

AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 19, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:40 pm by Ed Repp with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Cortese, Dixon, Donnelly, Klicker, Lloyd, Narcisi, Repp. Also present Solicitor Megan Ott, Engineer Rachel Mignogna, Borough Manager Harry Dilmore and Makatura. Absent: Bernstein, Vetterly, Mayor Haslett, Chief Kokoski, Tax Collector.

Solicitor stated no executive sessions were held prior to the council meeting.

Klicker Moved:

“To accept the minutes of the October 15, 2013, Avalon Borough Council Meeting. ”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Letter from SHACOG regarding salt price, will remain \$57.52 for November.
- Letter from Allegheny County Health Department regarding the status of 214 Cleveland Avenue as well as the condemnation notice on 352 Spruce Run Road.
- Letter from ALCOSAN regarding the 2014 rate increase of \$0.73 per 1,000 gallons and the service fee increase of \$1.54
- Emergency Management Coordinator information needs to be updated as soon as possible. Request forwarded to the fire department for update.
- Letter from Allegheny County Boroughs Association for the banquet. Donnelly to report.

VISITORS:

David Zivic
923 Malvern Road

Spoke as a representative of the fire department and to reiterate the efforts needed to purchase a new truck. Dilmore to research financing .

Skylar Reese
616 City View Avenue, Apt. A

Miss Reese has made bracelets in an effort to raise money for American Diabetes Association. Skylar is in the gifted program at a private school and part of their program encourages students to give back to the community.

Tim Lucas
649 Center Avenue

Avalon NOW's Brighten the Season is scheduled for December 8. 12:00 to 4:30 pm, Avalon Borough Council Chambers, tree lighting at 5:00 pm.

Next Avalon NOW meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, at 7:00 pm.

MAYOR: No Report

MANAGER/SECRETARY:

- Bids received on N. Birmingham Avenue.
- Contract received and signed from Quaker Valley COG for demolition of 719 Ohio River Blvd.
- Dilmore and Makatura attending classes on blight over the last 2 months. Twelve hour class offering great input and ideas to handle

blight properties, landlords, ordinances and communication with other communities and how they are combatting the same issues.

- Preparing for the end of year audit.
- Preparing for the Police Arbitration.

Further discussion followed on the blight classes and how we can use this information in Avalon.

SOLICITOR:

- Property donation at 434 N. School Street title search has been completed. Plan to petition the court and transfer should occur in December.
- Third and final reading will be tonight for the ordinance to change tax billing and collection dates.
- Preparing ordinance on fees and policies for property codes on snow, weeds, etc.
- Labor and employment issues handled throughout October.

ENGINEER:

- Bid opening for N. Birmingham Avenue was on November 4. Received 9 bids. Pugliano was the lowest bid at \$151,355.00 Motion to accept the contract will be made tonight and the contracts will be signed for December.
- Motion to accept bid from AW McNab for \$7900 for demolition of 719 Ohio River Blvd.

FINANCE:

Lloyd thanked Dilmore and Cortese for putting up the flags for Veterans Day.

Lloyd moved:

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted for November 15, 2013.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted for the month of November 19, 2013.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To accept the Tax Collector’s Report as submitted for November 6, 2013.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To pay the List of Bills as submitted for the month of November 19, 2013 in the amount of \$150,280.47.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

Lloyd stated there will be a final budget meeting on Saturday, December 7, 2013, at 9:00 am in the council chamber.

Klicker moved:

“To have Secretary read 3rd and final reading of Ordinance #1348, an ordinance establishing a new discount and penalty period for Real Estate Tax and establishing a new installment payment schedule.”

Dilmore read ordinance.

Cortese 2nd

Klicker commented on why we are making this change and that it brings us in line with all the other communities in the surrounding area.

CARRIED

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Narcisi acknowledged Zivic and Parkhill from the Avalon Fire Department and Truck Committee, their purpose in being here is to explain the need to purchase an aerial truck to replace the snorkel.

Repp additional comments regarding the discussions held at finance regarding the purchase of the truck.

Zivic stated that a similar truck will be available next week for viewing.

STREETS:

No Report

Klicker moved:

“To accept the bid of Pugliano Construction Company Inc. of 2000 Shenna Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15239, for the construction of the North Birmingham Avenue wall at a cost \$151,355.00.”

