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.
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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CALL TO ORDER:

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

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell.

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Here.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom.

MS. ISOM: Here.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Here.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: And personnel matters.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

(No response.)
MAYOR EVANS: Roll call.

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yay, the motion is granted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(Executive session.)

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

(No response.)

MAYOR EVANS: Roll call.

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.
ATLANTIC BEACH JUNE MINUTES

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?
COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.
CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

GENERAL SESSION:

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

(A moment of silence is observed.)

MAYOR EVANS: And we'll pledge allegiance.

(The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Second.

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

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?
COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?
MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.
CLERK:  Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE:  Yay.

CLERK:  Mayor Jake Evans.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:  So moved.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:  Second.

MAYOR EVANS:  Motion and a second on the floor to
approve the Meeting Minutes from May 1st, 2023. Any other question or comments?
(No response.)

MAYOR EVANS: Roll call.

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?
COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?
MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?
COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Mayor, Council and Public, first of all let me apologize for keeping you waiting. My father, 95-year-old father (inaudible) died in rehab and I had to take that call. These three, A, under old business, B -- B, C and D ordinances that appear on the prior meeting, council meeting. They're being presented again because we are
making sure that the Town's following the proper protocol in providing a public hearing for these ordinances that were previously adopted. So we are reappearing at this point. I take responsibility in making sure that we comply with all laws, regulations and ordinances set forth by the town. So as an abundance of caution we are making sure that we redo these ordinances. I've asked Ms. Leigh Kane, Director of Waccamaw Regional Council Government to come and answer any questions that the Council may have. These have already been discussed at a prior meeting. But if you have any questions (inaudible) we'll take them at this time. Ms. Kane will take them at this time.

MAYOR EVANS: Ms. Kane.

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

MAYOR EVANS: July 10th.

MS. KANE: Your July 10th meeting.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: We're gonna need a motion if
there are no questions in terms of ---

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

MAYOR EVANS: First reading.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

(No response.)

MAYOR EVANS: Roll call.

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yay. The motion's granted. We're down to Item C which is Ordinance Number 4-2023. And this is the ordinance to amend the land management ordinance to modify the eligibility of -- for designation requirements for the planned development and the flexible design zoning districts. And this is the
first reading as well for it as well. It's number 4-2023.

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

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

**UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved.

**UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

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

**CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell.

**COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Nay.

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

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

**CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

**COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

**CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

**MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion's granted. We're down to Item D and this is Ordinance Number 5-2023, an ordinance to amend the land management ordinance to modify the di- -- bulk, dimensional and density standards to support infill development and reduce the
prevalence of nonconforming lots. And this is the first reading as well, Ordinance Number 5-2023.

MS. KANE: And also no changes.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yay. The motion's granted.

MS. KANE: Thank you.

MAYOR EVANS: Thank you.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAYOR EVANS: Okay, Council, we're down to new business. And this is a public hearing for
year 2023, 2024 proposed general fund budget. Do we -- you want us to go ahead and open the floor for the public hearing?

**UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER:** Mayor, Council, Public, I'd like to just start with some general comments regarding our current year fiscal budget which ends June 30th, 2023. Overall as I will show a graph on the trajectory of the town from an economic standpoint is on the incline upwards. And we are happy and will show documentation of development that has taken place in the town of Atlantic Beach that has contributed immensely to our overall budget. There are three major areas that I would like to highlight. One, we had hoped that our property tax collection rate would have increased more substantially than it has over the last two years with all the new units that have been added to the inventory in the Town of Atlantic Beach. About last year lead by councilwoman Isom and at the budget hearing last year a question was raised in terms of with all of the new development that we've had in the town that our property tax collection rate has not corresponded in terms
of increase as we had hoped. Ms. Isom along with Cheryl and another young lady Ms. Isom brought on board did an audit of all of our units to make sure that all of our new units were being credited and counted by the County Tax Assessor's Office and that we were not being miscounted in terms of the actual number of units. That audit was completed. We suspected that going back several years there had been an undercount. The report came out that there was no substantial undercounting of the units. I think there were several units added to the count overall, but has not substantially increased our property tax rate, actual payment rate. So we're still have questions. We'll be looking into that particular issue. On the positive side, this year we have had the most grant activity, award activity in the town since I've been here since '15. That primarily is the result of the work of Ms. Denise Gibson Bailey primarily on a volunteer basis have been very active and successful with support of Ms. Linda Cheatham in pursuing grant opportunities for the Town of
Atlantic Beach. We received the Historic Grant 25,000, the Donnelly Grant 50,000, and the Major Grant of 544,000 for the replacement of street lights on 30th Avenue in the Town of Atlantic Beach. So that has been a substantial benefit to our community and will continue to be so. We are in application for major infrastructure funding through FEMA and other federal and state funding sources. And actively pursuing other grant opportunities local and at the federal and state level. So we've done substantially improvement in the grants area. Also one of the highlights of the increase economic benefit to the town is the number of donations that have been made to the town by a variety of sources that we've reported over this last fiscal year. A number of entities and individuals have voluntarily donated, some specifically toward our police Department for radios, bullet-proof vests and other general capital improvements to the town to the tune of 27, 29,000 I think this particular year. That is a substantial increase over the years that I've been here since '15. Our basic
budget reflects our fixed cost in terms of
for lighting, waste removal, collection,
things of that nature is not too much, can be
done and modified in those costs that are
attributed to the town. We also are looking
at hopefully a higher in 2023 increase. As
you know -- let me explain. The budget
changed in 2022 where business licenses are
collected in April as opposed to July 1st.
That change in, I think, last year gave us
two collection rates on our business license
for that fiscal year. And I'll show you a
graph in terms of what the benefit
economically that has been for the town. But
this year the bottom line on 2023, the final
numbers are not in. I hope to have them by
the second reading, the 19th, because we
still have a substantial number of businesses
that have not paid their business license fee
as of April 30th. Between 10 and 12
businesses that still have not reported. So
at the bottom line on the estimated income in
that area. Also hospitality tax will go up.
Our accountant did a review and there are
still some property -- I mean hospitality
taxes that have not been allocated and reported, and I should have some final numbers on those delinquent payments before the next budget hearing. So the bottom line for 2023 should increase from the bottom line that's associated in this report based on those additional revenues that we hope to generate before the end of this year. With that also we itemized out in terms of our costs for our services such as building inspection, accounting fees, auditing, things of that nature on page four. Our contract with Waccamaw Regional Council of Government. We also put in $30,000 which I'll go on detail for consultants to hire grants administration of the grants we received and to go after additional grant opportunities for the Town of Atlanta Beach. So those are our new projected expenses for the town. Also we're looking to add a maintenance staff person beginning probably before the end of the month to assist with and scheduling to have some maintenance cleaning over the weekend period. Going into vacation season now we're seeing a lot of additional tourists.
come on a weekend, and I think it's necessary
for us to have -- try to have some
maintenance coverage to make sure that the
town is maintained over the time period. So
looking to add to the budget also my major
focus is to the retention of our police
force. We have five police officers on
staff. And one of my major recommendations
to the Council is that to try to keep as much
as possible retain them for longevity. All
of us know the national as well as state
shortage of police officers in the state of
South Carolina and across the country. And
we want to do and have made substantial
strides in improving our operations in the
police department, outfitting them with state
of the art equipment that will go (inaudible)
probably go into detail. And we have spent
some of the American Recovery money for novel
expenses to support our police department,
purchasing vehicles, drones, other security
upgrades to our facilities here as well as
Town Hall with those funds. And I will have
a detailed accounting of all of those
expenses before our next meeting. But with
that I open the floor for any questions in regard to the budget from Council or the Public.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: I don't.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: No.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

MAYOR EVANS: I need a second.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.
CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans.

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

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

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay. The notice of the public hearing on the town website says there's a 27 percent increase in operating revenue and expenses. And it gives the amount of 1.1 million dollars, 1,164,894.
The budget that was in the announcement with the agenda is a budget of $1,213,248 or an increase of 32 percent. And I was wondering what the difference was in the two numbers.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Right.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Sure. No, I understand.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay.
UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: --- taxes that haven't been paid that have not been reflected in this notice.

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: All right. I have a slide I'm going show you currently what -- well I'll come back to it. There's a slide. We have over 31 new homes scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023. 25 of them have been completed. Currently now under consideration we have three applications for three new homes as we speak. They probably will not be approved until a fiscal year July 1. So they will be reflected, and these are substantial value homes that will be proposed to be built, three of them, probably to the tune of about 2 million dollars plus, all three combined. So based on the activity that we've seen over the year, my question from my accountant, I thought the number of
permits would be higher from what we've seen come in over the years, not only for new construction or new units, but activity in charge of business permits and the town to do work (inaudible) investors have been making substantial improvements in their property. So that number to me is low. But to answer your question, we project based on what we have now, three applications or applicants for building permit. And in addition to that we've got three other requests that will probably require variances on the part of the Board zoning appeals to develop on 30th avenue.

