

# **TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

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**Monday, May 6, 2019**

4:00 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 6th day of May, 2019.



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**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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1 Call to Order:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** This town council budget workshop and  
3 general sessions meeting is called to order,  
4 this Monday, May the 6th year 2019 at 4:00 pm.  
5 Roll Call?

6 **CLERK:** Mayor pro tem Kenneth McLaurin?

7 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** Here.

8 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

9 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Here.

10 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom? Councilwoman  
11 Jacqueline Gore? Mayor Jake Evans?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Here.

13 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** For the record, Councilwoman Isom  
14 said she would be late coming to this meeting  
15 and I think the start of next meeting.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well at this time, first on the agenda  
17 is the town council budget workshop. So --  
18 then do we want to ...

19 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I've prepared-- there's an agenda  
20 in your packet and also want you to pull out  
21 the 3 column budget year comparison and what I  
22 would like to do is start with an update on  
23 this current year budget, 2018/2019. From July  
24 1<sup>st</sup> of 2018 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The second  
25 column. I would like to walk you through budget



1 line items, terms of wherever we stand ---

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well you said the second column down to  
3 the expenses?

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Excuse me?

5 **MAYOR EVANS:** You said the second column, were you  
6 looking at the expenses?

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** No, on income. 2018/2019, second  
8 column ---

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. All right, all right.

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Income. I'm going to walk you  
11 through each budget category ...

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

13 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** On that.

14 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Hello.

15 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** How is Ms. Councilwoman.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

17 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Hello.

18 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Hi guys.

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Hey.

20 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLaurin:** Hey. Councilwoman, in your  
21 packet you have an agenda for the workshop and  
22 also, you have a budget spreadsheet.

23 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** The mayor down here bothering  
24 me. He see me trying to get my stuff together.

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** What you digging for? It on the table.



1 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** Mr. Mayor, state for the  
2 record that Councilwoman Isom (sic) has ...

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yeah. For the record, Councilwoman  
4 Gore has joined us.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Now, what am I looking for?

6 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** Yeah. The agenda and also  
7 second ---

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** (inaudible.)

9 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** Yes.  
10 (Inaudible talking.)

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay. And I'm going to walk you  
12 through column 2 in income, give you an  
13 overview of each of the income generated to  
14 date. And then go down to expenses for  
15 2018/2019, current fiscal year. July 1st  
16 through June 30th 2019. Okay. If you look at  
17 property taxes. Property taxes has remained  
18 relatively the same. As you can see from the  
19 '17/'18 budget to '18/'19 projected. They may  
20 -- by the end of -- end of the the year, which  
21 is June 30<sup>th</sup> -- that number may increase due to  
22 the fact that we have a number of houses that  
23 were added to the tax rolls. Some in '18.  
24 Most of them will be coming online and budget  
25 year 2019/2020 budget for -- you can see in



1 terms of property taxes remain relatively  
2 stable from last year, fiscal year, to this  
3 year. Hospitality taxes the same thing.  
4 \$39,950, licensing and permits, \$20,189,  
5 projected by the end of the year to go to  
6 \$297,756. We collect 98% percent of our  
7 business license taxes in fees from business  
8 owners in the town. Those who paid late or are  
9 assessed late penalties for that and are  
10 reflected in these numbers. Projected to the  
11 end of the year, \$297,756. Franchise fees from  
12 water sports and the other franchise, primarily  
13 the water sports, has been consistent \$65,500,  
14 projected to \$68,288. End of governmental  
15 total is a formula receive by the state, has  
16 allocated to the town of Atlantic Beach on the  
17 formula basis, and had remained pretty  
18 consistent and projected to be about \$53,149 by  
19 the end of the fiscal year, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Charges  
20 for services are the rental of the community  
21 center. Primarily we only budget a thousand  
22 projected \$3,425 net income from that. Fines  
23 and forfeitures are funds that the town  
24 received after the deduction or the state  
25 assessment for fines that police officers



