

**TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING
AND PUBLIC HEARING**

Monday, June 10, 2024

5:00 p.m.

The Town of Atlantic Beach Town Council Special Session meeting and Public Hearing was held and recorded at Atlantic Beach Community Center, 1010 32nd Avenue South, Atlantic Beach, South Carolina, on the 10th day of June, 2024, 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

APPEARANCES

COUNCIL MEMBERS :

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

ADMINISTRATION :

Orton Bellamy, Interim Town Manager
Cheryl Pereira, Clerk

INDEX

	<u>PAGE :</u>
Call to Order	3
Executive Session	4
Special Session	5
Public Hearing	7
Ordinance Number 3-2024	28
Certificate	31



1 Call to Order:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This Town Council Executive Session
3 meeting and Town Council Special Meeting and
4 Public Hearing is called to order this Monday,
5 June 10th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Roll call.

6 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell? Mayor Pro Tem
7 Josephine Isom?

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

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Here.

11 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

12 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Present.

13 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Council, seek a motion to go
15 into Executive Session for personnel matters.

16 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor to go
19 into Executive Session for personnel matters.
20 Any other questions or comments?

21 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Isn't it personnel and legal, or
22 are you just doing -- what?

23 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** He's talking about the legal -- a
25 motion to adjourn general meeting and enter



1 into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-
2 4-70?

3 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Uh-huh.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Roll call.

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

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

7 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

8 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

11 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

12 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Nay.

13 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

15 **Executive Session:**

16 **(Executive Session.)**

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

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

21 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to come
23 out of Executive Session into the General
24 Session. Any other questions or comments? If
25 not, roll 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:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

7 **CLERK:** Councilman Dav- -- Councilman John David?

8 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes, ma'am.

9 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

11 **Special Session:**

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're now in the Special Session of
13 our meeting. I would like to take this
14 opportunity to welcome the public and ask at
15 this time to silence your phones or anything
16 that might disturb the proceedings. And if you
17 would, stand for a moment of silence.

18 **(Moment of Silence.)**

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

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

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to ceremonial matters on
22 the agenda. Council, any ceremonial matters?
23 If not, approval of the agenda. Council, seek
24 a motion for the approval of the agenda.

25 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.



1 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor for
3 the approval of the agenda. Any other
4 questions or comments? Roll call.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

6 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

11 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

12 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

13 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. Old
15 Business, no meeting minutes, none. We're down
16 to our Public Hearing for the budget. Council,
17 seek a motion to open the floor for a public
18 hearing ---

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- for the Proposed General Fund --
21 '24-'25 General Fund Budget.

22 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second on the
25 floor to open the floor for a public hearing on



1 the proposed budget. Any other questions or
2 comments? Roll call.

3 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

4 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

7 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

8 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

9 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

10 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

11 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

13 **Public Hearing:**

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** The floor is now open to the public to
15 discuss matters concerning or questions about
16 the '24-'25 Budget. The floor is now open.

17 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** You can go ahead.

19 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

20 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Good evening ---

21 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, sir. Yes, sir, (inaudible).

22 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** On this budget, I see repairs and
23 maintenance, and capital purchases. The reason
24 I'm asking that question, the kitchen over
25 there, what's the status with the kitchen? You



1 may not -- being asked that if Council or the
2 (inaudible). What's the status on the kitchen?

3 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** The ---

4 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** 'Cause to me, that's a money-making
5 project if we get it up to date. Is there
6 anything on here regarding that? That's my
7 question.

8 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

9 **MR. BELLAMY:** I can answer that question.

10 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Okay. You can?

11 **COUNCILMAN DAVID (ph):** Yeah, go ahead, sir.

12 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Go ahead.

13 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, perfect. And I thought that --
14 well, sir, what's the question ---

15 **MALE SPEAKER:** (Inaudible.)

16 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay. Can any -- is everybody good?
17 To answer your question, sir, if you go to the
18 category what -- look at the budget here, it
19 says capital purchases ---

20 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** I saw -- I saw that because we were
21 ---

22 **MR. BELLAMY:** 'Cause we've had no -- we have no
23 funding for that because of the fact that we're
24 at 1.3 Million Dollar budget, right?

