot be used and she thinks it is a waste of money to have the Street Crew work on them when the money could be used to fix the sidewalk. Repp stated that the steps will be blocked off so they cannot be used until they are repaired.

Dixon asked if the responsibility for the homeowner to repair the steps and Repp stated that it is Borough property that is in question at this time.

Repp called for a vote on the motion to "rescind the contract with Intex Construction Inc. for the repair of the Birmingham Avenue steps."

CARRIED

PROPERTY:

Sefick moved "to authorize the acceptance of Stringert, Inc. bid of \$67,000 on the roof replacement at the Municipal Garage building."

CARRIED

There was some discussion with Dixon asking about cancelling the job if the loan does not go through and further maintenance. Sefick explained that it would not be necessary to cancel the job.

HEALTH:

Dixon stated that the Fire Department is selling the shed they are replacing. There us no set price and the buyer must take it down and haul it away at their own expense.

Dixon moved "to purchase a Vantage floor scrubber at a cost of \$3,600.00."

Powell stated although the promise was made and he would like to keep that promise, but not at this time. Money is tight right now and he doesn't think it is a wise move.

Sefick noted that it was already postponed twice and he doesn't think it is a wise move to postpone it again.

Narcisi stated that it is now a safety issue – the floor needs to be cleaned.

Powell asked if it would be possible to rent a scrubber for the time being and Dixon stated that this issue was discussed in December 2010 and again in January 2011. He stated that he has a Citizen at home that states that it would be done this month. He also stated that he will not jeopardize the safety of his men.

Powell stated that he is not disputing that it was promised; only the cost and only the timing.

Dixon stated that the loan for the garage roof was for \$70,000.00 and the roof is going to cost \$67,000.00. That is \$3,000.00 that can be put toward the scrubber.

Powell stated that if all of the committees stay within their budget and overtime is cut back that would make it easier to purchase the scrubber. He apologized for asking for another delay but the reality is that there isn't enough money at this time.

The discussion started to get loud and Repp called for order reminding members that it is a question and comment segment.

64 78

Lloyd stated that he agrees that the scrubber was promised but if the Street Crew has to hire fewer part-time summer employees and necessary overtime has to be cut back then the scrubber should be postponed.

Sefick asked if this motion will be made again next month and Repp stated that if he wants it made next month he can make the motion himself. He also asked if the purchase is in the budget that was approved.

Powell explained that it is a "working budget" and is therefore flexible.

Dixon stated that bottled water is still being purchased and he finds that an unnecessary expense.

Repp then called for a vote on the motion made by Dixon to purchase a Vantage floor scrubber at a cost of \$3,600.00 and the motion was...

CARRIED

(BERNSTEIN, DIXON, REPP, NARCISI: YES
(POWELL, SEFICK AND LLOYD: NO)

Repp made a statement concerning the meeting with the Quaker Valley Council of Governments which he attended for Vickie Donnelly while she is on medical leave.

Repp stated that John Jakiela announced that the QVCOG received correspondence from Wasted Management regarding the new contract which should be in the Municipal offices soon. Jakiela told the members that something that was supposed to be included in the contract was not and therefore new bids will be accepted. He will be in touch with the Borough Managers.

Dixon stated that he went through the contract and found some things he found interesting. Repp stated that new contracts would be forthcoming.

PARKS

Repp asked Bernstein to read the motions that Cortese was scheduled to read.

Bernstein moved to “approve the following 2011 pool personnel:

Lifeguards: Alison Gusew, Emily Gusew, Jonathan Gusew, David Haupt, Aaron Makatura, Matthew Miller, Amanda Silay, James Silay and Christa Vanvolkenburg.

Cashiers: Maxine Berry and Laura Hanahan.

Concession Stand: Leah Mantick, Emily Persia, Kelsey Sozanski and Evan Yester.

Powell stated that last year the Borough did not have anyone to run the concession stand and this year we do have someone. He asked who is going to run the concession stand.

Bernstein stated that he is on the Committee and he has no idea who is running the concession stand.

Powell stated that the Borough did it two years ago and the Borough lost money. Lloyd stated that he was told that the pool manager will be making the schedule for the concession and Cortese will do the purchasing. One employee will be there to “keep an eye on things.”

He also stated that he was told that Jackie Yurkovich and her friends will “keep an eye” on things but he knows if that is true the telephone in the office will “never stop ringing.”

