

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

Monday, September 4, 2020

4:10 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 4th day of September, 2020.



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APPEARANCES

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

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

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1 Special Session - Call To Order:

2 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I call this meeting to -- the
3 Town Council Special Meeting to order at 4:10
4 p.m. on Friday, September the 4th, 2020, the
5 Town Council meeting held by -- via
6 teleconference. Roll call.

7 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

8 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Here ---

9 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

10 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Here.

11 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore? Councilwoman
12 Glenda Williams?

13 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Here.

14 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I'd just like to thank everyone
16 that came on the line. I couldn't get all the
17 names at one time who -- that were
18 participating on this special -- call -- this
19 meeting this afternoon on teleconference. Just
20 take one to two minutes, (inaudible) about a
21 second to -- a moment of silence please.

22 **(Moment of Silence.)**

23 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay, Council, do we have any
24 ceremonial matters?

25 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yeah, I don't. Councilman Evans



1 doesn't have any.

2 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** No ceremonial matter.

3 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Council, can I get approval of
4 the agenda?

5 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** So moved.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** I second.

7 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I need the motion first. The
8 motion first.

9 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** I make a motion that we have
10 approval of the agenda for today, Friday,
11 September the 4th, 2020, in reference to
12 Ordinance Number 8-2020.

13 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Mr. Evans?

14 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** So moved. So moved.

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay, thank you. All right.

16 New Business ---

17 **CLERK:** Roll call.

18 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Roll call, Madam Chair.

19 **CLERK:** Roll call. Councilwoman ---

20 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Roll call. I'm sorry.

21 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

23 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams?

24 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

25 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?



1 COUNCILMAN EVANS: Yea.

2 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Okay. That's the roll call ...
3 Okay.

4 New Business:

5 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: We're down to New Business.
6 (Inaudible.) New Business is the Ordinance,
7 the 8-2020, is an ordinance to declare a
8 moratorium on building on Highway 17 in the
9 Town of Atlantic Beach, South Carolina. This
10 is our second reading. Manager, do you -- do
11 you have anything to say on that?

12 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: No, Madam Chair, this is the -- as
13 you indicated, the second reading. First
14 reading was held at our last month's meeting,
15 and this is the final reading of the ordinance.
16 There have been no amendments or changes from
17 the first reading that was voted on, and this
18 is the second and final reading.

19 COUNCILMAN EVANS: And that was for six months,
20 right?

21 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Yes, sir.

22 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Okay. And, Council, do you have
23 anything -- any comments or questions?

24 COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS: This is Councilwoman Glenda
25 Williams. Mr. Quattlebaum, can you tell us --



1 even though this is for six months, can you
2 tell us if there would be a continuation after
3 the six months or is this final?

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Would need to extend it. Extend
5 it at the Council ---

6 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yes, does it -- okay.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah. To extend the moratorium
8 though, they have to do a second ordinance
9 extending it, but this is for the time period
10 specified in this ordinance would only be --
11 deadline would be the six-month period. To
12 extend it, there would have to be a separate
13 ordinance to extend it further.

14 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay.

15 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Okay. And then, Mr.
16 Quattlebaum -- I'm sorry, go ahead,
17 Councilwoman Isom.

18 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Well, I was going to ask for a
19 motion so go ahead if you're gonna ask a
20 question.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yes, because I understand
22 that we do have some Town residents on the
23 line. Everyone's wanting clarity so for -- Mr.
24 Quattlebaum, can you also answer, would we go
25 through the same process and procedure that we



1 had to go through at this time, calling the
2 different Board members together?

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** In answering -- I don't understand
4 the question. Can you clarify?

5 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** My question to you is to put
6 a new ordinance together, six months later if
7 we need to request a new ordinance, would we go
8 through the same process and procedures as we
9 do this time?

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes ---

11 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yes. Yes, I can ...

