

**TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH  
TOWN COUNCIL  
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING  
FY 2022-2023 PROPOSED BUDGET**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Monday, June 20, 2022**

**10:00 a.m.**

The Town of Atlantic Beach Town Council Special Session meeting was held and recorded at Atlantic Beach Community Center, 1010 32nd Avenue South, Atlantic Beach, South Carolina, on the 20th day of June, 2022, and transcribed by Amanda Godfrey, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of South Carolina.



**CREEL COURT REPORTING, INC.**  
1230 Richland Street / Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 252-3445 / [contact@creelreporting.com](mailto:contact@creelreporting.com)

**APPEARANCES**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Mayor Jake Evans, Chairman  
Councilman Edward Lamar Campbell  
Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom  
Councilman Jim DeWitt

**ADMINISTRATION:**

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

**INDEX**

	<b><u>PAGE</u></b>
<b><u>Call to Order:</u></b> . . . . .	3
<b><u>Executive Session:</u></b> . . . . .	4
<b><u>General Session:</u></b> . . . . .	5
<b><u>Old Business:</u></b> . . . . .	6
<b><u>New Business:</u></b> . . . . .	6
<b><u>Public Hearing:</u></b> . . . . .	7
<b><u>Manager's Report:</u></b> . . . . .	13
<b><u>Public Time:</u></b> . . . . .	17
 Certificate . . . . .	 22



1 Call to Order:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This Special Session meeting is called  
3 to order this Monday, June the 20th, at 10:00  
4 a.m. Roll call.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

6 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Here.

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

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

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore? Councilman Jim  
10 DeWitt?

11 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Here.

12 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Has anybody heard from  
14 Councilwoman Gore?

15 **CLERK:** Not this morning.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, I seek a motion to go  
17 into Executive Session for personnel ---

18 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** So moved.

19 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Second.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a -- motion's made and it's  
21 been seconded to go into Executive Session for  
22 personnel matters. Any other questions or  
23 comments? Roll call.

24 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

25 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.



1 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

2 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Here -- yea.

3 **CLERK:** Councilman Jim DeWitt?

4 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Yes.

5 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion granted.

7 **Executive Session:**

8 **(Executive Session.)**

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, I seek a motion to come out  
10 of Executive Session into the Special Session  
11 meeting.

12 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** So moved.

13 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Second.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** A motion and a second to come out of  
15 Executive into the General Session of the  
16 meeting. If there are no other questions or  
17 comments, roll call.

18 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

19 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

20 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

21 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Yea.

22 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore? Councilman Jim  
23 DeWitt?

24 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Yes.

25 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?



1     **MAYOR EVANS:**   Yea.   Motion granted.

2     **General Session:**

3     **MAYOR EVANS:**   We are now in the General Session of  
4                   the meeting.   At this time, take the time out  
5                   to welcome the general public and ask at this  
6                   time if you have cell phones to put them on  
7                   silence for us at this time.   And, Council, any  
8                   ceremonial matters,   Council members?   No?  
9                   We're down for approval -- down to approval of  
10                  the agenda,   Council, seek a motion for the  
11                  approval of the agenda.

12                           **(Inaudible background noise.)**

13     **MAYOR EVANS:**   I ask at this time, if you'll stand  
14                   for a moment of silence.

15                           **(Moment of Silence.)**

16     **MAYOR EVANS:**   Pledge of Allegiance.

17                           **(Pledge of Allegiance recited in unison.)**

18     **MAYOR EVANS:**   Okay, now we're down to the approval  
19                   of the agenda.   Council, seek a motion for the  
20                   approval of the agenda.

21     **MAYOR EVANS:**   Mayor, I make a motion that we approve  
22                   the agenda as written.

23     **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:**   Second.

24     **MAYOR EVANS:**   There's a motion and a second for  
25                   approval of the agenda.   Any other questions or



1           comments? Roll call.

2     **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

3     **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

4     **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

5     **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Yea.

6     **CLERK:** Councilman Jim DeWitt?

7     **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Yes.

8     **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

9     **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion is granted.

10    **Old Business:**

11    **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to Old Business, we have no  
12           Town Council meeting minutes for approval.

13    **New Business:**

14    **MAYOR EVANS:** And takes us into New Business, our  
15           public hearing for the 2022-2023 Proposed  
16           General Fund Budget. Council, seek a motion to  
17           open the floor for the public hearing for the  
18           2022-2023 Proposed General Fund Budget.

19    **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** So moved.

20    **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

21    **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to open  
22           the floor to the public for the public hearing  
23           on the General Fund Budget for 2022-2023. If  
24           there are no other questions or comments, roll  
25           call.



1 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

2 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

3 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

4 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Yea.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman Jim DeWitt?

