

**Town Council Atlantic Beach Council Special Session and Budget Workshop Meeting –  
April 21, 2026**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Pro Tem John David called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present were Councilman Edward Campbell. Here. Councilwoman Jacqueline Gor. Here. Mayor Pro Tem John David. Here. Absent were Mayor Jake Evans and Councilwoman Carla Taylor

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for items under Executive Session. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilman Campbell seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Taylor arrived during Executive Session.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David asked for a motion to come out of the Executive Session. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilwoman Taylor seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

**Welcome:** Mayor Pro Tem David welcomed the public asking that all cell phones be turned off.

**Moment of Silence:** Town Council and the public in attendance stood up.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Ceremonial Matters**

Mayor Pro Tem David asked Councilmembers if there were any ceremonial matters.

**Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the correction of item F. Ordinance No. 2-2022 to No. 3-2026. Councilwoman Gore asked for a motion that we approve the agenda with correction of item F. Councilwoman Taylor seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

**Public Time**

Mr. Leon Bailey stated I'm going to pass paperwork out to the council.

I apologize. Thank you. Good evening Mayor Pro Tem, and Council. My name is Leon Bailey, and I'm here today to ask for one simple thing, the town follow its own land management ordinance and allow permits to be issued on the project that we worked on. This project has been going through the required review process. We have made the required submissions. We have addressed the engineering and stormwater comments. We have spent substantial time and money to hire with the town's process in good faith. At this point, this issue is no longer whether we have submitted what was required.

The issue is whether the town will follow the written rule or whether it will continue to delay the project based on standards and demands that do not appear in the ordinance. I'm asking that the council to stand on process, fairness, and the rule of law. A reason I passed the handouts to the council as well as those that's in the crowd, because when I had a great conversation, with Mayor Pro Tem, he mentioned that as he favored for our project, as he mentioned before when he campaigned and at the Gullah Geechee Festival, he said he did not realize that it was because of our project that required a court order. I would ask everybody to look at section five point three six, relationship to deed restrictions and if you look at the second page where it says we can read it. I can read it in its entirety.

Mayor Pro Tem David, you got 3 minutes.

Leon Bailey. I got time. I know. In accordance with South Carolina Code and six twenty-nine eleven forty-five, town applications for property and land development permits and approvals other than those authorizing the building or placement of a structure on a tract or parcel of land shall ask whether the subject tract or parcel of land is restricted by any recorded covenant that is contrary to, conflicts, or prohibits the proposed activity. If the town has actual notice of such a restrictive covenant, whether from the application or other source, the town shall not issue the permit unless the town receives written confirmation and proof from the applicant that the restrictive covenant has been released from the tract or parcel of land by action of the appropriate authority or property holders or by court. The reason I bring this up is because in my permitting process, I actually provided that information, and it was approved by one Lee Wood from Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments.

Leon Bailey spoke about Land Development Permit Issue

Leon Bailey urged the council to uphold compliance with the **Land Management Ordinance**, specifically **Section 5.36**, regarding his development project.

All required engineering and stormwater reviews were completed and approved by town, county, and third-party officials (Lee Wood, Ashley Cohen, Horry County).

Provided documentation that restrictive covenants had been legally released, allowing permit issuance without BZA involvement.

Emphasized that Horry County confirmed procedural compliance and that the lawsuit was filed solely due to unwarranted permit delays.

If the town has actual notice of such a restrictive covenant, whether from the application or other source, the town shall not issue the permit unless the town receives written confirmation and proof from the applicant that the restrictive covenant has been released from the tract or parcel of land by action of the appropriate authority or property holders or by court. The reason I bring this up is because in my permitting process, I actually provided that information, and it was approved by one Lee Wood from Waccamaw in her review process, and we have documentation on it. And second, also, it was looked at and reviewed by Diamond Shores' Ashley Cohen, where she approved, and we have documentation on that. It was also recorded by Horry County of Deeds and showed it was approved. I took those same documents yesterday and went to the lands planners for Horry County and showed them what we had, and they also said that I actually followed the right process. And I had the conversation with Ashley and showed her the cards of who we spoke to, and they just said, "At the end of the day Atlantic Beaches needs to follow their own rules, and I'm just asking the council to follow their own rules. And yes, I know that there was talk as far as that we filed a law-a lawsuit, but the reason we filed a lawsuit, because we just want Atlantic Beach to adhere to the rules which they set by and we abide by.