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Again, I think I mentioned earlier on that the hospitality tax collection, what happened in 2021, the County changed and started collecting the hospitality rate for all municipalities given the
percentage to the town. What we found is
some of the businesses have been confused by
that and paying the hospitality tax to the
County or not at all. So that's why I stated
to you that we have to do a reconciliation of
a number of businesses. I don't know if
because of confusion of the changeover from
the County that they collect and give us our
percentage or in the past they've been paying
their hospitality and tax directly to the
town. So there is a gap and I hope to get it
resolved in terms of those collection rate,
and we'll answer that question in terms of
that number.

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: More law enforcement. We --
this is to get up to fully staff until this --
- June, January. So we had a (inaudible)
drop off in actual funds coming to the Town
based on tickets written. Only Town Ordinances tickets can be allocated to the town. Is that right, am I saying that right?

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Yes.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: I'm glad to see that some lawn and garden maintenance is going to be actually happening. It was really discouraging to look at the way the town was looking before Bikefest, and the way the lawns have been allowed to grow up even though that's not the town's responsibility. I think at some point in time the town was to cut the lawns and build a property on it. But particularly on 29th Street there were a number of lots that just look like we live in a jungle, and I don't think that's a good representation for the town, particularly with all the people that we were expecting to come. It just really made a bad, in my opinion, a bad impression. So I'm glad to
see that we're going to devote some money to some maintenance and lawn care for the town. You told me that the consultant was for the grant. And I guess one of my final comments is that best financial practices suggest that our general operating and our grants and our special funds be separate. And it really would be nice if we could see (inaudible) on separate pages so they don't get co-mingled and cause people (inaudible). Thank you.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you.

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

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

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

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

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: You can go ahead and do the
UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: I'll address those. Right now I'm to answer some of the same questions that you raised. Are you ready? Get me to -- let me start with the one on the Freedom Projects slide. Let me start with that. What you see before you, and I wish it came up on one sheet of paper, but those are the number of homes and the construction value of homes built on 29th Avenue since 2015. Scroll down. These are homes on 29th Avenue, homes on 31st Avenue, again construction value. These are ones on Ocean Boulevard, homes built. Scroll down. At the bottom of that screen there, and I'll read it out for you, the total construction value of these homes built over since 2015 total about $11,272,200. Currently now I think I indicated there are currently nine homes under construction as we speak that hopefully will come online before December 31st, 2023. I've been informed by those more knowledgeable than me that once a home is added and CO'd, if it comes online in December it is not reflected in the current calendar year, but reflected
in the next year, 2024. That may explain
some of the lag in terms of property tax
collection rate. But still substantially of
that 11,272,000 almost $8,000,000 of that
total have already been completed and added
to the physical inventory in the town. Nine
units under construction now and as I
indicated in Ms. Cheatham's question, we have
three applications currently now for to build
homes in the town at an estimated cost of
about $2,000,000. So all told if they
approve, we're looking at adding an additional
$13,000,000 in construction value to the town.
Go to the bar graph.

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

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

This bar graph shows, and I'll read out
numbers. In 2015 the total budget of
$752,508.32, 816,000. Roughly 755 in '18.
And 1.571 million in 2022. Now let me
footnote that. That is the year that we
received the $222,000 art money. So that's
included in this. If you back that out
you're still talking about 1.3 million and
projected with the absence of the art money
of, for 2023 current estimate 1.2 million 23
and counting before the final end. But this
bar graph shows a projection and an increase
in revenue to the town. None of the other
grant funds are included in these numbers.
All of this is a result of property taxes,
business license, and other collection fees.
So overall the town is ascending. We think
based on what we see in terms of proposed new
development on the arising, that this trend
will continue, and that we will be able to
stabilize and maintain these financing levels
in the future. Go to the next slide. Took
the opportunity to list a number of needs
that the town has. We talked about several
months ago our community center, which was
built in 1975 had the original roof. We've
been patching it for some seven, eight years.
It has maintained and held, but we're going
to need a substantial comprehensive renovation
of our roof. Looked into financing for that
bottom line without going into all the
details, required a bond issue pledging our
property tax as repayment for funds. The financing to do a bond deal, our legal costs are about 10 to $12,000 in addition. And based on our current property rate we could borrow about $225,000 to address those capital needs. Again, we started as you all know renovation of the police offices which were a liable expense on the art funding which we paid for out of that. We also pleaded the renovations of the kitchen this year, not out of our funds, out of general funds. There have been suggested recommendations about signage, improving the signage on Highway 17 and 29th and 32nd Avenue coming into the town. These are some projected projects that the town could take on with the assistance of a paid grant administrator consultant to assist us in pursuing revenue, doing Rps, pursing grant funding for these particular projects. Parking has been talked about, improving our parking, providing parking for not only tourists coming, but also development along 30th Avenue. One of the ordinances on the agenda gives some relief in terms of the parking requirements that a business would
have to comply with on 30th Avenue. But they will need, still need additional parking to accommodate and to assist with spurring development on 30th Avenue. So as a revenue generating source in terms of collecting revenue to the town like other towns, in terms of parking meters, starting (inaudible) proposed on housing private property on 30th Avenue as a revenue generator for the town. As I indicated, we're adding an additional maintenance person. The grants administrator is 30,000 in the budget for administrator. Go down to the next. And this is the next slide are just some suggested, I don't know if you can read it, recommendations that have come in for museum, memorial, patio pavilion to be developed, (inaudible) on the waterfront, been talking about that for years. And looking for revenue. Farmers' market as a revenue generator in July and August, us the Town publishing on our website a Town event far in advance so that people will be notified of our Town events. Gullah Geechee and other events that could bring additional revenue to the Town. Go to the next slide.
Okay, so that's it. So we hope with the success we've had in grant secured we're in for major infrastructure improvements to the town. If we're successful some of those grants do come with administrative dollars that will assist us in grant administration and will further add resources to our ability to manage those grants.