1 write. This is the portion of the percentage  
2 of what the town receives overall. Don't have  
3 a total amount there, but that the percentage  
4 that the town takes in from fines and fees.  
5 Other income, \$2,715. This a majority of that  
6 amount, came from an accident of totaling one  
7 of our police vehicles. Insurance companies  
8 settled for the value and we got a little  
9 windfall because they gave us about \$16,000 for  
10 all of the technical equipment in the car, but  
11 I'm not going to argue about that. I accepted  
12 it. So that's the major portion of other  
13 incomes, and donations that we received various  
14 entities. So, projected by the end of June 30<sup>th</sup>  
15 of 2019, we're projecting a total income of  
16 \$712,562.08. Any questions? Budgeted and  
17 projected income. Let's go down to expenses.  
18 Still 2<sup>nd</sup> column. Personnel cost, \$30,040 is a  
19 dramatic increase. 2 things impacted us this  
20 year on personnel cost. One, our insur- I mean  
21 -- I'm sorry -- our pension expenses increased  
22 dramatically. We added a police officer and  
23 our medical costs, expenses, increased  
24 dramatically. Currently the town only offers  
25 coverage for employee only, after 6 month



1           waiting period and that's reflective of those  
2           increases.       Personnel,   pension   costs   and  
3           medical costs.

4   **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Does that include just salary? Or  
5           salary and hourly?

6   **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Salary and benefits.

7   **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** No.

8   **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Excuse me.

9   **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** No. No. Does it include salary  
10          employees or salary and hourly employees?

11   **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Salary and hourly employees that  
12          are full time.

13   **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Okay.

14   **MAYOR EVANS:** Well how many do we have that's not  
15          full time?

16   **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Our maintenance personnel is the  
17          only part time that we have right now.

18   **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

19   **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** And what is his yearly income?

20   **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I'll get to that when we get to  
21          personnel items.

22   **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay.

23   **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay. Supplies, that is a  
24          aggregate of all the supplies based of the  
25          town. Included in that amount, a major portion





1 of that amount are fuel costs for our police  
2 vehicles. About \$11,000 of that \$18,000  
3 represent fuel costs for the year, operating  
4 out police vehicles.

5 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** I'm not seeing the 18 -- the 18.  
6 Oh I'm seeing it now.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Second row down.

8 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** I got it.

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay. Print and reproduction,  
10 that's wild side printing costs and we got  
11 rebuked for pamphlets, documents (inaudible).  
12 Travel included of staff and council travel.  
13 64 projected via \$10,000.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** me ask you this, Ben ---

15 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes, sir?

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** -- the expense that we pay to the  
17 medias for advertising our meetings, is that in  
18 there too? In printing?

19 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Not in printing. That's covered  
20 under ...

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Communications?

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Communications.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

24 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** I didn't know, I didn't know that  
25 the paper charged us to ---



1 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** Run ads?

2 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** --- about our meeting schedule.

3 **CLERK:** (inaudible)

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Not for the meetings.

5 **CLERK:** For public hearings.

6 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Okay, okay. I got it.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Public hearings, for bids,  
8 proposals and things like that.

9 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Okay.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay. Dues and training. Are  
12 dues paid to various organization, the  
13 municipal associations and various organization  
14 we belong to. Legal cities and things of that  
15 nature. There's relatively set, and that  
16 number has gone down. Utility costs, are all  
17 utility costs. Including town hall, community  
18 center, reflected in that number. Trash  
19 collections, and that's for public lighting,  
20 and things of that nature are also factored in  
21 that utility number. Trash collection for all  
22 of the residence, that number has remained  
23 relatively constant. Hope it does not  
24 increase. Communications, it's all about  
25 telephones, internet, services. Just one point



1 on that, while we're on communications, because  
2 I'll come to it in the new budget -- but town  
3 hall, when it was constructed, we are facing a  
4 lot of problems with our communication services  
5 -- internet primarily. It goes down almost  
6 every other week. I've had electricians,  
7 technicians to come in to assess the building  
8 and they've identified that the wiring in the  
9 building is faulty. I did some major upgrades  
10 when I did the renovations ---

11 **MAYOR EVANS:** That's what I was just getting ready to  
12 ask you. That's what I thought we did, and we  
13 still having problems?

