

TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, June 5, 2023

5:00 p.m.

The Town of Atlantic Beach Town Council meeting was held and recorded at Atlantic Beach Community Center, 1010 32nd Avenue South, Atlantic Beach, South Carolina, on the 5th day of Monday, 2023, and transcribed by Travis McLeod, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of South Carolina.



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APPEARANCES

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mayor Jake Evans, Chairman
Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom
Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore
Councilman Edward Campbell

ADMINISTRATION:

Cheryl Pereira, Town Clerk

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1 CALL TO ORDER:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This town council meeting is called
3 to order this Monday June 5th year 2023 at
4 5:00 p.m. Role call.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell.

6 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Here.

7 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom.

8 **MS. ISOM:** Here.

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore.

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Here.

11 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Council seeking a motion to go
13 into executive session for demolition of 430th
14 Avenue South and proposed contract for our
15 town's attorney.

16 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

17 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** And personnel matters.

18 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** And personnel matters,
19 sorry. Thank you.

20 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

21 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to go
23 into executive sessions for the items listed.
24 Any other question or comments?

25 (No response.)



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

2 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

3 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

4 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

5 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

6 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

8 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay, the motion is granted.

10 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

11 **(Executive session.)**

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, I seek a motion to come out
13 of executive session into general session.

14 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

15 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and second on the
17 floor to come out of the executive session
18 into the general session of the meeting. Any
19 other question or comments?

20 (No response.)

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

22 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

23 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

24 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

25 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.



1 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

3 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

4 **GENERAL SESSION:**

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion is granted. I want
6 to welcome the general public and ask at this
7 time to silence your phones or any devices
8 that may disturb the proceedings. And at
9 this time we will stand for a moment of
10 silence.

11 (A moment of silence is observed.)

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** And we'll pledge allegiance.

13 (The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, now to the approval of the
15 agenda, seek a motion to approve the agenda.

16 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

17 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** A motion and a second on the floor
19 for the approval of the agenda. If there are
20 no other questions or comments, roll call for
21 approval of the agenda.

22 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

23 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

24 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

25 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.



1 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

3 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. Okay, Ms. Dukes, you are next
5 on the menu. Hope we didn't get to you too
6 soon.

7 **MS. DUKES:** Hello, guys. I'm Jenna Dukes, Horry
8 County Councilwoman for District 1. I'm
9 honored to be here tonight. Thank you for
10 having me and I will leave my contact
11 information. I don't have anything prepared.
12 I apologize, but I'll leave everything so
13 that if you do have any questions or concerns
14 you can contact me.

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. Thanks for coming, glad
16 to have you.

17 **OLD BUSINESS:**

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, we're down to old
19 business, Town Council Meeting Minutes, the
20 Minutes from Town Council Meeting held on May
21 1st, 2023. Council, seek a motion for
22 approval of these minutes.

23 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

24 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor to



1 approve the Meeting Minutes from May 1st,
2 2023. Any other question or comments?

3 (No response.)

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

6 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

7 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

8 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

11 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. Motion's granted. We're down
13 to item B Ordinance Number 3-2023. This is
14 an ordinance to amend the land management
15 ordinance to modify the parking requirements
16 to support infill, mixed-use development. And
17 this will be the first reading.

18 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Mayor, Council and Public,
19 first of all let me apologize for keeping you
20 waiting. My father, 95-year-old father
21 (inaudible) died in rehab and I had to take
22 that call. These three, A, under old
23 business, B -- B, C and D ordinances that
24 appear on the prior meeting, council meeting.
25 They're being presented again because we are



1 making sure that the Town's following the
2 proper protocol in providing a public hearing
3 for these ordinances that were previously
4 adopted. So we are reappearing at this
5 point. I take responsibility in making sure
6 that we comply with all laws, regulations and
7 ordinances set forth by the town. So as an
8 abundance of caution we are making sure that
9 we redo these ordinances. I've asked Ms.
10 Leigh Kane, Director of Waccamaw Regional
11 Council Government to come and answer any
12 questions that the Council may have. These
13 have already been discussed at a prior
14 meeting. But if you have any questions
15 (inaudible) we'll take them at this time.
16 Ms. Kane will take them at this time.

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Ms. Kane.

18 **MS. KANE:** And just for reference there have not
19 been any changes since last time this was in
20 front of you. The public hearings for these
21 will be scheduled I believe in July. Is that
22 correct?

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** July 10th.

24 **MS. KANE:** Your July 10th meeting.

25 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** We're gonna need a motion if



1 there are no questions in terms of ---

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Council, seek a motion to
3 adopt Ordinance Number 3-2023.

4 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** First reading.

6 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. There's a motion and a second
8 on the floor. Any other questions or
9 comments?

10 (No response.)

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

12 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

13 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

14 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

15 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

16 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

17 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

18 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion's granted. We're
20 down to Item C which is Ordinance Number 4-
21 2023. And this is the ordinance to amend the
22 land management ordinance to modify the
23 eligibility of -- for designation requirements
24 for the planned development and the flexible
25 design zoning districts. And this is the



1 first reading as well for it as well. It's
2 number 4-2023.

3 **MS. KANE:** There also have been no changes to this
4 ordinance.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. Okay, Council, we're
6 seeking the motion to adopt Ordinance Number
7 4-2023.

8 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

9 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and second on the floor for
11 Ordinance Number 4-2023. There's no other
12 question or comments. Roll call.

13 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell.

14 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Nay.

15 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

16 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

17 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

18 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

19 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion's granted. We're
21 down to Item D and this is Ordinance Number
22 5-2023, an ordinance to amend the land
23 management ordinance to modify the di- --
24 bulk, dimensional and density standards to
25 support infill development and reduce the



1 prevalence of nonconforming lots. And this
2 is the first reading as well, Ordinance
3 Number 5-2023.

4 **MS. KANE:** And also no changes.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, seek to -- need to
6 seek a motion to adopt Ordinance Number 5-
7 2023, first reading.

8 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

9 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and second on the floor to
11 adopt Ordinance Number 5-2023. Have no other
12 questions or comments, roll call.

13 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

14 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

15 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

16 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

17 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore.

18 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

19 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion's granted.

21 **MS. KANE:** Thank you.

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you.

23 **NEW BUSINESS:**

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, we're down to new
25 business. And this is a public hearing for



1 year 2023, 2024 proposed general fund budget.
2 Do we -- you want us to go ahead and open the
3 floor for the public hearing?

