

**TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING**

Monday, June 22, 2020

5:00 p.m.

The Town of Atlantic Beach Town Council special session meeting was held and recorded via teleconference at Atlantic Beach, South Carolina, on the 22nd day of June, 2020.



CREEL COURT REPORTING, INC.
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APPEARANCES

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mayor Jake Evans, Chairman
Councilman Lenearl Evans
Councilwoman Josephine Isom
Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore
Councilwoman Glenda Williams

ADMINISTRATION:

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

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1 Call to Order:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This Town Council Executive Session
3 meeting is called to order this Monday, June
4 22nd, and I think the time is 5:10 p.m. Roll
5 call?

6 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

7 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Here.

8 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

9 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Here.

10 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore? Councilwoman
11 Glenda Williams? Mayor Jake Evans?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here. Motion granted, we're now in
13 our Executive Session.

14 **(Executive Session Discussion.)**

15 **CLERK:** Excuse -- we need a motion to go into
16 Executive Session so I can come off the phone.

17 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Oh, that's right. Okay, we'll
18 do that.

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Council, seek a motion to go into
20 Executive Session. I forgot to receive the
21 roll call.

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yeah ---

23 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- for legal, personnel and
25 contractual.



1 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: So moved.

2 COUNCILMAN EVANS: Second.

3 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Okay.

4 MAYOR EVANS: Motion and a second to go into
5 Executive Session for legal, personnel and
6 contractual. Any other questions or comments?
7 If not, roll call?

8 CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

9 COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

10 CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

11 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

12 CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore? Mayor Jake
13 Evans?

14 MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted.

15 Executive Session:

16 (Executive Session.)

17 General Session:

18 MAYOR EVANS: Okay, this Town Council Special
19 Session meeting is called to order at 6:27 p.m.
20 on Monday, June 22nd, year 2020. Roll call?

21 CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

22 COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

23 CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

24 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Yea.

25 CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?



1 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

2 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams? Mayor Jake
3 Evans?

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Want to take this time to
5 welcome the general public, welcome everyone.
6 Do any Council members have any ceremonial
7 matters? If not, we'll go straight down to the
8 approval of the agenda. Council, seek a motion
9 for the approval of the agenda for -- for the
10 approval of the agenda as it is outlined?

11 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Can I just say ---

12 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** So moved.

13 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Can I just say something for a
14 second. I would like to say that, you know, I
15 had Coronavirus. I tested positive for
16 Coronavirus, which I am fine now. I have
17 passed all my stages. I had no symptoms. I
18 was asymptomatic, and I just want to let Mr.
19 Quattlebaum, Ms. Jo, everybody for bringing
20 those free tests to the Town. Thank you so
21 much 'cause it did hit at home for me. And I
22 didn't get down with it, but I would like for
23 us to be -- to spread the word that everybody
24 needs to get tested 'cause I didn't have any
25 symptoms. And so therefore, I just wanted



1 everybody to know that I did have it and I'm
2 good, and I'm glad that we had that opportunity
3 to go to -- for the Town to get tested.

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay ---

5 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I got tested and I came back
6 negative.

7 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** This is Glenda Williams. I
8 got tested and I came back negative.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yes, I -- Mayor Evans, I had a
10 negative test as well.

11 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. So, I guess that was ceremonial
13 so we'll go to the approval of the agenda.
14 Council, seek a motion?

15 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** So moved ---

16 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I move -- second.

17 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Second.

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Motion and a second for the approval
19 of the agenda. If there's no questions or
20 comments, roll call for approval of the agenda.

21 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

22 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

25 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?



1 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

2 CLERK: Councilwoman Glenda Williams?

3 COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS: Yea.

4 CLERK: Mayor Jake Evans?

5 MAYOR EVANS: Yea. Motion granted.

6 Old Business:

7 MAYOR EVANS: Down to Old Business, Town Council
8 meeting minutes for adoption. Council, seek a
9 motion to adopt the Town Council meeting
10 minutes held on June 1st of 2020.

11 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion that
12 we approve the Town Council meeting minutes for
13 Town Council meeting held on June 1st, 2020.

