

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 20, 2012**

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance led by Ed Repp.

Roll Call: Bernstein, Cortese, Donnelly, Lloyd, Narcisi, Klicker, Repp and Vetterly. Also present were Dilmore, Solicitor Ott, Shawn Rosensteel, and Judith Brogan. Absent: Dixon, Mayor Haslett.

Solicitor Megan Ott stated that there was an Executive Session prior to the regular Council meeting regarding a legal matter with the Borough.

Vetterly moved:

To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 21, 2012.

**CARRIED
(Donnelly abstained)**

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Dilmore stated that he received a letter from the Allegheny County Executive Office asking for support for the reassessment repeal Resolution. There will be a motion at this meeting.**
- Letter received from Thyssen-Krupp regarding the elevator contract at the Avalon Library. The motion for this will not be put on the floor at this meeting pending further study and will report on this next month.**
- Communication regarding the Airport Zoning Ordinance and how the Tri Boroughs Zoning is handling that ordinance. The Solicitor will comment on that in her report at this meeting.**
- We are in receipt of the 2012/2013 reassessment numbers for Avalon Borough owned properties and**

VISITORS:

Jackie Yurkovich of 649 Grandview Avenue spoke on behalf of the Ralph Cortese about the spaghetti dinner fund raiser for Avalon Pool. Tickets may be purchased from her or Ralph. She also stated that they will have door prizes, 50/50 raffle and more. She encouraged Council to attend.

Tom Lloyd stated that Ralph Cortese has done a great job with the pool and looks forward to the fund raiser being a big success.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- Dilmore stated that he received the final drafts of the 2012 audit report from Maher Duessel which was presented at the Thursday Finance meeting. Dilmore needs to set up a meeting with Brian McCall for the clean up meeting. Dilmore will schedule .**
- Dilmore is working to prepare the 2012 CD Grant applications. Houses for demolition will be a top priority this year.**
- Dilmore stated that they are working on applications for the swimming pools personnel, the police Civil Service applications and the DPW position. They have all been processed and interviews will be held soon.**
- Dilmore stated that work on the swimming pool is progressing. Buildings are being painted, concrete is being repaired, trees and grass are also being prepared for the season. A meeting with the manager and committee have produced a good plan for 2012.**

SOLICITOR:

Megan spoke about Ordinance No. 1338 which will be voted on at this meeting. This concerns the Tri Borough structures in the Airport area as defined in the Ordinance. There will be a motion to advertise the Ordinance and then there will be the first and second reading.

She also stated that will be meeting which will be advertized as a public hearing on April 10, 2012 at 6:45 p.m. in Bellevue.

The reason for the Ordinance is to protect planes from construction that could hurt or alter flight paths.

Megan stated that Goehring, Rutter & Boehm will be hosting a zoning training session in Bellevue next Wednesday. This will be open to anyone interested in learning about the zoning rules and regulations.

Megan also stated that the Borough has had an offer from an owner who wants to donate property located on Marie Avenue. She will report on this at a later meeting.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Shawn Rosensteel stated that they received correspondence from the Allegheny County Health Department regarding Avalon's operation and maintenance plan and they want the Borough to provide the following: The Operations Budget, the management of information, the routine preventative maintenance plan and structural defects and the response to SSO's.

Shawn stated that in response to the routine preventive maintenance activities, the Health Department wants each community that has an operations maintenance budget to provide an annual budget line item for this so the money will be available when and if needed.

Shawn explained to Council what each item means especially the SSO which is the Sanitary Sewer Overflow which Avalon does not have so there is no need to be concerned with it. That was already done in 2009 which was reported to the Health Department at that time.

Shawn stated that he will meet with Harry Dilmore and the DPW and work on the report to present to Council.

Dilmore asked about the cost for this and Shawn stated that he will have to get back to Harry about the cost based on the report.

Shawn also stated that the letter was received on March 5, 2012 and the Borough has 90 days to respond which will be in June.

Shawn answered questions offered a copy of the letter to anyone wanting it.

FINANCE:

Lloyd stated that he has been trying to contact the County Reassessment Office for 2.5 weeks but has not received an answer. He also called Representative Fitzgerald's office but he already has a meeting scheduled in Ross Township. He stated that he and Harry will be meeting with Dan Deasy. The deadline for appealing was last week.

Lloyd also stated that the tulips that the Girl Scouts planted last year are growing in front of the wall near the parking lot.

He also met with Harry about replacing the wood under the Memorial at the top of the hill.

Lloyd moved:

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

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

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

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

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To Pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To authorize the Solicitor to review the ordinance for rental fees”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

SAFETY:

Narcisi announced the death of a long time teacher of Avalon School District, Bernie Sewalk.

Narcisi moved:

“To have the Secretary give the first and second reading of the Airport Zoning Ordinance Number 1338, governing the height of structures within the defined area of the airport.”

Lloyd 2nd

Dilmore read:

“An Ordinance of the Borough of Avalon, amending the Avalon-Bellevue-Ben Avon Joint Zoning Ordinance adopted by Ordinance No. 09-07, Article V, Supplemental regulations to add regulations governing the height of structures within a defined proximity to the Pittsburgh International Airport to conform with Act 164, The Airport Zoning Act.”

