

TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 2, 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 2nd day of October, 2023, and transcribed by Travis McLeod, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of South Carolina.



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1230 Richland Street / Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 252-3445 / contact@creelreporting.com

APPEARANCES

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

Benjamin Quattlebaum Jr., Town Manager
Cheryl Pereira, Town Clerk

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1 CALL TO ORDER:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This Town Council meeting is called to
3 order this Monday, October 2nd year 2023 at
4 5:00 p.m. Roll call.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?
6 (No response.)

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

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

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

11 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Council, seek a motion to go
13 into executive session for Carolyn Montgomery
14 versus Town of Atlantic Beach, supporters for
15 Tysons Ancestral Restrictions with Dees versus
16 Town of Atlantic Beach, South Carolina Morant
17 Properties, LLC and personnel matters.
18 Council, seek a motion to go into executive
19 session for those items..

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

21 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second on the
23 floor to go into executive session. Any other
24 questions, comments?

25 (No response.)



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

2 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

3 (No response.)

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. Motion granted.

10 **(Executive Session)**

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

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

14 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to come
16 out of executive session into the general
17 session. Any other questions or comments?

18 (No response.)

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

20 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

21 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

22 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-Tem Josephine Isom?

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

24 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

25 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.



1 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

3 **GENERAL SESSION:**

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're now down to the general session
5 of our meeting. I want to take this time out
6 to welcome the general public and ask at this
7 time if we have any devices that may disturb
8 the proceedings, would you put those on silence
9 for us at this time, please? And I'll give
10 everybody a few moments to get situated before
11 we stand for a moment of silence. We'll stand
12 for a moment of silence.

13 (A moment of silence is observed.)

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Pledge Allegiance.

15 (The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, we're down to the approval of
17 the agenda. Seek a motion for the approval of
18 the agenda, Council.

19 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** So moved, Mr. Mayor.

20 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second for approval of
22 the agenda. Any other questions or comments?

23 (No response.)

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

25 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?



1 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

2 CLERK: Mayor Pro-Tem Josephine Isom?

3 MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

4 CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

5 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.

6 CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

7 MAYOR EVANS: Yay. Motion's granted. We're down to
8 old business, Town Council Meeting Minutes,
9 minutes from Town Council Meeting held on
10 September 11, 2023.

11 OLD BUSINESS:

12 MAYOR EVANS: Council, seek a motion for approval of
13 those minutes.

14 UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER: So moved.

15 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Second.

16 MAYOR EVANS: Motion and a second for the approval
17 of the minutes from September 11th, 2023, that
18 meeting. A motion and second's on the floor.
19 Roll call.

20 CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

21 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yay.

22 CLERK: Mayor Pro-Tem Josephine Isom?

23 MAYOR PRO-TEM ISOM: Yay.

24 CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

25 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yay.



1 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. Motion's granted. We're down to
3 new business.

4 **NEW BUSINESS:**

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Item A Ordinance number 9-2023. And
6 this is an ordinance relating to the recovery
7 of collection costs as a part of delinquent
8 debts collected pursuant to the setoff Debt
9 Collection Act. And this is the second
10 reading. Council, seek a motion.

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

12 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** A motion and a second to adopt
14 Ordinance number 9-2023. Any other questions
15 or comments? This is the second reading.
16 Questions, comments, no?

17 (No response.)

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

19 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

20 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

21 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-Tem Josephine Isom?

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

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

25 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. The motion's granted and this is
2 the second reading. We're down to Item B.
3 This is request for approval to contract with
4 Khafra Engineering for services to inventory,
5 document and scan historic artifacts and
6 emphera which inform and tell the history of
7 the Town of Atlantic Beach in an amount not to
8 exceed \$35,000.

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor, Council, residents, in
10 January 2023 the Town of Atlantic Beach along
11 with 12 other organizations was awarded a grant
12 from the Gaylord Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
13 entitled Broadening the Narratives. This grant
14 was awarded to fund collection projects that
15 bring forward unrepresented stories. Mayor
16 Evans was quoted in the press as saying the
17 Broadening of Narratives Grant helps guarantee
18 the ongoing oral history harvest from persons
19 who were engaged in the early history of
20 Atlantic Beach, which will be part of a
21 collection of others to see, to make sure that
22 we amplify the story of the Pearl for
23 generations to come. Our town was chosen to
24 showcase the untold story of its resilience as
25 the only beachfront community in the country to



