



The Avalon Home and Land Owners Association

BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORTS

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NOT A REPORT GIVEN EACH MONTH

June 2010 - Council passed a low interest bond issue for \$1.7 million for infrastructure maintenance; specifically for the rehabilitation of the water tower at 39th St.

Separately, Council is considering rules for Taxi cabs in town. Regulation is needed to assure that our visitors are not gouged and to protect the Borough from adverse litigation caused by not having appropriate ordinances.

Beach replenishment has restarted subsequent to the dredge break down and work from North to South to 26th St. is expected to be completed by the end of the month and meet contractual requirements.

May 2010 - John Cuthbert reported that the Borough budget increased by the maximum allowed. Some of the surplus generated in 2009 will be used, however, a like amount is expected to be generated in 2010. The surplus is maintained in order to get a favorable bond rating.

A 2.5% cap on taxes may be imposed by the governor and this may put a crimp on the Borough.

Painting the 39th Street water tower will cost about \$1 million. A loan is being obtained to assist in the cost.

There has been an increase in the number of people asking for reappraisals.

March 2010 - Borough Council has approved \$4.5 million for beach restoration. Mobilization costs for the dredge are being shared with Sea Isle City. The Borough does not know if it will be reimbursed but it will try to get the moneys from the federal and state agencies. Replenishment will run from 26th Street north to 9th Street

Bill Macomber has been appointed Director of Public Works.

The Council supported a resolution to the League of Municipalities regarding the 4% cap on property taxes that has been in place for four years. They wholeheartedly support rescission of the cap.

The budget will be introduced at the March 24th meeting.

Feb 2010 - Borough Council has approved the Dune Vegetation Management Plan. There have been some articles in the press, including a response to criticism by the Mayor. A copy of the Plan has been posted on the Borough website.

The water tower at 38th Street will get the same treatment that the tower at 13th Street got in 2009. Steps will be taken to maintain the cell phone arrays.

Jan 2010 - At the last Council meeting a report was given on the Trap, Neuter and Release program. This continues as a positive venture. The number of feral cats is decreasing.

A draft of the proposed Dune Vegetation Management Plan was presented to Borough Council.



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Dec 2009 - The Borough has passed an ordinance that requires tenants to list the people in the property.

A boat/boat trailer parking ordinance has been passed. This stipulates that boats and boat trailers cannot be parked on the street between June 1 and September 30. Dave Knoche proposed a motion, seconded by Joe Reese that recommended AHLOA support this ordinance.

Oct 2009 - Borough Council will attempt to pass a change in the Dune Protection Ordinance in October. The change in the ordinance will provide specificity regarding the application to build pools and tennis courts in the high dune area. The current ordinance has been found to be “arbitrary and capricious” by two court rulings. The change attempts to rectify the shortcoming.

Sept 2009 -The Borough has been forced by NJDEP and the courts to allow pools in the high dunes. The Borough’s rules were adjudged to be arbitrary and capricious. The Borough has been working on the Dune Ordinance to develop a strategic plan. The issue was tabled until a later date because of typos in the document that had been introduced.

July 2009 - Charles Covington reported that the Whitebriar Restaurant had received a stay on it’s liquor license renewal. The special condition which indicated that the Outdoor service bar was not to be used for service was removed. The Borough had complained in late 2008 that the special Condition was being violated, and that alcohol was also being served from portable bars. The Whitebriar appealed to the ABC that the Borough was placing an unreasonable restraint on business.

Outdoor music is allowed in bars between noon and 8:00 p.m. A response on this proposal is awaited from the ABC.

June 1009 -The Planning/Zoning Board approved the construction of a house at 5019 Dune Drive, but not the pool, and made this recommendation to Borough Council. The Borough Council followed the ordinances and denied the pool.

There has been further discussion about outdoor music, but no decision so far. It may come up for approval at the next Borough Council Meeting, however, there is a possibility that if the move is approved it may not take effect until the Alcoholic Beverage Commission in Trenton approves the situation.

There is a proposal to change the number of Council meetings from three to two per month. The Council meeting agenda will be published on the Borough website the Monday before the meeting.

May 2009 – There was a report on the break-down of the increases in taxes and the reasons therefore. It was felt there is not enough time for an individual or an organization to evaluate the budget before a vote is taken.

A suggestion was made that, for example, several people presenting the budget talk with AHLOA beforehand.

March 2009 The Borough has approved a partial beach fill to be conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 10th to 18th Streets. Additionally the Borough will bring in additional sand to complete the task to 20th Street. The Corps is looking at a better long-term solution to the problem, such as sand by-passing.



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An ordinance requiring Knox boxes on commercial buildings and multi-family units has been passed.

January 2009 Two major items on the Council agenda were the drilling of a new well at 67 and Dune Drive. Work on that is due to start momentarily. It is hoped the project will be complete by the beginning of the summer season. The boards on the boardwalk between 28th and 30th Streets will be replaced.

December 2008 The feral cat ordinance has been renewed for a period of three years. When the ordinance was initially implemented there were 140 feral cats in the Borough. Through the T'NR program this number has been reduced to about 40. New air conditioning for the Community Hall has proved to be more expensive than originally expected, however, a negotiated price has been agreed upon. Work will be complete before Memorial Day. A proposed document on affordable housing has been hammered out and will be submitted to the State by December 31. Under the state regulations one affordable unit is required for every 4 new houses. If a tear down has been owned for more than a year before demolition.

October 2008 -The new Public Safety Building will be ready for November occupancy. There have been minimal changes in the contract. Other items that are before Council at this time are: There was a proposal for a \$177,000 bond issue (for ?)

There is an ambiguity in the insurance requirements for outside dining and these are being looked into;

The grounds maintenance is being reviewed and will take into consideration the needs of low lying areas and various contingency clauses.

September 2008 - Council President outlined several items that are before Council at this time: Council is getting ready to approve changes to Chapter 26 Site Plan Ordinance.

Medical waste was washed ashore between 10th & and 32^d Streets. There was great help from residents and other volunteers to sweep the beach. The Borough took safety precautions to the utmost by closing the beach for two high tides to see if other material was washed ashore.

Water supply will be a problem. Engineers are investigating the situation, possibly by buying water from another community. A question has been raised about the possibility that Council could require pool owners to have water trucked. The Borough is constantly checking for leaks in the system. Large houses use a lot more water than the old cottages.

Cell phones can be added to the reverse 911 system - fill out the card in the latest issue of the Avalon magazine.