4 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Mayor, Council, Public, I'd
5 like to just start with some general comments
6 regarding our current year fiscal budget which
7 ends June 30th, 2023. Overall as I will show
8 a graph on the trajectory of the town from an
9 economic standpoint is on the incline upwards.
10 And we are happy and will show documentation
11 of development that has taken place in the
12 town of Atlantic Beach that has contributed
13 immensely to our overall budget. There are
14 three major areas that I would like to
15 highlight. One, we had hoped that our
16 property tax collection rate would have
17 increased more substantially than it has over
18 the last two years with all the new units
19 that have been added to the inventory in the
20 Town of Atlantic Beach. About last year lead
21 by councilwoman Isom and at the budget
22 hearing last year a question was raised in
23 terms of with all of the new development that
24 we've had in the town that our property tax
25 collection rate has not corresponded in terms



1 of increase as we had hoped. Ms. Isom along
2 with Cheryl and another young lady Ms. Isom
3 brought on board did an audit of all of our
4 units to make sure that all of our new units
5 were being credited and counted by the County
6 Tax Assessor's Office and that we were not
7 being miscounted in terms of the actual
8 number of units. That audit was completed.
9 We suspected that going back several years
10 there had been an undercount. The report
11 came out that there was no substantial
12 undercounting of the units. I think there
13 were several units added to the count
14 overall, but has not substantially increased
15 our property tax rate, actual payment rate.
16 So we're still have questions. We'll be
17 looking into that particular issue. On the
18 positive side, this year we have had the most
19 grant activity, award activity in the town
20 since I've been here since '15. That
21 primarily is the result of the work of Ms.
22 Denise Gibson Bailey primarily on a volunteer
23 basis have been very active and successful
24 with support of Ms. Linda Cheatham in
25 pursuing grant opportunities for the Town of



1 Atlantic Beach. We received the Historic
2 Grant 25,000, the Donnelly Grant 50,000, and
3 the Major Grant of 544,000 for the
4 replacement of street lights on 30th Avenue
5 in the Town of Atlantic Beach. So that has
6 been a substantial benefit to our community
7 and will continue to be so. We are in
8 application for major infrastructure funding
9 through FEMA and other federal and state
10 funding sources. And actively pursuing other
11 grant opportunities local and at the federal
12 and state level. So we've done substantially
13 improvement in the grants area. Also one of
14 the highlights of the increase economic
15 benefit to the town is the number of
16 donations that have been made to the town by
17 a variety of sources that we've reported over
18 this last fiscal year. A number of entities
19 and individuals have voluntarily donated, some
20 specifically toward our police Department for
21 radios, bullet-proof vests and other general
22 capital improvements to the town to the tune
23 of 27, 29,000 I think this particular year.
24 That is a substantial increase over the years
25 that I've been here since '15. Our basic



1 budget reflects our fixed cost in terms of
2 for lighting, waste removal, collection,
3 things of that nature is not too much, can be
4 done and modified in those costs that are
5 attributed to the town. We also are looking
6 at hopefully a higher in 2023 increase. As
7 you know -- let me explain. The budget
8 changed in 2022 where business licenses are
9 collected in April as opposed to July 1st.
10 That change in, I think, last year gave us
11 two collection rates on our business license
12 for that fiscal year. And I'll show you a
13 graph in terms of what the benefit
14 economically that has been for the town. But
15 this year the bottom line on 2023, the final
16 numbers are not in. I hope to have them by
17 the second reading, the 19th, because we
18 still have a substantial number of businesses
19 that have not paid their business license fee
20 as of April 30th. Between 10 and 12
21 businesses that still have not reported. So
22 at the bottom line on the estimated income in
23 that area. Also hospitality tax will go up.
24 Our accountant did a review and there are
25 still some property -- I mean hospitality



1 taxes that have not been allocated and
2 reported, and I should have some final
3 numbers on those delinquent payments before
4 the next budget hearing. So the bottom line
5 for 2023 should increase from the bottom line
6 that's associated in this report based on
7 those additional revenues that we hope to
8 generate before the end of this year. With
9 that also we itemized out in terms of our
10 costs for our services such as building
11 inspection, accounting fees, auditing, things
12 of that nature on page four. Our contract
13 with Waccamaw Regional Council of Government.
14 We also put in \$30,000 which I'll go on
15 detail for consultants to hire grants
16 administration of the grants we received and
17 to go after additional grant opportunities for
18 the Town of Atlanta Beach. So those are our
19 new projected expenses for the town. Also
20 we're looking to add a maintenance staff
21 person beginning probably before the end of
22 the month to assist with and scheduling to
23 have some maintenance cleaning over the
24 weekend period. Going into vacation season
25 now we're seeing a lot of additional tourists



1 come on a weekend, and I think it's necessary
2 for us to have -- try to have some
3 maintenance coverage to make sure that the
4 town is maintained over the time period. So
5 looking to add to the budget also my major
6 focus is to the retention of our police
7 force. We have five police officers on
8 staff. And one of my major recommendations
9 to the Council is that to try to keep as much
10 as possible retain them for longevity. All
11 of us know the national as well as state
12 shortage of police officers in the state of
13 South Carolina and across the country. And
14 we want to do and have made substantial
15 strides in improving our operations in the
16 police department, outfitting them with state
17 of the art equipment that will go (inaudible)
18 probably go into detail. And we have spent
19 some of the American Recovery money for novel
20 expenses to support our police department,
21 purchasing vehicles, drones, other security
22 upgrades to our facilities here as well as
23 Town Hall with those funds. And I will have
24 a detailed accounting of all of those
25 expenses before our next meeting. But with



1 that I open the floor for any questions in
2 regard to the budget from Council or the
3 Public.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** (Inaudible) open the floor for them.
5 Council members, you have any -- y'all have
6 any questions?

7 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** I don't.

8 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** No.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, I seek a motion to
10 open the floor to the general public for the
11 proposed general fund budget for 2023-2024.
12 I seek that motion.

13 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** I need a second.

15 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and second on the
17 floor to open the floor to the general public
18 for the proposed general fund budget for
19 2023-2024. And these questions will pertain
20 to the budget and the budget only. Roll
21 call.

22 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

23 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

24 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

25 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.



1 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

3 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion is granted. The
5 floor is not open for a public hearing for
6 the proposed general fund budget for 2023-
7 2024. And we'll entertain questions at this
8 time for the budget and for the budget only.
9 If you raise your hand I think the Chief is
10 going to come to you with a mic if you have
11 any questions.

12 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Good evening, Mayor and
13 Council, Mr. Town Manager and Staff. I have
14 10 questions. Do you want me to go through
15 them all at the same time or how would you
16 like me to ---

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well I mean if you -- if there is a
18 question probably just one at a time I guess
19 try to see if it's something we can answer
20 for you.

21 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Okay. The notice of the
22 public hearing on the town website says
23 there's a 27 percent increase in operating
24 revenue and expenses. And it gives the
25 amount of 1.1 million dollars, 1,164,894.



1 The budget that was in the announcement with
2 the agenda is a budget of \$1,213,248 or an
3 increase of 32 percent. And I was wondering
4 what the difference was in the two numbers.

5 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** As required by law we have
6 to give a public notice on the budget and the
7 estimates that we have available at that
8 time. That's why it's determined that
9 they're estimates ---

10 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Right.

11 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** (Inaudible) this number is
12 going to change again (inaudible).

13 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Sure. No, I understand.

14 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** So that's why (inaudible)
15 publicize in the media at that time.

16 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** And I know you addressed
17 this. But with all of the revenue increases
18 it would seem to me that there could be a
19 reduction in the billing (inaudible). That
20 we have the third highest rate in Horry
21 County behind the City of (inaudible) and
22 behind Myrtle Beach at .088. And the
23 increases that are proposed in the budget
24 (inaudible) will be very helpful to those
25 homeowners who pay property taxes. And I



1 would request that the Council consider doing
2 that.

