

AVALON BOROUGH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 18, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Pat Narcisi with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Solicitor stated an executive session was held prior to the council meeting to discuss a personnel issue, potential and pending litigation.

Klicker Moved:

“To accept the minutes of the May 18, 2013, Avalon Borough Council Meeting.”

Cortese 2nd

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Letter from Tree Vitalize, a group interested in increasing the tree canopy in communities. Workshop in July and applications available. Possibly Avalon NOW would be interested to plant trees.
- Letter from Print Company that previously did the Avalon Map. They want to know if we were interested in an update, no cost to the Borough. Advertisements fund the map.
- Letter from YMCA on their Summer Day Camp, alerting the Avalon Police Department of hours of pick up and delivery of children at Epiphany Church.
- Letter requesting Avalon participation in National Night Out activities on Tuesday, August 6, 4:00pm to 8:00pm at Bayne Park in Bellevue.

VISITORS:

Judy Outley
620 Florence Avenue

Issues regarding the parking problem in the Borough. Problem with people turning single family homes into apartments. What can be done with parking issues.

Narcisi comments regarding the parking issues. Further discussion on ordinances or permits required for concerning parking spaces required for homes and multiple unit buildings. Dilmore commented on the zoning requirements, possibility of parking permits, the general fact that people own more cars. There will be a possibility of spaces becoming available when the PNCBank does some remodeling. No easy solution for this problem. Ordinance being passed tonight to not allow parking in front yards. Detailed discussion on parking requirements in the existing ordinances for single and multifamily units.

Paul Loding
118 Cleveland Avenue (triplex)

Problems with parking, occupancy required he had to provide parking spaces. Can provide parking but cannot force them to use the spaces. We cannot regulate how many vehicles residents are permitted to own. Further discussion on how other communities are trying to handle the same parking issues. Alternatives suggested

Lloyd comments on parking permits. Problem with public transportation riders taking spaces as well as single family homes also owning more than one car, not just a problem with rental properties. Also problems with residents having garages filled with things other than cars.

Dilmore commented about parking on Parkview and using lines to control parking. However, there were too many driveways and fire hydrants for that to work effectively.

Narcisi made a recommendation to have the solicitor review the parking requirements currently in place. Dilmore noted that the Tri-Boro Joint Zoning Ordinance has definitive parking regulations for all Zoning Districts.

Mr. Loding stated his purpose for being there was also a parking issue. He obtained a survey of his property, providing a gravel parking area lined by blocks, providing off street parking for his tenants. Tenants at 114 Cleveland Ave. are causing problems with this parking area. Not able to deal with this person rationally. Council advised to speak to the Chief of Police.

Jackie Yurkovich
Grandview Avenue

Requesting speed signs in the park. Also additional signs throughout the park are need regarding no animals allowed in the park.

Ryan Deering
18 Marie Avenue

Property on Ohio River Blvd. overgrown (Senoski). Dilmore stated that it repeatedly goes in front of Tara Smith, this will be the third time, and then appealed to Judge Gallo.

Reminder that Avalon NOW will be meeting June 26, 2013, at 7:00 pm.

MAYOR: No Report

MANAGER/SECRETARY:

- Received the MS4 Report back from the DEP on Annual work done on the system. Will work with engineer on what needs to be accomplished in 2013-14 to continue to meet goals.
- Received 2013-14 PennDOT contract on snow and salting of state roads. Slight increase in fees from last year.
- Received ADA reimbursement and maintenance agreement for Rt. 65 work. Council agreed to work contract and Borough's portion for the catch basins and handicap ramps in the area of construction.
- Paperwork prepared and submitted to QVCOG for CDBG40 grants. Waiting for notification from the County on eligible grant submissions.

SOLICITOR:

- Bond closed today.
- 3rd and final reading on Ordinance #1346
- Columbia Gas Temporary Easement has been reviewed and revised. Columbia Gas has agreed to all changes.

ENGINEER:

- Received retaining wall specifications from Garvin Boward Beitko for N. Birmingham Avenue. We are recommending the agreements be in place with Duquesne Light for moving the poles and West View Water before going out to bid.
- Feasibility Study draft will be available next week for comments. No recommendations for repairs for the Borough.
- 719 Ohio River Blvd demolition will be advertised June 27 and 28. Specifications are needed.
- MS4 Report is requiring a storm water management ordinance. Avalon has been using the County's ordinance but no documentation has been located to determine when this was adopted. Solicitor Ott to review samples and prepare ordinance. Motion needed to advertise 1st and 2nd reading for next meeting.

- Cortese asked if engineer could review logs of repair work done on W. Bellevue Road regarding the line from the carwash on Rt. 65. Dilmore stated that he met with Leech from the ACHD on Monday and will be meeting with him again Thursday.

Dilmore commented on N. Birmingham Avenue: Spoke with Duquesne Light and they will be providing costs for moving the poles. West View Water has also been contacted.

