

**AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 15, 2012**

The meeting opened at 7:50 pm with the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Lloyd.

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

Solicitor Megan Ott stated that there was an Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Meeting to discuss a litigation matter and was in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

Klicker moved:

“To accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 17, 2012”.

Bernstein 2nd

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Dilmore stated that he received a letter from a couple wanting to have their wedding on the lawn at the Library on September 8, 2012.**
- **Received the Liquid Fuels Report and everything was okay for 2012.**
- **Letter from Wet Weather on the need for a Council person to attend meetings.**

- Letter from BABA asking permission to use the field for their craft show event on Sunday, June 2, 2012 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Council President, Ed Repp thanked everyone for their work on the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser and the Dumpster Day success. He noted that it was a busy week-end which included the Avalon Borough Apple Blossom Festival.

He also introduced Kerry Patterson, the new Superintendent of the Public Works Department and welcomed him to Avalon Borough.

VISITORS:

Valerie Cupps of 647 Grandview Avenue thanked everyone for their help with the clean up day and the spaghetti dinner.

Repp thanked Val for her help with the Clean Up Day. Even though it rained, the volunteers showed up and did a great job. He also noted that Dumpster Day was also a success because of the volunteers and the residents that took part in it. He stated that by 9:30 am there were three (3) dumpsters filled and he again thanked the high school boys and girls for their help.

Barbara Doyle of 8 Marie Avenue spoke about the handicap parking sign for 9 Marie Avenue. She stated that the person who requested and got the sign put up in not truly handicapped and she showed pictures to support her claim. She stated that the woman walks up and down the steps carrying groceries and the neighbors feel this sign is putting a hardship on them because they cannot park in the area anymore.

Ms. Doyle stated that she feels it was an error to approve the sign and put it up. She stated there are other parking issues on this street including an abandoned car and already limited parking.

It was noted that the abandoned car is a rental with New Jersey plates and she already spoke to the police about it.

Police Chief, Tom Kokoski stated that they are aware of the car and will look into it again. Repp stated they would send Fred Sapp the Code Enforcement officer to the area to see what if anything should be done.

Paul Meyers of 310 S. Birmingham Avenue spoke about a house that is supposed to be up for Sherriff Sale but people are still living there and there is garbage in the front and back of the building and the grass is overgrown.

Mr. Meyer stated that they have sent letters to the owner but they were ignored. He spoke to building inspector, Keith Coll and Keith looked at the file and informed Mr. Meyer that the problem has already been given to the Magistrate. Mr. Meyer wants to know when the hearing will be and what will be done.

Dilmore stated that he will speak to Keith on Thursday and see where they are with this complaint.

Joanne Dominytus spoke about the yellow parking lines and when they will be painted.

Dilmore stated that ordinarily a motion would not be required to address a petition but in this case it may be necessary. The petition was signed by residents of the Summit and not the residents living in private homes. He stated that the Summit should be responsible for providing parking for their residents. However, he stated, if Council does not object to having the DPW crew paint the lines, they will be painted but he wants her and the residents of the Summit to be aware that the petition does not have signatures from street residents.

Repp asked Council if there were any objections and Council agreed to have the lines painted.

MAYOR:

NO REPORT

Dilmore stated that the Mayor's mother-in-law was taken to the hospital and he would not be at the meeting tonight.

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

- **Dilmore stated that the LMN plan is near completion and Shawn Rosensteel will address it during his report.**
- **Dilmore has been working with the pool manager, Cati Makatura, getting ready for the 2012 swimming pool season. Cati has work days and training classes scheduled as well as meeting the new Personnel.**
- **Dilmore encouraged Council to check the Policy and Procedure Manual he and Lorraine Makatura have been working on and which is now completed. It is available in the Administrative Office.**
- **Dilmore stated that they continue to monitor the N. Birmingham slide area. They placed sand bags around the area, increased the tape area and sent a letter to all of the residents notifying them of the circumstances and what is being done. Shawn Rosensteel will report on this tonight.**
- **Dilmore has been working with Kerry Patterson on the transition with the DPW. Kerry has a great attitude and approach to the job and he is glad to have Kerry on board.**

SOLICITOR:

Ms. Ott spoke about the Grease Trap Ordinance explaining what it is and the benefit of restaurants and food preparation facilities having grease traps and/or interceptors.