3 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Let me just speak to what I
4 think you brought up last year. What we're
5 seeing is that their property tax payment
6 rate to us is not as we see it proportional
7 to what we've developed in town. Okay? And
8 that's not a reason. But I'm just saying
9 that we think that the County, we're still
10 not getting our fair share of that millage
11 rate that currently is right now.

12 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So is that why the person
13 -- the property taxes projected in 2022-2023
14 are less than we actually received in 2021
15 and 2022?

16 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** No. Property tax on the
17 line item is 310 for 2023-'24.

18 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Oh, I'm sorry. In 2022-
19 '23 the property taxes are estimated to be
20 248,304. The actual in '21-'22 was 250,094.
21 And the actual in 2021 was 254. My question
22 is about '22-'23.

23 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** '22-'23 they are still
24 delinquent ---

25 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Okay.



1 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** --- taxes that haven't been
2 paid that have not been reflected in this
3 notice.

4 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** And I'll be glad to sit
5 down anytime and let somebody else come up if
6 you'd like. Why is there a 25 percent
7 increase in building permits? What activity
8 is seen and showed there's going to be a 25
9 percent increase in revenue?

10 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** All right. I have a slide
11 I'm going show you currently what -- well
12 I'll come back to it. There's a slide. We
13 have over 31 new homes scheduled to be
14 completed by the end of 2023. 25 of them
15 have been completed. Currently now under
16 consideration we have three applications for
17 three new homes as we speak. They probably
18 will not be approved until a fiscal year July
19 1. So they will be reflected, and these are
20 substantial value homes that will be proposed
21 to be built, three of them, probably to the
22 tune of about 2 million dollars plus, all
23 three combined. So based on the activity
24 that we've seen over the year, my question
25 from my accountant, I thought the number of



1 permits would be higher from what we've seen
2 come in over they years, not only for new
3 construction or new units, but activity in
4 charge of business permits and the town to do
5 work (inaudible) investors have been making
6 substantial improvements in their property.
7 So that number to me is low. But to answer
8 your question, we project based on what we
9 have now, three applications or applicants for
10 building permit. And in addition to that
11 we've got three other requests that will
12 probably require valiances on the part of the
13 Board zoning appeals to develop on 30th
14 avenue.

15 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** There's a 42 percent
16 increase in hospitality taxes. The actual
17 estimate was -- the actual in '21-'22 was
18 79,000. The estimate for the current year
19 '22-'23 is 80,000 and there's a projected
20 budget of 113,000.

21 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Again, I think I mentioned
22 earlier on that the hospitality tax
23 collection, what happened in 2021, the County
24 changed and started collecting the hospitality
25 rate for all municipalities given the



1 percentage to the town. What we found is
2 some of the businesses have been confused by
3 that and paying the hospitality tax to the
4 County or not at all. So that's why I stated
5 to you that we have to do a reconciliation of
6 a number of businesses. I don't know if
7 because of confusion of the changeover from
8 the County that they collect and give us our
9 percentage or in the past they've been paying
10 their hospitality and tax directly to the
11 town. So there is a gap and I hope to get it
12 resolved in terms of those collection rate,
13 and we'll answer that question in terms of
14 that number.

15 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Okay. There's a 216
16 percent increase in fines for the budget
17 year. There's an estimate of collecting
18 \$9,251 in '22-'23. We've only collected
19 \$4,714 in '21-'22. But there's a 216 percent
20 increase. Is there something -- is there a
21 new ...

22 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** More law enforcement. We --
23 this is to get up to fully staff until this -
24 - June, January. So we had a (inaudible)
25 drop off in actual funds coming to the Town



1 based on tickets written. Only Town
2 Ordinances tickets can be allocated to the
3 town. Is that right, am I saying that right?

4 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Yes.

5 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** So the two fold in terms of
6 the having additional officers, we project now
7 having the full force and final (inaudible).
8 We should have a more robust collection rate
9 for the town.

10 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** I'm glad to see that some
11 lawn and garden maintenance is going to be
12 actually happening. It was really
13 discouraging to look at the way the town was
14 looking before Bikefest, and the way the
15 lawns have been allowed to grow up even
16 though that's not the town's responsibility.
17 I think at some point in time the town was to
18 cut the lawns and build a property on it.
19 But particularly on 29th Street there were a
20 number of lots that just look like we live in
21 a jungle, and I don't think that's a good
22 representation for the town, particularly with
23 all the people that we were expecting to
24 come. It just really made a bad, in my
25 opinion, a bad impression. So I'm glad to



1 see that we're going to devote some money to
2 some maintenance and lawn care for the town.
3 You told me that the consultant was for the
4 grant. And I guess one of my final comments
5 is that best financial practices suggest that
6 our general operating and our grants and our
7 special funds be separate. And it really
8 would be nice if we could see (inaudible) on
9 separate pages so they don't get co-mingled
10 and cause people (inaudible). Thank you.

11 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Thank you.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** We have any other questions for the
13 budget?

14 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** How much money did we
15 receive from the recovery?

16 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Two allocations of 110,000
17 and some change so about \$220,000.

18 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** You detailed some
19 improvements with the grants money. But what
20 are some of the actual improvements that
21 happened last year, and what are some of the
22 planned improvements for this year that we
23 actually can see for the town?

24 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Okay, I'm going to do a ---

25 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** You can go ahead and do the



1 slide presentation.

2 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** I'll address those. Right
3 now I'm to answer some of the same questions
4 that you raised. Are you ready? Get me to -
5 - let me start with the one on the Freedom
6 Projects slide. Let me start with that.
7 What you see before you, and I wish it came
8 up on one sheet of paper, but those are the
9 number of homes and the construction value of
10 homes built on 29th Avenue since 2015.
11 Scroll down. These are homes on 29th Avenue,
12 homes on 31st Avenue, again construction
13 value. These are ones on Ocean Boulevard,
14 homes built. Scroll down. At the bottom of
15 that screen there, and I'll read it out for
16 you, the total construction value of these
17 homes built over since 2015 total about
18 \$11,272,200. Currently now I think I
19 indicated there are currently nine homes under
20 construction as we speak that hopefully will
21 come online before December 31st, 2023. I've
22 been informed by those more knowledgeable than
23 me that once a home is added and CO'd, if it
24 comes online in December it is not reflected
25 in the current calendar year, but reflected



1 in the next year, 2024. That may explain
2 some of the lag in terms of property tax
3 collection rate. But still substantially of
4 that 11,272,000 almost \$8,000,000 of that
5 total have already been completed and added
6 to the physical inventory in the town. Nine
7 units under construction now and as I
8 indicated in Ms. Cheatham's question, we have
9 three applications currently now for to build
10 homes in the town at an estimated cost of
11 about \$2,000,000. So all told if they
12 approve, we're looking at adding an additional
13 \$13,000,000 in construction value to the town.
14 Go to the bar graph.

15 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** (Inaudible) but if you could
16 provide a copy to all of us so we can see.

17 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Okay, I'll just read it out.