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Yes, we are. We -- some of the ordinances you see on the agenda tonight, as I indicated, I instructed our director of planned (inaudible) and building official to go to our ordinances and look at where we can give relief to investors and developers developing specifically on 30th Avenue to spur, you know, what's lagging behind. And what we can modify and change now, that we do it and not wait. One of the biggest things, and it's in the budget, that was requested several meetings ago was to revisit the
comprehensive plan and look at it in terms of things we can modify and change that will enhance and support development. There's funding in there. I got a quote from (inaudible) on doing that comprehensive plan and updating, which is in the budget.

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

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

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

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

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.
UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yay, the motion is granted. We're down to item seven. This is Ordinance Number 7-2023 adopt budget for year 2023-'24, an ordinance to adopt a budget for the Town of Atlantic Beach for fiscal year commencing July 1st, 2023 and ending June 30th, 2024, and this will be the first reading. Council, seek a motion.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Second.

MAYOR EVANS: There's a motion and a second on the floor to adopt Ordinance Number 7-2023, the budget for year 2023-'24 and this is the
first reading. If there are no other questions or comments, roll call.

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

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

Manager's Report:

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Mayor, Council and Public,

I'm pleased to announce that the recognition of Lake Arrowhead Fire Station Volunteer League took the initiative to clean up our basketball court on 31st Avenue. Repainted lines and did a number of cleanup initiatives. And so we want to acknowledge that Fire Station the be Battalion Chief for taking the initiative to support the Town of Atlantic Beach in that cleanup effort. Item two, we received ---

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: They're here.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: They're here?
UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: We got a whole bunch of them.
(Applause)

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: How you doing today?
(Multiple responses.)

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

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

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you so much.
(Applause.)

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Thank you, gentlemen.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you.
UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Did you get Mr. Richardson here too?

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: No.

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

MS. DIVINE: Mayor, Council, neighbors, friends and
visitors, I'm here on behalf of Ms. Mallett. She asked me in her absence to show you some information about the upcoming Gullah Geechee Festival that she is chairing. So I'll give you her comments. As chair I'm proud to present the next adventure for the Atlanta Beach, the 2023 Atlantic Beach, South Carolina Gullah Geechee Culture and Nature Festival. We're inviting all Council Members and staff of Atlantic Beach along with our sponsors that supported us with contributions of over $500 or more to join us for a special invitation only meet and greet on Friday, being held here, Friday the 23rd being held here at the Community Center for a special kick-off for the festival. That evening's featured honorees are Mr. Ron Days, an internationally renown performer, storyteller and cultural preservationist, along with Mr. Cecil Williams, a famed photographer and founder of the South Carolina Civil Rights Museum. Mr. Williams will share some of his most iconic images of the Civil Rights Movement that he captured as a photographer for Jake Magazine. And to top it all off
we'll have entertainment provided by the Asher Theater Performers. On Saturday, June 24th, there'll be a celebration all day long free for the entire community and visitors to enjoy. It begins at 10:00 a.m. with a parade down 30th Avenue followed by on stage performances at the cul-de-sac. Mr. Ron Days and Mr. Sunmichu (ph), excuse me if I'm mispronouncing his name, an in demand afro-Carribean Creole lecturer who works with a wide range of institutions and has the distinction of being Harvard University's first and only Gullah language instructor will be the special guest speakers. The day will include storytellers, swing and shag dancers, Asher Theater Performers, and MC James Stevens, plenty of arts and crafts and exhibitors. And on Sunday we'll move to the oceanfront where a nondenominational worship service, libation ceremony, drumming and poetry and fun for the entire family. If you'd like to support financially Ms. Mallett's efforts here, you can be a patron or sponsor through our website. The website is Atlanticbeachscgullahgeechee.org. Thank
you on behalf of Ms. Mallett.

