

TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 13, 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 13th day of February, 2023, and transcribed by Amanda Godfrey, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of South Carolina.



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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, February the 13th, the year
4 2023 at 5:00 p.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? Mayor Jake
10 Evans?

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Council, I'm seeking a motion
12 to go into our Executive Session for legal
13 matters, Lot #9 Ocean Boulevard public easement
14 and amendment -- amending Town of Atlantic
15 Beach Ordinance Number 20-15, Election
16 Registration Fee, as well as personnel matters.

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

18 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second on the
20 table to go into Executive Session. If there
21 are no other questions or comments, roll call.

22 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

23 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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



1 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

3 **Executive Session:**

4 **(Executive Session.)**

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, I seek a motion to come out
6 of Executive Session into the General Session.

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor to
10 come out of Executive Session into the General
11 Session. Any other questions or comments?
12 Roll call.

13 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

14 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

17 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

18 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

19 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

21 **General Session:**

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're now in the General Session of
23 our meeting. I want to take this time out to
24 welcome the general public and ask at this time
25 if you have any cell phones or anything that



1 might disturb the proceedings, would you
2 silence those for us at this time please. And
3 if I could, everybody would stand for a moment
4 of silence.

5 **(Moment of Silence.)**

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

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

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, we're down to the approval of
9 the agenda, seek a motion for the approval of
10 the agenda as it is outlined.

11 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

12 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second for the
14 approval of the agenda on the floor. Any 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:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

21 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

22 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

24 **Old Business:**

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to Old Business, A. Town



1 Council Meeting Minutes, the minutes from Town
2 Council meeting held on January 9th, 2023.
3 Council, seek a motion for approval of those
4 minutes.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

6 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor for
8 the approval of the January 9th, 2023 minutes.
9 If there are no other questions or comments,
10 roll call.

11 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

12 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

15 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

16 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

17 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. We're
19 down to Item B. under Old Business which is
20 Ordinance Number 1-2023, and this is an
21 amendment to Ordinance Number 3-2022, an
22 ordinance to adopt International Building
23 Codes, International Property Maintenance Code
24 2, Chapter 1, administration of the ICC 2021
25 Codes, and this is the second reading.



1 Council, seek a motion for Ordinance Number 1-
2 2023, second reading.

3 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second on the
6 floor to adopt Ordinance Number 1-2023.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council and public, this
8 is a second reading of the amendment to the
9 International Building Codes every two years on
10 the recommendation of our building official
11 that we update our International -- adopt the
12 International Building Codes and Property
13 Maintenance Code, and this is bringing us into
14 compliance. They are updated every two to
15 three years, we last did it in 2020 and this is
16 bringing us with the current building codes.

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. 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?

23 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

24 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. We're



1 down to C., election status update, Mr. Joe
2 Montgomery.

3 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Thank you, Mr. Mayor. As most of
4 you all know, we had an election on January
5 17th and we didn't have a clear winner, and we
6 had a runoff on -- check my (inaudible), make
7 sure I've got my dates right. Had a runoff
8 January 31st and -- had the runoff, John David
9 had -- received the majority. We originally
10 had the runoff because in the first election,
11 no one received a majority of 51 or plus votes.
12 So, he was successful in the second, the
13 runoff. He received 38, Michael Isom received
14 21 and Lendale Evans received eight. And after
15 that, Michael Isom filed a protest so we have
16 a protest hearing February 6th and though -- as
17 far as the Election Commission is concerned,
18 those protests -- those items in the protest
19 were denied. Michael Isom challenged John
20 David for evidence and John David presented
21 evidence at the hearing that his residence was
22 (inaudible). Michael Isom challenged conflict
23 of interest between Commissioner Kenneth McIver
24 and me. Michael Isom also challenged Attorney
25 Finney's residence. So, Attorney Finney didn't



1 show for the hearing, he was in court, so we
2 can't take testimony over the phone so we
3 didn't accept (ph) that vote. So to make a
4 long story short, we filed -- after all
5 elections, you have a legal document and it's
6 called order to report and you report that to
7 the Circuit Court in Conway, and that's what I
8 did that today, I took it to the lawyer and
9 she's gonna file it today. Now, from -- if she
10 files it today, from today's date, Michael Isom
11 has 10 days to file his protest and he -- if he
12 doesn't, then John David's seat -- but if he
13 does, John David's still in the seat. And
14 we've gone through this before, that's why I'm
15 so familiar with it, we've gone all the way up
16 to the Supreme Court. So, I hope that doesn't
17 happen, but I can't control that, but I believe
18 once we have done is solid, what we've done in
19 trial (ph), so that's my report. Do you have
20 any questions, anybody have any questions?
21 Okay.