18 This bar graph shows, and I'll read out
19 numbers. In 2015 the total budget of
20 \$752,508.32, 816,000. Roughly 755 in '18.
21 807 in 2019. 753 in 2020. 880,000 in 2021.
22 And 1.571 million in 2022. Now let me
23 footnote that. That is the year that we
24 received the \$222,000 art money. So that's
25 included in this. If you back that out



1 you're still talking about 1.3 million and
2 projected with the absence of the art money
3 of, for 2023 current estimate 1.2 million 23
4 and counting before the final end. But this
5 bar graph shows a projection and an increase
6 in revenue to the town. None of the other
7 grant funds are included in these numbers.
8 All of this is a result of property taxes,
9 business license, and other collection fees.
10 So overall the town is ascending. We think
11 based on what we see in terms of proposed new
12 development on the arising, that this trend
13 will continue, and that we will be able to
14 stabilize and maintain these financing levels
15 in the future. Go to the next slide. Took
16 the opportunity to list a number of needs
17 that the town has. We talked about several
18 months ago our community center, which was
19 built in 1975 had the original roof. We've
20 been patching it for some seven, eight years.
21 It has maintained and held, but we're going
22 to need a substantial comprehensive renovation
23 of our roof. Looked into financing for that
24 bottom line without going into all the
25 details, required a bond issue pledging our



1 property tax as repayment for funds. The
2 financing to do a bond deal, our legal costs
3 are about 10 to \$12,000 in addition. And
4 based on our current property rate we could
5 borrow about \$225,000 to address those capital
6 needs. Again, we started as you all know
7 renovation of the police offices which were a
8 liable expense on the art funding which we
9 paid for out of that. We also pleaded the
10 renovations of the kitchen this year, not out
11 of our funds, out of general funds. There
12 have been suggested recommendations about
13 signage, improving the signage on Highway 17
14 and 29th and 32nd Avenue coming into the
15 town. These are some projected projects that
16 the town could take on with the assistance of
17 a paid grant administrator consultant to
18 assist us in pursuing revenue, doing Rps,
19 pursuing grant funding for these particular
20 projects. Parking has been talked about,
21 improving our parking, providing parking for
22 not only tourists coming, but also development
23 along 30th Avenue. One of the ordinances on
24 the agenda gives some relief in terms of the
25 parking requirements that a business would



1 have to comply with on 30th Avenue. But they
2 will need, still need additional parking to
3 accommodate and to assist with spurring
4 development on 30th Avenue. So as a revenue
5 generating source in terms of collecting
6 revenue to the town like other towns, in
7 terms of parking meters, starting (inaudible)
8 proposed on housing private property on 30th
9 Avenue as a revenue generator for the town.
10 As I indicated, we're adding an additional
11 maintenance person. The grants administrator
12 is 30,000 in the budget for administrator.
13 Go down to the next. And this is the next
14 slide are just some suggested, I don't know
15 if you can read it, recommendations that have
16 come in for museum, memorial, patio pavilion
17 to be developed, (inaudible) on the
18 waterfront, been talking about that for years.
19 And looking for revenue. Farmers' market as
20 a revenue generator in July and August, us
21 the Town publishing on our website a Town
22 event far in advance so that people will be
23 notified of our Town events. Gullah Geechee
24 and other events that could bring additional
25 revenue to the Town. Go to the next slide.



1 Okay, so that's it. So we hope with the
2 success we've had in grant secured we're in
3 for major infrastructure improvements to the
4 town. If we're successful some of those
5 grants do come with administrative dollars
6 that will assist us in grant administration
7 and will further add resources to our ability
8 to manage those grants.

9 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** I think the housing
10 (inaudible). Is the town doing everything to
11 promote that continued housing growth and
12 doing everything to advocate for more people
13 to build?

14 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Yes, we are. We -- some of
15 the ordinances you see on the agenda tonight,
16 as I indicated, I instructed our director of
17 planned (inaudible) and building official to
18 go to our ordinances and look at where we can
19 give relief to investors and developers
20 developing specifically on 30th Avenue to
21 spur, you know, what's lagging behind. And
22 what we can modify and change now, that we do
23 it and not wait. One of the biggest things,
24 and it's in the budget, that was requested
25 several meetings ago was to revisit the



1 comprehensive plan and look at it in terms of
2 things we can modify and change that will
3 enhance and support development. There's
4 funding in there. I got a quote from
5 (inaudible) on doing that comprehensive plan
6 and updating, which is in the budget.

7 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** One of the biggest, I know
8 Ms. Cheatham said at 62 percent. But I think
9 the largest increase that I see in the budget
10 is election costs. I think you have 2020-
11 2021 may have been the last election we had
12 here. And I noticed in '22-'23 that the cost
13 went from \$435 to approximately \$15,000.
14 What's the drastic increase?

15 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Well the appeal through the
16 election process is driving those legal costs
17 for the resolution of the last election.
18 That's the cost.

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Any other questions on the public
20 hearing from anybody?

21 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** If you could please make
22 sure we get a copy of that.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, seek a motion to close the
24 public hearing.

25 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.



1 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to
3 close the public hearing on the budget. If
4 there are no other questions or comments,
5 roll call.

6 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

7 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

8 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

9 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

10 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

11 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

12 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay, the motion is granted. We're
14 down to item seven. This is Ordinance Number
15 7-2023 adopt budget for year 2023-2024, an
16 ordinance to adopt a budget for the Town of
17 Atlantic Beach for fiscal year commencing July
18 1st, 2023 and ending June 30th, 2024, and
19 this will be the first reading. Council,
20 seek a motion.

21 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

22 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second on the
24 floor to adopt Ordinance Number 7-2023, the
25 budget for year 2023-'24 and this is the



1 first reading. If there are no other
2 questions or comments, roll call.

3 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

4 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

5 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

6 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

7 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

8 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

9 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay, the motion is granted. And
11 we're down to our manager's report.

12 **Manager's Report:**

13 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Mayor, Council and Public,
14 I'm pleased to announce that the recognition
15 of Lake Arrowhead Fire Station Volunteer
16 League took the initiative to clean up our
17 basketball court on 31st Avenue. Repainted
18 lines and did a number of cleanup
19 initiatives. And so we want to acknowledge
20 that Fire Station the be Battalion Chief for
21 taking the initiative to support the Town of
22 Atlantic Beach in that cleanup effort. Item
23 two, we received ---

24 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** They're here.

25 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** They're here?



1 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** We got a whole bunch of
2 them.

3 (Applause)

4 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Anybody want to make remarks
5 on behalf of the group?

6 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** How you doing today?

7 (Multiple responses.)

8 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Anything you want me to
9 touch on?

10 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Just tell them why and what
11 spurred y'all to take this ...

12 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** We love covering and
13 representing the area of Atlantic Beach as
14 your Fire Department. It's just an area we
15 saw was currently underutilized. We love
16 playing basketball ourselves. As you can
17 tell by my height I'm very proficient at it.
18 I have a great team of guys and some good
19 leaders that lead us to try our hand at
20 different things, and that was one project we
21 took upon, and we're just happy to help.

22 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Thank you so much.

23 (Applause.)

24 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Thank you, gentlemen.

25 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Thank you.



1 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Did you get Mr. Richardson
2 here too?

3 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** No.