6 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Yes.

7 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted.

9 **Public Hearing:**

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Good morning, Mayor, Council and  
11 public. The first -- this is the second public  
12 hearing regarding the budget approval for  
13 fiscal year '22-'23 starting July 1st, 2022.  
14 At our last meeting, budget hearing -- but  
15 first, let me address one amendment to the  
16 budget, Ms. Denise Gibson informed me the  
17 \$25,000 grant we received for the soil  
18 preservation needs to be recorded in this  
19 fiscal year, current fiscal year, so \$25,000  
20 will be added to the estimated close of the  
21 budget on the year budget report for 2022, an  
22 additional \$25,000 go in the record for that  
23 grant. That grant is a reimbursable grant,  
24 meaning that we will have to expend the funds,  
25 and she's putting together a schedule of



1 payments that will be made under the grant  
2 requirements in 2022, but the \$25,000 will be  
3 credited in this current fiscal year so just  
4 make a note on your budget. Also, at our last  
5 budget hearing, there were questions raised by  
6 the public that I wish to address. First of  
7 all, Mr. McIver asked for information in  
8 regards to staffing, the number of staff we  
9 have and budgeted positions. Currently, we  
10 have the Chief and one, two, three, four, five  
11 officers budgeted for this and next fiscal  
12 year. That does not include if we should be  
13 fortunate enough to find any additional  
14 officers, we will make a modification amendment  
15 to the budget to obtain that. We currently  
16 have four officers on -- two are in the process  
17 of getting their certification -- in addition  
18 to the Chief -- and cops. We have one court  
19 clerk, one court -- court clerk and then one  
20 administrative clerk, Cheryl Pereira. We have  
21 a laborer/code enforcement position and one  
22 other vacant maintenance position that is  
23 unfilled. We posted for the position, have not  
24 had a positive response. I would like to amend  
25 that position to allow for either a contract



1 employee or company to assist the Town with  
2 town maintenance, lawn cutting and other  
3 maintenance tasks within the town. So, those  
4 are the positions that are budgeted for for  
5 2022 and proposed for 2023. At our last  
6 meeting, Ms. Cheatham raised questions on the  
7 professional services line, what does that  
8 consist of? The professional services line  
9 consists of the salaries of the Town Manager,  
10 our code enforcement officials, our auditors,  
11 our accountant are all incorporated in that  
12 line item. Again, Town Manager, the building  
13 official, the accountant, fee accountant, and  
14 also (inaudible) -- now, I don't know whether  
15 -- I would have to double check unless there's  
16 a separate line item, our court judge is also  
17 paid for under that line item, \$1,250 (ph) a  
18 month to operate our courts, so that consists  
19 of the projected cost of 2,000- -- 2022-2023  
20 \$207,900. I think those were all of the  
21 questions that were raised at the last budget  
22 hearing, and I open the floor for any questions  
23 from Council or public on the budget. Also  
24 requested was a 3-year comparison (inaudible)  
25 budget, which the public has, as well as



1 Council. Open for any questions.

2 (Inaudible background noise.)

3 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: There are none, Mayor?

4 MAYOR EVANS: Do you guys have any questions out  
5 there for Ben on the budget? No?

6 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Let me just ---

7 MAYOR EVANS: State your name for the record.

8 MR. CURRY: (Inaudible) over here.

9 MAYOR EVANS: Well, you just -- you can (inaudible)  
10 from there, you may pick it up from there.

11 MR. CURRY: Name is Paul Curry. My question is, the  
12 Town is in litigation with Tyson (inaudible)  
13 calls for the \$8,000 monthly payments to be  
14 included in the budget so I'm wondering whether  
15 the Town is complying with that settlement.

16 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: On advice of counsel, do not  
17 answer that question. Any other questions?

18 MAYOR EVANS: Any other questions from the public on  
19 the ... John? Just state your name for the  
20 record please.

21 MR. SKETERS: (Inaudible) in reference to making a  
22 public (inaudible) as far as job description or  
23 work hours ---

24 (Inaudible background noise.)

25 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: It's posted through the State





1 record, this is one of the best fiscal years  
2 that we've had in the Town of Atlantic Beach  
3 probably in the last 20 years. As I indicated,  
4 the only debt the Town has is the recent  
5 purchase of two police vehicles, and we've been  
6 able to have our audits completed successfully  
7 for six consecutive years without any major  
8 audit finds. Thank you, Mayor.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. Council, seek a motion to  
10 close the public hearing.

11 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** So moved.

12 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Second.

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to close  
14 the public hearing. Any other -- no other  
15 questions or comments? Roll call.

16 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

17 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

18 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

19 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Yea.

