TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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Monday, June 3, 2019

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 3rd day of June, 2019.
APPEARANCES

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Mayor Jake Evans, Chairman
Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin
Councilman Lenearl Evans
Councilwoman Josephine Isom
Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore

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

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Call to Order:

MAYOR EVANS: This Town Council meeting is called to order this Monday, June 3rd, year 2019. Roll call?

CLERK: Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Here.

CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Here.

CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Here.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Here.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Here. Council, I seek a motion for Executive Session for legal and personnel.

COUNCILMAN EVANS: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Second.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Second.

MAYOR EVANS: Motion and a second to go into Executive Session for legal and personnel. Any other questions or comments? Roll Call?

CLERK: Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Yea.

CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.
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CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Mayor and Council, the legal issues for Executive Session are legal actions against the owner of demolished buildings on 30th Avenue South of Atlantic Beach. Unit 75, 500 and 406. Also, legal action on Ocean Apartments. Also, title 612, 31st Avenue, LLC. Dean Maybe and a report on the potential purchase of 3000 30th Avenue, Highway 17 in Atlantic Beach.

MAYOR EVANS: Thank you.

(Executive Session)

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

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: So moved, Mr. Mayor.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Second.

MAYOR EVANS: Motion and second to come out of Executive session into the general session. Any other questions or comments; if not, roll call?
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CLERK: Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLaurin: Yea.

CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted.

General Session:

MAYOR EVANS: At this time I’d like to welcome the
gen general public. And thanks for you patience.
We ran a few minutes over there. At this time,
I’d ask if you have any cell phones or devices
that might disturb the proceedings that you
would silence those for us at this time. And
if you would, stand for a moment of silence.

(Moment of silence.)

MAYOR EVANS: Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance said in unison.)

Old Business:

MAYOR EVANS: 5, Old Business. There are no meeting
minutes for adoption. 6, public hearing,
Council, I’m seeking the motion ---
COUNCILWOMAN GORE: What do you mean?

CLERK: (Inaudible) ---

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: We do have minutes.

MAYOR EVANS: I got the wrong agenda.

(Inaudible background noise.)

MAYOR EVANS: Sorry about that. Town Council, I seek a motion for the Adoption of the meeting minutes for April 1st, 2019.

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: So moved.

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Second.

MAYOR EVANS: Motion and a second for the adoption of the meeting minutes for April 1st, of 2019.

Any other questions or comments? Roll Call?

CLERK: Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Yea.

CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted. We’re down to item 6 the public hearing for the proposed general fund budget. Council, I seek a motion
to table that item.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Second.

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Second.

MAYOR EVANS: There is a motion and a second to table the public hearing for the general fund budget. Any other questions or comments? Roll call?

CLERK: Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Yea.

CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted. We’re down to the ordinance number 2-2019, adopt the budget for the 2019/2020 for the second reading. And we’re going to motion to table that item as well.

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: So moved.

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Second.

MAYOR EVANS: There’s a motion and a second to table
the ordinance number 2-2019, adopting the 2019/2020 budget. The second reading. Any other questions or comments; if not, roll call?

CLERK: Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLaurin: Yea.

CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted.

Report:

MAYOR EVANS: We’re down to your reports, Ben.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Mayor and Council, at the last meeting in May, the Council authorized me to look into the pur-- potential acquisition of 3000 30th Avenue South, Highway 17, Town of Atlantic Beach. At this time, Council has directed me to do some additional research and a legal analysis. And make a recommendation to the Council at a later meeting. Bike Fest report. First of all, I’d like to thank all of the residents, the property owners, the staff,
our police officers, Council for your support for a successful 2019 Bike Fest. Based on police reports, the crowd size on Saturday/Sunday, was estimated to over 20,000 participants. We had this year, 57 total vendors. 65 last year. Down somewhat from last -- last year. The positive is that we had 17 new vendors to register this year. Most of the vendors were food vendors. About 35, I think. And about 17 retail vendors. Retail vendors have been steadily decreasing. A lot of theories in regards to that. But based on the marketing and advertisement, the public attendance and the attraction of new vendors -- in my opinion was very successful. We did not have any major events. I mean issues, during the weekend. Overall the vendors -- based on their response to me -- were very satisfied with the event. And overall I think it went pretty well in terms of its attendance. Participation, vendor participation, entertainment. There were some concerns around the music at one point -- which we addressed with the promoter. He had addressed them and we will continue to address them in the future.
I would like to thank the staff for their diligence and working that weekend. I think they did an exceptional job responding to the needs of our vendors, the residents and the patrons that attended Bike Fest weekend. Are there any questions?