25 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Okay.



1 **MR. BELLAMY:** So, because of the exorbitant amount
2 of legal fees we incurred, what we're doing is
3 we hired a Town attorney, okay, and what he's
4 doing is contacting each individual attorney --
5 -

6 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** Uh-huh.

7 **MR. BELLAMY:** --- how to reduce costs and
8 negotiating those fees. As you can see on the
9 budget here, you have the list of the attorneys
10 and how much they're budgeted for, okay? But
11 there's also South Carolina's Insurance is that
12 -- can everybody hear me?

13 **MALE SPEAKER:** Yeah.

14 **MR. BELLAMY:** At South Carolina Insurance Aid, you
15 can request reimbursement, go back for three
16 years ---

17 **MALE SPEAKER:** Uh-huh.

18 **MR. BELLAMY:** --- and you have \$15,000 just sitting
19 there, so March to March. So, you have to file
20 a claim during that time period, but they
21 require the \$15,000 for those time periods,
22 right? So we have to go back and look at our
23 files and see -- go back to 2021 and see what
24 was filed, what was not filed, and then submit
25 that request to recover reimbursement for those



1 funds.

2 **MR. STEVENS:** Why wasn't it finished?

3 **MR. BELLAMY:** Say again?

4 **MR. STEVENS:** Why wasn't it finished, the kitchen?

5 **MR. BELLAMY:** Well, again, we -- every -- at the
6 present time, we don't -- we don't have funding
7 ---

8 **MR. STEVENS:** But the money's (inaudible).

9 **MR. BELLAMY:** No. Well, with this capital -- this
10 capital ---

11 **MR. STEVENS:** Yeah, I saw that, that's new. I
12 didn't see that -- saw -- I see it now ---

13 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

14 **MR. STEVENS:** Okay.

15 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay. Now, you also -- someone asked
16 a question about ---

17 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

18 **MR. BELLAMY:** Right here, okay? There was a
19 question asked last month -- last meeting about
20 reassessment. Do you have this handout here?

21 **IN UNISON:** Yes.

22 **MR. BELLAMY:** That provides information about
23 reassessment, okay? Just read over that and if
24 you have any questions, there's a number on the
25 back here you call the office here in Conway --



1 the area code 843-915-5040, okay?

2 **MS. CHEATHAM:** But I think Mr. Montgomery had ---

3 **MR. BELLAMY:** The question was that ---

4 (Inaudible background discussion.)

5 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Can I come ask the question first?

6 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, okay ---

7 (Inaudible background discussion.)

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, I -- or I guess we probably need
9 to get on the same page here. I guess we're in
10 the Public Hearing ---

11 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, okay.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- I guess the public wants to kind
13 of ask us questions so ---

14 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, go ahead ---

15 **MS. CHEATHAM:** No, no, no. I -- he was ---

16 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

17 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- he brought up a question that he
18 thought I asked but that's not the question
19 that I asked ---

20 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, okay.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, all right.

22 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- asked -- that's all ---

23 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am, okay ---

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

25 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Mr. Mayor, Council, staff, my name is



1 Linda Cheatham. I live on 29th Avenue South.
2 My question regarding the reassessment is that
3 is going to happen, and the budget does not
4 reflect any increase in the property tax. In
5 the memo that you referred to and the
6 information that we've received in the paper
7 says that there's -- or going to be ---

8 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am.

9 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- at least a 3 percent increase in
10 my tax bill ---

11 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am.

12 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- which means that the Town will
13 get some money ---

14 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am.

15 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- and my question was why wasn't
16 that reflected in the budget? That was the
17 first question ---

18 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am.

19 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- for '24-'25. My second question
20 was why don't any of the budget numbers for
21 '23-'24 reflect what money has come in or has
22 been spent so that we -- all we see is a
23 projection, but it doesn't tell me how much we
24 took in or spent as of April '24 so I can make
25 my own projections and ask some additional



1 questions.

2 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am.