Lloyd 2nd

Comments followed from Repp. Klicker commented that we refinanced the bond 4-6 months ago and received a cash settlement of \$153,000 due to a reduction in interest and principal. This money was set aside for the project and will not directly impact the general fund.

Engineer commented that once the contracts are signed and returned, council will sign in December, we can look at scheduling as soon as possible.

Lloyd commented that Semple Avenue will be repaved November 20 in preparation for this project. This paving will be done in conjunction with Kilbuck Township. Residents concerned about using New Brighton Road and how it will be maintained for snow removal. Semple Avenue will be kept one way for the short period of time needed for the project to be completed. More danger in changing it for such a short period of time. Engineer to verify the schedule to complete the project. Further discussion on how long the bid is firm due to weather.

Amendment to the original motion to read as follows:

“To accept the bid of Pugliano Construction Company Inc. of 2000 Shenna Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15239, for the construction of the North Birmingham Avenue wall at a cost \$151,355.00 and to authorize the execution of the contract documents for same.”

Lloyd 2nd

Klicker read the original motion and agreed to the amendment.

CARRIED

“To authorize the Avalon Borough Council to enter into an agreement with Ben Avon Heights Borough for snow removal for the 2013-2014 season.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

Dixon questioned whether we would be able to handle this being one man short. Confirmed we would.

“To authorize the Avalon Borough Council to enter into an agreement with Ben Avon Heights Borough for 2014 for One Call Service.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

Question regarding any changes to the contract. Confirmed same is the last three years.

PROPERTY:

No Report

However, Dilmore reported that Tri State Maintenance will be here to jet the line to remove water from the roof of the garage. There is 4" of water on roof that needs to be taken care of before Stringert can make the necessary repairs. Weather is not a factor in this repair. Also, we will schedule catch basin work for Tri State as well.

HEALTH & SANITATION:

No Report

Dixon questioned the sewage billing and why it is a quarter behind the water billings. Can Jordan Tax Service change their billing schedule. Makatura explained the delay.

CORP/PLANNING:

No Report

INTER-BOROUGH:

- Thank you for attending the COG Banquet
- Thank you also to those attending and helping at the Recycling Day in Sewickley, November 2, we had 242 participants. Emsworth did a resident pickup with their DPW truck.
- COG Meeting at 7pm in Sewickley on November 20. Leetsdale signed a contract.
- Allegheny County Boroughs Association dinner will be Thursday, December 12 at the Edgeworth Country Club. Elections were held

November 18. All board members remain the same. Cortese and Donnelly to attend.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Cortese moved:

“To accept bid of A.W. McNabb Construction for the demolition of 719 Ohio River Blvd. for the amount of \$7,900.00.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

“To authorize and direct the Administration and Solicitor to prepare a written policy requiring child abuse clearances for all borough employees and volunteers who have contact with children for future council consideration.”

Donnelly 2nd

Comments. Question if this included the fire company. Discussion followed regarding the fire company. Solicitor commented this would be a written, comprehensive policy. Dilmore questioned if it would be part of our employee handbook and would it be included with the volunteer handbook as well. The solicitor stated the volunteer groups should include this requirement in their handbook and our personnel handbook would override the volunteer book if it did not include the background check.

Narcisi stated he is not opposed but this is not without problem. Must adhere to the requirement of clearances if the policy is standard. Some points to remember: If someone comes forward after being molested, they will look first to see that the policy was absolutely adhered to. We must adhere to the policy absolutely. And we should realize that we can obtain background checks but it

will not help if that person is doing something and not caught or arrested. This will require continuing maintenance because plaintiff attorneys will always look for a loop hole to be sure this policy was followed completely.

Further detailed discussion followed clarifying that this is a motion to prepare a policy, not voting on the policy at this point. It will also clarify who is to be included in this requirement.

Motion reread.

It has been moved and seconded:

“To authorize and direct the Administration and Solicitor to prepare a written policy requiring child abuse clearances for all borough employees and volunteers who have contact with children for future council consideration.”

CARRIED

LIBRARY:

No Report

Donnelley moved:

“To have the secretary advertise the Avalon Borough Council ‘clean-up’ meeting on December 30, 2013, at 7:00 pm.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

“To have the Secretary advertise for the Avalon Borough Council Reorganization meeting on January 6, 2014, at 7:30 pm.”

Cortese 2nd

CARRIED

1/22/2014

4th of JULY:
No Report

Cortese moved:

“To Adjourn at 8:41 pm.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Harry W. Dilmore
Secretary