Yurkovich stated that she and her friends are not doing anything at the concession stand.

Repp stated that Cortese will be managing it and Lloyd stated that in light of the negative weather predictions he thinks it would be unwise to have the concession stand open at all.

666 ~~888~~

Bernstein asked Council to approve the lifeguards and the cashiers now and decide later on the concession stand.

Repp stated that the motion will need to be amended and Megan Ott stated that Powell will need to remove his "second" to the first motion and Bernstein will then have to make the motion for the lifeguards and cashiers again.

Bernstein moved "to hire the following lifeguards: Alison Gusew, Emily Gusew, Jonathan Gusew, David Haupt, Aaron Makatura, Matthew Miller, Amanda Silay, James Silay and Christa Vanvolkenburg."

Cashiers: Maxine Berry and Laura Hanahan.

Dixon asked if all background checks have been made on all of the new hires and he was informed that the minors do not need to have the clearance and the cashiers do have their clearances.

Repp asked for a vote on the motion to hire the lifeguards and the motion was...

CARRIED

Bernstein asked about making a motion about the concession stand. Repp stated that a motion can be made so Bernstein moved "to hire the following as cashiers: Maxine Berry and Laura Hanahan."

Lloyd stated that he does not think the Borough needs the concession stand.

Dixon asked about the feasibility of using vending machines and Repp stated that this is an option. Cortese did go to the vending machine companies and he looked at all of the options and the most feasible option is to have the Borough do it.

Bernstein moved to table the motion until a meeting can be held with Ralph Cortese present. There was a question as to whether a new motion can be made without voting on the first one. Megan Ott stated that the motion can be tabled even though it was seconded by Sefick.

36

No vote had been taken and the results to the motion are obvious. It can be tabled.

Dixon asked for clarification if he votes no to table the motion will the original motion pass. Repp stated that it will not pass automatically.

Repp called for a vote on Bernstein's motion to table the original motion until a meeting can be held with Ralph Cortese present.

CARRIED
(BERNSTEIN VOTED NO)

LIBRARY:

NO REPORT

INTER-BOROUGH

Ed Repp again stated that he attended the QVCOG meeting in Vickie's absence. He stated that a group called the Pittsburgh Group is trying to ban electronic billboards and signs.

There is a resolution that the QVCOG may want the Council to vote at next month's meeting regarding the CDGB funding resolution. They want to cut about 62% and because the municipalities get a lot of funding from them there may need to be some discussion.

Vickie will be back next month and have more information. We all wish her well and a quick recovery.

CORP/PLANNING:

NO REPORT

68 84
4th of JULY

Connie Rankin stated that they still need \$2,000 for the celebration festivities.

The festivities will be held on Friday, July 1, 2011.

There was some discussion deciding whether to hire concession stand help for the opening Memorial Day weekend and it was decided not to do that.

Megan noted that they have to advertise the special meeting and allow time to have it published and read.

Powell moved "to have the Secretary advertise that there will be a special meeting to discuss the concession stand operation and hiring personnel on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 7:00 p.m."

CARRIED

Powell moved "to adjourn."

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted



Harry W. Dilmore
Manager

Approved

86

~~105~~ 6c

**AVALON BOROUGH
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 31, 2011**

Council President, Ed Repp opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Dixon, Lloyd, Powell, Repp. Also present was Dilmore. Absent: Mayor Hazlett.

Repp announced that the purpose of this meeting concerns the hiring of summertime help due to the problem at the Regular Council Meeting of May 19, 2011.

Lloyd moved to remove the table of the motion made at the Regular Council Meeting of May 19, 2011 concerning the hiring of summertime help for the concession stand.

CARRIED

Cortese apologized for being absent at the regular council meeting on May 19, 2011. He explained that he was in pain because of his back.

Cortese stated that he heard, through the grapevine, that there were questions concerning the hiring at the concession stand and he wanted to clarify them. Dilmore stated that the questions were actually in the minutes from that date.

Cortese explained that they have been talking about the concession stand hiring for the past two (2) months. He stated that the Parks Committee tried to get help from every organization at the school and from local businesses but were unsuccessful. The contingency plan was to hire Cati Makatura and pay her \$750.00 over her pool managerial salary. They would also need to hire two (2) people at \$9.00 per hour to work the stand. That would only leave \$1,600 for the season and he is sure that would not be enough.