3 **MS. CHEATHAM:** So, that was my question about the
4 assessment.

5 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, I'll wait until they finish with
6 the public ---

7 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Okay.

8 **MR. BELLAMY:** --- and then respond to it, okay?

9 **MS. CHEATHAM:** That was the primary question about
10 the revenues, that it seems to me that the
11 revenues could be increased because we know
12 that the tax bill is going to go up, we will
13 get the tax bill in October, and those taxes
14 will be due in January if we pay them on time,
15 or there will be some penalties. And so that
16 was the question. I've got some questions
17 about the number of staff that we currently
18 have. I mean, I appreciate the detail on the
19 expenses, but how many police do we have? I
20 see that the Building Inspector is listed and
21 -- but it's -- there's also -- there's no
22 management under professional fees projected
23 for '24 and '25 so is your salary included in
24 wages for '24-'25 ---

25 **MR. BELLAMY:** It's in the personnel costs, ma'am,



1 that's correct.

2 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Why would -- are you an employee now
3 and not a consultant?

4 **MR. BELLAMY:** I have a contract with the Town of
5 Atlantic Beach.

6 **MS. CHEATHAM:** Right. And so, a contract would be
7 in professional services, it would not be a
8 staff ---

9 **MR. BELLAMY:** Well, normally ---

10 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- wages -- that category for
11 personnel is an employee ---

12 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, ma'am.

13 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- of the Town and not a contractor
14 person, and it was my understanding -- and I
15 could be wrong -- that the previous Town
16 Manager's salary changed from being in
17 personnel to this category called management
18 services so you've moved back to personnel as
19 an employee?

20 **MR. BELLAMY:** Well, I ---

21 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I'm -- I don't know who I should be
22 addressing.

23 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, I'll -- I will address that ---

24 *(Inaudible background discussion.)*

25 **MS. CHEATHAM:** And I ---



1 (Inaudible background discussion.)

2 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I also would like to know what
3 services did Burr and Forman perform for the
4 Town, there was a budget of \$1,500 and they
5 spent -- you're actually projected to spend
6 almost \$35,000 so what -- what legal services
7 were they -- did they perform for the Town?

8 (Inaudible background discussion.)

9 **MS. CHEATHAM:** And what was the solar design in the
10 capital purchases, what was that?

11 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

12 **MS. CHEATHAM:** And then you could just answer those
13 questions that's ---

14 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

15 (Inaudible background discussion.)

16 **MS. CHEATHAM:** And I really think it would be good
17 financial practices if -- and I see you've got
18 some budget workshops on a piece of paper so I
19 don't know what that is, but it would be good
20 financial practices if we could find out how
21 much money has been spent in various categories
22 as we go forward (ph). Thank you.

23 **COUNCILMAN DAVID (ph):** Thank you.

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you ---

25 **MR. BELLAMY:** Well, I'll wait 'til -- anyone else?



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Okay.

MR. MONTGOMERY: Just to follow up about ---

MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir.

MR. MONTGOMERY: You -- I understood -- not sure what you said. There's no money left to improve the kitchen. Now, I was under the impression we got a grant to improve the kitchen but you're saying there's no money left?

MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir.

MR. MONTGOMERY: That's what you're saying?

MR. BELLAMY: Well, at -- I would have to do the research on it ---

MR. MONTGOMERY: Oh, okay.

MR. BELLAMY: --- but as I said, (inaudible) -- we don't -- at the present time, there's no funding for capital improvements.

MR. MONTGOMERY: Yeah. Well, you said you weren't here so you wouldn't know ---

MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, it's not in the category ---

MR. MONTGOMERY: Okay. Okay.

MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

MR. MONTGOMERY: All right.

MAYOR EVANS: Next. You can come up ---

MR. MONTGOMERY: (Inaudible) ---



1 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, sir, okay.

2 **MR. FERA:** Good evening. I'm ---

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Hello.

4 **MR. FERA:** --- Steve Fera from -- I live at 706 32nd
5 Avenue, and I did submit the questions so I
6 don't know if that's what ---

7 **MR. BELLAMY:** I have it here.

