

TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 4, 2024

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 4th day of March, 2024, 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
Councilman John David

ADMINISTRATION:

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

GUESTS:

Mr. Gary Bailey, Love Bailey and Associates

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1 Call to Order:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This Town Council meeting is called to
3 order this Monday, March 4th, year 2024 at 5:00
4 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?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Here.

11 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

12 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Here.

13 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Council, seek a motion to go
15 into Executive Session to receive legal advice
16 and update related to pending election legal
17 matters and -- as well as personnel matters.
18 Council, seek a motion.

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

20 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Second.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and second to go into
22 Executive Session for those items. Any other
23 questions or comments? 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:** Councilman John David?

6 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

7 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea.

9 **Executive Session:**

10 **(Executive Session.)**

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

13 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second to come out of
16 Executive Session into the General Session.
17 Any other questions or comments? If not, roll
18 call.

19 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

20 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

25 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?



1 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

2 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

4 **General Session:**

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're now in the General Session of
6 our meeting. I'd like to take this time out to
7 welcome the general public and ask at this time
8 if you have cell phones or devices that might
9 disturb the proceedings, silence those for us
10 at this time please. And if everyone would
11 stand for a moment of silence.

12 **(Moment of Silence.)**

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

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

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to ceremonial matters,
16 anyone have any ceremonial matters? If not,
17 down to approval of agenda. Council, seek a
18 motion for the approval of the agenda.

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor for
22 the approval of the agenda. Any other
23 questions, comments? If not, 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:** Councilman John David?

6 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

7 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion's granted.

9 **Old Business:**

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to Item -- oh, we're down
11 to Old Business, Town Council meeting minutes,
12 minutes for Town Council meeting held on
13 February 12th, 2024. Council, seek a motion
14 for approval of those minutes.

15 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

16 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Second.

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second for the approval
18 of the February 12th, 2024 minutes on the
19 floor, and there's a second. No questions or
20 comments, roll call.

21 **CLERK:** Councilman Edward Campbell?

22 **COUNCILMAN CAMPBELL:** Yea.

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

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

25 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?



1 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

2 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

3 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

4 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion's granted. We're down to
6 Item A. under Old Business, Ordinance Number 1-
7 2024, an ordinance to transfer authority to
8 conduct the Town of Atlantic Beach Municipal
9 Elections to the Horry County Registration and
10 Elections Commission, and this will be the
11 first reading. Council, seek a motion.

12 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second on the floor to
15 adopt Ordinance Number 1-2024, first reading.

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor, Council and public, this is
17 an ordinance to request Horry County Election
18 Commission to transfer election -- future
19 election administration in the Town of Atlantic
20 Beach starting in the year 2025. The Council
21 unanimously submitted a request to the County
22 to have them take oversight of the November 7th
23 election as well as future elections within the
24 Town of Atlantic Beach. This ordinance is the
25 first reading, the draft to request the County



1 to administer future elections which will
2 commence in the year 2025. They are -- prior
3 to reading a message to the Horry County
4 Election Commission for their acceptance which
5 obviously will be presented to the Horry County
6 Election Commission within May of 2024, the
7 terms of the election oversight (inaudible) and
8 the ordinance drafted by the attorneys. Any
9 questions that you may have can be asked.

10 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** I have one question. If we were
11 transferring all future elections, why wouldn't
12 they start as soon as the Horry County approved
13 the actual ordinance, shouldn't it start
14 immediately after they approve the ordinance
15 instead of 2025?

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It will. As I was saying ---

17 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

18 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- Town Clerk Pereira, our next
19 election is 2025.

20 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** But say, for instance, there is
21 an election that happens prior to that, if
22 something happened, there could be numerous
23 things that happen.

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It would have ---

25 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** You're saying all future



1 elections, wouldn't we move forward as soon as
2 the -- as soon they read off -- as soon as they
3 approve a reading for the ordinance, shouldn't
4 it happen right then and there?

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** So you are proposing amend the
6 ordinance to include any elections as soon as
7 it's passed ---

8 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** As soon as they accept it, yes.
9 Yeah.

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Instead of ---

11 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

12 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- 2025?

13 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

14 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Any Council members?