Brent stated. My name is Brent Clark. I'm a business citizen here in Atlantic Beach, I represent the Crazy Horse Dollhouse, it's come to our attention that we'd like to move forward again on the medians or the continuation of the pro-project the state is doing all the way up to North Myrtle Beach. My concern from a business standpoint is the limited access for a left-hand turn northbound. And the biggest concern, taking away the business citizen side of it, is the citizens of the town of Atlantic Beach. The median, the way or the state has drawn it, there's only one left-hand turn from town line to town line, unless you go up to the Atlantic, which is 30<sup>th</sup>, I believe, and do a U-turn if you want to go back down anywhere on the west side of town, if you're going northbound. So right in front of the Budget Motel would be the only left-hand turn to get to this side of town for all the residents who live over here and potential residents in the future. We do have a lot of blank lots over here, potentially multiple residencies and stuff like that, it's not what it is today. It's what it is going to be 20, 30 years from now. And once they put those puppies in, they are not coming back out. And just imagine if you lived on this side of town on 30<sup>th</sup> or excuse me 31<sup>st</sup> or 32<sup>nd</sup> South, and you want to get in your little golf cart and go across the way to the beach, you're not going to be able to do that. You can't have a golf cart on a speed zone of 40 plus you would literally have to go down to the town of North Myrtle Beach at Tsunami, pull a U-turn, and come back up just to get to the beach side, and vice versa. Same as with 29<sup>th</sup> South on the other end of town. If you wanted to come to this side of town from 29<sup>th</sup> on the beach side, you would have one of two options. You would have to make a right, go up to Dodge's store, hang a U-turn, and come back down to get to this side of 29<sup>th</sup> or maneuver your way, if you live on 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> to come to the light and then go down to 31<sup>st</sup>. 31<sup>st</sup> in front of Budget Motel to make a right to get in over here. It's just ridiculous. So from a business we're looking at it as a

group other business citizens, that the add-in to the medians is sidewalks. And I think the sidewalks is a phenomenal idea. It needs-- That definitely needs to happen. Even though they're only addressing the ocean side of seventeen business, we're willing to step in and help make that happen financially along with some other business citizens here in town. I think if we could make what happen. Make that happen without becoming without the medians. Sidewalks on both sides and be self-sufficient. Well, I know we'll match what the state is offering.

Well, going by what the presentation of the state is, it's only on the east side. I know. So we've done a financial expense cost for it to be done on the side that the state has shown. That is palatable in our opinion. And looking at the west side, we'll call it, this side, that would probably mirror the same expense so that's what I'd like to see, if we could be self-sufficient and not have to depend on the state and really just divide the town so hard, so are you proposing to assist with doing sidewalks on both sides. Well, what I'm proposing is to match what the state said what they're going to do but again, the state is, the state is doing all or none, when you say all or none- sidewalks and medians or nothing. Sidewalks and east side medians, or east side sidewalks. Just the, the beach side sidewalks- Beach side and medians. That's it. What we're saying is, we, as a town, I think for the citizens and the business citizens, if we don't accept the state's medians, nor will we get the sidewalks, because they're not going split it up that we do our sidewalks ourselves.

Councilwoman Taylor. I don't mean to interrupt, but I live on the west side, and I have your exact same concerns. There's really nowhere on the west side you can make a left turn to go to the north end from the west side according to this. You would have to go into North Myrtle Beach, or they're up to 33<sup>rd</sup>, make the turn to go behind on widen and come back up on 27<sup>th</sup> to make a left turn. So I, I totally am feeling that frustration. Only for the sidewalks to be on the east side and just one small portion on the west side. Actually, the portion on the west side that, to me, is what we really should be discussing, is how do we open up 30<sup>th</sup> across 17<sup>th</sup> onto the west side because if we had a light going both ways, then the issue wouldn't be as dire with these medians, because we would have access to a light to make a left turn from the west side. So if y'all wanting to put money in going to some kind of median, that is where I would like to see the attention spent, adding the light from the west side, so the people on the west side will have be able to make a safe left turn from the west side because currently it is not and we can't, we don't have a stoplight access to make a safe left turn but the median situation.