1 have remained in the hands of African Americans
2 since its founding in 1934. This grant will
3 help to begin the development of archives of
4 the history of Atlantic Beach. The archive is
5 intended to be both physical and digital. We
6 will begin by collection of data, which will be
7 in the form of documents, relics. We will
8 begin the process of collecting, organizing and
9 digitizing our town's history. An RFP was
10 issued on -- in late August 2023, and we
11 received three responses on September 15th.
12 The proposals were evaluated and proposed to
13 award a contract to Khafra Engineering in the
14 amount of \$35,000. The respondents to the RFP
15 submitted in August was a company Brownstone
16 out of Columbia, South Carolina, Thompson
17 Associates out of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and
18 Khafra Engineering Consultants, Incorporated
19 out of Atlanta, Georgia. An evaluation
20 committee reviewed and submitted follow-up
21 questions to the two top ranked proposers,
22 Khafra and Thompson Associates. Only Khafra
23 responded to our follow-up questions to seek
24 clarification in terms of their proposal. And
25 we're recommending to award a contract to



1 Khafra not to exceed \$35,000. The process for
2 collecting and digitizing this information and
3 scanning will begin through a series of
4 meetings here at the community center. People
5 and residents and the public outside of
6 Atlantic Beach are urged to bring forth
7 artifacts that can be -- that are significant
8 to the history of the Town of Atlantic Beach.
9 In addition, the contract will provide for the
10 engineering firm to go out in the community to
11 also seek individuals that may have relevant
12 artifacts and documents that will enhance our
13 history. Any questions?

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council?

15 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** None.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, I seek a motion for
17 approval of a contract with Khafra.

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

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Not to exceed \$35,000.

20 **UNKNOWN FEMALE SPEAKER:** Second.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** A motion and a second on the floor.
22 Any other questions or comments?

23 (No response.)

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call.

25 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?



1 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

2 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-Tem Josephine Isom?

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

4 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

6 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. Motion's granted. We're down to
8 the Manager's Report.

9 **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor, Council and public. Item
11 A. I attended a meeting about a week and a
12 half ago and found out that the Grand Strand
13 Area Transportation Study Gsats has been
14 proposed a plan to connect North Myrtle Beach
15 to Atlantic Beach at 3rd Avenue. I think
16 starting around 27th Avenue in North Myrtle
17 Breach connecting 3rd Avenue, which runs across
18 by Town Hall. These are only in the
19 preliminary stages being proposed. There are
20 no definitive timelines or budget commitments
21 for it. It's something that's being proposed.
22 And they're asking for the community to comment
23 on that proposal, and they have not ranked
24 them. They have -- I think there were -- it
25 was Item 14 out of 20 some odd -- proposed a



1 new transportation or improvements to Horry
2 County. Subsequent to that I received a call
3 from a reporter on Saturday morning indicating
4 that there is another proposed plan to connect
5 30th Avenue on the west side to 30th Avenue on
6 the east side going through 30th Avenue through
7 the taking of 420 and making a roadway through
8 that town. Again, all in the preliminary stage
9 and proposal stage and concept. We're asking
10 residents there's a form you can pick up from
11 my office. See Cheryl. And if you want to
12 comment on those proposed plans, at this point
13 they are just that. Conceptual plans that
14 they're proposing, and I think residents should
15 weigh in on their feeling in terms of support
16 or alternative proposals that we may want to
17 submit as a town. I've been asked to recognize
18 one of our own in the Town of Atlantic Beach
19 for his service in the community. And I'd just
20 like to read this recognition and ask Mr.
21 Kenneth McGiger to stand. He's an honorable
22 member of the Boy Scouts of America, Indian
23 Waters Council with over 35 years of volunteer
24 service to the organization. He began in early
25 1970 as a cub scout and moved into an explorer



1 post. He returned to scouting as an adult
2 leader and is wood badge and youth protection
3 trained. For the 2023 National Jamboree,
4 McGiger was diversity, equity inclusion lead
5 for the Scouts of Color. He presented at the
6 2022 National Order of the conference
7 facilitating (inaudible) on diversity. McGiger
8 is in the 2020 class of Silver Beaver
9 recipients, earned distinction of a vigil honor
10 as a James E. West fellow, and recipient of the
11 Founders Award in the Order of the Arrow. He
12 was presented community service award by Alpha
13 Phi Alpha fraternity at his 97 general
14 convocation and the Civil Torch Award as
15 presented by United Methodist Church.