(Multiple thank yous heard.)

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

MS. TAYLOR: Good evening, Mayor, Council, Town Manger and Staff, and residents and friends of Atlantic Beach. The Atlantic Beach community came together Thursday morning May 25th, 2023 to celebrate and dedicate the Atlantic Beach Little Free Library. Installed in the community as a private impact library program, community supporters and the North Myrtle Beach Lions club donation. We now have six Little Free Libraries throughout our community that provide access to diverse English and Spanish literature for children and adults. Our efforts have attracted the attention of both the local and national media. (Inaudible) ran an article on May 3rd highlighting the installation of our Little Free Libraries. And I was notified on May 26th that we were mentioned in an article published by the North Myrtle Beach Times
following my presentation at the North Myrtle Beach Lions Club meeting where I shared with them our efforts and thanked them for the contribution and continued support of our community. On Saturday, June 3rd, Kendal and I were maintaining the Little Library located in front of the Town Hall. A photographer took our picture after we shared with him an overview of our purpose. It is my understanding that his presence in the town was part of a broader article to be published in the Washington Post about the Town of Atlantic Beach. The Atlantic Beach Little Libraries Committee is excited about the media exposure for the goal of this initiative is part of our continuing effort to build community while inspiring leaders and expanding access to books to all communities. Most importantly we want to make sure children can see themselves in the literature they read. During a time when access to diverse books is being limited our efforts to give children more perspective on racism and social justice celebrate marginalized voices and incorporate experiences from all
identities for our readers. Motivated by the inspiration to increase reading we have also created the Atlantic Beach Property Owners Association Book Club, a community virtual book club dedicated to continuing the effort to improve community connections through literary discovery. The Little Free Libraries will house the books that your book club is reading each month to encourage those in the community to join us in the reading. The excitement around how libraries and reading is growing, and we look forward to continuing to build a diverse network. In June the book club selection is Bakari Sellers My Vanishing Country. Anyone interested in joining us can download the app bookclubs.com, search for the Atlantic Beach Property Owners Association Book Club or see me after this meeting. We look forward to your participation and again, thank you for your time.

(Multiple thank yous heard.)

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Chief Robinson, I was remiss in giving you an opportunity to do a update to the community on crime in the town. Are you prepared?
CHIEF ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

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

CHIEF ROBINSON: Good afternoon. Pretty sure I gotta big mouth so everybody can hear me. Everybody can hear me or I need to speak into the mic? All right, I'm just gonna give y'all an update with our Bikefest report. We have zero arrests for Bikeweek. This is the second year in a row we had zero arrests for the Bikeweek for the whole weekend. We consider Bikeweek starting from Thursday to Monday. So we're at zero arrests for the second year in a row. We did have two tickets. I think one was unlawful carrying a weapon and another one was trespassing. The were the only two tickets that we issued throughout the whole Bikeweek. So in our eyes that's a successful Bikeweek. We had zero arrests, everybody got along, nothing major happened. That's a win for my department. I know the rain did play a big part in it, but we did have a little crowd Sunday. Second I wanna bring my crime analyst, she's the one that kinda put the
graph together. She's gonna talk about some trends that we've seen in the town with crime that's going on. Do pay attention you can see a lot of major crime has gone down. One of the big ones you will see is trespassing. That's one of our biggest complaints we have in the Town, people trespassing. And that could come from anywhere, from homeless people that kinda migrate down here from people that been removed from their apartment and they refuse to leave. So there could kinda be a big gap in that category. My crime analyst is Kanisha for those that don't know her. She's been with us since January. So she kinda broke this down and kinda let me know what kinda crime -- what kinda trend we're seeing in crime in the Town. Ms. Kanisha.

**MS. KANISHA:** Hi, I'm Kanisha. So I'm just kinda go over what crime (inaudible). So it's basically the study of police incidents that happen in our area. The different trends, the locations of the problems, just so we can kinda narrow it down and know where to focus our attention on. So these are just some of the different types of analysis. But today
we'll focus mostly on administrative crime analysis, which is basically it shows you a breakdown on the graphs, the maps so that you guys can understand better. So this is just one, the 911 hangups from 2016 to 2022. And in 2020 was our most highest, which is when the pandemic started in that year. But our last year we were at 43 calls. And then our total cost for services, again 2020 being the highest one with 4,345. And most of our calls for services centered around, for that particular year, was trespassing, parking complaints and other administrative calls for that particular year. This is the number of traffic stops that we've done from 2016 to 2022. And again, that year 2019 was our highest. And then this just kinda gives a breakdown of four major crimes that we kinda focus on, which the first graph shows the drug, the next graph shows total assaults, then trespassing and domestics. And then of course trespassing and domestics was the highest crimes for all six years.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Any questions about crimes?