This ordinance lays out the standard on how restaurants and food preparation facilities get rid of their grease. They cannot flush it directly into the sewer lines. It will be discussed further at this meeting.

Ms. Ott also worked on the Landlord – Tenant Ordinance and supplied a hard copy to Council. She will continue to work with Council on this Ordinance.

Ms. Ott stated that Avalon Borough has received an offer of property on Marie Avenue in lieu of tax payments.

Should Council act on this offer, Ms. Ott will begin the necessary research and paper work on the property.

The Joint planning Commission has received a request for a zoning ordinance change for the zoning maps. The change would affect the Friary Property only. The company that wants to buy the property wants to use it for commercial use without changing the residential character appearance on the exterior.

She stated that each of the three bodies of the Planning Commission would need to look at the request and if there is a problem or questions the Commission would have a hearing and make recommendations.

Last month Council took action on the Ordinance to increase inspection fees by \$10.00. Ordinance No. 1341 will be discussed at this meeting and we will have the first and second reading tonight.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Shawn talked about the slide area on S. Birmingham Avenue. They were directed to meet with the Geo Technical Engineer on site to do an evaluation and make recommendations to Council. The proposal to do this work will be \$10, 292.00 to prepare the study which includes the \$6,000.00 fixed fee for the engineering and then \$4, 200 for the actual work which

Shawn stated that Chester Engineering uses Geo Technical Engineering Co. on a regular basis and they have proven to be reliable.

On the Ordinance pertaining to the grease trap, Shawn stated that it is a good Ordinance because of the problems it will solve and prevent.

Shawn stated that working with Harry Dilmore and Lorraine Makatura was a good experience. They were very helpful and forthcoming with the information he needed. In his opinion, they did an excellent job.

Repp thanked Harry and Lorraine for their efforts in working with Chester Engineering. He also thanked Megan Ott and Shawn Rosensteel for their work on the project.

FINANCE:

Lloyd moved

“to accept the Finance Report as submitted.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

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

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To accept the Tax Collector’s report for April 2012 as submitted.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To pay the List of Bills as submitted.”

Donnelly 2nd

Dilmore stated that the List of Bills is broken up and not in the usual format due to the transition to the QuickBooks Program. He expects the reports to be in the usual format for the next report.

Cortese noted that the DPW should be under the Truck Cost.

Bernstein questioned the cost of #10 on page 7 of the report, specifically the \$3,043.00 paid to Old Field Industries. Dilmore explained that it is a weed killer and it is necessary. Dilmore noted that it is illegal to use the old DDT that was used in the past.

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

CARRIED

SAFETY:

Narcisi moved

“to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Ben Avon Heights Borough for the establishment of a joint emergency operations agency.”

Dilmore asked Megan Ott to explain and she stated that this would establish how appointments are made, what the obligations and capabilities of the agency.

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

CARRIED

Narcisi deferred to Councilman Cortese for the next motion.

Cortese moved

“to adopt Resolution NO. 1341 increasing the residential occupancy inspection fees and rental/fire safety inspections and administration fees.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

Narcisi moved

“to approve the joint emergency operations plan between Ben Avon Heights and Avalon Borough for emergency management services.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“to adopt ordinance no. 1343 establishing a joint emergency operations agency between Ben Avon Heights Borough and Avalon Borough for emergency services.”

Donnelly 2nd

Megan Ott stated that the motion being voted on is the actual emergency management plan.

CARRIED

STREETS:

Klicker moved

“to advertise Ordinance No. 1342 the installation of grease traps and/or interceptors by restaurants and food preparation facilities.”

Donnelly 2nd

Lloyd asked if garages will need to have an Ordinance and Megan Ott explained that this Ordinance would cover schools, restaurants and other facilities. Dilmore stated that the Ordinance lists those types of facilities.