12 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes, it would have -- require two
13 readings of the Council, a public hearing,
14 first reading and then a second reading ---

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Uh-huh.

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- to adopt any modification or
17 extension of the moratorium.

18 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Okay, thank you, sir, for
19 the thorough explanation.

20 **MS. HILL:** I'm sorry -- I'm interrupting, but who
21 was just speaking please?

22 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Who was speaking?

23 **MS. HILL:** Yes, this is Dianne Hill. Do I have to
24 -- where -- who just spoke?

25 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Oh, Councilwoman Glenda



1 Williams.

2 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Oh ---

3 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Or Mrs. Williams. Yes, yes

4 ---

5 **MS. HILL:** Thank you so much, Councilwoman Glenda

6 Williams. Not being there and not knowing your

7 voice, I wanted to know who was speaking.

8 Thank you.

9 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Okay, you're welcome.

10 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay. At this time, Council, I

11 need a motion to approve the Ordinance Number

12 8-2020, an ordinance to declare ---

13 **MR. THOMPSON:** Ms. Isom, can we have some questions,

14 can we have some kind of discussion ---

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** If you ---

16 **MR. THOMPSON:** --- prior to that motion?

17 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Oh, yes, I thought -- can I open

18 it up for the questions -- okay, you have a

19 question?

20 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Who is speaking?

21 **MR. THOMPSON:** Donnell Thompson speaking ---

22 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Okay.

23 **MR. THOMPSON:** --- I just want some simple

24 clarifications from the Town Hall as to the

25 moratorium, why the need for a moratorium, can



1 you explain that to us please?

2 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Mr. -- the Town Manager, would
3 you explain that, why we are having the
4 moratorium?

5 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Council had requested a moratorium
6 to review the zoning and permissible uses
7 within the Highway 17 Commercial District and
8 to give -- the Planning Commission is going
9 through the process of reassessing permissible
10 uses under the Highway 17 Commercial District
11 as well as a broader review of zoning in the
12 Town of Atlantic Beach. And the Council has
13 requested a moratorium until they can assess
14 and determine what permissible uses they want
15 to modify or amend for -- that are currently
16 allowed under the current zoning ordinance, and
17 to give the Planning Commission the opportunity
18 to review and make recommendations to Council
19 on any modifications to the zoning.

20 **MR. THOMPSON:** Okay, so this sounds like something
21 that you would want to try to protect the Town
22 to make sure what's done on 17 doesn't --
23 Council would agree to that, that's what this
24 sounds like to me. But does that sound right
25 to you, that this be the interpretation?



1 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes, it's determined ---

2 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yeah.

3 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** --- in terms of what uses in the
4 Town that are beneficial and amenable to the
5 Town, and make an assessment and determine --
6 reassess the terms of what already is the
7 zoning -- permissible uses under the zoning
8 requirements.

9 **MR. THOMPSON:** And if in fact the Council sees fit
10 that some of the uses that are currently in the
11 zoning that may need to be modified then they
12 would make a suggestion at this -- at some
13 later date as to changing that to what their
14 like minds would be? Is that correct?

15 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It would have to come through the
16 Planning Commission. It would have to go
17 through their process and Town public hearings
18 and then make a recommendation to Council, and
19 Council then would have to make a determination
20 based on the recommendation from the Planning
21 Commission.

22 **MR. THOMPSON:** Great. It sounds like you all are
23 trying to protect the Town and that's great.
24 Thank you.

25 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Thank you ---



1 **MR. SKETERS:** I have question. I'm John Sketers.

2 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** John Sketers?

3 **MR. SKETERS:** Yes. And my question is, first of
4 all, we appreciate your taking time on this
5 Friday to accommodate us here. But why are we
6 having a meeting on Friday before a holiday?

7 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Your question is why are we
8 having a meeting?