Any questions, Council?
UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: No.

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

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

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

CHIEF ROBINSON: Yes, sir.?

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

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

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

CHIEF ROBINSON: Yeah. I mean we are 24 hours now. And I say that lightly. We've got four officers (inaudible) Just like Bikeweed, our schedule is moving around. But for the most part we do have somebody out here 24 hours.
But if we don't, Horry County -- they'll send a Horry County out. But we should have somebody out here. And we do have -- just to give you a little note, we do have a new web page. If you go to the Town of Atlantic Beach website, click on the police department, you can view reports, traffic updates. There's a lot of information on there. Take your time and look through it. It'll probably answer any type of question that you got. And you can file reports on there. You can even -- if you got a complaint about traffic, you can basically fill that out and we'll get all that information.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Okay. The last item on the agenda is a preliminary report on Bikefest. Let me, before I begin getting into the actual event itself, I want to commend and thank my staff for their efforts in preparing and administering Bikefest this year. This, out of all the years that we've implemented Bikefest was the, in my opinion, best year. We were prepared administratively for the event. And I can't say enough about my support staff, Chief Robinson, Michael Rourk,
but in particular, Cheryl Pereira. Cheryl, we had high hopes based on this year's Bikefest Memorial Day weekend based on the preliminary calls that we received or Cheryl received from January on. She fielded an excess of three to four calls a day from vendors expressing their desire to participate in 2023 Bikefest. She was inundated with calls and I can't say enough about her professionalism in dealing with all of the preparations for Bikefest on top of business license renewals being changed to a month, the same month or the month before Bikefest. All of the harassing calls about power poles being installed, dealing with budget preparation and assisting with the Gullah Geechee festival supporting the committee and getting that festival together. She had done an outstanding job in addition to her regular duties. And I can't say enough about her performance during that time period. And as I indicated in the past and acknowledged, her contributions to not just the administrative office but to this town in general, she is a true treasure for the town of Atlantic Beach.
And I'd like to thank her.

(Applause)

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

(Laughter)

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: So I thank you. So we were -- we had real high hopes. We had a lot of new vendors. As I told y'all previously, a lot of the vendors historically wait until the last week. And for the first time they tell me in 43 years it rained to consecutive days and they're waiting. But before that we had 48 registered paid vendors. Of that 48, 4 were no-shows after the rain began. But 48 actually paid. Last year, just in comparison we had 58 not counting the vendors under the umbrella, the entertainment booth on the waterfront. So we dropped off about 10. But we had expected a sizable number of more participants. As you all know the rain came relentless and cold and damp. But in spite (inaudible) participation on the part of the visitors and patrons to Bikefest 2020. All
of the numbers are not in. As all of you well know, not withstanding the rain, the administrative cost to put on Bikefest from portajohns to lighting to security to everything else still remained. I am still hopeful that we will not go in the hole. As I indicated, we keep Bikefest separate from our general operating fund and hopefully the best case scenario we break even. Worst case have a slight fund balance for this particular year. But I'm hopeful once all the receipts are in, income have been obtained, we will come out okay. Not where we want to be. We've turned a profit every year since Bikefest. But we are confident that with the current returns we will not have gone under. So I'd like to thank again the Staff, Council and the community. Let me just say something about residents. Other than power poles, this is the best cooperation we see from the community and supporting everything we ask, from getting their resident passes in time. So I can't say enough about the support we received from the community and their cooperation to make
it from an operational standpoint a success.
So thank you, community, for your support of
our staff in getting the festival done this
year. Thank you, Mayor.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Mayor, Council, neighbors
and friends I just wanted to make a comment.
This was only my second experience for
Bikeweek and I had the expectation of having
a really good time. Last year I formed a new
opinion about it because my opinion was based
on what I had heard, not what I had
experienced personally. I heard there was a
stigma connected to it, all kind of
shenanigans and problems. And it was really
wonderful. And I saw a lot of people with a
really expensive hobby come down here with
custom trailers and really expensive
motorcycles. And a hobby that we just
welcomed. And I thought it was really
exciting to see. What disappointed me was
what I feel is a extensive over-policing.
And I know, Chief, you said that you welcome
and you support it and you think it creates, you know, a prevention of problems. But what I saw and what I experienced this year was abuse of power. They did not respect the resident pass when we were trying to move around out of the community and back into the community to just get to our rained out, you know, Bikeweek -- to get to the vendors. You could not get back into the town. So if you left and went out and you had the one street to come back on, all the north bound running streets were blocked off and barricaded and they would not let you through. And I showed my resident pass and my son who was also visiting, my adult son who was visiting showed his resident pass. They swarmed him when he got out to kinda show that, listen I've got my resident pass. We're just trying to make a left here to get back to our home. And it was embarrassing and unnerving. I was nervous for his safety from the police. And I don't know about anyone else's experience, but I thought that that was uncomfortable and I thought it was unfortunate for something that was really a positive thing. And it
kinda cast a black eye on our town for them
to kinda continue to over-police and create
this perception that a group of black people
that gather to have a good time is a problem.
And I think it needs to be addressed on some
level because it wasn't welcoming. And I
thought, you know, that that just was my
experience. I don't know anyone else's, but
I wanted to share that with you.