14 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Second.

15 MAYOR EVANS: Motion and a second for the adoption
16 of the Town Council meeting minutes held on
17 June 1st, 2020. Any other questions or
18 comments? Roll call?

19 CLERK: Councilman Lenearl Evans?

20 COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

21 CLERK: Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

22 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: (Inaudible.)

23 CLERK: Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

24 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yea.

25 CLERK: Councilwoman Glenda Williams?



1 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

2 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

4 **New Business:**

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to New Business, the public
6 hearing. Council, seek a motion to open up the
7 call to the public for a public hearing
8 pertaining to the 2021 Proposed General Fund
9 Budget.

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I make a motion to open up the
11 public hearing for the 2020 through 2021
12 Proposed General Fund Budget.

13 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Second.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and it's been
15 seconded to open up the floor for a public
16 hearing on the proposed -- 2020-2021 Proposed
17 General Fund Budget. If there's no questions
18 or comments, roll call?

19 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

20 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

21 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

25 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams?



1 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

2 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion granted. At this
4 time the call is open to the general public for
5 a public hearing if you have any questions and
6 questions only that are pertaining to the 2020
7 through 2021 Proposed General Fund Budget.
8 Public, if you've got any questions, please
9 announce yourself, tell us your name and put
10 your question out there.

11 **MS. DIVINE:** Okay, Mayor Evans?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yes.

13 **MS. DIVINE:** This is J. Divine, one of the residents
14 and neighbors -- recent neighbors to Atlantic
15 Beach. I have a question regarding your budget
16 -- proposed budget. I believe -- to ask what
17 is the status of street signs and what category
18 does that fall into on the General Budget?

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Ben?

20 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Oh, we're discussing -- on street
21 signs?

22 **MS. DIVINE:** Yes.

23 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** You mean ---

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** She's speaking of the ones ...
25 The ones I was telling you about that there's



1 no street signs on the corners of 32nd. A lot
2 of street signs are missing. That's what she's
3 speaking on. The ones that ---

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Oh, okay.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** --- not getting them in the Town
6 yet so ...

7 **MS. DIVINE:** Yeah. We've had a lot of deliveries go
8 to Windy Hill and ---

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Uh-huh.

10 **MS. DIVINE:** --- the street signs are in Windy Hill,
11 and then we have the Google Maps also doesn't
12 direct people to our street so I was inquiring
13 about where -- which category where (ph) these
14 street signs are, or when we could expect to
15 see some be installed.

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Councilwoman Gore raised the issue
17 around street signs way back in February. As
18 everyone well knows, COVID-19 hit the country
19 and all municipalities within Horry County --
20 and all municipalities including the Town of
21 Atlantic Beach have been adversely affected by
22 COVID-19 and the additional expenses that it
23 has created to navigate through the process.
24 Also, as all other municipalities, the Town of
25 Atlantic Beach is experiencing a reduction in



1 its projected income and expenses, i.e.,
2 business license collection fees, property
3 taxes. The hospitality taxes fees, that is
4 held up in litigation. So it has had an
5 adverse affect on all municipalities, and our
6 town in particular also. Councilwoman Gore
7 raised the issue, and it was something we were
8 prepared to address in terms of having
9 additional street signs put up. But since
10 March when COVID hit, we have frozen all
11 expenditures to conserve until we know fully
12 what our projected income and expenses. So to
13 answer your question in terms of that, we were
14 about to pursue getting cost estimates to have
15 those signs put up but had to put it on hold
16 until we know better what our economic
17 situation will be. I'm proposing to Council in
18 this budget that we adopt our same level of
19 expenditures and income levels, even though we
20 know that they're going to be substantially
21 reduced, and that we amend our budget in the
22 month of August to better project what kind of
23 resources we'll have come in. So that's a long
24 answer to say -- but the signs are on the
25 radar. In terms of the cost, I just -- at this



1 particular time, I cannot say definitively when
2 we will have the resources to have them put up.
3 Once we're at the end of our fiscal year, June
4 30th, we are in the process of collecting
5 business license renewal fees and based on that
6 income we will have a better idea in terms of
7 resource availability. But it's something that
8 we acknowledge that needs to happen and to be
9 -- at this time -- I just can't at this time
10 give you a definitive time frame on when we can
11 address it.