Brent Clark stated I agree with you, it does block, basically block the west side from the east side. Ms. Taylor I just, I agree with you, we obviously own the property that adjacent to the highway at the intersection. We're looking at the business future as well for our longevity, it makes a lot of sense. But at the same time, we have to come up with a way to accommodate ourselves for the property and accommodate the town for the intersection. And we're open to many ideas and many discussions. We, we have no problem looking at that in the future. But I think our immediate concern is if this gets put into play, it's just going really divide the town and

we see a natural intersection there. That's what we see in the future. So we're definitely open to have a conversation for that.

Councilwoman Gore. I'd like to chime in on the median. Like I was telling you before, John, I could work with anything, anybody, but what's very important in our town is going be our residents as well as our business owners. Our businesses out on Highway 117, that is so bad for them. I don't think that'll be a good idea at all. I remember watching parties up in North Myrtle Beach, when they add those medians to that place up in there, no U-turn or nothing, that was the worst decision they ever made. And I also watched Bobby Moss lose his wife because of the makeshift medians they had there, where they couldn't get out in time, they had to go make a U-turn and stuff like that. I never would vote for anything like that, and I think we should have the city with the sidewalks with them. If we got somebody that's willing to come up to the table, bring us something for the benefits of the town, then we should look at that versus this

Brent Clark stated. I know I went over my three minutes, but I would like to just interject. anyone who's drove to Surfside in recent years, and I have friends that live there, take a little field trip and go down there and see the destruction the medians have done to that town business-wise and residents who live on the beach side. There's two lanes, and you can only stack ten cars in each one of their left turns if you're southbound. That means there's another eight to ten cars that are sitting out in the road waiting to get into the shoot. And now the traffic gets stuck, and now everybody's raising cane with each other, and it's not their fault. So that's probably one of the worst decisions the town of Surfside done, that is my concerns, folks, and I appreciate you listening to me.

Mayor Pro Tem David. Thank you, Brent.

## **Old Business**

Bikefest Ordinance Reducing Fees related to Property Owners & Vendor Permits

Mayor Pro Tem stated Ms. Gore, is there a motion to the Bike Fest ordinance reduced fees. Yes.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Gore asked for a motion to discuss reducing the fees related to the property owners and the vendors for Bike Fest 2026 to the same fees that we had for 2025 Bikefest. Mayor Pro Tem David seconded.

**Vote:** Mayor Pro Tem David stated. Is there a roll call or is there other discussions. Councilman Campbell. No. Councilwoman Taylor. No. Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore. Yes.

Discussion. Councilwoman Gore stated. I'd like to also, before we get to it, bring it up again that I'm stating this in the public for the public record for whomever is going to deserve any kind of justice, that Ms. Taylor here sits beside me, but she's also on the Bike Fest committee. They made the recommendations for the Bike Fest. And now for all you guys that's sitting out here, that that we have an election coming up in November and I want you all to see how much

Councilwoman Taylor and Councilman Campbell is for you guys. They credit you pay \$305.00 to rent your properties, and that's what they think of you guys. They don't think that you all should be able to have a festival without paying money.

Councilman Campbell stated. Let's finish the motion on the table. Roll call. Councilman. Mayor Pro Tem John David. Yes. The motion failed.

## **New Business**

### **Appointment of Interim Town Manager.**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David made a motion to appoint Titus Leask as the Interim Town Manager. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilman Campbell seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

### **Appointment of Interim Police Chief**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem John David made a motion for Titus Leaks., Interim Town Manager to appoint Joseph Cooper as the Interim Police Chief. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilwoman Taylor seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

### **Accountant Services Contract**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David made a motion to allow the Town Manager to approve to approve the Accountant Services Contract. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilwoman Taylor second.