15 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** 'Cause I don't see a 2025 ---

16 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

17 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** 'Cause there's no 2025 date in
18 here unless I'm missing something. So I would
19 think since they wrote back and said they would
20 assume it as soon as our next election, that we
21 would put it in there to say as soon as we
22 approve it and they approve it, then that's
23 when they would assume, just in case something
24 did happen.

25 **(Inaudible background noise.)**



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** Any other questions or comments,
2 Council? 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:** No, there's ---

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Councilman ---

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

13 **New Business:**

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to New Business, Ordinance
15 Number 2-2024, and this is an amendment to
16 Title 12 Ordinance, Public Nuisance Ordinance
17 Number 5-2017, 12-2-6. This is a temporary
18 camping and use of recreational vehicles (RVs)
19 is allowable in the Town of Atlantic Beach for
20 specified festivals, and this is the first
21 reading as well.

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council, public, 2017,
23 the Council approved an ordinance requiring a
24 permit fee of \$10 for any special holidays of
25 -- that RVs are allowed, permissible, in the



1 Town of Atlantic Beach. This particular
2 ordinance amends that ordinance to increase
3 that fee from \$10, which it has been since
4 2017, to \$50 for BikeFest and other holidays
5 authorized by the Town for permission of RVs in
6 the town. Any questions?

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Council, Ordinance Number 2-
8 2024, first reading, motion and second's on the
9 table. Roll 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:** Councilman John David?

17 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

18 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. We're
20 down to Item B. under New Business, Resolution
21 Number 2-2024. This is a Fair Housing approval
22 for policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of
23 disability status.

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Major, Council and public,
25 annually, as required under the federal



1 guidelines, municipalities are asked to adopt a
2 Fair Housing policy of nondiscrimination, that
3 the Town does not discriminate on the basis of
4 race -- disability status, and it is a
5 requirement in receipt of federal funding that
6 annually we adopt and approve a policy of
7 nondiscrimination.

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, I think a motion and
9 second's on the floor to adopt Resolution
10 Number 2-2024. If there are no other questions
11 or comments, 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:** Councilman John David?

19 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

20 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion's granted. We're down to
22 Item C., approval of the financial audit for
23 year 2022-2023, Love Bailey, Auditor.

24 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, seek a motion for the



1 approval of the 2022-2023 financial audit.

2 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and second's on the floor for
5 the 2022-2023 financial audit. Any other
6 questions or comments?

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor, Council and public, I've
8 asked our auditor, who is now ready to be our
9 accountant, has been our auditor for the past
10 six or seven years and has completed the audit
11 for fiscal year 2022 -- June, 2022 through
12 (inaudible) -- June 1st, 2023. We've asked Mr.
13 Bailey to come in -- come up and present this
14 annual audit, and he's also gonna share some
15 historical information in terms of our
16 financials over the past four years. Mr.
17 Bailey?

18 **MR. BAILEY:** Hello, Mayor, Council, nice to see all
19 of you. Mr. Quattlebaum said we needed -- we
20 performed the June 30th, 2023 audit and we've
21 been your auditor for several years but this
22 will be our -- the last year as your auditor.
23 As you know, Kim, was -- coming back in as --
24 came back with clients and as she left as your
25 external accountant and were looking for



1 another, so we have -- we're not going to be
2 your auditor, but we're currently handling your
3 monthly accounting outsourced, and that's going
4 well. So, I'll give you an update on that
5 briefly after I go through the audit. But what
6 I have in front of you is basically in four
7 years, look back from 2021, '22 and '23, just
8 to give you an idea, you know, COVID hit in the
9 4th Quarter 2020, which also affected '21, so
10 this kind of gives you an idea of how the Town
11 has done coming out of COVID over the last four
12 years. So, this first page here is your income
13 and revenues and expenditures, and it's broken
14 down into -- the top part is your operating
15 revenues and then your operating expenditures
16 to generate that operating income. And as
17 you'll see, the Town has just over 1.3 Million
18 in revenues for 2023, that was down a little
19 bit over 2022, it was all really related to
20 license and permits but as you can see,
21 licenses and permits are up quite a bit from
22 '20 to '21 according -- because of COVID-
23 related issues. That's one area we're gonna
24 help you out and kind of look at -- try to
25 track where those, the different stores and