14 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Still having problems with it.  
15 I've get all kind of theories about the  
16 internal wiring, with the box is laid out that  
17 there's a metal or something that trips that  
18 system. I get all kind of explanations.

19 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well, look, how much did we actually  
20 spend getting that straightened out? Because  
21 when we had the -- I thought we had to mold  
22 issues or something in there, when we had  
23 everything torn down, I thought we spent a  
24 substantial amount of money?

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** We did. On the carpeting, mold



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**MAYOR EVANS:** No, I was just talking about on -- just on the wiring ---

**COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** The wiring.

**MAYOR EVANS:** --- and on the wiring and the internet and stuff too.

**MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I would have to look up those numbers for you.

**MAYOR EVANS:** Okay.

**MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** We did some adjustment but no major total rewiring. I had the electrician come in and do some of the reset in order to get our internet working. But it did not resolve the problem and I'm not technical proficient enough to tell you all of the technical aspects of what's involved in ---

**COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Did we get an electrician or we got someone who specializes in that kind of stuff?

**MAYOR EVANS:** A IT person?

**MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** We had both come in and do an assessment. The IT people came in and told us it's faultiness in how the whole system is set up. And then we have the electrician on the wiring -- hard wiring of the building to



1 address that. We had a little small -- in fact  
2 it's located in the, in that little closet back  
3 by, going to the police office and one point,  
4 it started smoking and burning and all of that  
5 had to be replaced in terms of that. Chief is  
6 more technical proficient -- could you explain  
7 it better than I am in terms of what they told  
8 that the issues are?

9 **CHIEF:** How y'all doin', Council.

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** All right chief.

11 **CHIEF:** Basically what they're telling us, the  
12 building, because it is built on concrete --  
13 it's slab, and it's cinder blocks, how the  
14 building is built. Back in the day, that's how  
15 they use to build a lot of buildings but  
16 technology now don't travel through the  
17 building like it should. It's bouncing off the  
18 wall and not going through the wall because of  
19 how the wall is concrete and stuff. It's  
20 probably going to be a problem that we're going  
21 to have until we rewire the whole building or  
22 until, eventually get a new building, which  
23 ever way we decided to go. But, to replace,  
24 you basically doing to have to tear out just  
25 about all of the wiring in that building and



1           rewire the whole building. That basically what  
2           it's going to come -- fall down to. The money  
3           for the internet -- I would get quotes. We  
4           looking at anywhere from 5,000 on and up, just  
5           to rewire the internet system in there. That's  
6           not the electrical outlets and stuff like that,  
7           and lights and stuff.

8           **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** But the electrical outlets though,  
9           they're fine though, right? The only thing we  
10          have is a problem with the computers, right?

11          **CHIEF:** We are -- we are having problems with the  
12          internet, the telephones, some of the outlets  
13          don't work in the building. Especially back  
14          there in the police department. I got some  
15          outlets that don't work at all back there.

16          **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Seems like communication should be  
17          a priority getting that done.

18          **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Well the -- have we ---

19          **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Over some other mess.

20          **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** --- have we thought about  
21          getting fiber ran throughout our town because  
22          we're like one of the only towns that sit on  
23          this coast right here that don't have the fiber  
24          run through either, Frontier or either  
25          Spectrum. If we was to get that fiber wiring



1 coming through our town, it's going to benefit  
2 everyone in the town as far as the residents  
3 and that's basically what we need. Because  
4 right now, you could pay -- say you want high  
5 speed internet -- but if you don't have that  
6 fiber cable going through there, then that's  
7 going to always be a problems and for you all  
8 too. And the residential homes too. They  
9 don't even need that high speed, high speed, a  
10 lot of them. But it's not going to work as  
11 good until we get that fiber cable coming  
12 through our town. That's what we need to check  
13 it -- and I want to say that if we're going to  
14 hook up with somebody, that they would run that  
15 cable through there because -- through the  
16 town, because it's going to benefit them just  
17 as it's going to benefit everyone in the town.  
18 So I think that'll be a good thing to check in  
19 on, running the fiber cable through.

20 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** We're with Spectrum, it's our  
21 carrier.

22 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Have they not offer to you to  
23 run the fiber wiring through?