12 **MS. DIVINE:** Okay. But we do have quotes or, you
13 know, when we get the budget back in line,
14 we'll be able to move forward on those?

15 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes, ma'am. And ---

16 **MS. DIVINE:** Okay ---

17 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- in between -- Council had
18 brought to our attention back -- I think way
19 back in February then we went into freeze mode
20 on expenditures.

21 **MS. DIVINE:** Okay. And which category of
22 expenditures does it fall in on the budget
23 worksheet?

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I would just say routine repairs
25 and maintenance. They're not a major capital



1 item so routine repairs and maintenance. And
2 the cost -- I don't anticipate -- I don't have
3 any numbers. We were just going out to get
4 some quotes on what it would be. We had made
5 an assessment of the number of streets that
6 needed signs, but I don't think it's gonna be
7 substantial but I just can't give you a
8 definitive number at this point.

9 **MS. DIVINE:** Okay. All right, thank you, Mr.
10 Quattlebaum.

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Uh-huh.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Are there any other questions
13 pertaining to the 20-21 Proposed General Fund
14 Budget from the public?

15 **MS. ALLEN:** Yes, this is S. Catherine Allen. I've
16 been a resident for about six years I think.
17 Just wondering -- we've -- I know we've had a
18 conversation with Mr. Quattlebaum about this a
19 few years ago, just the question of the power
20 lines. And I know at one point we had
21 discussed having them buried. And just
22 wondered if that has resurfaced, if it's on the
23 horizon or -- and if so, what is the time line
24 for that, given what you've just explained.

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah, just to give a brief



1 history, Santee Cooper some four, almost five
2 years ago, had started putting money in escrow
3 from Town receipts of electrical utility
4 payments to bury the lines underground. It was
5 about five years ago. And I think
6 approximately three years ago -- two or three
7 years ago, Santee Cooper decided, based on the
8 cost, to abandon the program of doing the -- of
9 taking the power lines and burying them
10 underground. And it was paid to the Town at
11 that time, the escrow money that was being
12 reserved to have the underground lines done.
13 Currently now, as you may be aware, in terms of
14 the question of finances for Santee Cooper,
15 they thought about potentially it being taken
16 over by another electrical company, all of
17 their company here at this point. But two
18 years ago, Santee Cooper abandoned the program
19 that they were going to build -- put the lines
20 underground. I have not heard of any new plans
21 or proposals to enact or reenact that program,
22 but I can look into it, see if there's any
23 plans in the articles.

24 **MS. ALLEN:** Thank you. But -- so, I -- I could be
25 wrong about this, but I was pretty sure that



1 they did proceed on either side of Atlantic
2 Beach with the burying of the lines. Do you
3 know why they abandoned it with Atlantic Beach?

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Well, the -- I don't know, you
5 know, whether they did nor not on -- in North
6 Myrtle Beach. I'm not aware of that. But what
7 we were told -- the Town was told based on the
8 cost and the escrowing the amount that it would
9 take -- and I can't -- forget the projected
10 number of years, but it was a -- a substantial
11 number of years, given our size and that --
12 what we contribute based on our population to
13 that escrow account, it would take a number of
14 years -- I can't remember the number ---

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM (ph):** 40.

16 **MS. ALLEN:** 40 years.

17 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I don't know if I heard that
18 number or not. I don't know if was that
19 amount, but they said it was a substantial time
20 because, as I understand it, the escrow account
21 was based on payments by residents of the
22 municipality, and North Myrtle Beach has
23 substantially more residents than us and
24 utility bills that they could escrow a larger
25 amount faster. So based on our size and use



1 (inaudible) 40 years, I don't recall that
2 number but it was ---

3 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** (Inaudible.)

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay, next.

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** Do we have someone else?

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Public Time cards (inaudible), do
8 we have Public Time cards that we're working
9 off of, (inaudible) Public Time?

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** No, they didn't have to fill out a
11 time card for the public hearing questions.

12 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Oh, public hearing. I'm sorry,
13 my bad. I was just ---

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yeah. That's all right. Do we have
15 anybody else?