20 **CLERK:** Councilman Jim DeWitt?

21 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Yes.

22 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion is granted. We're  
24 down to Item 7, Council, Ordinance Number 5-  
25 2022, adopt budget for year 2022-2023, and this



1 is the second reading, an ordinance to adopt  
2 the budget for the Town of Atlantic Beach for  
3 fiscal year commencing July 1st, 2022 and  
4 ending June 30th of 2023 and this will be the  
5 second reading. I seek a motion, Council, to  
6 adopt Ordinance Number 5-2022.

7 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** So moved, Mayor.

8 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Second.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and there's a second  
10 to adopt Ordinance Number 5-2022, the budget  
11 for 2022 to 2023, and this is the second  
12 reading. If there are no other questions or  
13 comments, roll call.

14 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

15 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

16 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

17 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Yea.

18 **CLERK:** Councilman Jim DeWitt?

19 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** Yes.

20 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion is granted.

22 **Manager's Report:**

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to the Manager's Report.

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council, before I give  
25 my Bike Fest report (inaudible), let me just



1 indicate the Administration, we did not include  
2 in our calendar year approval for holidays the  
3 Juneteenth celebration holiday, federal  
4 holiday. We will be submitting to Council in  
5 our next calendar year scheduling for holidays  
6 Juneteenth celebration so that's why we're not  
7 off today administratively -- just wanted to  
8 state that for the record. The financial  
9 report for Bike Fest 2022, as I indicated --  
10 correct me if I'm wrong, Cheryl -- I think we  
11 had 67 vendors ---

12 **CLERK:** And six did not come.

13 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- and six did not -- 67 paid  
14 vendors, six did not show but paid, so 61  
15 vendors actually participated in Bike Fest  
16 2022. The total income for the festival was  
17 \$81,515.81. These are numbers -- the income  
18 numbers are pretty much final and set and won't  
19 change or deviate from what I'm reporting here  
20 today and -- but the expense level, there are  
21 still expenses out, checks that haven't cleared  
22 and other expenses that are being billed to the  
23 Bike Fest program. As I indicated, Bike Fest  
24 funding is separate and apart from the General  
25 Fund, it is a separate account and for the past



1 five years that I've administered Bike Fest,  
2 it's been able to operate on the net profits  
3 from the prior years, and we anticipate a net  
4 profit again in 2022. The total Bike Fest  
5 expenditures to date is \$49,684.22. The  
6 current projected net profit to date, which  
7 will probably decrease, is \$31,831.59. So, I  
8 do anticipate that number going down, factoring  
9 in some other costs, overtime personnel costs  
10 have not been factored in to these numbers so  
11 I'm -- estimating that our net profit will be  
12 in the ballpark between anywhere from 23 to  
13 \$25,000 all said and done. So that money is in  
14 a separate account and will be the seed money,  
15 along with the prior year's net profit, I think  
16 we made \$22,814, so combining whatever that  
17 bottom line figure is what we'll be going forth  
18 for 2023. Also like to report and thank, first  
19 of all, Ms. Gibson, again, Denise Gibson for  
20 passing at the last meeting a survey at the  
21 last meeting. We had 14 responses, on a scale  
22 of 1 to 10, 10 being excellent, the average  
23 score was 7.38. The major items of concern,  
24 number one, trash collection, traffic  
25 management and parking I think are the two --



1 three major issues cited by the respondents to  
2 the survey. The most attended and most popular  
3 things were the Telling the Full Story, the  
4 vending and neighborhood exhibits, and also the  
5 Welcome Friends Neighborhood Back to Our  
6 Community after COVID-19 got the highest  
7 ratings. Overall, the question was asked,  
8 would you recommend or invite your family and  
9 friends to 2023 -- nine of the 14 said yes,  
10 zero said no and one not sure. So that's the  
11 results of the survey that was generated and  
12 taken by resident -- participants at our last  
13 June meeting. Again, overall, it was very  
14 successful and I appreciate, again, the staff  
15 and their support in getting -- putting on  
16 another successful Bike Fest. Any questions,  
17 Council, Mayor, anyone?

18 **COUNCILMAN DeWITT:** I'd like to say at the last  
19 meeting, we did not acknowledge you and your  
20 efforts, and we were remissed in doing that, so  
21 I want to take this time to acknowledge you and  
22 say thank you for the work that you did to make  
23 Bike Fest a success.

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Thank you.

25 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Uh-huh.



1     **MAYOR EVANS:**     Yeah, and that's coming from the  
2                   entire Council, thank you.

3     **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Thank you. Any other questions?  
4                   That's my report.

5     **MAYOR EVANS:**     Okay, thank you.