24 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** They didn't mention it at all.

25 **CHIEF:** Spectrum telling us -- when we talked to



1           them about they internet, they telling us that  
2           they not there.   They're not on (inaudible)  
3           yet, it's all on our end.

4           **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Because if we don't -- and  
5           they're exactly right. If we had that fiber  
6           wiring through there, then that's a whole  
7           different ball game right there. It's going to  
8           have everything on the floor. But with just  
9           the regular basic that we have here, that's why  
10          it's not going to, it's never going to be a  
11          boost to it. I don't care if we go in and  
12          rewire it. Until we get that fiber cable  
13          through there, it's not going to. And all  
14          these new homes coming to the town, I would  
15          suggest that we would get the fiber cable  
16          coming through here.

17          **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** The upgrade -- a lot of people got  
18          the upgrade when they changed this system from  
19          Time Warner Cable to Spectrum.

20          **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Spectrum.

21          **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** They took up all the wires that  
22          Time Warner Cable had and they wouldn't even  
23          work anymore with the new systems. So even at  
24          my motel, I had -- when I got cable, I had to  
25          rewire everything through actually, the motel.





1 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** (inaudible) -- lying, I ever had  
2 in my life.

3 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** You having more problems now?

4 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Spectrum need to go. Good God  
5 almighty.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** But aren't the only ones out  
7 there.

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Just for the record, guys, Councilwoman  
9 Josephine Isom has joined us. Hey, how are you  
10 today?

11 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I'm good. How are you?

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Good.

13 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Could you speaking on, sometimes  
14 it make up there and it say no signal.

15 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** That's right.

16 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** And us too, us too.

17 (Multiple voices speaking over each other)

18 **CLERK:** I have more problems than anything else.

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** But it's not just here, it's  
20 everywhere.

21 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** (inaudible) I got 5 or 6 different  
22 tenants -- (inaudible) 1 they cut out 1 in 1  
23 building and rest of them on -- and I called  
24 them to try to get back turned on.

25 **CLERK:** Please wait.



1       **MAYOR EVANS:** Oh, boy.

2       **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Well, that's why -- regardless of  
3           if it's either Frontier or either Spectrum or  
4           whoever we choose that fiber wiring is going to  
5           be -- that's the new upgrade system. Of the --  
6           that's within in the new infrastructure of the  
7           country. So, therefore we need that period.  
8           So please, check on that. I think that that  
9           would be ---

10       **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Let me address Councilman  
11       McLaurin's issue about addressing. Two issues  
12       we're facing with immediate in terms of dealing  
13       with this whole internet situation. We have --  
14       by -- it's a requirement by, I think the law  
15       enforcement aspect that our internet, between  
16       administration and police, be separate for  
17       security reasons.

18       **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Exactly.

19       **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** So in Council McLaurin's idea in  
20       terms of addressing it, I'm proposing that I  
21       put in the budget to address that separation.  
22       It's a requirement. Can you speak to that?

23       **CHIEF:** Correct. It's a SLED requirement.

24       **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It's a SLED requirement because  
25       for security reasons, people can hack into blah



1           blah blah, the records and all that kind of  
2           stuff.    So the dilemma is, from a budgetary  
3           stand point and long term -- how much do we  
4           invest in this building in upgrade?  I go just  
5           a ballpark estimate that will take 15,000 just  
6           to make that separation and hopefully that will  
7           address our internet problem, too.  \$15,000 to  
8           do that and segregate the police department  
9           from the administration.  So my hesitancy in  
10          terms of -- and going back to the main point of  
11          our research, how much we've spent already on  
12          that aspect of it alone -- how much do we  
13          invest in this building?  Or, do we -- do we  
14          limp along and then talk about in terms of  
15          replacement location?

16       **COUNCILMAN EVANS:**  How much already have we invested  
17          into the building?

18       **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:**  Well, I'm going to look up that  
19          number in terms of that.  It's not substantial.  
20          I'll look at the number.  The mayor asked that  
21          question earlier in terms of how much we spent  
22          just this past summer on it, and then I'm  
23          looking at another, at least \$15,000 -- and  
24          I'll just say for conversation's sake, let's  
25          say its about 4 to 5 thousand dollars on it,



1           okay -- we've spent already. So in terms of  
2           adding another \$15,000, do we spend \$20,000  
3           upgrading a system to operate now? But the  
4           unknown question is, we don't know how long  
5           we'll still be at this building.