4 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Our next donation was on the
5 part of Solicitor Jimmy Richardson, a grant
6 program called Solicitor's Intervention
7 Program donated \$2,000 to our police
8 department. I think they found several
9 police departments throughout the County and
10 we were a recipient of a \$2,000 donation
11 through that program. So we'd like to thank
12 the Solicitor for that contribution and
13 support of our police department. Also we
14 received from World Community Magazine a
15 donation from Jo Ella and Edward McQueen of
16 \$50 just talking about how positive they
17 viewed the town and the improvements that
18 were made, and just felt compelled to make an
19 unsolicited donation to the town, and we
20 thank them. At this time, I don't know, Ms.
21 Mallett told me she wouldn't be here. I
22 don't know if we've got another representative
23 to talk about our upcoming Gullah Geechee
24 Festival June 23rd 25th.

25 **MS. DIVINE:** Mayor, Council, neighbors, friends and



1 visitors, I'm here on behalf of Ms. Mallett.
2 She asked me in her absence to show you some
3 information about the upcoming Gullah Geechee
4 Festival that she is chairing. So I'll give
5 you her comments. As chair I'm proud to
6 present the next adventure for the Atlanta
7 Beach, the 2023 Atlantic Beach, South Carolina
8 Gullah Geechee Culture and Nature Festival.
9 We're inviting all Council Members and staff
10 of Atlantic Beach along with our sponsors
11 that supported us with contributions of over
12 \$500 or more to join us for a special
13 invitation only meet and greet on Friday,
14 being held here, Friday the 23rd being held
15 here at the Community Center for a special
16 kick-off for the festival. That evening's
17 featured honorees are Mr. Ron Days, an
18 internationally renown performer, storyteller
19 and cultural preservationist, along with Mr.
20 Cecil Williams, a famed photographer and
21 founder of the South Carolina Civil Rights
22 Museum. Mr. Williams will share some of his
23 most iconic images of the Civil Rights
24 Movement that he captured as a photographer
25 for Jake Magazine. And to top it all off



1 we'll have entertainment provided by the Asher
2 Theater Performers. On Saturday, June 24th,
3 there'll be a celebration all day long free
4 for the entire community and visitors to
5 enjoy. It begins at 10:00 a.m. with a parade
6 down 30th Avenue followed by on stage
7 performances at the cul-de-sac. Mr. Ron Days
8 and Mr. Sunmichu (ph), excuse me if I'm
9 mispronouncing his name, an in demand afro-
10 Carribean Creole lecturer who works with a
11 wide range of institutions and has the
12 distinction of being Harvard University's
13 first and only Gullah language instructor will
14 be the special guest speakers. The day will
15 include storytellers, swing and shag dancers,
16 Asher Theater Performers, and MC James
17 Stevens, plenty of arts and crafts and
18 exhibitors. And on Sunday we'll move to the
19 oceanfront where a nondenominational worship
20 service, libation ceremony, drumming and
21 poetry and fun for the entire family. If
22 you'd like to support financially Ms.
23 Mallett's efforts here, you can be a patron
24 or sponsor through our website. The website
25 is Atlanticbeachscgullahgeechee.org. Thank



1 you on behalf of Ms. Mallett.

2 (Multiple thank yous heard.)

3 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** At this time we'd like to
4 bring up Ms. Carla Taylor to give an update
5 on the Atlantic Beach Little Free Library
6 Project.

7 **MS. TAYLOR:** Good evening, Mayor, Council, Town
8 Manger and Staff, and residents and friends
9 of Atlantic Beach. The Atlantic Beach
10 community came together Thursday morning May
11 25th, 2023 to celebrate and dedicate the
12 Atlantic Beach Little Free Library. Installed
13 in the community as a private impact library
14 program, community supporters and the North
15 Myrtle Beach Lions club donation. We now
16 have six Little Free Libraries throughout our
17 community that provide access to diverse
18 English and Spanish literature for children
19 and adults. Our efforts have attracted the
20 attention of both the local and national
21 media. (Inaudible) ran an article on May 3rd
22 highlighting the installation of our Little
23 Free Libraries. And I was notified on May
24 26th that we were mentioned in an article
25 published by the North Myrtle Beach Times



1 following my presentation at the North Myrtle
2 Beach Lions Club meeting where I shared with
3 them our efforts and thanked them for the
4 contribution and continued support of our
5 community. On Saturday, June 3rd, Kendal and
6 I were maintaining the Little Library located
7 in front of the Town Hall. A photographer
8 took our picture after we shared with him an
9 overview of our purpose. It is my
10 understanding that his presence in the town
11 was part of a broader article to be published
12 in the Washington Post about the Town of
13 Atlantic Beach. The Atlantic Beach Little
14 Libraries Committee is excited about the media
15 exposure for the goal of this initiative is
16 part of our continuing effort to build
17 community while inspiring leaders and
18 expanding access to books to all communities.
19 Most importantly we want to make sure
20 children can see themselves in the literature
21 they read. During a time when access to
22 diverse books is being limited our efforts to
23 give children more perspective on racism and
24 social justice celebrate marginalized voices
25 and incorporate experiences from all



1 identities for our readers. Motivated by the
2 inspiration to increase reading we have also
3 created the Atlantic Beach Property Owners
4 Association Book Club, a community virtual
5 book club dedicated to continuing the effort
6 to improve community connections through
7 literary discovery. The Little Free Libraries
8 will house the books that your book club is
9 reading each month to encourage those in the
10 community to join us in the reading. The
11 excitement around how libraries and reading is
12 growing, and we look forward to continuing to
13 build a diverse network. In June the book
14 club selection is Bakari Sellers My Vanishing
15 Country. Anyone interested in joining us can
16 download the app bookclubs.com, search for the
17 Atlantic Beach Property Owners Association
18 Book Club or see me after this meeting. We
19 look forward to your participation and again,
20 thank you for your time.

21 (Multiple thank yous heard.)

22 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Chief Robinson, I was remiss
23 in giving you an opportunity to do a update
24 to the community on crime in the town. Are
25 you prepared?



1 **CHIEF ROBINSON:** Yes, sir.

2 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** All right. If you could,
3 combine that with your report on Bikefest.

4 **CHIEF ROBINSON:** Good afternoon. Pretty sure I
5 gotta big mouth so everybody can hear me.
6 Everybody can hear me or I need to speak into
7 the mic? All right, I'm just gonna give
8 y'all an update with our Bikefest report. We
9 have zero arrests for Bikeweek. This is the
10 second year in a row we had zero arrests for
11 the Bikeweek for the whole weekend. We
12 consider Bikeweek starting from Thursday to
13 Monday. So we're at zero arrests for the
14 second year in a row. We did have two
15 tickets. I think one was unlawful carrying a
16 weapon and another one was trespassing. The
17 were the only two tickets that we issued
18 throughout the whole Bikeweek. So in our
19 eyes that's a successful Bikeweek. We had
20 zero arrests, everybody got along, nothing
21 major happened. That's a win for my
22 department. I know the rain did play a big
23 part in it, but we did have a little crowd
24 Sunday. Second I wanna bring my crime
25 analyst, she's the one that kinda put the



1 graph together. She's gonna talk about some
2 trends that we've seen in the town with crime
3 that's going on. Do pay attention you can
4 see a lot of major crime has gone down. One
5 of the big ones you will see is trespassing.
6 That's one of our biggest complaints we have
7 in the Town, people trespassing. And that
8 could come from anywhere, from homeless people
9 that kinda migrate down here from people that
10 been removed from their apartment and they
11 refuse to leave. So there could kinda be a
12 big gap in that category. My crime analyst
13 is Kanisha for those that don't know her.
14 She's been with us since January. So she
15 kinda broke this down and kinda let me know
16 what kinda crime -- what kinda trend we're
17 seeing in crime in the Town. Ms. Kanisha.