16 **MR. THOMAS:** Yeah, this is Will Thomas. I would
17 like to ask about this cutting in front of the
18 property. On this end, we don't seem to get
19 any attention, like you can't even see the fire
20 hydrant across the street. I've been digging
21 it out, but could that just be incorporated in
22 the guy when he's doing the outside
23 maintenance?

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Which properties, are these on
25 private properties or public properties?



1 **MR. THOMAS:** It's both. But the fire hydrant,
2 wouldn't that be ---

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yeah, the fire hydrants wouldn't be on
4 anybody's private property of course.

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Right ---

6 **MR. THOMAS:** Right, but that's what I'm talking
7 about. In front of that, you can't see it.

8 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Where specifically, what street?

9 **MR. THOMAS:** 29th Avenue South. And also, too, on
10 the thing with the street signs, on 29th Avenue
11 South, if you come to my block, the overgrown
12 tree has covered the street sign.

13 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** On 29th, all right ---

14 **MR. THOMAS:** Yes, I talked to you about this before,
15 Mr. Quattlebaum, about two months ago.

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay, all right. All right, I
17 will have somebody tomorrow -- send somebody
18 out. Where are you located?

19 **MR. THOMAS:** 1014 29th Avenue South.

20 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** And I think -- for what he's
21 talking about ---

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** That sign (inaudible) either
23 house, yes.

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** The right-of-way stuff needs to
25 be done by the Town, but those private lots are



1 owned by other people, that shouldn't be a
2 burden on the Town. And if it is, then we have
3 to take and put a lien on their property. It
4 needs to be attended to because I know exactly
5 where he's talking about at, and it needs to be
6 addressed. Whomever owns those lots is
7 whomever needs to be over there, address that
8 and not -- the Town needs to get it cut 'cause
9 he's right, they shouldn't have to suffer for
10 somebody else's lot being overgrown. So we
11 need to jump on that right away.

12 **MR. THOMAS:** Yeah, but also -- I asked about this
13 before, and they said if it was under the power
14 lines where it needed to be cut, that was
15 Atlantic Beach property.

16 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** That's gonna be the power lines,
17 but under the power lines is gonna be Santee
18 Cooper, that's who needs to cut that ---

19 **MR. THOMAS:** Okay, but that's where the fire hydrant
20 is located.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Well, we -- Mr. Quattlebaum, I
22 would ---

23 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah, I'll -- let me ---

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** --- keep ---

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah, Mr. ---



1 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** --- Santee Cooper and they will
2 cut that there.

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Now, I'll have somebody come out
4 and speak to you specifically about it, and
5 we'll get it resolved, whose responsibility it
6 is.

7 **MR. THOMAS:** Thank you.

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** All right. Anybody else on the line
9 want to address issues with the Proposed
10 General Fund Budget? There's no one else?
11 Okay, Council, seek a motion to close the
12 public hearing.

13 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I make a motion to close the
14 public hearing ---

15 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** So moved.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Need a second on the motion to close
17 the public hearing.

18 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Second, second, second.

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** All right, there's a motion and a
20 second to close the public hearing. If there's
21 no more questions or comments, roll call?

22 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

23 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

24 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

25 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.



1 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

3 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams?

4 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

5 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion granted. We're down to A
7 under New Business, Ordinance Number 4-2020, an
8 ordinance to adopt a budget for the Town of
9 Atlantic Beach for the fiscal year commencing
10 July 1st, 2020 and ending June 30th, 2021. And
11 this is a second reading.

12 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council, just for the
13 record, let me just reiterate that this is a --
14 carrying over the expense and income levels for
15 2019-2020 based on the impact of COVID-19 on
16 projected income and expenses that cannot be
17 accurately determined at this time, and that
18 this will allow the Town to reassess our
19 budget. We're projecting to look at the month
20 of August based on a better forecast of income
21 and expenses to adopt a full-year amended
22 budget for the remainder of 2021.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, I seek a motion to
24 adopt Ordinance Number 4-2020 ---

25 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So moved.



1 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- second reading for the budget.

2 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** So moved.