6           **MAYOR EVANS:** Right.

7           **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** You follow me? So, it's a catch  
8           22.

9           **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** You'll probably be there for a  
10          while. And if it need upgrading, and if it's  
11          something that the law requires, we really  
12          don't have much of a choice.

13          **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** All right. Okay. Let me get down  
14          to professional services. Professional  
15          services includes our audit, our accounting  
16          fees, my salary comes out of this line as a  
17          consultant. The Cobb-Waccamaw -- Cobb -- we  
18          played for the LMO training that we've received  
19          over a year, with the getting our land  
20          management ordinates done. All of that comes  
21          out of this professional services line item.  
22          Repairs and maintenance, and that is to -- if  
23          you see that number in terms of dramatic  
24          increase, the largest numbers came again with  
25          the renovations, new carpeting. Also,



1 improvements, here, at the community center.  
2 We did a major overhaul of the plumbing center  
3 here. In both the men and women bathroom. The  
4 lines short, untechnical terms was with 2 small  
5 or not flowing properly and had to be replaced.  
6 So substantial costs and expenditures were  
7 expended on all three of these buildings, and  
8 also, the roofing on the firehouse. So that's  
9 why that number is so dramatically high.  
10 Roofing doors, and getting the firehouse  
11 operational.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well have we been in the inside of that  
13 thing yet to do anything or we just got the  
14 outside looking pretty?

15 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** We got the outside looking pretty.  
16 We, its operating from the inside. We're  
17 looking to put -- don't have you have some --  
18 put a door? We're going to put a door and  
19 close it off and maintenance is doing a little  
20 work shop stuff there, so it's functional.

21 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. So the other thing I was going  
22 to say to the -- yeah, the outside of the doors  
23 and the roof but it still needs some kind of  
24 paint job on it, don't it?

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** On the exterior?



1 **MULTIPLE VOICES:** Yeah.

2 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Okay.

3 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay. so is that where Charles -  
4 - is Charles Price up in here? The ---

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** No no, this is only materials.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It's fine, we'll get the -- we'll  
8 get the salary. Okay. Courts -- court  
9 services, this is primarily for the judge that  
10 we pay for our court expenses. Primarily, the  
11 bulk of it, \$1250, per month for the judge and  
12 the operating expenses of the court. Insurance  
13 -- insurance is taking -- going to and taking  
14 a big jump. We received a notice from the  
15 state and I guess it's because of all of the  
16 hurricanes South Carolina has had in this area  
17 -- that our insurance cost is going up 25  
18 percent next year alone. Yeah. So even though  
19 we never filed any claims ourselves. Or had  
20 any claims filed by the town. I think overall,  
21 we're in the, what they call the insurance  
22 reserve fund. State wide pool for all  
23 municipalities so that increase is across the  
24 board, not just for Atlantic Beach, but for all  
25 municipalities. And it's a hefty amount. 25



1           percent.

2       **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yeah because it was a lot of ...

3       **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Tools and equipment. Equipment  
4           purchases -- I think a vehicle cost in there,  
5           plus computers and other equipment purchases.

6       **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay. You skipped the rental  
7           total up there. Equipment renter total up  
8           there. Where was that one?

9       **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Equipment rental?

10      **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Huh-uh.

11      **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Those are for the copier and ---

12      **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Oh.

13      **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- and for other materials and  
14           rental. When maintenance need to rent  
15           equipment that we don't have, we rent it rather  
16           than buy equipment just for temporary projects.

17      **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Hold up.

18      **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I'm staying with 2018/2019 before  
19           I go to objective for the new year. Down to  
20           police. Police department totals, these are  
21           their percentage of cost on those -- those ---

22                           **(Inaudible background noise.)**

23      **MAYOR EVANS:** I don't think he's talking about the  
24           salary, he don't have to salaries in there, im  
25           sure.