**Vote.** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

### **Budget Workshop Presentation**

Mayor Pro Tem David stated we move into the budget workshop and the presentation by the Town Accountant, Kimberly Vinson.

The Town Accountant stated it's not so much a presentation but a discussion as much to gather information to help build the budget. I've gone ahead and if y'all want to I've projected out, and these are conservative numbers. So revenue, I'm under-projecting it, and expenses, I'm over-projecting based on our current budget and they're and I want to go through. Let's start with some of the revenue items where I wasn't sure. One thing I wasn't quite sure about is the other income a hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$140,000) budgeted for this year. I don't know where that

was coming from, so I want to know. I want to get a feel for what that is and know whether we need to budget for it or even if my projection is accurate for this year. If, any of y'all are aware of what that might be. We'd have to look back at the budget documents from last year and see if we can get that to you. I know there was and maybe, then I'm guessing, there was a concert series that was supposed to make so much money, but I don't know if that was it, that could've been it. If there were and with that being said. I have a copy of a check that I need for you to compare and see what that was. It was deposited into that account from that concert for 9-15-2025

Councilwoman Gore stated. The Jamaica Day. I have a copy of a check, and I'll just forward it to you because it's like nine thousand dollars.

Town's Accountant stated. Moving on to the expenses, I think a lot of my personnel questions have been answered.

There's some additional discussion that we need to have regarding pay that I don't believe can happen in open session, that's something that I can discuss with Titus, and maybe he and I can hash that out. We need to all discuss that, but maybe I can discuss it with Titus first to get a feel for it before we come to a decision. I know I sent you the list last year to this year and then I looked at some of the things because some of the positions that we put on the budget last year are new positions and added that weren't budgeted and we want to make sure we're and you know in alignment. I think one of the budget sheets, I think, that was done two years ago by Mr. Mr. Benjamin Quattlebaum before he left. I would guess he had the benefit structure on there so we can see what those added retirement and benefits are. I don't have that. But that's something we would need to take into executive session. Maybe we go into executive session after here for a few minutes, and I'll see, or I can send you the sheet. If we do that, I can pull it up and I can give it to you. We have in personnel for a hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) plus a year and so looking at this, we're going have to come up with some dates for another budget workshop or two.

We've got employee costs, and what we want to propose for employee costs or make sure we have the employee list that we want to move forward with for the next year, like I know last year, I can tell you we got some of these things on here. We put a Deputy Town Manager on there, but we probably don't need that. We got a whole attorney full to part-time, and we didn't ever get a grant writer or events program coordinator, so we can get some activities and stuff going on and let some people manage some of the stuff. In addition to the office staff we have. I think we got an extra Community Engagement Leader position that we didn't have, that we probably need to move on from and then we got to find. I think on our budget sheets, I was going ask this to how we report the revenue. Like we don't have a full thing that goes across We have it for expenditures where all the different ones, but we don't have it for the different revenues. That's not how it's reported. When you have your audit report so it's your general fund revenue is all just general fund, now, if it's related to a festival like the Bike Fest or Go Beach Week, since those aren't actually budgeted in the initial budget, I will present them so that you can see what

your revenue, your net income was from those events. But those are the only things that I will generally report. I got to find out which event. I have it in my phone, the check. The check was for, like, ninety-three five, and there should have been an income coming in. It was actually given by the people that was counting. So it's supposed to be a deposit. So therefore, I'm going to but the thing about it is, it did not have the Town of Atlantic Beach on it. It was for the Town. It had ABPD something else behind it. So therefore, we just need to know where it where it was supposed to go.

Councilwoman Gore stated it was supposed to be going to Atlantic Beach General Fund. Around September. I have it in my phone. I just got it. I'll give it to you. Ninety-three five, like ninety-three thousand or nine hundred. Nine thousand three hundred. Oh, every time three thousand. Nine thousand three hundred and five. But somewhere in that area. I got it in my phone. Yes, but I just need to know where the other side- Sounds familiar and the one-- If y'all got , when will we meet again, and what I will you share over here.