6     **Public Time:**

7     **MAYOR EVANS:**     We're down to Public Time, and we just  
8                   have Mr. Daniel Gaskins. Just step to the  
9                   podium and state your name for the record  
10                  please.

11    **MR. GASKINS:**     Good morning, Council ---

12    **IN UNISON:**     Good morning.

13    **MR. GASKINS:**     --- Mayor and public. My name is  
14                  Daniel Gaskins, and I am the owner of Lot  
15                  Number 9, which is located at the end of Tyson  
16                  and Ocean Boulevard. My reason for being here  
17                  is that we are in dispute of -- with how much  
18                  of that property I own. The last time I was  
19                  here, I gave some pamphlets out, some  
20                  literature out, indicating certain things on  
21                  the beach. I gave it to the Council, the Mayor  
22                  and (inaudible) the City Manager. I just --  
23                  I'll be briefly -- brief, I just want to  
24                  illustrate a couple of things. I don't know  
25                  whether you guys still got your pamphlet or



1 not, but one of the things I want to illustrate  
2 is the fact that my taxes on that property is  
3 \$11,000 -- \$11,395, the taxes on Lot 8 is  
4 \$4,000, the taxes on Lot 7 is \$3,000, the taxes  
5 on Lot 6 is \$4,000 and the taxes on Lot 5 is  
6 \$8,000. Now, according to the -- my tax  
7 status, I am paying taxes on 0.35 acres. 0.35  
8 acres. My lot is listed as being 103 foot  
9 wide, 149 foot deep. If you do the math on  
10 that, it comes to 0.35 acres. Now, the City  
11 says I don't own the road. I went down to a  
12 company at the (inaudible) beach, the  
13 (inaudible) department (inaudible) and I'd like  
14 for the City or the Town of Atlantic Beach to  
15 give me a clear deed on the property that I  
16 own. Now, if you're saying that -- 'cause the  
17 City's saying that I don't own that property  
18 and I've been paying tax on the property for  
19 all these years, and my question is what am I  
20 paying taxes on? 'Cause see, the County would  
21 not bill you for property that you don't own.  
22 My aunt, which was (inaudible) mother, built a  
23 motel on our property approximately '53 to --  
24 somewhere between '53 and '55. That property  
25 -- that motel stood on our property until



1 approximately 2006 or 2007. Now, I wonder how  
2 she got a building permit from the County and  
3 from the City on some property that she didn't  
4 own. I'm just suggesting that you take a look  
5 at that and realize that something's wrong  
6 here. Now, if I don't own the property, which  
7 is the road, and the County says I do, then I  
8 paid a lot of money that I need to receive  
9 back, and so there's a lot of (inaudible) I  
10 just wanted to bring it to the attention of  
11 Council because I didn't want to litigate this  
12 if possible because it's common sense here,  
13 just saying, it's very common sense, that I own  
14 that property. So, I'll close by saying, I  
15 want the Council and the Mayor and the  
16 Administrator to get together and get back to  
17 me about this property because I've wasted a  
18 lot of time and energy with it, and I'm sure  
19 that I own that property (inaudible). Thank  
20 you.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you.

22 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Thank you.

23 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mr. Gaskins, let me just --  
24 indicate everything you said verbally ---

25 **MR. GASKINS:** Uh-huh.



1 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: --- and I'm looking into the  
2 matter.

3 MR. GASKINS: Yes.

4 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Everything you stated verbally, if  
5 you want to document that and submit it to the  
6 Town officially ---

7 MR. GASKINS: Uh-huh. Okay.

8 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: --- have the matter reviewed ---

9 MR. GASKINS: Okay.

10 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: --- from a legal standpoint.

11 MR. GASKINS: Okay.

12 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: All right?

13 MR. GASKINS: I'll do that.

14 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: You do that. Can I give you my e-  
15 mail address, you can e-mail it or you can mail  
16 it to the Town ---

17 MR. GASKINS: Uh-huh.

18 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: --- and then we'll go from there.

19 MR. GASKINS: I do appreciate that.

20 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: All right.

21 MR. GASKINS: Thank you, I'll get that done.

22 MAYOR EVANS: Thank you, sir.

23 MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM: Thank you.

24 MAYOR EVANS: Council, seek a motion to adjourn.

25 MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM: So moved.



1 COUNCILMAN DeWITT: Second.

2 MAYOR EVANS: Motion and a second to adjourn. Roll  
3 call.

4 CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

5 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yea.

6 CLERK: Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

7 MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM: Yea.

8 CLERK: Councilman Jim DeWitt?

9 COUNCILMAN DeWITT: Yes.

10 CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

11 MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted. Meeting is  
12 adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

13 (There being nothing further, the meeting was  
14 adjourned.)

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