FINANCE:

Allegheny County Councilman Finnerty regarding a program for purchasing trees. However, you need 1 person to take care of 25 trees. This program and the Tree Vitalize letter will allow us to purchase trees in the next year.

Thank you to Avalon NOW members that helped put the flags up for Memorial Day. Avalon NOW Facebook page has numerous photos of homes in the area as well as the pool and parks of Avalon.

Lloyd moved:

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

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To accept the Tax Collector’s Report as submitted for the period 4/17/13 to 5/21/13.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To accept the Finance Report as submitted for the month of June 2013 .”

Bernstein 2nd

CARRIED

“To pay the List of Bills for the month of May 2013 in the amount of \$117,039.16.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

“To accept Resolution #1087, authorizing issuance of procurement cards for the purchase goods and services.”

Cortese 2nd

Comment from Lloyd explaining that this is a credit card available for use by the Administrative Office for immediate purchases. This allows them to make the purchase without using personal credit cards. Dilmore stated that it is a PLGIT credit card and all reports and account activity will be available for review. Ott to review terms and conditions.

CARRIED

“To hire Jessica Drozd as part-time office clerk in the administration office, at \$14.00 per hour.”

Donnelly 2nd

Comment from Lloyd explaining that Drozd has been working for us for the past few months through an agency and we were now hiring her as a Borough employee.

CARRIED

8/11/2013

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Cortese moved:

“To permit the YMCA 5K Run to be held on California Avenue on July 20, 2013.”

Bernstein 2nd

CARRIED

STREETS:

Klicker moved:

“To accept the Columbia Gas Company agreement for the temporary easement in Avalon Park.”

Cortese 2nd

CARRIED

PROPERTY:

No Report.

HEALTH & SANITATION:

No Report.

CORP/PLANNING:

Bernstein moved:

“To have the Secretary give the 3rd and final reading on Ordinance #1346 regulating off-street parking.”

Dilmore read:

“An ordinance of the Borough of Avalon, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, regulating off street parking in front of buildings used as dwellings.”

Cortese 2nd

Donnelly commented the ordinance reads parking prohibited on unimproved parking spaces in front of dwellings. Concerned that there are already improved surfaces, such as cement parking pads. Ott explained that you cannot park on unimproved surfaces, such as grass, in front of or on the side of the home in front of the building line of the house. Ott interpreted that they should not be allowed to park in front of their home or building line on an improved or unimproved surface. Further discussion followed regarding curb cuts and parking areas in front of the line of the home. Explanation followed that the ordinance is preventing any new curb cuts or improvements for parking being made beyond the established building line of the house. Anything behind the established building line, driveways to the rear of a house, can be permitted.

After extended discussion regarding the parking ordinance, Donnelly made a secondary motion on the primary motion:

“To amend primary motion to read ‘no offstreet parking shall be located on improved or unimproved surfaces in front of or on the side of a building’.”

Bernstein 2nd

Klicker asked for clarification that an ordinance does not currently exist that addresses this. Ott stated the old zoning ordinance did address this but the Tri-Borough Zoning Ordinance does not on existing properties. This fills in the loop hole that occurred between the two zoning ordinances. This ordinance addresses parking in the front of a building.

Roll call vote:

Bernstein	Yes
Cortese	Abstain
Donnelly	Yes
Klicker	No
Lloyd	No

Narcisi No
Dixon and Vetterly - Absent

Secondary motion failed.

Primary Motion is restated to adopt the ordinance as advertised. Solicitor Ott read:

“That no off street parking spaces shall be located on unimproved surfaces in front of the facade of a building used as a dwelling or on improved surfaces on the side of a building.”

Roll Call vote:

No – Donnelly, Bernstein

Yes – Klicker, Lloyd, Narcisi, Cortese

CARRIED

Lloyd asked Dilmore to contact the Port Authority to cut grass at the loop.

Cortese moved:

“To authorize the solicitor to draft a storm water management ordinance adopting the Allegheny County Ordinance, and advertise same in the Citizen.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

INTER-BOROUGH:

Managers will be meeting in July, taking a break in June.

PARKS & RECREATION:

The weather is not cooperating for the pool.

8/11/2013

LIBRARY:

- September 14 will be the annual Touch A Truck event. Noon to 4:00 pm. The first hour will be a quiet hour.
- Librarian attended the annual dinner hosted by the Rotary Club
- Summer Programs
- Friends Meeting

Lloyd commented on the flag project for Memorial sponsored through Friends of the Library. They purchased 350 flags for the lawn with all the money received instead of using it as a fundraiser for the Library. Thank you for all your donations.

4th of JULY:

Volunteers needed. Friday, June 28, 2013.

Cortese moved:

“To Adjourn at 8:50 pm.”

Donnelly 2nd

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Harry W. Dilmore
Secretary