1 businesses where these business licenses were
2 coming from so we can kind of track who's
3 paying and if there's anything that seems --
4 basically trying to find trim lines within
5 businesses. In case there's something that's
6 missing, we can help the Town sort of track
7 down anyone that maybe is not paying those kind
8 of things so we're gonna help you with that on
9 the accounting side of things. But overall,
10 most everything else -- property taxes is up
11 slightly, franchise fees up slightly,
12 hospitality accommodations up about 20 or
13 30,000 there. So overall, like I said, 1.3
14 Million in revenue, about 1.2 Million in
15 expenditures. That was up from last year on
16 various things. Salary and benefits was up,
17 some of that was wages and some of that was
18 increases in health insurance, retirement,
19 those items. Also, professional fees were up
20 a little bit. Some of that was on legal, some
21 of it was grant writing and planning costs.
22 What you'll see down at the bottom, you'll see
23 payroll and professional fees. You'll see
24 payroll is about 45 percent of your total
25 expenditures and professional fees is about 20



1 percent so combined that's roughly 66 percent
2 with those two items. That's kind of what we
3 see with a lot small towns, meaning either you
4 have more on-staff payroll that increases and
5 we have less outsourced, but roughly around
6 that 65-70 percent is what we see with
7 outsourced and payroll so you're kind of right
8 there in what we see with a lot of other small
9 towns that we're auditing. You also had some
10 increased repairs and maintenance this past
11 year and a lot of various equipment repairs.
12 And then, you can see right there, your
13 operating income of \$100,000 so what that says
14 is after you've paid all of your operating
15 expenditures, you had \$100,000 left over to
16 invest in capital assets, to pay down debt
17 service and also to put some in -- into
18 reserves for future periods. This past year,
19 you were able to -- with some of your grant
20 writing, you were able to obtain some
21 additional grants and you'll see that
22 government grant number, \$264,000 there -- and
23 a lot of that -- all those grants, or its
24 funds, allow the capital outlay that you see
25 there at \$290,000. And just a reminder, you



1 know, you had a playground, about \$162,000 in
2 playground equipment, some improvements to your
3 Community Center, HVAC and security, bought
4 some new vehicles so that's the bulk of the
5 \$290,000 that you spent this year in capital
6 outlay. So overall, your change in fund
7 balance this year was \$172,000, which was down
8 from last year but much higher than '20 and '21
9 as you see when you're going across. And then
10 that last section there, it just shows you
11 where -- the categories of where the Town's
12 spending money. As I said, payroll's your
13 biggest expense -- that's right at 45 percent
14 -- then professional services, and then it
15 drops down to utilities, about 7 percent, and
16 repairs and maintenance is about 6 percent so
17 those four categories are about 78 percent of
18 every dollar spent here in the town. The next
19 page will show you the balance sheet. And
20 you'll see the first line there, the cash, cash
21 has increased. Like a lot of towns, again,
22 coming out of COVID, there was a lot of federal
23 dollars that came in. COVID-related dollars
24 are the dollars that's come in and helped cash
25 flow, a lot of towns and you also benefited



1 that. So, you can see you're at about \$868,000
2 in unrestricted cash at the end of fiscal year
3 '23. Most everything else in your balance
4 sheet is very consistent. You'll see the
5 capital assets did increase -- I went through
6 the park and the vehicles and the Community
7 Center increases that account. Looking across
8 there, your -- you don't have much in accounts
9 payable, about \$50,000, that's just your normal
10 course of business. Payables there, and then
11 your other liabilities here. You'll see --
12 just a reminder -- that pension number,
13 \$578,000, that's the PEBA and, as you know, the
14 State Retirement is underfunded and so every
15 participant, every town and county,
16 municipality, that's in the State Retirement
17 gets a portion of that deficit allocated to you
18 so that's given to you out of Columbia, and
19 it's increased a little bit from last year.
20 And then you have a little bit of debt from the
21 lease on a vehicle that's being paid down each
22 year, it's down to \$18,000. Overall, you have
23 a positive fund -- overall fund balance of
24 \$948,000. The unassigned number is a negative
25 \$15,000 but it has improved over the last few