9 **MR. SKETERS:** Yes, and why since -- since Atlantic
10 Beach is so small, I happened to find out about
11 this because I had business at City Hall on
12 some (inaudible), and that is the only reason
13 that I know that a meeting was to be at 4:00
14 o'clock today. And I always say ---

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Mr. Sketers ---

16 **MR. SKETERS:** --- and I always say go (inaudible).

17 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Mr. Sketers, we apologize that
18 you did not get -- that you didn't have an
19 e-mail with the Town that they could have sent
20 you this out when they sent it to everybody
21 else or give you that, but this was a special
22 meeting we called to put this moratorium in
23 effect so we can protect the Town from any
24 building or business that will make Atlantic
25 Beach not be what we -- hopefully Atlantic



1 Beach -- we are working to make Atlantic Beach
2 to be ---

3 **MR. SKETERS:** Yes, ma'am.

4 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** --- there's nothing wrong with
5 us calling this meeting. But I'm sorry that
6 you did not get -- if you have an e-mail, if
7 you'll do so, please take it up at City Hall
8 and give it to them so they can e-mail you the
9 date on these meetings.

10 **MR. SKETERS:** Well, Ms. Isom, I didn't say that for
11 the sake of an argument, but ---

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

13 **MR. SKETERS:** --- due to the size -- due to the size
14 of Atlantic Beach, everybody should be
15 informed. And I cannot see a reason for have
16 -- we have to have it on a Friday before a
17 holiday. And let me -- while we're on that,
18 I'm gonna ask another question now. This thing
19 has been floating around about a meth treatment
20 clinic. Now, you just have ---

21 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I didn't hear that ... Say the
22 question again, Mr. Sketers.

23 **MR. SKETERS:** I said that the information had been
24 floating around about a meth treatment clinic.
25 Now, is the moratorium going to be put in place



1 to accommodate this or what are we talking
2 about? Because I just saw one moratorium on
3 there. Now, is this gonna be with anybody that
4 submits anything in that particular area from
5 this point on? Just explain that to me please.

6 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** And this moratorium is for six
7 months (inaudible).

8 **MR. SKETERS:** I'm sorry?

9 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** It's only for six months.

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Madam Chair, Madam Chair?

11 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yes.

12 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** The moratorium is, if adopted by
13 Council this evening, will impact any
14 businesses submitting any permits for
15 development in the Town of Atlantic Beach for
16 the six-month period until it expires. So
17 anyone who has not submitted an application for
18 development prior to the -- if it's adopted
19 this evening, would be impacted by the
20 moratorium.

21 **MR. SKETERS:** Mr. Quattlebaum, let me just ask you a
22 question because it's not clear to me. In
23 reference to the proposed meth clinic, is that
24 gonna be affected?

25 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I ---



1 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Mr. Sketers, I've made a blanket
2 statement that it'll impact any business that
3 submits an application after the moratorium has
4 been adopted.

5 **MR. SKETERS:** It -- now, say it again please. I'm
6 sorry.

7 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It affects any business that
8 submits an application for permit after the
9 moratorium has been adopted, will be impacted.

10 **MR. SKETERS:** So, okay then. Then the meth clinic
11 has made it before this moratorium, right?

12 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I'm not ... Mr. Sketers, I'm
13 not getting ---

14 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** I'm sorry. Mr. Sketers,
15 this is Councilwoman Glenda Williams. How are
16 you this afternoon?

17 **MR. SKETERS:** I'm doing -- I'm doing well. I hope
18 you are too. You all are all ---

19 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yes -- yes, sir. I just
20 want to chime in on some of the things that --
21 some of the questions that you are asking to
22 the Council Board. I want to -- first to back
23 up and let's go back to the reason why we're
24 having the last minute meeting -- or not so
25 much the last minute meeting, the Special