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you.

23 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Thank you.

24 **New Business:**

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, we're down to New Business.



1 Item A. under New Business is Ordinance Number
2 2-2023, and this is an amendment -- this is
3 amending Ordinance Number 2-2015, establishing
4 and adopting the election ordinance of the Town
5 of Atlantic Beach, South Carolina Comprehensive
6 Government and Administration Ordinance Title
7 1, Chapter 7, 1997, and Election Ordinance
8 Number 2-89, Chapter 52, statement of
9 candidacy, Town of Atlantic Beach Election
10 Commission fee. So, I think, guys, we've got
11 this all here, is to increase the ---

12 (Inaudible background noise.)

13 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

14 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, there is a motion on the floor
16 for Ordinance Number 2-2023, okay. This is on
17 here to increase the fees of registration to
18 run for office here in Atlantic Beach and,
19 Council, what is the desire -- I think the fee
20 now is \$25?

21 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** It's \$50 for Mayor and \$25 for
22 Council members as we speak.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, and what is this desire?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** \$300 to \$150, \$300 for Mayor and
25 \$150 for Council members.



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, there is a motion on
2 the floor and this is to increase the
3 registration fee for Mayor from \$50 to \$300,
4 you said?

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Uh-huh.

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** And for Council from \$25 to \$150?

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Uh-huh.

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, so motion and second on the
9 floor to increase the election fee from \$50 to
10 \$300 for Mayor and from \$25 to \$150 for
11 Council. Is that the motion?

12 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** I need have a second ---

14 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, there's a motion and second on
16 the floor to increase the registration fees.
17 Any other questions or comments? No? Roll
18 call.

19 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

20 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Nay.

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

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

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

25 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. We're
2 down to Item B., request approval to contract
3 with KHAFRA Engineering for management services
4 for the replacement of street lights on 30th
5 Street in Atlantic Beach in an amount not to
6 exceed \$68,846. Mayor, Council and public, the
7 Town of Atlantic Beach was awarded a 500 --
8 approximately \$544,000 grant to replace 30
9 street lights on 30th Avenue with Wi-Fi
10 broadband, digital signage, smart -- I guess
11 they call them smart street lights. This
12 contract is to provide engineering and
13 management oversight for the implementation of
14 that grant award. As a requirement, we went
15 out for request for qualifications to select an
16 engineering firm that would oversee the
17 implementation of the replacement of those 30
18 street lights on 30th Avenue. It was published
19 and received four responses initially, they
20 were Bolton and Menk, MRB Group, KHAFRA and
21 ROWE Professional Engineering Services. After
22 the initial response to the request for
23 qualifications, our committee narrowed it down
24 to two of the engineering firms, Bolton and
25 Menk, and KHAFRA, and requested pricing on



1 overseeing, management and engineering for the
2 implementation of the replacement of the 30
3 street lights on 30th Avenue. We received cost
4 pricing from Bolton and Menk, and KHAFRA and,
5 based on the pricing that we received after
6 determining that all of the engineering firms
7 met the qualifications, the recommendation and
8 the lowest response we received was from KHAFRA
9 out of Atlanta. Most of you may recall that
10 KHAFRA -- the Town of Atlantic Beach entered
11 into an agreement with KHAFRA I think about a
12 year ago for \$5,000 to assist us to apply for
13 grant funding, major infrastructure grant
14 funding, through the RAISE Grant primarily,
15 FEMA, but I just want to indicate that since we
16 engaged them, they have worked far and beyond
17 the original scope of services that we have
18 requested, and positioned the Town to be
19 competitive to receive grant -- infrastructure
20 grant funding, major proportion funding. So --
21 also, KHAFRA is a minority firm and their role
22 will be the management and oversight, and
23 making sure that the implementation of those 30
24 replacement smart street lights are done in a
25 timely and cost-effective manner. The grant



1 pays for the administrative overhead -- or
2 oversight for this project, and it's -- the
3 grant allows up to two years to get the street
4 lights replaced. So I am strongly recommending
5 that we approve the contract with KHAFRA to
6 provide those engineering and management
7 oversight services. Any questions?