3 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Second.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, there's a motion and a second to
5 adopt Ordinance Number 4-2020, the ordinance
6 that's adopting the budget for the Town of
7 Atlantic Beach for the year July 1st and ending
8 June 30th, 2021, second reading. If there's no
9 more questions, roll call?

10 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

11 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

12 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

13 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

14 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

15 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

16 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams?

17 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

18 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

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

20 **Manager's Report:**

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

22 Go ahead, Ben ---

23 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mayor and Council, I just wanted
24 to report that on June 5th, the Town -- South
25 Carolina DHEC tested 99 residents and community



1 people at the Community Center parking lot on
2 that date. I'm trying to ascertain whether --
3 not individually, but collectively -- whether
4 anyone in our zip code came up positive just
5 for our information purposes. So, pleased with
6 the turnout, DHEC, and again, Ms. Isom and
7 Michael Gore facilitating and coordinated the
8 program that Saturday along with the assistance
9 of our Chief of Police and the Police
10 Department, and it went very well. And
11 probably in the coming month, we'll see whether
12 they'll be doing any retesting given the nature
13 of how bad it's getting in Horry County,
14 whether they will be doing any retesting
15 probably in the fall. But we will look into
16 that.

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, thank you.

18 **Public Time:**

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Cheryl, do we have any Public Time
20 comment cards?

21 **CLERK:** I do not know if Mr. Divine would like to
22 speak along with Ms. Allen.

23 **MR. DIVINE:** Yes, Mr. Divine, yeah, I would like to
24 speak.

25 **CLERK:** Go ahead.



1 **MR. DIVINE:** I'd like to say good evening to Mayor
2 Evans and the Council and the -- Mr.
3 Quattlebaum. My question is in regards to the
4 recent incident for the shootings that we just
5 had. What is being right now to ensure our
6 public safety and, you know, I know things
7 happen around our, you know, our club there,
8 and I'm -- noticed last year we had security
9 officers who were stationed outside to help,
10 you know, ensure public safety because the
11 other night, I woke up to a barrage of
12 gunshots. And, you know, gunshots don't have
13 names on the bullets so, you know, I'm very
14 concerned about our public safety as a town.
15 And as we grow, I would like to see, you know,
16 just to ensure that whatever we do -- I'm not
17 something has to be shut down or nothing, but
18 we're gonna have to ensure that we can --
19 ensure that we have public safety. So ---

20 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I would like to chime on his
21 remark right there (inaudible). And I'm very
22 sorry that you went through that and, of
23 course, nobody else wants to have to live that
24 nightmare right here, but at the same time, it
25 happened over on the corner of Sea View and



1 30th, and the club was -- from my understanding
2 -- I wasn't there, but from my understanding,
3 the club was open, and it didn't happen in the
4 club. And that club was not the only business
5 that was open in town, which it could have
6 happened on 30th anywhere, even in the club at
7 the bar. I think that our biggest thing is --
8 'cause the police did a fine job with it, but
9 when you bring these folks out of the country
10 to the club, or wherever they may come from, we
11 cannot so much control what they have in their
12 cars. Now, the club over there -- I manage
13 that club over there, and I can assure you that
14 nobody had a gun in that club because they're
15 checked before they go in the club. But at the
16 same time, that's just something that happened
17 the other night and, for the record, it did not
18 happen in the club as it's stated in the
19 newspaper and on the television. It happened
20 over on Sea View, and that's where the shooting
21 -- and like I said, once again, I apologize,
22 'cause I am the manager down there, the daytime
23 manager. I'm not there at night. I'm the
24 daytime manager. But from my understanding, it
25 didn't happen in the club.



1 **MR. DIVINE:** All right. No, I didn't say it
2 happened but ---

3 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Oh, no, no. I'm just correcting
4 the news.

5 **MR. DIVINE:** Oh, okay.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** That's what I'm correcting, the
7 news isn't right.

8 **MR. DIVINE:** Okay. And so, back to my question, I
9 wanted to know on an overall, like what is
10 being done for the future because, you know, I
11 know our town, we need -- we're trying to stay
12 away from, you know, that old stigma, you know,
13 as Atlantic Beach being a haven for crime and,
14 you know, they -- any little thing to tell us
15 that. So I would like to ---

16 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

17 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Sorry, go ahead.