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

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

MAYOR EVANS: All right. Thank you.

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

CHIEF ROBINSON: Yeah, just kinda piggy backing off of Ms. Isom. It looked bad. I seen it Friday and Saturday. When you got rained out and nobody show up, and all you got is nothing but law enforcement here it's gonna look bad. But when you have 10, 20,000 people, 30,000 people here and you only got 100 law enforcement, we still outnumbered 1 to 10 people. I'd rather be safe than sorry because if something major happened, the first person y'all call is me and say why I didn't prevent it. So and most of the law enforcement that do come here, the majority of the ones been coming here for years, they interact with the guys. A lot of biker groups they know all the law enforcement because they come here a lot of years. And even SLED will tell you Highway Patrol, they want to come to Atlantic Beach to work because they don't want to go down to Myrtle Beach. They want to come to Bikeweek. So
it's like the great gig to work Bikeweek because they know they gonna have fun in Atlantic Beach. They know we're not harassing nobody. We gonna let people enjoy themselves. I can -- I know you probably had problems with coming in and out. And that was due to the rain. It was chaos because we were prepared for bikes and golf carts, but the rain came. Now a lot of people wanted to drive down 30th Avenue, which we don't allow during Bikeweek. So that was one of the big headaches that I was dealing with because I understand that we didn't have a lot of foot traffic, a lot of bikes and motorcycles coming down 30th. That's something that we would have to plan ahead. I do apologize for that because we didn't plan -- they direction was don't let no vehicles come down. So they were following orders. No coming in to Atlantic Beach, that's something I talked -- I'm pretty sure that was Highway Patrol that was letting people coming in 'cause those the ones that kinda controlled the main road. So I will talk with the Captain about that and we will get that addressed. I wish somebody
would kinda let me know. Because if I don't
know I can't address it at the time. So this
is the first I'm hearing about it. Like I
said, I do apologize for that. Now we do
allow people to come in on 32nd and 31st
Avenue. And we try to tell them come in
there because we do have 30th and 29th is a
one-way out. We only let traffic go out.
But you can come in on 31st and 32nd Avenue.
So I do apologize for that.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Well just to let you know,
that's what we were trying to do, follow the
directions. And they obviously aren't
communicating with each other because the one
officer when we tried to turn down 32nd
wouldn't allow it and said go to 29th. And
then they wouldn't allow it. And so now you
had to go back all the way to 17th Street
North and then turn around and go back to
37th Avenue and then come north. So we did
that twice before we actually had an officer
that was willing to let us turn right onto
32nd Avenue coming back into the town. So
they just weren't communicating and they
weren't respecting the resident pass. It
wasn't like anybody -- you know we weren't
gonna try to turn down 30th or 31st because
it was clearly blocked off. So these were
their own, you know, telling what to do, only
miscommunicating with each other.

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

CHIEF ROBINSON: No, and all I can understand,
'cause we did -- I know Highway Patrol did
have a lot of new officers. Me and the
Captain talked about it and they did have a
lot of new officers. And they probably was
at a post that they didn't know where people
were supposed to go. So like I said, I
apologize first off. I'll make sure to clear
it up. I know me and the Town Manager were
looking at getting the street sign that
basically say turn here for Atlantic Beach
traffic. That's something we were working
on. We were trying to get it for this year,
but this year we probably (inaudible). So
that should kinda deteriorate some of the
confusion that people didn't know where to
turn. So like I said, it probably was some
new guy. I know the older guy that's supposed to be here all the time, they kinda know which avenue to turn in. He told you to go down 29th? I'm pretty sure he probably was a new guy. It was his probably his first time working Bikeweek. But we'll make sure we get -- I like feedback like this because it helps us prepare for next year. So if I don't know then I can't prepare for that situation. So we will address it and make sure we take care of it.

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you, Chief.