8 **MR. FERA:** --- referring to some questions so they
9 were similar to what Ms. Cheatham asked, but
10 just want to make sure that we're asking the
11 same thing and that we're getting the same
12 understanding. So, one of the -- one of the
13 things I asked was the personnel costs by
14 position, essentially, how many employees there
15 are that are in town that are included in that
16 cost and then, you know, we have the breakouts,
17 so what the positions are and what the total
18 comes to and then, again, as she said, does
19 that include your wages going forward, or your
20 contract going forward, and then how did that
21 compare to what it was before 'cause if it was
22 changed so that we know why there was an
23 increase or not from one column to the other.
24 The other thing is, you know, she asked about
25 the one legal firm, I think it would be helpful



1 if we knew what each of those legal firms were
2 in place for. I understand Mr. Green is our
3 new attorney that's on here now and that's --
4 that one -- that one's accounted for, but what
5 the other firms were for -- being paid for and
6 what we project them to pay for. I guess the
7 other part related to that and -- is under the
8 professional fees, the management fee that's --
9 was there previously is not being projected for
10 2024 so is that that change that took place for
11 the Town Manager's salary? Also under the
12 professional fees, I saw we have an item for
13 police and security, and then we also have an
14 item for -- we had a separate line item for
15 police so I guess those two different police --
16 and if any of the police are covered under
17 personnel costs. And the last thing from the
18 budget prospective was from the revenues. Do
19 we have the itemized business licenses that
20 have been collected over the last -- the three
21 years, the licenses, the permit fees, and I
22 understand with Bike Week that we give every
23 little vendor rather than individually if, you
24 know, you just say it from Bike Week we got so
25 much from permits and fees and whatnot. I



1 think those are the questions from the budget
2 perspective.

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Thank you, sir.

4 **MR. FERA:** Thank you.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Is anybody else out there with any
6 other questions? Or you want to go ahead and
7 answer them?

8 **MR. BELLAMY:** I have (inaudible), okay.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** You can go ahead, Orton.

10 **(Inaudible background discussion and noise.)**

11 **MR. BELLAMY:** --- so you see the management fee --
12 management services, that was moved up to
13 personnel costs, okay? And also, you're asking
14 about the solar line, that was for the solar
15 lights project, okay, they're working on, and
16 the other -- the budget itself is at -- that
17 was a very good point because if you look at
18 the schedule here, stand -- best practices is
19 to have the four Ps, prior planning makes a
20 proficient program. We started on this budget
21 on May the 10th and turned around in less than
22 probably about the last 15 days, but if you
23 look at the schedule, we had it -- we're going
24 to have a plan in place well in advance in
25 October, start the next fiscal year, and we're



1 gonna revisit this budget and we're gonna add
2 different categories to the budget. So, if you
3 have any recommendations, suggestions, we have
4 the meeting at that time. And of course, the
5 personnel costs were -- Police Department,
6 you're gonna have the rank structure. Right
7 now, we're working on the rank structure of the
8 Police Department, it's gonna be five
9 categories by rank. Same thing with personnel,
10 you have the personnel costs, you have the
11 position for each one, okay? Full-time, part-
12 time and actual pay for that position, okay?
13 And then the police is gonna be by rank
14 structure, okay? So be -- due to the limited
15 time -- but we do have this information in our
16 office, and this is a summarized budget to meet
17 the requirement as a balanced budget for 1.3
18 Million Dollars, but during the October
19 meeting, we're gonna change the format and have
20 a supplementary page, it will identify the same
21 questions you're asking. So at any time that
22 you would like to have additional information,
23 be at the meeting, we'll structure it that way
24 to provide more transparency, more information
25 on a timely basis, okay? But we're gonna have



1 that information (inaudible) have -- you just
2 provide an e-mail address, things like that, I
3 can send you the information. But -- and once
4 we get the rank structure in place, personnel
5 in place and that -- we'll have it formulated,
6 let's ask -- everyone's asking questions
7 tonight.

8 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

9 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yeah, gonna have -- for the ---

10 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I mean -- so, I mean for the -- my
11 question is, there's going to be a reassessment
12 of the taxes.