Cortese stated that the Parks Committee meets on the first (1st) Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. and these problems were actually discussed at the meeting. He stated that Tom Lloyd argued that they will have to pay minimum wage which is incorrect. They can legally pay \$7.00 per hour to a lifeguard who had knee surgery and cannot work as a guard. This guard will be considered a foreman and Ralph and Dale would be the emergency backup.

Bernstein asked how much it is going to cost to operate the concession stand for the season and Dilmore stated that if the stand is open every hour of the season it would cost a minimum of \$10,000.00. Bernstein asked if that includes the food and rain days and Dilmore stated that it does not.

Dixon asked if vending machines would be better and Dilmore explained that they tried the vending machines a couple of years ago but it was too costly.

Dilmore explained that they have to rent the machines and then pay to fill them. The vending machine companies do not want to rent the machines out for ninety (90) days because it's too much work for them and it doesn't make any money for anyone involved.

Cortese moved "to hire the following for the concession stand:

Leah Mantik, Emily Persia, Kelsey Sozanski, Amy Haller, Samantha Meyers and Evan Yester."

Dixon asked if the new hires are Avalon residents and Dilmore stated that some are from Bellevue but since both communities are Northgate communities, it doesn't matter.

Dilmore stated that it sounds like they are hiring a lot of people but after interviewing them and comparing their schedules with the concession stand schedule, they are needed. The motion was then...

CARRIED

Cortese moved "to hire the following people as lifeguards for the 2011 season:

Joshua Anthony and Rachael Robertson."

CARRIED

Cortese announced that he wants to end the rumors about the Avalon Pool closing for two weeks in August. He stated that Avalon Pool will not be closed for two (2) weeks in August but it will be closed for the last week in August due to school opening and some of the guards being unable to work.

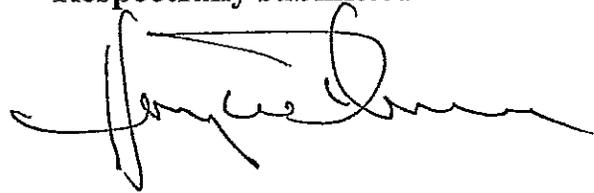
He stated that the pool will be open for the Labor Day holiday.

The official opening is June 10, 2011 at 11:30 a.m.

Lloyd moved "to adjourn."

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted



Harry W. Dilmore
Manager

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 21, 2011**

The meeting opened with a moment of silence for Willard Mecklenburg who passed away on June 16, 2011. Mr. Mecklenburg served on Avalon Borough Council from 1976 thru 1980 and 1990 thru 1992. The moment of silence was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Donnelly, Lloyd, Narcisi, Powell, and Repp. Also present were Dilmore, Solicitor Megan Ott, Lindsey Jewart representing Chester Engineering, Police Chief Kokoski, Tax Collector, Ed Klicker and Judith Brogan. Absent: Dixon, Sefick, Mayor Haslett.

No Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Council Meeting.

Lloyd moved "to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 19th and the Special Meeting of May 31, 2011."

CARRIED

Powell seconded

Donnelly abstained from the Regular Council Meeting Minutes and the Special Council Meeting Minutes.

Cortese abstained from the Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Dilmore stated that he received the proposal from Walt's Landscaping on skyline clearing of trees in alleys. The program to clear trees hindering emergency equipment access and brighten the area has received a good response from most of the residents. A list of streets and alleys will be given to the Streets Committee for their recommendation for financial reasons.

- 
- Letter and received from Paul Kokoski of the Auditor General's Office on the 2008 - 2010 Pension Audit. Mr. Kokoski is scheduled to begin work on July 5, 2011.

VISITORS:

Tom Demengone, 736 Center Avenue, a representative of the Friends of the Library Group stated that the Group will again be hosting the "Touch a Truck" event from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. and he is requesting that California Avenue between S. Chestnut and Josephine Streets be closed from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. He also requested that the Municipal Parking lot be closed. Dilmore stated that he will notify Port Authority and the streets will be closed.

Jackie Yurkovich stated that she is representing Linda Hudgins who is unable to attend the meeting. Jackie stated that Linda has tried to call the contractor several times regarding the removal of debris left behind by them, but she is not getting a response. The company worked at 308 Fisk Street and she has spoken to Dilmore about the dangerous wood and stakes left behind. Dilmore stated that he spoke to the company working there and although they are not the company that did the work last year, they will remove the debris.