18 **MR. DIVINE:** Yes.

19 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** This Councilwoman Williams,
20 Glenda Williams. And if Chief is on the phone,
21 this is something that Chief -- if you're --
22 Chief Robinson, if you're on the phone, I think
23 this is something that you should also address
24 with the citizens. You're doing a great job,
25 but you also want to reassure them that their



1 livelihood is safe as well. If you're on the
2 line, can you please address our local citizens
3 with the concern.

4 **POLICE CHIEF ROBINSON:** Yes, I'm on the line. We're
5 doing everything we can. We're working with
6 Horry County. We're trying to get these people
7 off the streets that feel like they can come
8 into our town and cause chaos so that's one of
9 the things that we're really working hard to
10 make sure this town stays safe. Some of the
11 things that we're doing, we're trying to find
12 out when more people will be in town to try to
13 up our manpower during those times, those hours
14 that the club'll be open or just people in the
15 town here. But we're doing everything to make
16 sure that the citizens of the Town are safe at
17 all times. We don't want no kind of acts of
18 violence in the town. It don't matter if
19 they're down there at the club or if at
20 somebody's apartment, you know ---

21 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Right.

22 **POLICE CHIEF ROBINSON:** --- we're real strong about
23 it. So, we're doing everything we can. Like
24 I said, we're working with SLED. We're working
25 with Horry County and seeing what all we can do



1 to make sure the citizens of the town are safe.
2 We are a smaller department, we don't have 24-
3 hour security so, you know, if there's
4 something that we've gotta help -- have outside
5 agencies help us with to make sure that we can
6 keep safety here 24/7.

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** And if I may say that we at the
8 club did ask SLED, Mr. Curry, about our
9 security guards (inaudible) to be able to go
10 outside and security outside but by law -- by
11 law, our security guards can't do nothing when
12 it's past the door or threshold, we are done.
13 So there's nothing that we could do, you know,
14 about the people that's on the outside. And
15 that's -- that is -- but that's how SLED told
16 us that's all we could do. We did have
17 security out there at one time, but we was
18 violating, what we was doing, so we can't have
19 security -- our security cannot be on the
20 outside for anything. They can't even walk
21 nobody to their car and put (inaudible) while
22 they park their car, but it just -- it won't be
23 -- it's not our responsibility. And that's the
24 State law, we cannot have our security guards
25 outside of the threshold. So, I was trying to



1 work that myself because I selected security
2 guards to help, you know, the police out, but
3 they can't. They can't.

4 **MR. DIVINE:** Okay, so the security's hands is tied
5 in that ---

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** After they cross that threshold,
7 there's nothing the security guards can do.
8 And ---

9 **MR. DIVINE:** Okay.

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** --- you can -- it can be checked
11 with SLED. Mr. Curry is the one that could
12 answer that question for whomever.

13 **MR. DIVINE:** Okay ---

14 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Paul Curry ---

15 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Okay, so this is Councilwoman
16 Glenda Williams again. So, Chief, how -- and
17 I don't mean (inaudible) more time. So
18 basically, because I feel it's a concern of the
19 citizens as well, and thank you, Councilwoman
20 Gore, for explaining your all's (inaudible).
21 I -- what I believe (inaudible) if you could
22 reiterate, Chief, because if -- you all are
23 doing a great job, and we all try to refrain
24 from basing our facts and judgment on one
25 particular event or isolated incident that's



1 carrying on given to the services that you all
2 provide overall, right? So is there any
3 particular statement or (inaudible) that you
4 can reiterate and reassure them. You did
5 mention bringing in, you know, additional help
6 if you had to, can you restipulate that or
7 reiterate that so we can feel a sense of
8 security?