1 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** No. These are just costs for  
2 things like uniforms -- and we've had a change  
3 over in a number of offices, that we had the  
4 outfit, our ammunition had to be upgraded. I  
5 think now we're required to buy some rifles and  
6 some other things that are objective for the  
7 new year. Bottom line, looking at projecting  
8 71,229,876 in terms of expenses and a balanced  
9 budget. Any questions? '18/'19. Okay.  
10 Moving over to '19/'20, a new budget year  
11 projected. I was conservative in this increase  
12 from 222,000 up to 235 on property taxes. As  
13 I indicated to you, we have a total of five  
14 houses that have been recently built and will  
15 be online in the next fiscal year. And the  
16 taxes -- property taxes, should increase or  
17 will increase. But I was conservative and only  
18 went up about 6 percent from last year to this  
19 year. It probably will be higher but  
20 conservatively, I just projected it at 235,700.  
21 I'd rather it be less than more in that  
22 conservative estimate. Hospitality tax ---

23 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Um ---

24 **MAYOR PRO TEM McLAURIN:** Yes ma'am?

25 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** --- that property tax right there





1 -- now okay so we're at 22718 -- but you know,  
2 with us tearing those buildings down, that they  
3 are still paying taxes on those building, is  
4 that correct?

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So therefore that's gone make ...

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Good point. Good point. They're  
8 going to come off. That's going to be a  
9 reduction in that property taxes. Once we  
10 demolish those buildings, I'm placing a lean  
11 against the properties and have to notify the  
12 county that there are no longer buildings  
13 there. But you're absolutely right, that will  
14 be a minus in terms of profit.

15 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** It still will be taxes on the  
16 land.

17 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yes. But it's a big difference  
18 between the land and with the building.

19 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** But with the conditions those  
20 buildings are in, not much taxes anyhow.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** No. A building is a building.  
22 They still paying whatever that tax base -- you  
23 will be able to see a pretty good decrease when  
24 those buildings are removed. Even when they're  
25 not livable or whatever. That tax base is



1 going to drop pretty good. Am I right Ms. Joe?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Huh-uh.

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's I was conservative with the  
4 increase because with the new buildings we've  
5 got projected 6 buildings will come online.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Right. It's not too much of an  
7 increase that's going to be coming right back  
8 off.

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** All right. Hospitality taxes  
10 about the same. I'm projecting a sizeable  
11 increase from 297 to 355 on our license and  
12 permitting business license and permitting.  
13 One, we're doing as I indicated a greater  
14 number of collections. But we're also going to  
15 send notices out to businesses owners this year  
16 to provide their tax returns so we can get an  
17 accurate amount -- an assessment of what people  
18 are actually earning and paying for this year.  
19 So I anticipate us generating more from  
20 business licenses and permitting fees.  
21 Franchising fees.

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** We hadn't been doing that?

23 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Excuse me?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** We hadn't been doing that?

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** No. It's an optional. It's not a



1 requirement. But we're going to do it this  
2 year and periodically.

3 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** An honor system.

4 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yeah because ...

5 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I never paid by no honor system.  
6 I do by my tax return.

7 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yeah. That's how it -- that's  
8 how it used to be. With the tax cut -- after  
9 they see the tax man, then they come see us.  
10 That's how -- they might have been honest, but  
11 we was keeping them honest. Yeah, but I mean.

12 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Franchise fees are pretty  
13 consistent. We have the 10 year or whatever  
14 agreement on that. And for local, we don't see  
15 much of different or an increase.  
16 Conservatively on service charges and fees,  
17 probably be much more than that but  
18 conservatively on projecting 1500. And with  
19 the new officers and the amount of ---

20 (Cell phone rings.)

21 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** -- of volume that they're  
22 generating on fines, I think I would take on,  
23 if they keep up the same pattern, we should  
24 realize more of a return from fines and  
25 forfeitures from fees. I mean from tickets



1 being written in town. High percentage. Can't  
2 project other income, even though every year we  
3 do receive contributions and donations from a  
4 variety of sources. So I'm projecting ---  
5 (Cell phone rings.)

6 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- I'm projecting a total budget  
7 of \$757,300 total income.