1 years. So overall, I'd say the Town has -- has
2 done a good job coming out of COVID and trying
3 to balance your spending and go after some
4 federal dollars to come up with capital outlay
5 such as your park and Community Center. That's
6 -- and that's -- we've got a lot of towns where
7 you -- we have enough to fund your operations
8 but when you really want to go out and improve
9 some areas in a town, typically you're going
10 after grants for that type of expenditure
11 because, as you know, with inflation and the
12 cost of everything, those things are very, very
13 expensive to -- and like \$162,000 for
14 playground equipment. So overall -- like I
15 said, overall the Town has had a good year and
16 it's coming -- it's done well coming out of
17 COVID over the last four years. So, now we've
18 transitioned from the audit -- as your auditor
19 to your accountant and we've made some changes
20 there of qualifying a CPA in our office, be
21 working with Darrel. And there's a few things
22 that we've done, some things we've done to help
23 the flow of funds; for instance, we're paying
24 bills weekly. So, the way that process works
25 is Ms. Cheryl sends up the invoices, we don't



1 have any signing authority on any of the
2 accounts, we put those into the system and each
3 week we will submit those back to Mr.
4 Quattlebaum and he will approve them and
5 payments go out to make sure there's no missed
6 payments. We're also going to be taking up --
7 what you'll eventually get is we're going to
8 just transition and you'll get monthly
9 financial statements from our firm and Paul
10 includes a video that kind of goes over, you
11 know, what's happening month to month. You'll
12 get it by e-mail so it's really easy, and then
13 he'll come down once a quarter as well to talk
14 to you personally. So, that's kind of the plan
15 going forward. So far, it's been a good
16 transition, we're trying to sort of automate
17 more things and make the flow of information
18 easier and give you financial statements to
19 look at as you're making decisions each month.
20 But overall, this audit went well. Basically,
21 (inaudible) the last one we did and -- and
22 qualified our (inaudible) opinion for the
23 audit. So, it's kind of a lot of information
24 but the good news is we'll be back soon. If
25 you don't think of something right now, we'll



1 be back and you'll be able to ask those
2 questions. Any questions right now?

3 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** In the monthly report stuff.

4 **MR. BAILEY:** Paul sent me an e-mail today that he's
5 in the transition -- I would -- I know we've
6 moved payroll over to ADP, added that control
7 there. We've moved the -- I think the
8 bill.com, the weekly payments, I think that
9 started last week, but I would imagine -- I
10 can't -- I -- since Paul's the one handling
11 that, I will have him give me an update and
12 I'll send it to Mr. Quattlebaum, but I would
13 imagine -- we're in March so I would imagine --
14 I know he's trying to catch up and so I would
15 imagine -- hopefully, by April, you'll start
16 getting some, you know, the March financials so
17 you can start -- and then once they start,
18 you'll get them every month so you can review
19 and look over the Town's finances.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** Anybody else?

21 **MR. BAILEY:** I'm sorry. We've -- we had just taken
22 over at the beginning of February so we're kind
23 of still transitioning.

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you, sir. Council, I think the
25 motion and second's on the floor for the



1 approval of the 2022-2023 audit. 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:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

8 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

9 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** (No audible response.)

10 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion's granted. We're
12 down to D. under New Business, and this is
13 request approval to transfer \$58,000 American
14 Rescue Plan funds to the General Fund Account.

15 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Need a motion.

16 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and second on the floor for the
19 request for approval of the \$58,000 from the
20 American Rescue Plan to the General Fund
21 account.

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor, Council and public, this is
23 a request to transfer American Rescue Plan, or
24 ARP funds, that we received on -- the Town has
25 received as a result of the COVID pandemic to