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

CARRIED

Klicker moved

“to have the Borough Manager give the first and second readings of Ordinance No. 1342 requiring the installment of grease traps and/or interceptors by restaurants and food preparation facilities.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

Mr. Dilmore read Ordinance No. 1342 requiring the first and second readings of Ordinance No. 1342 requiring the installment of grease traps and/or interceptors by restaurants and food preparation facilities.

PROPERTY:

NO REPORT

Lloyd moved

“to allow the couple to have their wedding on the lawn at the Library on September 8, 2012.

Solicitor Megan Ott stated that this should be allowed if a document was signed by the couple for legal purposes. She will have this typed and sent to Harry.

CARRIED

Lorraine Makatura spoke about the new Recycling Boxes. She stated that telephone books and catalogs are also allowed. She has created a line item in the budget and all profits will go to the Avalon Swimming Pool. She stated that the more paper collected the more money the

Borough will receive. There is no need to sort the shiny paper from the regular paper.

Repp asked if there is a time limit on keeping the Recycling Boxes and Makatura stated there is not.

HEALTH:

NO REPORT

INTER-BOROUGH

Donnelly stated that there will be a QVCOG meeting at 8:00 pm at the Quaker Valley Council of Governments.

She asked Dilmore for an update on the FEMA Certifications and he state that John Jakiela will talk about it at the meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 2012. He stated that it is a necessary thing and if FEMA is not going to offer a class then the Borough will do it.

Dilmore stated the Borough needs to have a person and an alternate to attend the Basin Meetings.

The first one is on May 23, 2012. Repp asked for a schedule of meetings and Dilmore stated that he did not have a schedule at this time but he would get one. He attends the daytime ones which are held in the Borough Building but the ones for the elected officials are in the evening. The meetings are in Shaler Township in the evening. Repp asked for a Council person to attend and Lloyd stated that he will attend as an alternate. Dilmore stated that he will send the reply to Shaler.

PARKS

Cortese apologized to Connie Rankin of the Citizen for leaving her name off of the thank you list for the Pool fund raiser that he had printed in the Citizen newspaper.

Cortese moved

“to permit BABA to use the Avalon Baseball Complex on June 10, 2012 for a craft and fund raising event.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

Donnelly asked for the time involved and Dilmore stated it would be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cortese thanked the Boy Scouts for planting the trees in the park and for building a fire pit which they will finish this week.

He stated that the handicap lift at the swimming pool is installed and working.

He also stated that they deposited \$2,532 from the fund raiser and used the money to buy the umbrellas and intend to buy Adirondack chairs at Home Depot. He thanked everyone who donated their time and efforts as well as baskets and money to the fundraiser.

Cortese stated that they are working on the concession stand at the pool and getting ready for the season. He stated that Megan Ott told him that a background check for these workers is not necessary.

LIBRARY

Donnelly stated that the Library celebrated 10 years at the new location. She stated that Council wants to meet with the Library officials.

Dilmore has been working to get things ready for the prom pictures and the celebration. He asked Donnelly about the pawpaw tree and asked where she wants to plant it. It is currently in his yard.

She stated that she will ask the donor of the tree to attend the celebration.

There will be a Friend of the Library meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. She stated that a member is leaving the board and there are some issues to be resolved.

Cortese asked about grant money and Donnelly stated that you cannot apply for a grant unless you know what the grant money will be used for and at this time they do not have any information on that.

Bernstein stated that there will be a Friends of the Library meeting on Thursday and he will attend. It is an open meeting. Donnelly asked Megan Ott for a letter to go to the Library and Megan agreed.

4th of JULY

Connie Rankin stated that the band is in place and emails were sent out asking for donations. The celebration is scheduled for June 29, 2012.

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

CORP/PLANNING:

Bernstein move

“to accept the proposed property donation in lieu of taxes for a vacant lot on Marie Avenue identified as Block and Lot 214-L-175.

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

“to favorably refer the draft of Ben Avon Friary Zoning Amendment to the Joint Planning Commission for their consideration and a public hearing.

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

Cortese moved

“to adjourn.”

Lloyd 2nd

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

**Harry W. Dilmore
Manager**