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

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

CHIEF ROBINSON: And I know I gave -- 'cause even the Captain for Highway Patrol, he -- I know he even told the guy that they supposed to have resident pass. And a lot of times the
resident pass, if we have to shut the town
down because it gets overcrowded, y'all still
can come in even if we have to shut it down,
which we didn't have to do it this year
because we didn't have that kind of crowd.
But they should acknowledge y'all's resident
pass. And we'll make sure we take care of it
next year. You got my word.

MAYOR EVANS: Thanks, Chief. Laura Winston?

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

MAYOR EVANS: Okay. Ms. McNeal?

MS. MCNEAL: Good evening.

(Multiple good evenings heard.)

MS. MCNEAL: On behalf of my neighbor, Karen Bennet
and myself, she would like for me to express
and make sure that this is on record, that it
is important for all of us to understand that
between the Story Condo Hotel with the garage
that has 420 cars will choke the very life
out of this small four-block town. And for
that reason we are both opposed along with
others for that structure. Also the fire
department would be forced to open up --
would force us to open up Ocean Boulevard for
easy access to such a high rise. And with
the number of condos, we are putting our
charter at risk as well. And secondly I
would like to know exactly when in July are
we going to have the hearing for the land
ordinance? Is that something you have?

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: July 10th.

MS. MCNEAL: It is already set.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: July 10th.

MS. MCNEAL: Which day?

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: July 10th.

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

MAYOR EVANS: Okay. Ms. Linda Cheatham?

MS. CHEATHAM: I know y'all sick of hearing me.
(Laughers)

MS. CHEATHAM: I just have, it's a quick question
about the public hearing on the eligibility
ordinance. I think the one that -- the
middle one, the determination of eligibility.
And I was hoping that Ms. Kane would still be
here because it doesn't say anything about my
rights as a property owner. The current
ordinance says that I have to own the
property in order to submit a rezoning. This
just says that I can submit a rezoning if the
property is on WF1. And so what safe-guards
are in place to let me know that my
property's being rezoned if I should win the
lottery and be able to own WF1 property? It
says you used to have to own the property to
have to submit one. The ordinance that was
adopted in April just says if any WF1 zone
property may be considered for designation as
a WF1 flexible design district. And it
doesn't say anything about ownership or
notification. And so I guess my question is,
you know, if I own some property that was WF1
and I was out of town for a few weeks, could
someone do a rezoning and I not know about
it?

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: No.

MS. CHEATHAM: No?

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

MS. CHEATHAM: Okay.
UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: So they would have to be personally notified within ---

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

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: That's correct.

MS. CHEATHAM: Okay, all right.

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

MS. CHEATHAM: Okay, thank you.

MAYOR EVANS: Thank you. John David?

MR. DAVID: I have two items. First I'd like to announce we're having an Atlantic Beach small business economic development seminar series. The first in the series will be July 20th.

At this seminar series we will bring the Small Business Administration. We'll also be bringing a score and Costal Carolina Small Business Development Center. The USDA Rural Development. And at these seminars we will bring land owners, builders, people that can help these land owners and builders get loans to possibly develop 30th or 31st Street and any other places in Atlanta Beach that wants to build or provide a business. The second thing I have is that I think it's important
to remember our voters and constituents. And my voters and constituents have been concerned over a recent article they read in the (inaudible) News. It stated that Mr. Isom and his mom have cost the town more than $12,000 and I noted more in the budget. It was about $15,000. And I think after a couple of losses at the ballet box by the voters and I think three failed appeals my voters are asking when will this end? You know the people, and the question I would ask is what is the additional anticipated cost if we're going to the Supreme Court? And my voters are asking is that money going to be asked to be reimbursed if Mr. Isom loses his appeal?

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

MR. DAVID: Well I would say it is my business because I'm a part of the suit.
MAYOR EVANS: Well I'm, I'm not finished saying what I want to say to you.

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

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

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

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

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

MAYOR EVANS: So what was your question again?

MR. DAVID: My question is the voters are asking is the town going to seek reimbursement? 'Cause again, we went from $400 to $15,000 in an election. And we're going to go to more so the town is getting cost a lot of money.
MAYOR EVANS: Well no. I mean nobody reimbursed the town. That's what the town's for. I mean that's what we do.

MR. DAVID: Appreciate it. Thank you.

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

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

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

MR. MONTGOMERY: Yeah, sure. Right. That $15,000
not included in this appeal. If they appeal. They have until June 12th to appeal. And my attorney said they are going to appeal. So that's (inaudible) your money on top of the $15,000.

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

UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Second.

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

CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Pro-tem Josephine Isom?

MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

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

CLERK: Sorry. It is 7:33.

MAYOR EVANS: Meeting adjourned at 7:33.

(There being nothing further, the meeting was adjorned at 7:33 p.m.)