1 assist municipalities with restricted fund
2 purchases under the American Rescue Plan, those
3 kinds of expenses, or expenditures, funds can
4 be used for primarily are security
5 enhancements. However, the (inaudible)
6 improvements to the community and we, the Town
7 of Atlantic Beach, received two allocations
8 totaling two hundred I think and two dollars in
9 two separate awards over two cycles.
10 Previously, we utilized \$64,000 approved by the
11 Council to pay for various improvements in our
12 Police Department, security at Town Hall and a
13 number of other security enhancements to the
14 Town of Atlantic Beach. That was 2022. At
15 this time, I'm asking for the utilization and
16 the transfer of \$58,000 of American Rescue Plan
17 funds back to the General account to pay for
18 radio services for our Police Department. The
19 total cost I think in your packets is about
20 \$20,000. If you recall, the Town received a
21 \$5,000 donation and contribution specifically
22 tailored for radio services so 15 of that
23 \$58,000 are for the police radios that the
24 Police Department has received and are
25 utilizing. The other \$42,000 is obviously



1 being request to use funds for the payment of
2 the -- vehicles that we financed three years
3 ago, \$42,000 for the vehicles, and to reimburse
4 the General Fund for those payments that were
5 made for those vehicles, totally \$58,000. The
6 main reason I've requested is that, again, the
7 American Rescue Funds are restricted. This
8 will reimburse the General Fund and allow us
9 the flexibility to use those funds to support
10 other improvements in the Town of Atlantic
11 Beach. Any questions?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Any questions, Council? There's a
13 motion and second on the floor for the approval
14 of the \$58,000 transfer? No questions,
15 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:** Councilman John David?

23 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

24 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion's granted.



1 Manager's Report

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

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council and public, I am
4 pleased to announce that the Town of Atlantic
5 Beach has submitted its second RAISE Grant, \$22
6 Million Dollars for major infrastructure
7 improvement throughout the Town of Atlantic
8 Beach. I would like to commend Ms. Denise
9 Gibson Bailey, Ms. Cheatham, for their
10 diligence and working tirelessly to get this
11 application submitted on February the 28th.
12 Our last submission last year, we had
13 participated in assessment and valuation of our
14 original application which scored very well but
15 the Grant nationally is highly competitive.
16 We're competing with municipalities across the
17 country. I can't remember exactly but I think
18 it's over a thousand applicants for the funding
19 that's available. But pending the evaluation
20 we received from the funders is that the Town
21 scored very well in the first five major
22 categories and just with some slight
23 improvements in three other categories which
24 this application, Ms. Bailey and Ms. Cheatham
25 made focus on trying to improve our submission.



1 Again, it is very highly competitive with 22
2 Million Dollars of infrastructure improvements
3 and burying power lines, upgrades on the
4 sidewalks, roads, you name it, in the town.
5 So, I just wanted to commend them and thank
6 them for their efforts and support and
7 submission of the RAISE Grant application.
8 Also like to thank all of the residents,
9 public, who participated and provided comments
10 on February 29th for the SCDOT sidewalk
11 proposal to be installed in the Town of
12 Atlantic Beach and medians. The comments were
13 well received and the input in terms of what we
14 would like to see, those proposed South
15 Carolina DOT improvements along Highway 17. I
16 would like to encourage all of our vendors --
17 or property owners who plan to lease their
18 property for Bike Fest to submit online, if you
19 want to be a property owner to allow someone to
20 lease your property for Bike Fest, you have to
21 complete an application that is online so that
22 Cheryl will know that when people are requiring
23 or looking for spots and locations to vend
24 during Bike Fest, you must be on that list so
25 that's the only we can get referrals to you as



1 individuals. Please complete that information
2 -- we will know whether you want to participate
3 this year. Even though -- if you've done it in
4 the past, we're asking you to refile every year
5 that you intend and would like to have your
6 site for that purpose. Along that line also,
7 I encourage everyone, property owners who do
8 lease their property and if there is need for
9 electrical power poles to be installed, please
10 start as early as possible getting that done so
11 that we're not the week of Bike Fest trying to
12 get approvals. All power, electrical poles,
13 have to be approved in advanced, inspected by
14 either an engineer, licensed engineer, or a
15 building inspector before Santee Cooper will
16 supply power so we need to start that process
17 as early as possible so that the week of Bike
18 Fest we're not scurrying around trying to get
19 power and access done. So, I encourage all of
20 you who want to participate in leasing your
21 property get that done. Last thing, a reminder
22 that business license renewals start April
23 30th. There's an online portal that is
24 available. We don't have -- as Mr. Bailey
25 indicated, Kim -- sometimes they wanted



1 manually processing business licenses. I
2 encourage all of you for efficiency in the
3 process to utilize the online portal. If it is
4 not on the website now, we will add it, but
5 there is a process where you can go online and
6 submit all of your appropriate documentation by
7 April 30th to submit. It has been open since
8 January. You can start the process of renewal
9 -- or get started as early as January, but has
10 to be completed by April 30th, 2024. Any
11 questions?