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Any questions, Council?

9 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** I don't ---

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** I believe there's a motion and second
11 on the floor. Roll call.

12 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

13 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

16 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

17 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

18 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. We're
20 down to C., request of authorization to
21 purchase three police vehicles from Horry
22 County Government for an amount not to exceed
23 \$12,000. Ben, you want to elaborate on the
24 motion ---

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

2 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Council, seek a motion.

4 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

5 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor, Council and public, Chief
8 Robinson was attending a meeting of chiefs in
9 Horry County and came upon an offer, found that
10 the County was replacing part of their police
11 fleet, and Chief Robinson asked the County,
12 rather than going through their normal routine
13 of auctioning them off and selling them, would
14 they first donate them to the Town of Atlantic
15 Beach since they were eliminating them from
16 their fleet. So, he initially tried to
17 negotiate a donation from the County, the
18 County then said that they would give -- or
19 sell them to the Town at a nominal cost. These
20 three vehicles will upgrade our current fleet,
21 replacing two older vehicles. Each of the
22 vehicles -- I think two are '15s and one is a
23 '14, and they're replacing ours -- I think the
24 oldest is 2009 and 2010. So it's a substantial
25 upgrade. They are fully loaded with all of the



1 police paraphernalia and gear so will need no
2 major updates or requirements for equipment, so
3 they're fully operational. We will -- and I'm
4 trying to decide whether we're going to have
5 them painted black the same as our other fleet
6 vehicles, but I think it's a very good offer
7 and a deal. We will have to spend
8 approximately between five and \$7,000 to make
9 sure that they're operational to hit the
10 streets, but for that amount -- if you recall,
11 we purchased last year two vehicles ---

12 (Inaudible background noise.)

13 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: --- year before, we purchased
14 three vehicles? Two vehicles and we paid
15 \$36,000, and they were '14s?

16 (Inaudible background noise.)

17 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: '16. So I think it's an excellent
18 deal for the Town and will greatly enhance the
19 fleet. Any other questions Council may have?

20 MAYOR EVANS: Questions, Council?

21 IN UNISON: No.

22 MAYOR EVANS: Okay. There's a motion and a second
23 on the floor. Roll call.

24 CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

25 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yea.



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

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

3 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

4 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

5 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

7 **Manager's Report:**

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

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council and public, at
10 this time, Ms. Mallett said she didn't want to
11 update -- we have been leading initially to
12 start preparing for the implementation of the
13 approved Gullah Geechee Festival June 23rd-
14 24th, 2023 and she will have a report later on
15 as the process continues. We wanted to bring
16 to the Council and the public's attention that
17 we're making systematic improvements to the
18 Community Center. We started with the
19 renovation of the two offices in the back,
20 where one office is now, to a conference room
21 and office for the Chief of Police. We're --
22 started the renovations of our kitchen which we
23 received two donations, one facilitated by
24 Mayor Pro Tem Isom from Councilman Worley, and
25 also a grant award by Ms. -- Dr. I think



1 Conner from the Francis in the Dunes. You
2 recall she made a donation of \$5,000 to the
3 Town of Atlantic Beach. So, we're utilizing
4 those funds to make substantive upgrades and
5 improvements to the Community Center. Also,
6 the next phase, we will start working on in the
7 Community Center are the bathrooms, making them
8 handicap accessible primarily. There was a
9 review, an audit by the Waccamaw Regional for
10 compliance with handicap accessibility for all
11 of our buildings, and we're looking to make
12 some substantial upgrades to make them --
13 improve their appearance, as well as, bring us
14 in compliance with handicap accessibility,
15 trying to time it around events that we have
16 here so we don't disrupt Council meetings or
17 other meetings that are going. We will start
18 on the ladies' bathroom first and -- keeping
19 the men's bathroom accessible for use by the
20 public while that work's being done. But once
21 the kitchen is completed, then we'll start on
22 -- phasing of the ladies' room and then the
23 men's bathroom. Questions?

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Questions, Council?

25 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** None.



1 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's all I have, Mayor and
2 Council.

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. We're down to Pubic Time
4 and don't have any public comment cards so I
5 guess, Council, seek a motion to adjourn.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

7 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second to adjourn. Roll
9 call.

10 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

11 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

14 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

15 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

16 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion granted. Meeting
18 adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

19 **(There being nothing further, the meeting was**
20 **adjourned.)**

21

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25