9 **POLICE CHIEF ROBINSON:** Yes, ma'am. I haven't made
10 a -- a chance to take it down there to
11 (inaudible) the owners and the management down
12 there at Off The Hook. One of the things that
13 we're going to implement, and we probably have
14 to talk with the Council and the Town Manager,
15 that the clubs can hire off-duty officers to
16 patrol the parking lot, and they would just be
17 assigned to the parking lot during -- when they
18 have big crowds. They wouldn't answer no other
19 calls, all they would do is just be out there
20 in the parking lot so if some (inaudible) they
21 have the authority to make arrests and, by
22 officers being out there, nine out of ten, they
23 won't act up but, like we're seeing at other
24 places, police right down the street and people
25 still do stuff. So that's something that we're



1 implementing and something that we're talking
2 with SLED or Horry County, and that's something
3 that we'll be talking with the Council and the
4 Town Manager about letting some of my guys that
5 are not scheduled to work, they will come out
6 on the night and help with the club -- not
7 inside the club, but outside, patrol the
8 parking lot. The cost would be up to the club
9 owner. It will fall back on the club owner
10 'cause it wouldn't cost (inaudible).

11 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay. I do want to take this
12 part, Quentin. I am the manager down there so
13 therefore, like I said before, now, we had
14 somebody come in that we're supposed to --
15 actually spoke to Mr. Curry and I would like to
16 (inaudible) to that effect or get with you so
17 he can know what it is that he can do, and what
18 he can't do because this would be for the
19 outside. But for the security guards that we
20 had hired from the (inaudible) and I'm sure
21 they -- I want to say that you can't
22 (inaudible) but at the same time, we're trying
23 to do everything by the book and by the record
24 down there. So therefore, I will be glad to
25 get with you, whatever it is that you're



1 wanting to get with 'cause I'm the one that
2 handles her business over there, the manager's
3 part of the -- and whatever, you know, whatever
4 it is that we can do that's gonna help, I'm
5 ready for it. We're ready for it, and I'm
6 gonna speak on behalf of her, we're ready to do
7 it, whatever it is that we have to pay or
8 however you -- just get it together and then I
9 will meet with you whenever you're ready for it
10 and they have -- and Brenda can be there as
11 well -- she's the owner -- and we -- we'll be
12 glad to (inaudible) because me growing up there
13 as a kid, and I know for sure that club is in
14 the blood of the town so therefore, we don't
15 want -- we want to correct all incidents
16 because I would hate for us to be closed down
17 because of somebody coming into town and this
18 is what they do for instance. And I hate
19 (inaudible) on the club so therefore, I'm
20 willing -- whenever you want to meet with her
21 and me and whomever else, we're ready.

22 **POLICE CHIEF ROBINSON:** Okay. Yeah, that's fine.
23 We're -- I'll get with you all sometime this
24 week and we'll meet and we'll discuss some of
25 the issues.



1 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Gladly. Yes, sir.

2 **MR. DIVINE:** Just -- this is Knowledge Divine again.
3 I like to thank the Chief, and I'd like to
4 thank Councilwoman Gore for the response and,
5 you know, in showing that we all as neighbors
6 and business owners or whatever, you know, that
7 we all -- I know we're all looking out for the
8 interest of our town and each other so I want
9 to thank you.

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yes, sir.

11 **MR. DIVINE:** I appreciate that. Thank you.

12 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yes, sir, I do -- thank you.

13 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** All right, thank you.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** We have anybody else, Cheryl?

15 **CLERK:** Ms. Allen?

16 **MS. ALLEN:** I thank you so much for allowing us the
17 time. I actually have a similar concern to the
18 -- to Mr. Divine's regarding the safety and
19 with the recent situation with the shooting I
20 guess a couple months ago and then this one
21 more recently so I appreciate very much the
22 thorough discussion that you all provided for
23 us. That was it. Thank you.

24 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Thank you.

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you. Is there anybody else,



1 Cheryl?

2 **CLERK:** No. No, Mayor.

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** That's it?

4 **CLERK:** That's it.

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Council, seek a motion to
6 adjourn.

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** I make a motion to adjourn ---

8 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** So moved.

9 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Second it.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to
11 adjourn. Roll call?

12 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

13 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

14 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

16 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore?

17 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yea.

18 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams?

19 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

20 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. Motion granted. This meeting is
22 adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

23 (There being nothing further, the meeting was
24 adjourned.)

25