Jackie thanked Tom Michalow and the students and volunteers for the success of the Dumpster Day on June 18, 2011. Her only recommendation at his time is that there should be more advertising because too many people did not know about the Dumpster Day. Dilmore stated that the ad was on the web site, however, due to a computer glitch, the ad did not get published in the Citizen as planned.

Everyone agreed that even though the advertising was minimal, it was a very successful event.

Donnelly stated that she talked to Tom at the pool and he has a few recommendations for next year.

Jackie stated that there are rodents on Grandview Avenue and asked who she can contact to complain and/or get some help. She stated that she has been terrorized for the past week by them and asked who she can call and what she and her neighbors can do to get help.

Dilmore stated that he will call the Health Department for her and they will have to bait the area.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- **Dilmore stated that he met with John Jakiela of the Quaker Valley COG regarding the CD37 Grants which were for the handicap walkway ramps and benches on California Avenue. Dilmore stated that he can get six (6) benches that he wants to place in various spots on California Avenue. He will work with the residents to place them in areas that will be beneficial to everyone.**
- **Completed the CD38 project pre applications and submitted them to the Quaker Valley Council of Governments.**
- **Completed all of the paperwork associated with the 2011/2012 Salt Contract. Waiting for the bid results.**
- **Met with the Engineer on the West Bellevue Road Project. Lindsey Jewert will give her report at this meeting.**
- **Contacted and met with the Teamster Business Agent on setting negotiations for the Department of Public Works contract which ends this year.**

SOLICITOR:

Megan Ott stated that the Borough Manager referred to her office a notice he received regarding a Pension Account being put in bankruptcy. She suggests that the Borough file a claim which is basically a document stating that the Borough received a notice of the bankruptcy by July 20, 2011.

76 112
Megan stated that she also discussed with the Manager, the collection of the ongoing sewage bill for the Avalon Motel. She stated that Dilmore has the situation under control.

The third issue she is reporting on is the Order of Court for the property donation that has been ongoing and the court is now allowing the Borough to proceed.

Lastly, there is a parking resolution litigation matter that will be discussed at an Executive Board Meeting following the Regular Council Meeting.

Powell asked what the Borough's status is at this time and Megan stated that she is not sure how much the Borough will get but she believes the paperwork should be filed.

Donnelly asked what state the Pension Class Action suit was filed and Megan stated that it was filed in Chicago but she is certain that it is not necessary to hire a lawyer in Chicago to handle the matter.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Lindsey Jewert of Chester Engineering reported on the West Bellevue Road Project stating that the winning bid Contactor met with Shawn Rosensteel of Chester Engineering and they will be ready to start the project within the next two weeks.

Repp asked if everything is under control with the contractor and Lindsey stated that it is at this time.

Powell asked if the timeline for the project is within the construction season and Dilmore stated that the time line scope is forty-five (45) days and the contractor thinks they will need thirty (30) days and they will use the last two (2) weeks for final grading and for clean-up in the area. He stated that they will lay new pipe as they take out the old pipe and they will be by-pass pumping the entire time.

~~13~~ 7

FINANCE:

Powell stated with the success of the Dumpster day, he thinks a second dumpster is needed.

Powell moved:

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

Bernstein 2nd

“To accept the Treasurer’s Report of June 21, 2011 as submitted.”

CARRIED

Bernstein 2nd

“To accept the Tax Collector’s Report dated May 27, 2011 as submitted.”

CARRIED

Bernstein 2nd

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted.”

CARRIED

Bernstein 2nd

“To pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

CARRIED

Bernstein 2nd

Powell spoke about the possibility of adopting a dress code for Avalon Council for public meetings. He stated that he did some research and found a memo for Avalon Borough dated June 2, 1983.

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The memo states that jogging suits, sports wear, T-shirts and the like are not suitable for Council meetings. Also, feet up on the desk are not necessary.

Repp stated that Powell could "suggest" a dress code. Megan Ott stated that it would be a Policy and that Council could not remove anyone for not adhering to the dress at meetings.

Repp stated that Powell could address the Personnel Committee regarding the Policy.

Klicker stated that he is getting a lot of tax money coming in at this time but it is the end of the discount period. He feels the income may drop after the discount period ends.

Klicker stated that there is a timeline for Keystone taking over and he is putting a data base together for them. Klicker is planning on closing off any acceptance for tax filings on June 30, 2011. Everything will be turned over to Keystone sometime after that.