8 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Any questions on the income?  
10 Okay. Going down to expenses, personnel.  
11 Personnel, lined item, increasing dramatically  
12 as I indicated because of the pension cost,  
13 medical costs, adding a police officer to the  
14 ranks, the chief asked for two -- I'm only  
15 recommending one at this time. To add to the  
16 number that we have now, the three officers,  
17 including the chief at this point. Our police  
18 clerk, maintenance staff, town clerk.  
19 Supplies, relatively the same. Again, most of  
20 that cost is gasoline for our vehicles, under  
21 supplies. Printing and reproduction should be  
22 reduced. Travel costs around 79 inclusive of  
23 council and staff. So it's police officers  
24 training primarily -- some may be for that.  
25 Dues, 2,300. Utilities, relatively stationary.



1           Trash collection, don't to anticipate a  
2           increase in that. Communications, professional  
3           services, I project a decrease because the  
4           contract with Waccamaw-Cobb, which was  
5           providing technical assistance on the LMO --  
6           Land Management Ordinance, has ended. So that  
7           was a substantial cost that we won't be  
8           incurring again this year. Repairs and  
9           maintenance, substantially down after we  
10          completed the firehouse and also the community  
11          center. Most were done -- and court services  
12          should be reduced to 15,000. And insurance, as  
13          I indicated, going from 26,000 to 32,000.  
14          That's the percentage increase across the board  
15          at the insurance carrier is taxing all of the  
16          municipalities on. Equipment rental.  
17          Equipment purchases, this number is the 15,000  
18          that I talked projecting to do the separation  
19          of the internet services from police and  
20          administration. That's what I'm budgeting  
21          from that, hopefully it'll come in less. But  
22          im budgeting \$15,000. Capital purchases is  
23          looking to replace one police vehicle, or one  
24          that was total. We more than got enough from  
25          the insurance for it but this represents two



1 vehicles. Our maintenance vehicle is 19 years  
2 old. I understand it was donated to us. But  
3 I'm looking not to buy it new but to get it  
4 through these programs where we can get an  
5 upgraded maintenance vehicle. So the total  
6 combined cost, not to exceed \$25,000. The next  
7 line item, project reserve total, \$30,000  
8 dollars. What I'm proposing to the council, to  
9 earmark for development costs. Development  
10 costs for such things as hiring technical  
11 assistants. Professionals that can assist us  
12 with developing plans and proposals and  
13 financing and funding for proposed development  
14 of the properties that we received primarily  
15 from the Housing Authority and allocating a  
16 budgeted amount. Earmarked at \$30,000 dollars  
17 for that purpose. Total budget expenses,  
18 \$750,040 with a slight surplus, \$7,260 dollars.

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** So as of today, what is our -- do  
20 we not know what's we have in our accounts and  
21 stuff?

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes ma'am.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. Look, we're going by this budget  
24 workshop agenda.

25 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Oh.



1 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes, sir.

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** So are we ---

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** So at this time, I'd just like to  
4 open up to the council -- oh the chief handed  
5 me a copy of the actual police budget request  
6 he's trying to set up. If you'll take a look  
7 at it. Okay, and then I'd like to open it up  
8 for comments, inputs and (inaudible). The  
9 chief's numbers are already included in the  
10 overall budget numbers. But I wanted you to  
11 have a break down of what the police department  
12 budget request is by line items. I'll let you  
13 go through and file the (inaudible) -- specific  
14 budget. The police department budget,  
15 represented by 50 percent of my overall budget  
16 for the town and all expenses and obviously the  
17 major department ...

18 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** You've already included this in the  
19 numbers you got?

20 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes sir.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay so this is the itemized?

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah.

23 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Oh okay. That's fine, that was  
24 adding on to that.

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Any -- mayor council, any input,



1 any recommendations, suggestions, any  
2 priorities that I didn't touch that you'd like  
3 to see? Incorporate modifications of what is  
4 being proposed.

5 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Mr. Mayor, it seems like a fairly  
6 realistic budget and we I run over it, I didn't  
7 see anything that jumped out to me that, you  
8 know, it's just a projection. And the  
9 projection seems to be fairly realistic.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** I agree.