MAYOR EVANS: Council, any questions?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: I -- I got a question. I’m looking at this Bike Fest finance report. And here it has power pole inspections. Who did the power pole inspections?

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Building inspectors.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: So who did -- what did the electrician do?

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: The electrician set up all of the power poles for the Town of Atlantic Beach. In terms of making sure that they operated appropriately. Under state law requirement, all of them have to be inspected by a certified building inspector and all of them were.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: And the power pole inspections costs $1,050 -- how many poles did he inspect if you -- is -- how many? Do you know how many poles, right off, that he inspected?

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Total?
COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yes.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: No. I don’t have the exact number. But not only the Town, but all of the residents and properties power poles had to be inspected also. I don’t have an exact number.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Okay. All right. Okay.

MAYOR EVANS: Any other questions from Council?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: No.

MAYOR EVANS: You can go ahead.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Based on the success of the Bike Fest 2019, item C on the agenda. The Town of Atlantic Beach with the promoter, who promoted this years entertainment, is proposing -- or would like to make a proposal for a Labor Day weekend Festival. The Good Time Festival for Labor Day weekend. It is a one day event to start. With the objective to try to make it a full weekend festival. The promoter has provided a ---

(Inaudible background noise.)

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: A basic read. Basically what he is proposing, is a Monday festival. R&B, Jazz, Blues, Hip-Hop, DJ tarking -- targeting ages 25 and above. Featuring vendors and our food trucks. The target market is South Carolina,
North Carolina, Virginia and Georgia. The intent is to build the event to a three day festival. Ocean front property at the cul-de-sac -- where the stage was this year -- would be the site location. Facing again, diagonally towards baywatch. The promoter is proposing to handle all security costs, port-a-johns costs, stage, sound, lighting, fencing barricades, insurance. His full staff, all entertainment costs, all marketing costs, food trucks, vendors, a cash bar and clean up. Doesn’t have specific numbers. But with -- he’s seeking authorization to put together a financial proposal and the approval for -- of the town -- to move forward with planning such an event for Labor Day weekend. Again August 31st, Saturday. From the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

(Inaudible background noise.)

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Any questions?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Mr. Mayor, I don’t -- I don’t think we as Council have enough information on this yet to make a decision as to whether we want to go forward with this or not. Certainly something that I think we need
to have more discussion before we decide that
this is what we want to do.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Exactly.

MAYOR EVANS: Yeah. So we can kind of give him the
authorization to kind of look into it and bring
us back more information before we kinda ---

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: The manager, yes.

MAYOR EVANS: Okay. You got that; right?

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Yes, sir.

MAYOR EVANS: Okay.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Just two more items. One, the
freedom readers program -- for all those
community people who don’t know -- the school
system has set up and tudor program during the
fall season this year, here at the community
center. 12 tudors and 12 resident students
participated in the fall program. They’re
asking to extend the program through the
summer, starting on June the 18th. They have
12 tudors that will be coming here volunteering
to work with residents of the town tudor our
children from hours of 10:30 to 12:00 noon.
Through August, I think the 18th, is the time
frame. And they’re looking to start the
initial meetings with their volunteers and
teachers on the 6th of June. And the actual program -- they’ll be recruiting in community to get students to sign up and be involved in the tudoring program through the summer August the 18th. Any questions. While we were in the meeting, I just received an email report through the participation through the fall. I don’t have -- didn’t have time to read it. But it gave me some numbers and demographic information on participation of our residents here in the town in the program. The final thing I have, Mayor, a letter that was addressed to you by Ms. Delma Thompson. Wanted to donate a bench in honor of her relative to be constructed in the Town of Atlantic Beach. And she would defray the cost in memory of one of her loved ones. I can provide more detail to the Council. But she’s seeking approval to donate a memorial bench in the town. Potentially down at the cul-de-sac area.

MAYOR EVANS: Okay.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Is that something that Council would be interested in entertaining?

MAYOR EVANS: Council, I don’t have a problem with it.
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(Inaudible background noise.)

MAYOR EVANS: Yes. That’s ---

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Okay.

MAYOR EVANS: --- that’s fine.

MR. QUATTLEBAUM: That’s all I have Mayor and Council.

MAYOR EVANS: Okay. We’re down to public comments.

Public Comments:

MAYOR EVANS: Yeah. I have Two. I have Linda Booker?

MS. BOOKER: Good evening.

MULTIPLE VOICES: Good evening.