Klicker is not anticipating any over-pays credited to the following year and refunds over \$1.00 must be refunded. He believes it will be a good thing when Keystone takes over and he will keep Council updated.

Dilmore stated that opting in early with Keystone has given the Borough an advantage because the Borough gets more attention and the numbers are more accurate. He believes that they made the right decision by going with Keystone Collections Group.

Repp asked how it is going so far with collections and Dilmore stated that they already received \$600.00 for the month.

SAFETY:

Narcisi stated that he has a request for a handicap parking sign in the vicinity of 546 Marie Avenue.

Narcisi asked Chief Kokoski for a recommendation for a request for a handicap parking sign for the end of Marie Avenue.

Kokoski stated that Marie Avenue is a long street and there are a lot of cars on the street. There are two signs on the street already.

Donnelly asked if the address on the application is for his home and Narcisi affirmed that it is for his home.

Narcisi moved:

“To approve a handicap parking space in the vicinity of 546 Marie Avenue.”

Powell stated that in the past, Council has approved handicap signs to people who do not drive, stating that the spouse of family member drives and he wonders if that is fair. Narcisi explained that oftentimes, people who are driving the handicap persons live in the home and/or have a placard in their car already.

Bernstein asked if there are supposed to be one or two handicap signs on a street and Narcisi stated that it is two signs in one block.

Dilmore stated that the signs are for anyone needing a handicap parking space not just for the person applying for the sign and that was confirmed.

Narcisi stated that he is not sure that the sign by the former Avalon Pharmacy is necessary and Dilmore stated that if the sign is removed there won't be any handicap spaces available in that area.

Donnelly stated that the system needs to be “revamped” to bring it up to date.

After further discussion the motion was...

**CARRIED
(Powell voted no)**



Narcisi noted that there has been a lot of tension within the Police Department regarding parking on public streets in Avalon. He suggested that Council should consider amending the Ordinance for towing unregistered cars and dangerous cars being parked on the street.

He asked that Megan Ott, Borough Solicitor, look into the legality of towing cars that are in disrepair, unregistered and otherwise dangerous, even though the cars may be parked on private property.

Narcisi stated that these cars are accessible to children and therefore dangerous. Also animals are living in them which are another danger to consider and the cars should be towed.

Narcisi stated that the Quality of Life Committee attended the Streets Meeting and has been granted approval for two street fairs – one on Grandview Avenue and one on Hemlock Street.

He noted that a motion is not required for this but he is making Council aware that the Committee is following through on their projects.

Narcisi asked Chief Kokoski about the grant the Police Department received. Kokoski stated that they had applied for and received a grant that enabled them to receive \$1,000.00 with a 10% matching grant. This means that if the department spends \$100.00 they get \$1,000 in merchandise. Therefore, they were able to get the portable breathalyzers.

Narcisi noted that the police department secretary, Ericka Anthony, did the paperwork to apply for the grant and Kokoski stated that the department is very pleased with Ericka's work.

Kokoski stated that Officer Sean Kirley attended the class on tagging over-sized and overweight trucks and has been certified.

Narcisi asked about the two injured officers who have been on short term disability and worker's compensation.

Kokoski stated that Officer Bob Espy has been released to return to work and is on the schedule for July 11, 2011 and Walter Johnson, who has been on worker's compensation is scheduled to see the doctor again on July 18, 2011. Kokoski is not sure when Johnson will return to work.

Narcisi suggested that Council consider making changes to the burning ordinance. No further discussion at this time.

STREETS:

Lloyd thanked Tom Michalow, the student volunteers, the Street-Crew and Harry Dilmore for helping to make the dumpster day a success.

Lloyd stated that the roof on the fire station garage is almost complete, the Street Crew is working on street repairs and patching and the next Quality of Life meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

PROPERTY:

NO REPORT

HEALTH:

Dilmore spoke for Dixon and reported that they are working with the Quaker Valley Council of Governments on the new garbage contract. They are anticipating that it will be put out for bid the first week of July and discussing it at the July meeting.

He stated that Avalon signs a separate contract even though it is worked out through the QVCOG. He also noted that Avalon will be switching to Waste Management for billing and collection based on previous Council decisions.

CORP/PLANNING:

Repp asked Bernstein if he knows if the Planning Commission or the Tri-Boors received anything on the billboard. Bernstein stated that he does not know and Dilmore stated that Mr. Means had forwarded everything to him.