18 **MS. KANISHA:** Hi, I'm Kanisha. So I'm just kinda
19 go over what crime (inaudible). So it's
20 basically the study of police incidents that
21 happen in our area. The different trends,
22 the locations of the problems, just so we can
23 kinda narrow it down and know where to focus
24 our attention on. So these are just some of
25 the different types of analysis. But today



1 we'll focus mostly on administrative crime
2 analysis, which is basically it shows you a
3 breakdown on the graphs, the maps so that you
4 guys can understand better. So this is just
5 one, the 911 hangups from 2016 to 2022. And
6 in 2020 was our most highest, which is when
7 the pandemic started in that year. But our
8 last year we were at 43 calls. And then our
9 total cost for services, again 2020 being the
10 highest one with 4,345. And most of our
11 calls for services centered around, for that
12 particular year, was trespassing, parking
13 complaints and other administrative calls for
14 that particular year. This is the number of
15 traffic stops that we've done from 2016 to
16 2022. And again, that year 2019 was our
17 highest. And then this just kinda gives a
18 breakdown of four major crimes that we kinda
19 focus on, which the first graph shows the
20 drug, the next graph shows total assaults,
21 then trespassing and domestics. And then of
22 course trespassing and domestics was the
23 highest crimes for all six years.

24 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Any questions about crimes?

25 Any questions, Council?



1 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: No.

2 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: This is a very safe place to
3 live.

4 UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: It is. That's why
5 everybody flocks here.

6 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: I've just have one quick
7 question.

8 CHIEF ROBINSON: Yes, sir.?

9 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Does your police department
10 receive any alarms from any of the alarm
11 systems from the residents' homes?

12 CHIEF ROBINSON: Yes they do. They call 911 and
13 they'll dispatch us. I put a 100 different
14 crime categories on there, but y'all don't to
15 go through all that and have to sit there and
16 listen to it. But they do, we do get those.
17 And we do respond to them. (Inaudible). But
18 we do take it serious like any other calls.

19 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Okay, so Horry County
20 Police, it'll come to you first?

21 CHIEF ROBINSON: Yeah. I mean we are 24 hours now.
22 And I say that lightly. We've got four
23 officers (inaudible) Just like Bikeweek, our
24 schedule is moving around. But for the most
25 part we do have somebody out here 24 hours.



1 But if we don't, Horry County -- they'll send
2 a Horry County out. But we should have
3 somebody out here. And we do have -- just to
4 give you a little note, we do have a new web
5 page. If you go to the Town of Atlantic
6 Beach website, click on the police department,
7 you can view reports, traffic updates.
8 There's a lot of information on there. Take
9 your time and look through it. It'll
10 probably answer any type of question that you
11 got. And you can file reports on there. You
12 can even -- if you got a complaint about
13 traffic, you can basically fill that out and
14 we'll get all that information.

15 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Okay. The last item on the
16 agenda is a preliminary report on Bikefest.
17 Let me, before I begin getting into the
18 actual event itself, I want to commend and
19 thank my staff for their efforts in preparing
20 and administering Bikefest this year. This,
21 out of all the years that we've implemented
22 Bikefest was the, in my opinion, best year.
23 We were prepared administratively for the
24 event. And I can't say enough about my
25 support staff, Chief Robinson, Michael Rourk,



1 but in particular, Cheryl Pereira. Cheryl,
2 we had high hopes based on this year's
3 Bikefest Memorial Day weekend based on the
4 preliminary calls that we received or Cheryl
5 received from January on. She fielded an
6 excess of three to four calls a day from
7 vendors expressing their desire to participate
8 in 2023 Bikefest. She was inundated with
9 calls and I can't say enough about her
10 professionalism in dealing with all of the
11 preparations for Bikefest on top of business
12 license renewals being changed to a month,
13 the same month or the month before Bikefest.
14 All of the harassing calls about power poles
15 being installed, dealing with budget
16 preparation and assisting with the Gullah
17 Geechee festival supporting the committee and
18 getting that festival together. She had done
19 an outstanding job in addition to her regular
20 duties. And I can't say enough about her
21 performance during that time period. And as
22 I indicated in the past and acknowledged, her
23 contributions to not just the administrative
24 office but to this town in general, she is a
25 true treasure for the town of Atlantic Beach.



1 And I'd like to thank her.

2 (Applause)

3 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** And not only just thanking
4 her but hopefully the Council take my
5 recommendation, her paycheck will be slightly
6 heavier come July 1st.

7 (Laughter)

8 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** So I thank you. So we were
9 -- we had real high hopes. We had a lot of
10 new vendors. As I told y'all previously, a
11 lot of the vendors historically wait until
12 the last week. And for the first time they
13 tell me in 43 years it rained to consecutive
14 days and they're waiting. But before that we
15 had 48 registered paid vendors. Of that 48,
16 4 were no-shows after the rain began. But 48
17 actually paid. Last year, just in comparison
18 we had 58 not counting the vendors under the
19 umbrella, the entertainment booth on the
20 waterfront. So we dropped off about 10. But
21 we had expected a sizable number of more
22 participants. As you all know the rain came
23 relentless and cold and damp. But in spite
24 (inaudible) participation on the part of the
25 visitors and patrons to Bikefest 2020. All



1 of the numbers are not in. As all of you
2 well know, not withstanding the rain, the
3 administrative cost to put on Bikefest from
4 portajohns to lighting to security to
5 everything else still remained. I am still
6 hopeful that we will not go in the hole. As
7 I indicated, we keep Bikefest separate from
8 our general operating fund and hopefully the
9 best case scenario we break even. Worst case
10 have a slight fund balance for this
11 particular year. But I'm hopeful once all
12 the receipts are in, income have been
13 obtained, we will come out okay. Not where
14 we want to be. We've turned a profit every
15 year since Bikefest. But we are confident
16 that with the current returns we will not
17 have gone under. So I'd like to thank again
18 the Staff, Council and the community. Let me
19 just say something about residents. Other
20 than power poles, this is the best
21 cooperation we see from the community and
22 supporting everything we ask, from getting
23 their resident passes in time. So I can't
24 say enough about the support we received from
25 the community and their cooperation to make



1 it from an operational standpoint a success.
2 So thank you, community, for your support of
3 our staff in getting the festival done this
4 year. Thank you, Mayor.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. We're down to public
6 time. Jay, Knowledge, which one of you guys
7 going first?