13 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes.

14 **MS. CHEATHAM:** So why haven't we not projected that
15 ---

16 **MR. BELLAMY:** We ---

17 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- into the budget ---

18 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

19 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- which would address perhaps Mr.
20 Montgomery's question about the kitchen ---

21 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

22 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- and some other things that need
23 to be done ---

24 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

25 **MS. CHEATHAM:** We don't need to wait until October



1 to know what the increase in taxes --- I mean,
2 we'll have a better idea, but we know that's
3 going to happen, that's Question Number One.
4 You want to answer that ---

5 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yeah, I talked to the accountant about
6 that. His position was that we're -- he said
7 -- his statement was that we're going with a
8 conservative budget, we'll hold at 1.3 Million
9 Dollars. In October, we've got to look at the
10 numbers again, okay? In doing that, we've
11 scheduled a meeting and we're gonna do a budget
12 workshop with him (inaudible). That was his
13 state -- now, I agree with his decision? I'm
14 not a CPA, okay? He made that decision, I
15 conferred with him, that we go with a
16 conservative budget and we'll hold at 1.3.
17 October, we'll (inaudible) the new numbers in,
18 we can go back and reassess it at that time.

19 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I -- okay.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. Anything? Yes?

21 **MR. FERA:** I have another question not related but -
22 - so the budget runs from July 1st through June
23 30th ---

24 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes.

25 **MR. FERA:** --- we're gonna go through the first



1 quarter with the conservative budget and then
2 have the reevaluation in October?

3 **MR. BELLAMY:** Well, what we -- yes. Yes, sir, we're
4 gonna do that.

5 **MR. FERA:** Okay. And then my question is for the
6 cost that we've already incurred, like saying
7 from the previous, like up 'til now or
8 whatever, that information we can e-mail to you
9 and you can send to us?

10 **MR. BELLAMY:** Yes, okay. Or we have it here.
11 Because you asked about the attorneys, 90
12 percent of these (inaudible) right here, okay?
13 Attorney Green, Town attorney; Pope Flynn
14 group, it's a -- Stars (ph) litigation, that's
15 an organization that filed a lawsuit against
16 the Town of Atlantic Beach. They're also
17 working on the right-of-way condemnation. We
18 have certain areas in Atlantic Beach that back
19 in 1934, there's some question about the deeds,
20 there's a question about why the streets run --
21 there's that management thing on 29th at
22 Oceanfront where this section is not -- is not
23 paved. If you go down 29th to the -- 29th to
24 your left so SCDOT is doing a survey to verify
25 the deeds to pave that street so there's a



1 certain number of pockets (ph), okay? The
2 Stars litigation, you've got Pope Flynn,
3 they're dealing with the right-of-way
4 condemnation, okay? We have Burr and Forman,
5 they're Carolyn Cole case. Special election,
6 okay, and that one, you have Richardson Plowden
7 and Robinson is the Town of Atlantic Beach
8 versus John David, and Michael Isom versus the
9 Town of Atlantic Beach.

10 (Inaudible background discussion.)

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** We've still got bills, still go to pay
12 them.

13 **MR. MONTGOMERY:** 'Cause I know that Burr and Forman,
14 that --- they haven't sued the Town, that's the
15 firm ---

16 (Inaudible background discussion.)

17 **MS. CHEATHAM:** I'll tell you something about the
18 lawsuits. What other -- you said that your
19 salary has moved from a contractual
20 professional service ---

21 **MR. BELLAMY:** Uh-huh.

22 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- to personnel, which would be an
23 employee? What other contracts are now --
24 well, used to be -- have moved from that
25 category, and does that mean that you've been



1 hired as an employee effective July the 1st
2 rather than a ---

3 **MR. BELLAMY:** No, I -- the accountant was going
4 through the numbers, and I called and asked him
5 about that, but he said that it's okay, some --
6 transfer -- only thing we're doing is
7 transferring from one category to another
8 category.