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** One -- just caught footnote, and  
12 we've been fortunate -- knock on wood, we have  
13 not had any -- well, let me take that back.  
14 We've had one law suit. By Mr. Taylor, that is  
15 still out standing for defamation. In fact  
16 chief and I have been asked to give deposition  
17 on June the 6th. But my point is, we have not,  
18 in the last 4 years, been sued or paid out any  
19 funds from lawsuits over the 4 year period.  
20 And I'm pretty happy about that. I'm trying to  
21 ...

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well, that's a positive, but even in  
23 the past, we didn't have any either outside of  
24 the member sitting at this table suing the town  
25 that they were put -- voted in office to





1 protect and serve. So the majority of the  
2 lawsuits that we did have, came from before us.

3 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** The sitting council members.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** The sitting council members.

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** So you ought to be commended.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Okay. And now I -- since we're  
7 still on this right here -- I just want to say,  
8 now I see over here where we have for repairs  
9 and stuff and the community center is coming  
10 along good. But I don't know, the men's  
11 bathroom looks really good. But I don't know  
12 if you all have looked over in the ladies  
13 bathroom, it's a mess in there.

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** The thing is, in my opinion -- because  
15 I haven't even been in the men's bathroom here  
16 lately -- but I'm not talking about nothing  
17 extravagant, but it seems like the bathrooms  
18 just need to totally remodeled ---

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Redone.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- redone.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Exactly.

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** You need stalls, everything?

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yeah, you need stalls, yeah  
24 everything.

25 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Now it's a -- it's a mess in the



1 ladies. But I don't know about the mens  
2 bathroom. But the ladies bathroom is terrible.

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** They need to be upgraded.

4 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Huh-uh.

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** And the kitchen.

7 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Well you might as well say the  
8 whole thing. Damn near need to go through the  
9 whole thing.

10 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Yeah, yeah.

11 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** You just cherry picking now.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well, she already started though, with  
13 the kitchen with the cabinets and the stuff.

14 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** How about the -- oh, that's  
15 started?

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** I mean, it ain't start but I know he's  
17 got it on the table. I mean that's been  
18 brought up.

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** And is it still leaking in here?

20 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** It is?

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

23 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Really?

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah. We had a contractor come in  
25 here.



1 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Oh. Okay. Because I'm looking  
2 up here at these things right here and ...

3 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Yeah. And that's why I haven't  
4 started on any of the cosmetic stuff until that  
5 got resolved.

6 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Oh, okay.

7 COUNCILMAN EVANS: Well it looks good.

8 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Yeah it looks good.

9 MAYOR EVANS: Is that just a light? Does that thing  
10 move? Is it just a light?

11 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Huh?

12 MAYOR EVANS: Is that just a light.

13 MULTIPLE VOICES: That's a camera.

14 MAYOR EVANS: Oh.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: Good.

16 (Inaudible background noise.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN GORE: You all don't have nothing that  
18 you all want to say on record?

19 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Okay. I just want to review the  
20 time line, the item number four on the agenda.  
21 Fine line public hearing will be today at --  
22 during our public section, 6 o'clock. I will  
23 go but a general overview with the public. Not  
24 as detailed as I did with council in terms of  
25 the overall numbers, by categories. And then



1 the 2nd reading is June the 4th.

2 **CLERK:** June the 3rd.

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** June the 3rd. For adoption. And  
4 we have to have to have it adopted by June, the  
5 beginning of the fiscal year. Any questions on  
6 the time line? Is there anything else?  
7 Council, you want to add, suggest or recommend?  
8 That's all I have mayor.

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay. So this concludes the public  
10 hearing?

11 **CLERK:** No, the budget workshop.

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** The budget workshop, I'm sorry. This  
13 concludes the budget workshop. So are we just  
14 going to just close this and go to executive  
15 session at 5?

16 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Y'all just want to go into executive  
18 session?

19 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Seek a motion.

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** I seek a motion to adjourn the budget  
21 workshop.

22 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** So move.

23 **COUNCILWOMAN GORE:** Second.

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to close  
25 to budget workshop. No questions or comments?



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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.

**(The budget meeting adjourned.)**