8 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Mayor, Council, neighbors
9 and friends I just wanted to make a comment.
10 This was only my second experience for
11 Bikeweek and I had the expectation of having
12 a really good time. Last year I formed a new
13 opinion about it because my opinion was based
14 on what I had heard, not what I had
15 experienced personally. I heard there was a
16 stigma connected to it, all kind of
17 shenanigans and problems. And it was really
18 wonderful. And I saw a lot of people with a
19 really expensive hobby come down here with
20 custom trailers and really expensive
21 motorcycles. And a hobby that we just
22 welcomed. And I thought it was really
23 exciting to see. What disappointed me was
24 what I feel is a extensive over-policing.
25 And I know, Chief, you said that you welcome



1 and you support it and you think it creates,
2 you know, a prevention of problems. But what
3 I saw and what I experienced this year was
4 abuse of power. They did not respect the
5 resident pass when we were trying to move
6 around out of the community and back into the
7 community to just get to our rained out, you
8 know, Bikeweek -- to get to the vendors. You
9 could not get back into the town. So if you
10 left and went out and you had the one street
11 to come back on, all the north bound running
12 streets were blocked off and barricaded and
13 they would not let you through. And I showed
14 my resident pass and my son who was also
15 visiting, my adult son who was visiting
16 showed his resident pass. They swarmed him
17 when he got out to kinda show that, listen
18 I've got my resident pass. We're just trying
19 to make a left here to get back to our home.
20 And it was embarrassing and unnerving. I was
21 nervous for his safety from the police. And
22 I don't know about anyone else's experience,
23 but I thought that that was uncomfortable and
24 I thought it was unfortunate for something
25 that was really a positive thing. And it



1 kinda cast a black eye on our town for them
2 to kinda continue to over-police and create
3 this perception that a group of black people
4 that gather to have a good time is a problem.
5 And I think it needs to be addressed on some
6 level because it wasn't welcoming. And I
7 thought, you know, that that just was my
8 experience. I don't know anyone else's, but
9 I wanted to share that with you.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. Mr. Knowledge Divine, are
11 you gonna ...

12 **MR. DIVINE:** I'm good. She hit my points.

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** All right. Thank you.

14 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Chief, would you explain
15 something about that, about what she said
16 about the -- 'cause we was in that meeting.
17 I think that the reason we had as many
18 policemen here is because of the entertainment
19 that we anticipate coming. That was King
20 George and Fantasia. And you know we would
21 have been flooded. And these police have
22 already been assigned here 'cause I attended
23 two of the police meetings to make sure that
24 they would not abuse people in Atlantic
25 Beach. And we had a good meeting. But that



1 was the reason for the policemen that we had
2 this year, because of the entertainment that
3 we had proposed to have coming in to Atlantic
4 Beach.

5 **CHIEF ROBINSON:** Yeah, just kinda piggy backing off
6 of Ms. Isom. It looked bad. I seen it
7 Friday and Saturday. When you got rained out
8 and nobody show up, and all you got is
9 nothing but law enforcement here it's gonna
10 look bad. But when you have 10, 20,000
11 people, 30,000 people here and you only got
12 100 law enforcement, we still outnumbered 1
13 to 10 people. I'd rather be safe than sorry
14 because if something major happened, the first
15 person y'all call is me and say why I didn't
16 prevent it. So and most of the law
17 enforcement that do come here, the majority
18 of the ones been coming here for years, they
19 interact with the guys. A lot of biker
20 groups they know all the law enforcement
21 because they come here a lot of years. And
22 even SLED will tell you Highway Patrol, they
23 want to come to Atlantic Beach to work
24 because they don't want to go down to Myrtle
25 Beach. They want to come to Bikeweek. So



1 it's like the great gig to work Bikeweek
2 because they know they gonna have fun in
3 Atlantic Beach. They know we're not
4 harassing nobody. We gonna let people enjoy
5 themselves. I can -- I know you probably had
6 problems with coming in and out. And that
7 was due to the rain. It was chaos because we
8 were prepared for bikes and golf carts, but
9 the rain came. Now a lot of people wanted to
10 drive down 30th Avenue, which we don't allow
11 during Bikeweek. So that was one of the big
12 headaches that I was dealing with because I
13 understand that we didn't have a lot of foot
14 traffic, a lot of bikes and motorcycles
15 coming down 30th. That's something that we
16 would have to plan ahead. I do apologize for
17 that because we didn't plan -- they direction
18 was don't let no vehicles come down. So they
19 were following orders. No coming in to
20 Atlantic Beach, that's something I talked --
21 I'm pretty sure that was Highway Patrol that
22 was letting people coming in 'cause those the
23 ones that kinda controlled the main road. So
24 I will talk with the Captain about that and
25 we will get that addressed. I wish somebody



1 would kinda let me know. Because if I don't
2 know I can't address it at the time. So this
3 is the first I'm hearing about it. Like I
4 said, I do apologize for that. Now we do
5 allow people to come in on 32nd and 31st
6 Avenue. And we try to tell them come in
7 there because we do have 30th and 29th is a
8 one-way out. We only let traffic go out.
9 But you can come in on 31st and 32nd Avenue.
10 So I do apologize for that.

11 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Well just to let you know,
12 that's what we were trying to do, follow the
13 directions. And they obviously aren't
14 communicating with each other because the one
15 officer when we tried to turn down 32nd
16 wouldn't allow it and said go to 29th. And
17 then they wouldn't allow it. And so now you
18 had to go back all the way to 17th Street
19 North and then turn around and go back to
20 37th Avenue and then come north. So we did
21 that twice before we actually had an officer
22 that was willing to let us turn right onto
23 32nd Avenue coming back into the town. So
24 they just weren't communicating and they
25 weren't respecting the resident pass. It



1 wasn't like anybody -- you know we weren't
2 gonna try to turn down 30th or 31st because
3 it was clearly blocked off. So these were
4 their own, you know, telling what to do, only
5 miscommunicating with each other.

6 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Chief, why would they be
7 directing her to turn down 29th though?
8 We've never been able to turn down 29th.

9 **CHIEF ROBINSON:** No, and all I can understand,
10 'cause we did -- I know Highway Patrol did
11 have a lot of new officers. Me and the
12 Captain talked about it and they did have a
13 lot of new officers. And they probably was
14 at a post that they didn't know where people
15 were supposed to go. So like I said, I
16 apologize first off. I'll make sure to clear
17 it up. I know me and the Town Manager were
18 looking at getting the street sign that
19 basically say turn here for Atlantic Beach
20 traffic. That's something we were working
21 on. We were trying to get it for this year,
22 but this year we probably (inaudible). So
23 that should kinda deteriorate some of the
24 confusion that people didn't know where to
25 turn. So like I said, it probably was some



1 new guy. I know the older guy that's
2 supposed to be here all the time, they kinda
3 know which avenue to turn in. He told you to
4 go down 29th? I'm pretty sure he probably
5 was a new guy. It was his probably his first
6 time working Bikeweek. But we'll make sure
7 we get -- I like feedback like this because
8 it helps us prepare for next year. So if I
9 don't know then I can't prepare for that
10 situation. So we will address it and make
11 sure we take care of it.

12 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Thank you, Chief.

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** And make sure we address the rude
14 part. She said they weren't too nice to her.
15 We definitely don't need that.

16 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** It wasn't so much the
17 (inaudible). It was just the resident pass
18 'cause you want to make it prominent so that
19 they know you're not just trying to get
20 around the rules, you're trying to follow the
21 rules.

22 **CHIEF ROBINSON:** And I know I gave -- 'cause even
23 the Captain for Highway Patrol, he -- I know
24 he even told the guy that they supposed to
25 have resident pass. And a lot of times the



1 resident pass, if we have to shut the town
2 down because it gets overcrowded, y'all still
3 can come in even if we have to shut it down,
4 which we didn't have to do it this year
5 because we didn't have that kind of crowd.
6 But they should acknowledge y'all's resident
7 pass. And we'll make sure we take care of it
8 next year. You got my word.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thanks, Chief. Laura Winston?