12 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I have a question, Mr. Q., with
13 those temporary poles. So, a person gets those
14 poles turned on. Whenever the festival's over,
15 whose responsibility is it to have those poles
16 discontinued, turned off, 'cause we do have an
17 ordinance in our town that says that they can
18 only stay on for the length of the festival so
19 therefore is it they bear on the Town or the --
20 -

21 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Property owner.

22 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Property owner to have their
23 pole turned off. So, if I don't get my pole
24 turned off and it's there for the rest of the
25 year 'til next term, how do we go about that



1 because, I mean, the pole is there and no one
2 had it -- someone had it inspected, okay, and
3 nobody turned it off, they started paying the
4 bill on it. What do we do for the next term
5 because ...

6 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Well, we don't have the ability to
7 monitor and make sure that people disconnect
8 after Bike Fest. It is the responsibility of
9 the property owner. They will continue to get
10 billed for services ---

11 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Oh, okay. So that's the only
12 thing ---

13 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- if they leave it on.

14 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay, that's -- okay. I'm just
15 wondering.

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Now, if you cut -- if you turn it
17 off, as I understand it -- correct me if I'm
18 wrong, Cheryl -- that there is a term -- a fee
19 charged to you to turn it on every year ---

20 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I'm aware of it, yes.

21 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- so you have to make a
22 determination of whether it's possible to
23 either leave it on or turn it off every year.
24 It is their responsibility.

25 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I was just asking because



1 someone asked me that question and I couldn't
2 really answer. Well, I thought that I wasn't
3 sure so that's why I just wanted to make sure.
4 Okay.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Any other questions? Thank you, sir.

6 **Public Time:**

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to Public Time and I've
8 just got this one card here I think. Ms.
9 Lance, Ms. Gloria Lance?

10 **MS. LANCE:** (Inaudible.)

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** You've got it tonight.

12 **MS. LANCE:** (Inaudible) said was that a signature
13 but I did give her one.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** We all are.

15 **MS. LANCE:** Thank you so much. Mayor and Council, I
16 thank you. Can you hear me?

17 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yes, ma'am, just fine.

18 **MS. LANCE:** Okay. Thank you for being here, I thank
19 God, and my hip surgery that I (inaudible). I
20 want to thank the community who were there for
21 me. I'm not gonna call out any names because
22 you all were all there for me. So, after being
23 on Council with Former Mayor Montgomery for 16
24 years, I see what love is also about and I
25 thank you. Thank you for that, okay? You



1 brought me food, you came over and tried to
2 clean up my house a little bit, you tried to
3 take me -- you took me to the doctor's office
4 to -- for the surgery so I thank you. So may
5 I just ask for a little grace here, I know my
6 time is only three minutes. So, South Carolina
7 DOT, Mr. Q. and Ms. Cheatham and myself have
8 been working to get that ditch cleaned up
9 behind us since '22 and each time they tell us
10 to do something we have done it. We've have
11 gotten, along with the property owners on 29th
12 whose property backs up to that ditch, in order
13 to get it cleaned, we've gotten stories about
14 didn't want to do it. Each time they have not
15 done it. There are animals living in that
16 ditch -- I call it a canal, and they've been --
17 SCDOT has been down here and they have taken
18 pictures of the vegetation that has grown on
19 our property and have not done it. They will
20 never clean that ditch out. When Former Mayor
21 Montgomery had called Paul Prince, is that
22 correct, or the County ---

23 **MALE SPEAKER:** Yeah.