Town Accountant. Let's see. Yes, the audits. I have one more thing that I have to finish for the audit. The auditors are going to begin work on Monday, April 27, 2026. I have one more thing that I have to finish for them, and then I can move back over to this. But my next available day would be May 5th. Would that work for everybody. That's good for me. I could switch it to May 4th but I would have to know pretty much by tomorrow morning if I'm switching it to May 4th. Does May 4th or 5th work for you all. May 4th is fine. Fourth or fifth. I have a scheduled meeting on the 4th Well, we still need to do that meeting because that'll just be straight budget. We can do 5th. So the 5th is good, that's fine. Okay and we will be doing it at 5 o'clock, straight budget. May 5th.

Councilwoman Taylor asked. Can we do 5:30 p.m.

Town Accountant stated. I'm good. Yes. The other thing I know we had a hospitality tax ordinance before us last week, and I know I mentioned it to you briefly. But the hospitality, there's a hospitality ordinance, when we put it back up on the website. There's an old one from, like 2002 that have hospitality and accommodations tax. Maybe we can cover them both, so we can fix this, so we can get our accurate amount of money from everybody we're supposed to get from the county and from the people that's running businesses and running Airbnb's and all this other stuff. But we want to make sure because you know, I remember reading that ordinance, but I didn't print it off. But they talked like we had to have it but I remember. in a different account and whether we go into specific stuff, so we can spend that on capital expenditures versus just putting it in a general fund and we can do that. We can make that, it can be part of the budget process, the budget for a whole separate fund for hospitality and accommodations tax right now, it does get budgeted in line with the rest of the general fund, but we can separate that out.

and then we can actually use that money to do something every year with it, whether it's sidewalks, whether it's signage, whether it's whatever, but to actually use it. Well. Good. so that's my only question.

Mayor Pro Tem David stated. I was going say roads to streets to sidewalks all that stuff in section six, seven, six and it says seven accounts right there. Any more questions, comments. Anybody? This is, this is what the community wants.

Councilwoman Gore. I have a question. So how is it that ones that were in the town space, are they going give it to us.

Mayor Pro Tem David. The one we got, we're doing. I believe we back filled. We got those now and so we'll have more stuff and more information on May 5, 2026.

### **Resolution No. 3-2026**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David made a motion to approve Resolution No. 3-2026

Councilwoman Taylor stated. That number's not right. We have two 3-2026 Oh, as one is a resolution. So that's a no to disregard that whole section. Resolution number 3-2026. We don't want to vote on this.

Mayor Pro Tem David asked. Let's clarify the motion. So is there a motion to decline, the resolution, 3-2026.

Councilwoman Taylor stated. Yes. Decline.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to decline Resolution No. 3-2026.  
Councilman Campbell seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Edward Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Carla Taylor. Yes.  
Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. No. The motion failed.

### **Ordinance No. 3-2026**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem John David made a motion to approve Ordinance. No. 3-2026.  
*First Reading.* Councilwoman Taylor so moved. Councilman Edward Campbell seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem John Davis. Yes The motion carried

### **Approval of Administration Contract and Settlements**

### **Approval to enter into Bikefest Intergovernmental Contract with Horry County.**

Council had a discussion and agreed to table the Contract with Horry County.

**Request for approval to award a contract for Town Clean-up for Bikefest 2026, May 22-25 - 2026**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to award of the contract for the cleanup for Bikefest 2026, May 22-25 for the Interim Town Manager for Bike Fest 2026. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilwoman Taylor seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Carla Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem John Davis. Yes. The motion carried.

**Request for approval to award a contract for Town Entertainment for Bikefest 2026**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem David made a motion to approve the award for Town Entertainment for Bikefest for the Interim Town Manager 2026, May 22-25, 2026. Councilman Campbell so moved. Councilwoman Taylor seconded.

Councilwoman Gore recused herself.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Gore so moved. Councilman Campbell seconded.

**Vote:** Councilman Campbell. Yes. Councilwoman Taylor. Yes. Councilwoman Gore. Yes. Mayor Pro Tem David. Yes. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.