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Chuck Means is handling everything for Ben Avon and Dilmore will report to Council when he has more information.

INTER-BORO:

Donnelly stated that she did not attend the May meeting for the Quaker Valley Council of Governments so she had no report.

Donnelly moved “to accept Resolution No. 1074 authorizing the application for funding for a municipal government efficiency services grant through the Allegheny County Department of Development.”

Bernstein 2nd

Repp asked for questions and/or comments on the motion and Dilmore explained that this is a grant that Katy Hale is encouraging the Boroughs to apply for and she made a presentation at the Quaker Valley Council of Governments.

Avalon is taking part and if the grant is received, the Borough will be responsible for \$1,600.00. Dilmore explained that a group of students from Carnegie Mellon University did a study that showed the value of the signs. He also stated that the signs will be posted to point out pedestrian walkways, historical monuments and specific buildings such as the Library and Municipal Building.

Repp called for a vote and the motion was...

CARRIED

PARKS:

Cortese moved “to permit the use of the Avalon Athletic Fields on Sunday, June 26, 2011 for a special event held by the Bellevue/Avalon Boys and Girls Baseball Association. This event will be for the benefit of the Timmer Family.”

Donnelly 2nd

Dilmore stated that the Avalon Contract is with the Boys Baseball Association but he is aware that the boys and girls are doing the event together and the motion is valid as read.

Repp called for a vote and the motion was...

CARRIED

Cortese stated that there have been complaints about speeding at the pool and he found out that there is no time or space to clock the speeders. He asked the Police Chief about new signs with 5 (five)-mile an hour limits.

Police Chief Kokoski stated that there are speed bumps but there are no lights to slow the cars down. He can send a car to try to slow the cars.

Donnelly asked if it would be possible to borrow a machine that would clock the cars. Dilmore stated that the machine is being used at this time.

Kokoski promised to have the police do their best to get the drivers to slow down in that area and to get new signs.

Yurkovich stated that people are amazed at Avalon's pool prices compared to surrounding areas.

Cortese stated the rates for 2011 are \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 5-7 and \$1.00 for children 2-4, compared to Bellevue's \$7.00 flat rate.

Cortese stated that the income for the pool is \$2,000 over last year on the shelter rentals, and \$3,000 to \$4,000 over on pool passes.

Yurkovich stated that she was at a picnic at the shelter and the kitchen was spotless. She stated that the Crew workers are doing an excellent job keeping the park and picnic areas clean.

Lloyd noted that Bellevue is in the closing phases of doing the dog swim.

Narcisi asked Connie Rankin how the dog park is coming along. Connie stated that they are trying to raise the money thru fund raisers. Lloyd

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asked when it will open and Connie stated that it depends on the volunteers and they are hoping to have it open to dogs by the end of summer. It may take longer to get the water and agility course and she thinks it going to be really "cool."

Connie stated that the park is privately funded and donations can be sent to the Bellevue Dog Wood Association.

LIBRARY:

Donnelly stated that she attended a Library meeting where they discussed old and new business. They also discussed AFIB and safety classes. She stated that the Library has a full agenda that is seasonably booked. They raised \$493.85 in pennies and have other activities planned.

Bernstein pointed out that you can follow the Library activities on Facebook and Donnelly noted that the children are taking advantage of the Library services.

4th JULY:

Connie Rankin announced the 4th of July celebration will be held on Friday, July 2, 2010. The celebration will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the fireworks will begin at dusk. The rain date is July 10, 2011.

The company doing the fireworks is Pyrotechnics'. The fireworks will be set to Patriotic music and they are promising a great new show.

Bob Arnold's band, the Uptown Rhythm and Brass Band will perform again this year and there will be a hot dog eating contest as well as other activities.

Connie asked for volunteers to help again this year.

Powell moved:

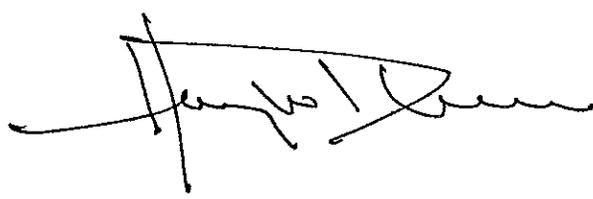
“To adjourn to an Executive meeting.”

Bernstein 2nd

CARRIED

The meeting ended at approximately 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



**Harry W. Dilmore
Manager**