24 **MS. LANCE:** --- to get it cleaned out, and then I
25 called Harold Worley, Horry Councilman, and he



1 had it cleaned out. So, South Carolina DOT has
2 not done their job and now the South Carolina
3 DOT coming to us saying they want to put a
4 median on 17, how does that benefit the Town of
5 Atlantic Beach, the citizens of Atlantic Beach?
6 Is that gonna block the police from coming over
7 -- from over here to get over to the east side,
8 how is that done. And so, I know that
9 Councilman David has been working with them
10 right now ---

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

12 **MS. LANCE:** --- so we have a beautiful Community
13 Center here. Could you get them to come and
14 meet with us to tell us what's going on so we
15 can be one of the ones with them?

16 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Ms. Lance, I know that we have --
17 we went and met down at North Myrtle Beach Town
18 Hall on the 29th and we met the lady who's the
19 head of the project for the sidewalks and for
20 the medians, Ms. Metts, and I think she
21 communicated that we have to approve as a
22 Council, or as a Town, any -- or come to an
23 agreement anything that they decide, and I
24 think we will bring up what your concern is
25 when we do have that meeting to try to address



1 that as well.

2 **MS. LANCE:** The pictures on that. Thank you so
3 much. Also, we need police presence on 29th.
4 Speeders are coming -- I've been holding that
5 so I can see -- speeders come off of 17 and
6 they speed down 29th so if they're doing it on
7 29th, they're also speeding on the other
8 streets. We've got children in this community
9 and we want no harm to come to those children
10 so could we get some police presence on those
11 streets so people who are coming there, either
12 from the ocean onto -- going from 17 down, that
13 they will know that you just can't speed in
14 this town. The other item that's there is that
15 we just recently had two weeks ago, this
16 contractor took down the mailboxes for citizens
17 on 29th -- and I know you probably heard about
18 that from Ms. Isom -- so did not place them
19 back into the area, he was supposed to cut the
20 legs off. Now, he needs to be -- I'm not the
21 legal professional on this, but that's not the
22 first infraction that he's done in this
23 community. So, those issues need to be
24 addressed with him and a fine be given to him
25 and so if he's doing that to our citizens, then



1 what is he doing in -- building these homes on
2 Atlantic Beach? Just something that you all
3 need to be aware of. I wasn't -- I'm not
4 speaking on behalf of Ms. Isom, I just know
5 that (inaudible), okay? The other issue is we
6 need to be very careful when we send out
7 e-mails, e-mails to each other, e-mails to
8 others, very careful when doing that, we don't
9 talk about each other's family members, we
10 don't talk about certain phrases (ph) so let's
11 be very careful in doing that. Thank you so
12 much, Mayor and Council ---

13 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Ms. Lance ---

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you, Ms. Lance.

15 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Ms. Lance, did you say that the
16 builder took down the mailboxes?

17 **MS. LANCE:** Cut the legs off ---

18 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Well, that's ---

19 **MS. LANCE:** --- Ms. Isom ---

20 **MAYOR PRO TEM ISOM:** (Inaudible.)

21 **MS. LANCE:** --- they didn't put it back in the right
22 place, the place that they took it out of, they
23 didn't put it back in.

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** That is more like a federal
25 offense that if I was you, I would speak to the



1 Chief about that. That's a federal -- you
2 can't just go and interrupt somebody's mail
3 service, their mailbox and stuff, so the Chief
4 may have something for you for that because
5 that's a federal offense, that's just not -- I
6 took down your mailbox.

7 **MS. LANCE:** Well, Ms. Isom was so upset about it ---

8 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

9 **MS. LANCE:** --- Town Hall and when she made the
10 complaint, she was calling our person
11 (inaudible) policeman ---

12 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

13 **MS. LANCE:** Thank you, Mayor and Council.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you, Ms. Lance. Your comments
15 have been well received. Seek a motion for
16 adjourn.

17 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.

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

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second for the adjourn.
20 If no other questions or other comments, roll
21 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:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

3 **CLERK:** Councilman John David?

4 **COUNCILMAN DAVID:** Yes.

5 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion granted. Meeting
7 adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

8 **(There being nothing further, the meeting was**
9 **adjourned.)**

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify the transcript of the hearing consists of thirty-six (36) pages. This transcript was prepared by me without the benefit of my being present during the hearing. Additionally, this transcript was prepared from a audio recording provided to me.

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 this March 28, 2024.



Amanda J. Creel Godfrey
Court Reporter

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