1 Meeting, and I just want to say to you -- and
2 I know you may have -- you may know this
3 because you've been on Council as well. I just
4 want to say to you that within the special
5 meeting, that's one -- one type of the meetings
6 that we are -- as a municipality can have. Of
7 course, we have decided to (inaudible) our
8 regular Council meeting being emergency
9 meetings, public hearings, executive meetings
10 and, of course, the special meetings. Now, the
11 reason why this Special Meeting is called -- I
12 know that the holiday is on Monday, which is
13 September the 7th I think it is and, of course,
14 that's our first Monday out of the month. The
15 Council usually has the meetings on the first
16 Monday of every month but this is a holiday.
17 It would prolong us to the following week to be
18 able to go through our executive reading as
19 (inaudible) that we would have. Therefore, the
20 Special Meeting is called to -- under the
21 guidelines of being able to schedule meetings.
22 So with that being said, anything that is --
23 considered items of high public interest or
24 urgency, especially when it comes to our
25 community, our municipality, and the Town then,



1 of course, we want to go ahead and move it
2 forward because the situating of the moratorium
3 is very important. So I just wanted to back
4 that up and just -- back up and re-go over that
5 piece (ph) with you. Second of all, I wanted
6 to say to you, I understand you asking the
7 questions about the meth clinic. That is a
8 direction that the City Manager will go further
9 into, but definitely the moratorium is being
10 put in place for permissible businesses that
11 can enhance our Town with economical growth ---

12 **MR. SKETERS:** Mrs. Williams ---

13 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yes.

14 **MR. SKETERS:** --- let me save us some time please.
15 And I'm not specifically talking about the meth
16 clinic now. I know that you had this last
17 reading in reference to whatever language was
18 in that. I don't want this going forward there
19 and it's already in place 'cause I know in a
20 municipality you only have to have two readings
21 to make it official. And the Council ---

22 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Right ---

23 **MALE SPEAKER:** (Inaudible.)

24 **MR. SKETERS:** --- now what I'm gathering -- what I'm
25 gathering from all this conversation here that



1 this is a last reading. Now, if it's in
2 reference to the meth clinic, but I think it
3 would hurt the majority of operations, that is
4 something that's not desired here in the Town
5 of Atlantic Beach. Now furthermore, if
6 somebody could explain to me ---

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

8 **MR. SKETERS:** --- how this would benefit the Town of
9 Atlantic Beach monetary-wise, monetary-wise,
10 meaning I would have a different view on that.
11 But you can say this statistically, any town
12 that these clinics have been put in -- such as
13 Myrtle Beach, other cities here, counties,
14 municipalities -- and are we are too small to
15 accommodate something, especially to the size
16 of our police force, our law enforcement, we do
17 not need to bring any more complications into
18 the Town of Atlantic Beach. And this is -- I
19 know that we need the revenue, but this not a
20 (inaudible) of some, more or less, (inaudible)
21 way to get revenue, that you're trying to bring
22 something in this town of Atlantic Beach that
23 nobody else wants. And I thank you. Go ahead.

24 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay. And again, Mr. Sketers,
25 that is the purpose of our meeting hereby to



1 get up on this and get the moratorium put up to
2 enhance our town, not to bring everything into
3 the Town ---

4 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** (Inaudible) we cannot hear you.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** --- I understand what you're
6 saying ---

7 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Just a minute. I can't hear you.
8 I can't hear you ---

9 (Inaudible background noise.)

10 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** What's that, Jake ---

11 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Can't hear you.

12 (Inaudible background noise.)

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** I can't -- we can't hear you. I can't
14 here you.

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay. Mr. Q, can you hear me?

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

17 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Mr. Quattlebaum, would you -- it
18 might be my phone because my phone has been
19 acting up. Could you explain to him why we are
20 hearing this moratorium in this Special Meeting
21 today or ... I think you did but for some
22 reason he's not -- I don't want to say what --
23 (inaudible) at this minute. He keeps going
24 back to it so would you explain it to him one
25 more time please ---



1 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Of course.