MS. BOOKER: I had some concerns. I thought Bike fest was great. I really did. I was happy, very happy with it. I was not happy with the language. And I personally spoke to the MODA. And he assured me that there would be no vulgarity at this Bike Fest. And it was the worst that we’ve had at any. I’ve never heard any as bad as what we had -- what we heard while it was going on. I’m concerned, again, because now he wants to do something else here and I personally don’t trust him. I figure somebody who gives you their word that they will not do something and they do it, or they
allow it. I’m not sure that he’s to be trusted. I think there should be some type of consequence for him if this happens again. But otherwise, I thought the Bike Fest was nice. Now, after the Bike Fest -- and I did talk to the town hall -- I’ve never seen our beach look like it looked. I’ve never, never -- I’ve been here 12 years now. And Fox Gore has cleaned. He cleaned as he wen- -- as the Bike Fest went along. He had his people out there cleaning. Lou- -- what’s the mans name? Lewis?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: James Lewis.

MS. BOOKER: James Lewis has cleaned. He cleaned as the Bike Fest was going. The people that got this contract acted like they did not care and they probably don’t because this is not their beach. And I don’t think that we should always look at the dollars. I think we should look at the people who -- who do quality work. You’re always going to get what you pay for. And when I approached this gentleman about coming around to 29th Street, he was very argumentative with me. Telling me that he’s not responsible for any trash that the wind blows. He’s not responsible for trash on the housing -- the
lots where houses are. That’s not true. That trash wasn’t there before Bike Fest and he is responsible. And Mr. Quattlebaum did take care of it and he did come around. But we shouldn’t have to go through that. I’m going to be quick. The next thing is, there’s some work that’s being done at the French Quarter -- the old French Quarter -- and it is my understanding that when there’s work of that caliber going on, there should be a dumpster. And they’ve not had one. They’re laying all of their stuff down on the ground. And I don’t think that acceptable. I think if everybody else has to have a dumpster, they have to have one too. I just had a couple of questions about the demo of the remaining buildings. Because I had a conversation with one of our officers that I have seen some suspect activity going on at one of the buildings that was scheduled to be demoed and it’s -- well, I don’t know whether it’s on this schedule ---

(Timer dings.)

**MS. BOOKER:** Does that mean I have to sit down?

**MAYOR EVANS:** We’ll let you finish it up.

**COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** You can finish it, yeah.
MS. BOOKER: I just want the buildings in the town that need to be torn down, I’d like to see them torn down. And lastly, I’d like to see the lots. We have people that own lots and they’re overgrown. And these people have resources. It’s not like they don’t have resources. And they need to be cut down. We -- our beach is our home. We pay taxes. And it should look like we want it to look. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Thank you.

MAYOR EVANS: Thank you. And I think we had William as well. William Booker?

MR. BOOKER: Mr. Mayor and Council and my neighbor (inaudible), good evening.

MULTIPLE VOICES: Good evening.

MR. BOOKER: I just came, I have -- I saw one item on the agenda -- and I would be interested in. It’s about a piece a property that the town is lookin’ into purchasing. And from what I know about it, I don’t think it’s a full lot. I think it’s just a partial lot. And so I would be interested in knowing what would be the towns interest in wanting to invest in that property. And how could I find out about what the intention is and so fourth and so on.
Because I don’t really know -- you might have
covered it at a previous meeting. But as you
all know I haven’t been to a meeting in quite
awhile. So I just thought I’d ask.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: We would love to put a nice
memorial there.

MR. BOOKER: A memorial for?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: For the town.

MR. BOOKER: You mean a memorial to ---

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: For -- to recognize all the
people that’s been through the past -- Mayors,
Council, whomever that’s been through here ---

MAYOR EVANS: Business owners ---

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: --- a nice mural to be ---

MAYOR EVANS: --- founding fathers.

MR. BOOKER: Okay. All right. So you all will
decide whether we do that or not; correct?

MAYOR EVANS: Yes.

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: That’s correct.

MR. BOOKER: All right. Well, thank you.

MAYOR EVANS: Thank you. Council, I seek a motion
to adjourn?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE: So moved.

MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN: Second.

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

CLERK:  Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

MAYOR PRO TEM McLaurin:  Yea.

CLERK:  Councilman Lenearl Evans?

COUNCILMAN EVANS:  Yea.

CLERK:  Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:  Yea.

CLERK:  Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

COUNCILWOMAN GORE:  Yea.

CLERK:  Mayor Jake Evans?

MAYOR EVANS:  Yea.  Motion granted.  Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

(The meeting was adjourned.)