9 **MS. CHEATHAM:** That's not something -- I beg to
10 differ ---

11 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay ---

12 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- that that's not a transfer.
13 Personnel costs (inaudible) represent an
14 employee ---

15 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay ---

16 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- and then, you know, an employee
17 has certain benefits and entitlements, a
18 consultant does not. And so I find that very
19 disheartening and disingenuous ---

20 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay.

21 **MS. CHEATHAM:** --- to move your salary from a
22 consultant to an employee for the next fiscal
23 year if you are not in fact an employee of the
24 Town.

25 **MR. BELLAMY:** Okay, thank you very much. All right



1 ---

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** Anybody else, any other questions? If
3 not, Council, I seek a motion to close the
4 Public Hearing.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

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

10 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes, I call for discussion. I
11 agree with our citizens. We have -- pay a lot
12 of taxes and there is a -- nothing that the
13 taxpayers are getting for their tax money,
14 there's no capital improvements, there's no
15 listing of capital -- rate income so I don't
16 see why if we have slots for four to six -- or
17 six officers and we only have two or three or
18 four, those cost savings are for those two
19 officers that we didn't have for an entire
20 year, and we don't have hired for now, so
21 that's salary money that can be used for
22 capital expenses. We should be able to repair
23 the kitchen, we should be able to buy tables
24 and chairs and TVs so that people can rent this
25 facility and generate more income.



1 (Inaudible background discussion.)

2 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** So again, we have to -- we have
3 to provide folks something for their tax money
4 so whether we need to come up with capital
5 improvements, especially in here, or all
6 throughout the beach, whether we need beach
7 access, bathrooms or whether we need public
8 access, showers or clean streets, whatever, we
9 need to provide something for the Town. And
10 just because an attorney told us to move
11 forward and be generic -- I understand to get
12 the budget passed, but we still have to show
13 the people something, and I think -- they noted
14 that -- I know we didn't hire Green as an
15 attorney, he's supposedly doing some
16 consultation to see how he can save us some
17 money but if he's listed in here projected for
18 \$20,000, how is he projected for 20 when we
19 don't have projections to do capital
20 improvements for the Town so ...

21 (Inaudible background discussion.)

22 **MALE SPEAKER:** We can't hear you.

23 (Inaudible background discussion.)

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Roll call, Cheryl.

25 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?



1 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Yea.

2 CLERK: Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?

3 MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM: Yea.

4 CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

5 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Here.

6 CLERK: Councilman John David?

7 COUNCILMAN DAVID: No.

8 CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

9 MAYOR EVANS: Yea. The motion's granted.

10 Ordinance No. 3-2024:

11 MAYOR EVANS: Council, we're down to Item 7,
12 Ordinance Number 3-2024 ---

13 (Inaudible background discussion.)

14 MAYOR EVANS: --- adopt budget for year 2024-2025.
15 Council, seek a motion. This is the second
16 reading.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: So moved.

18 MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM: Second.

19 MAYOR EVANS: There's a motion and second on the
20 floor to adopt Ordinance Number 3-2024, and
21 that's the 2024-'25 budget, and this is the
22 second reading. Any other questions or
23 comments? Roll call.

24 CLERK: Councilman Edward Campbell?

25 COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL: Nay.



1 **CLERK:** Mayor Pro Tem Josephine Isom?
2 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Yea.
3 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?
4 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.
5 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?
6 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** No.
7 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?
8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. There's
9 no New Business and ---
10 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** I have some -- I have ---
11 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- we don't have any Public Time ---
12 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** I have one issue for New
13 Business. The ---
14 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's none on the agenda.
15 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**
16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, seek a motion to adjourn.
17 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**
18 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.
19 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** Second.
20 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**
21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor.
22 Roll call to adjourn.
23 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**
24 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?
25 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea (ph).



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

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

3 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

4 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

5 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

6 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** No.

7 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion's granted. Meeting
9 adjourned.

10 **(Inaudible background discussion.)**

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** 6:28 p.m.

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

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the within hearing consisting of thirty (30) 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 June 14, 2024.



Amanda J. Creel Godfrey
Court Reporter

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: May 27, 2031