CARRIED

Narcisi moved:

“To have the Secretary advertise Ordinance No. 1338 Amending Ordinance No. 09-07 governing the height of structures within a defined proximity to the Pittsburgh International Airport to conform with Act 164, the Airport Zoning Act.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

“To approve a handicap parking spot in the 800 block of Taylor Avenue.”

Donnelly 2nd

“To reactivate an existing handicap parking space on Union Avenue.”

Chief Kokoski noted that the parking space is actually on S. Birmingham Avenue. Narcisi withdrew his motion and moved:

“To reactivate an existing handicap parking space on S. Birmingham Avenue.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

Lloyd stated that the Chief Kokoski informed Council that there are at least forty handicap parking spaces in the Borough. Lloyd wants a study done to see how many are still active and he wants a letter sent out each year to ask if the space is still necessary and have the list updated.

Narcisi moved:

“To permit the Avalon Police Department to detail an officer to the DEA starting August 1, 2012.

Donnelly 2nd

Repp asked Chief Kokoski to give an explanation of what this motion is about. Kokoski stated that it is a program developed by the DEA about 20 years ago. They subsidize their police force with municipalities for budgetary reasons. This is good for the municipality because they can get up to 9 to 13 percent of any seizure money on cases they are involved with for the DEA.

Repp asked for questions or comments.

Klicker stated that the Borough does not have a budget for this money and he is not in favor of it at this time.

Narcisi stated that this is not something that comes up very often and he believes it would be beneficial to the Borough.

Lloyd noted that the Borough will be responsible for paying the officer and hire a new officer. He noted that the Borough will not receive any money for the officer until August and he wants to know how the Borough will fund this from August to December.

Repp noted that the money the Borough would get from the DEA has stipulation on it and how the Borough could spend it.

There was further discussion and Repp called for a vote at this time.

Donnelly asked for a roll call vote.

**CARRIED
(with a 4 – 3 vote)**

STREETS:

Klicker moved:

“To have the Secretary advertise for sidewalk bids for Improvements to the Borough sidewalks.”

Klicker stated that the Committee Meeting had it brought to their attention that in the past there were opportunities to help residents improve their sidewalks. He sees this motion as an opportunity to do that.

Donnelly stated that there is a need for a wheel chair accessible sidewalk on the Borough side of the school crosswalk. She stated that neither the school side nor the Borough side is wheelchair accessible.

Dilmore agreed that this should be done.

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

CARRIED

Klicker moved:

“To move forward with repairs to the street sweeper with Golden Equipment at a cost not to exceed \$7,000.”

Donnelly 2nd

Donnelly asked if it would be done in time to start the street cleaning in April and Dilmore stated he expects it to be ready.

CARRIED

“To have the Secretary advertise for sidewalk bids for improvement to the Borough.

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

PROPERTY:

NO REPORT

HEALTH:

NO REPORT

CORP/PLANNING:

NO REPORT

INTER – BORO:

Donnelly moved:

“To approve Resolution NO. 1078 expressing opposition to the on-going court-ordered reassessments and asking the Court of Common Pleas to stop singled-out reassessments in Allegheny County.”

Lloyd 2nd

Repp called for questions or comments and Lloyd stated that this Ordinance was prepared by Allegheny County.

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

CARRIED

“To have the Manager attend the 2012 APMM State Convention in Lancaster, Pa. on May 23 -25, 2012.”

Lloyd 2nd

Lloyd noted that Secretary Dilmore will be a speaker at this meeting.

CARRIED

Donnelly stated that the Quaker Valley Council of Governments (COG) will have a meeting on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

She noted that at the last meeting there was some discussion on the prevailing wage per the Allegheny County Borough Association.

She stated that they also had discussion on Marcellus Shale and their rate. Dilmore stated that he had communication regarding the prevailing wage and encouraged Council members to read the information he will put in their mail box.

Donnelly noted that Secretary Dilmore will be a speaker at the Wet Weather Work Shop in Seven Springs.

LIBRARY:

Donnelly noted that the Library Wine Tasting fund raiser which was held at Mia Madre Restaurant was a success.

Dilmore noted that the CPR class was also a success.

Lloyd noted that Vickie Donnelly has been a member of the QVCOG for several years and she also serves on other boards where she represented the Borough. These are extras that Vickie takes on without being noted for it.

PARKS:

Bernstein moved:

“To allow the North Boros Panthers to use the Avalon field for practice Monday thru Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m beginning July 23, 2012 thru November 10, 2012.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

Vetterly noted that the league should do a better job cleaning up at the end of their season.

Dilmore noted that Ralph Cortese has been doing an excellent job with the Parks and pool. Council agreed that he has put a lot of time and effort into the parks and the pool and they will be checking the pool and concession stand applications with Cati (Makatura) in the very near future.

4th JULY:

NO REPORT

Lloyd moved

“To adjourn.”

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

**Harry W. Dilmore
Manager**