10 **MS. WINSTON:** I'd like to proxy my time to John
11 David.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Ms. McNeal?

13 **MS. MCNEAL:** Good evening.

14 (Multiple good evenings heard.)

15 **MS. MCNEAL:** On behalf of my neighbor, Karen Bennet
16 and myself, she would like for me to express
17 and make sure that this is on record, that it
18 is important for all of us to understand that
19 between the Story Condo Hotel with the garage
20 that has 420 cars will choke the very life
21 out of this small four-block town. And for
22 that reason we are both opposed along with
23 others for that structure. Also the fire
24 department would be forced to open up --
25 would force us to open up Ocean Boulevard for



1 easy access to such a high rise. And with
2 the number of condos, we are putting our
3 charter at risk as well. And secondly I
4 would like to know exactly when in July are
5 we going to have the hearing for the land
6 ordinance? Is that something you have?

7 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** July 10th.

8 **MS. MCNEAL:** It is already set.

9 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** July 10th.

10 **MS. MCNEAL:** Which day?

11 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** July 10th.

12 **MS. MCNEAL:** Oh, July the 10th. Okay. I
13 appreciate it. Thank you.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Ms. Linda Cheatham?

15 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I know y'all sick of hearing me.
16 (Laughter)

17 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I just have, it's a quick question
18 about the public hearing on the eligibility
19 ordinance. I think the one that -- the
20 middle one, the determination of eligibility.
21 And I was hoping that Ms. Kane would still be
22 here because it doesn't say anything about my
23 rights as a property owner. The current
24 ordinance says that I have to own the
25 property in order to submit a rezoning. This



1 just says that I can submit a rezoning if the
2 property is on WF1. And so what safe-guards
3 are in place to let me know that my
4 property's being rezoned if I should win the
5 lottery and be able to own WF1 property? It
6 says you used to have to own the property to
7 have to submit one. The ordinance that was
8 adopted in April just says if any WF1 zone
9 property may be considered for designation as
10 a WF1 flexible design district. And it
11 doesn't say anything about ownership or
12 notification. And so I guess my question is,
13 you know, if I own some property that was WF1
14 and I was out of town for a few weeks, could
15 someone do a rezoning and I not know about
16 it?

17 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** No.

18 **MS. CHEATHAM:** No?

19 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** No. There are certain
20 minimum requirements on notification for
21 rezoning or any change of ordinance. Not
22 only from the general public but specifically
23 those impacted residents who are being
24 impacted by rezoning.

25 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Okay.



1 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** So they would have to be
2 personally notified within ---

3 **MS. CHEATHAM:** If someone was trying to rezone ---

4 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** That's correct.

5 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Okay, all right.

6 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** And you could raise your
7 question again at the public hearing on July
8 10th.

9 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Okay, thank you.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. John David?

11 **MR. DAVID:** I have two items. First I'd like to
12 announce we're having an Atlantic Beach small
13 business economic development seminar series.
14 The first in the series will be July 20th.
15 At this seminar series we will bring the
16 Small Business Administration. We'll also be
17 bringing a score and Costal Carolina Small
18 Business Development Center. The USDA Rural
19 Development. And at these seminars we will
20 bring land owners, builders, people that can
21 help these land owners and builders get loans
22 to possibly develop 30th or 31st Street and
23 any other places in Atlanta Beach that wants
24 to build or provide a business. The second
25 thing I have is that I think it's important



1 to remember our voters and constituents. And
2 my voters and constituents have been concerned
3 over a recent article they read in the
4 (inaudible) News. It stated that Mr. Isom
5 and his mom have cost the town more than
6 \$12,000 and I noted more in the budget. It
7 was about \$15,000. And I think after a
8 couple of losses at the ballet box by the
9 voters and I think three failed appeals my
10 voters are asking when will this end? You
11 know the people, and the question I would ask
12 is what is the additional anticipated cost if
13 we're going to the Supreme Court? And my
14 voters are asking is that money going to be
15 asked to be reimbursed if Mr. Isom loses his
16 appeal?

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Mr. Q, if I may. This is something
18 that has happened before. And when somebody
19 appeals the decision of an election they have
20 a right to. And whatever their reason for is
21 not my business or your business or anybody
22 else's business. But it's a legal right that
23 we have.

24 **MR. DAVID:** Well I would say it is my business
25 because I'm a part of the suit.



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well I'm, I'm not finished saying
2 what I want to say to you.

3 **MR. DAVID:** I think it's my time.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** No, it's my time right now.

5 **MR. DAVID:** I've got three minutes, right?

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well you can have it back. I don't
7 care if you have 10 minutes, but I'm going
8 say what I want to say. I'm the chair of the
9 meeting, I'm the mayor, I'm going to say what
10 I want to say. So I have been in your shoes
11 twice where I've waited two years to take my
12 seat and did I agree with why they were
13 appealing, no. But I knew they had the legal
14 right and I just sat and waited. So
15 sometimes that's what you have to do.

16 **MR. DAVID:** Well yeah. And speaking of my time,
17 again I'm just speaking from what my voters
18 have asked. And so I'm posing the question
19 in my time.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** So what was your question again?

21 **MR. DAVID:** My question is the voters are asking is
22 the town going to seek reimbursement? 'Cause
23 again, we went from \$400 to \$15,000 in an
24 election. And we're going to go to more so
25 the town is getting cost a lot of money.



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well no. I mean nobody reimbursed
2 the town. That's what the town's for. I
3 mean that's what we do.

4 **MR. DAVID:** Appreciate it. Thank you.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** You're welcome. Who else we have
6 here? Joe Montgomery?

7 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Well thank you, Mr. Mayor. This
8 is about the election. And I'm tired coming
9 up here and I know you all are tired seeing
10 me up here. But my attorney has filed an
11 appeal to go to the Supreme Court, an
12 intention to go. He hadn't actually filed a
13 motion yet. (Inaudible) file a motion to go
14 to the Supreme Court. Like the Mayor says,
15 even if we expedite, it might be a
16 (inaudible). Nothing we can do about it.
17 That's that (inaudible) the town a lot of
18 money. And we need (inaudible) if we want to
19 change the law on that because the law says
20 we can't do anything. So that's where we
21 are.

22 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Even the next election,
23 the Supreme Court will also cost the town?
24 That cost the town as well? The next appeal?

25 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Yeah, sure. Right. That \$15,000



1 not included in this appeal. If they appeal.
2 They have until June 12th to appeal. And my
3 attorney said they are going to appeal. So
4 that's (inaudible) your money on top of the
5 \$15,000.

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Montgomery. Council,
7 seek a motion for adjourn.

8 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

9 **UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Second.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and second on the floor to
11 adjourn. If there are no other questions
12 roll call.

13 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

14 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

15 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

16 **MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM:** Yay.

17 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. Meeting adjourned. What time
19 is it?

20 **CLERK:** Sorry. It is 7:33.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Meeting adjourned at 7:33.

22 (There being nothing further, the meeting was
23 adjourned at 7:33 p.m.)
24
25