16 (Applause)

17 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Also we all are excited and we
18 received posted in the Sun News on the 28th of
19 September, the National Geographic names this
20 historic county beach town as one of the best
21 for the Fall. And I am delighted to announce
22 that on September 27th, 2023 edition of the
23 National Geographic Travel Section shared the
24 US beach town which are even better in the
25 Fall, along with Cape Maine, New Jersey, Revere



1 Beach, Massachusetts, Canon Beach, Oregon and
2 others was Atlantic Beach, South Carolina. We
3 will share the article with you on our town
4 website and hard copies of it. But we're very
5 excited to be named in this national and
6 receive this national recognition. Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to public time.

9 **PUBLIC TIME:**

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Linda Cheatham.

11 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I'm working on a technical issue. I
12 pass.

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** William Booker.

14 **MR. BOOKER:** Good evening, Mayor Evans and Council,
15 Quattlebaum, Clerk, Community. I'm here
16 representing the property Association of
17 Atlantic Beach Property Owners. And we want to
18 inform the community primarily that the
19 Association of Atlantic Beach Property Owners
20 again is sponsoring a candidate forum for those
21 candidates who are seeking offices in the
22 November 7th election. We have two candidates
23 seeking the mayoral position and four for the
24 two council seats. And this is the second time
25 that we have sponsored this event. It's a non-



1 partisan event. All the candidates have been
2 invited. It's the opportunity for candidates
3 to talk to the community about their plans,
4 their visions, things they'd like to see as
5 well as the community to ask the candidates
6 questions about things that are important to
7 them. It's going to be moderated by Reverend
8 Andy Anderson who has worked with the town
9 before, primarily with the Housing Authority
10 Board. There will not be any interaction
11 between the candidates and the community. All
12 the questions will go through the moderator.
13 So if you have things that you want to have the
14 candidates speak about, think about what those
15 questions are, write them down, pass them in to
16 the moderator and he will ask the questions.
17 Each candidate will have equal time, opening
18 comments and some closing comments, and then
19 some questions. It's open to the public, it's
20 open to the media and we hope that you'll all
21 come out and participate and have a chance to
22 interact with our future leaders so that we can
23 see what's ahead for our community. Thank you.

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** John David.

25 **MR. DAVID:** Hello everyone. I also had a chance to



1 go to the Gsats meeting that was held on
2 September 20th at the North Myrtle Beach City
3 Hall. I would like to encourage everyone to go
4 to the next Gsat meeting, which will be online.
5 The policy meeting which will be October 16th
6 at 10:30. The website is Gsats.org. So it's
7 G-S-A-T-S dot O-R-G. So if you can attend and
8 make whatever comments you have. Also the last
9 date for making comments is October 12th. So
10 I have a few flyers here, and I think Mr.
11 Quattlebaum may have -- and I have one comment
12 sheet here. They can make copies at Town Hall.
13 Please feel free to fill out a comment card
14 prior to October 12th because, you know, it's
15 perplexing to hear that they have made plans
16 for us that we didn't know about. So if we can
17 try to repurpose that money maybe. We talked
18 about doing stormwater drainage, they talked
19 about doing sidewalks, they talked about doing
20 road repavement. So those are some of the
21 things that maybe we can ask for that money to
22 repurpose. And it was puzzling to see in the
23 paper that they had a second proposal for us
24 which was gonna run through second to the one
25 that run all the way 3rd Street connect to



1 Myrtle Beach. That was the first one that we
2 saw about. But the second one to run all the
3 way from 30th into North Myrtle Beach through
4 Whyte Street. So and I think in the paper it
5 may have listed that they had, like, 1.97
6 million dollars. So if we can repurpose that
7 money to things that we actually need in
8 Atlantic Beach it may work to our favor. So
9 anybody and everybody that can fill out a
10 comment, we scan and do a comment off of the
11 sheet or you can go online and do a comment or
12 you can do one through the office as long as
13 you submit it October 12th. Thank you.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, seek a motion to adjourn.

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

16 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor to
18 adjourn. Roll call.

19 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

20 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yay.

21 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro-Tem Josephine Isom?

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

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yay.

25 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yay. Motion granted. Meeting over at
2 6:20 p.m.

3 **(There being nothing further, the meeting concluded**
4 **at 6:20 p.m.)**

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the within hearing consisting of eighteen (18) pages, is a true and correct transcript of the testimony given by said witnesses after being duly sworn; said hearing was reported by the method of Stenomask with Backup.

I further certify that I am neither employed by nor related to any of the parties in this matter or their counsel; nor do I have any interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome of same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal on October 26, 2023.



Travis McLeod
Court Reporter

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: January 3, 2027