2 **MR. SKETERS:** Well, Ms. Isom, I think that would be
3 unnecessary. I stated my discomfort with it,
4 and people that I have talked with throughout
5 the Town of Atlantic Beach have the same view.
6 I am not just speaking for myself. I'm
7 speaking for a lot of people in the Town of
8 Atlantic Beach who happen to be very, very
9 responsible people. And I'm not -- I'm not
10 trying to pick on Council. And think you all
11 -- if you're not -- should be entertaining what
12 is the best for Atlantic Beach. We -- I don't
13 -- I didn't ask you questions to pick an
14 argument because we need to get out of
15 (inaudible) because somebody disagrees with
16 you, you think they are mad with it. No, we
17 are trying to get the best for Atlantic Beach.
18 We only have 94.6 acres of property here, and
19 we need to get the maximum amount of miles --
20 of revenue that anybody has to offer in respect
21 (inaudible) without getting something that
22 nobody else seems to want on the Grand Strand.

23 **MR. THOMPSON:** Ms. Isom, Donnell Thompson ---

24 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Well, I ---

25 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Mr. Thompson -- I'm sorry --



1 okay ---

2 **MR. THOMPSON:** Yes, Ms. Isom ---

3 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** --- Mr. Thompson -- I'm
4 sorry, this is Councilwoman Williams. If you
5 don't mind ---

6 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

7 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** --- let Mr. Thompson -- then
8 I'll come back to you if you don't mind.

9 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Okay, thank you.

10 **MR. THOMPSON:** All right. And I'll be brief. Mr.
11 Quattlebaum, I think that Mr. Sketers is really
12 saying the same thing that we are saying.
13 We're saying that, of course, we do not want
14 anything on 17 that's not gonna be -- that's
15 not gonna work well with the Town. I think if
16 you can somewhat convey that thought to Mr.
17 Sketers. I also think that we want to make
18 sure that we talk about this that we're putting
19 in place, that we're only talking about
20 Business 17, correct? If anyone wants to build
21 a new house, they will allowed to build a new
22 house, is that correct, Mr. Quattlebaum?

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

24 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yes.

25 **MR. THOMPSON:** Yes, yes. Well, I think this sums it



1 up, Mr. Sketers, I think you're getting exactly
2 what you want by putting this in place. They
3 are protecting us, protecting the Town, that
4 nobody can come -- doesn't matter who they are
5 -- as long as this is in place for the next six
6 months, nobody can build on Highway 17 ---

7 **MR. SKETERS:** Uh ---

8 **MR. THOMPSON:** --- isn't that right, Mr.
9 Quattlebaum?

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's correct.

11 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

12 **MS. HILL:** Thank you. This is Dianne Hill speaking.
13 And at some point in time during this meeting,
14 I would like permission to speak. I don't want
15 to interrupt anyone else. I don't want to
16 infringe on anyone's time, but at some moment
17 when it's appropriate, would you allow Dianne
18 Hill to speak please?

19 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** I sure will, yes. Mr. Thompson,
20 have you finished?

21 **MR. THOMPSON:** Yes, ma'am, thank you so much.

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay. Councilwoman Williams,
23 would you waive your point over to Ms. Hill
24 then I'll come back to you?

25 **MS. HILL:** Thank you, ma'am.



1 COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS: Of course, that's fine.

2 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Okay. Ms. Hill?

3 MS. HILL: Yes, thank you ever so much. And I have
4 several questions and concerns, but I'll try to
5 make them brief. And I know it sounds like
6 we're going back to the same thing but my first
7 question is who decided to call this meeting?

8 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Mr. Manager, please answer that
9 one. I got my e-mail that we were having a
10 special meeting ---

11 MS. HILL: So, Mr. Quattlebaum decided to call this
12 meeting?

13 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: No, I asked him to answer your
14 question.

15 MS. HILL: Okay. I'm sorry.

16 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Okay. Mr. -- the Manager? Mr.
17 Q?

18 MS. HILL: Did I miss the answer.

19 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: No, I don't think he's got to it
20 yet. Mr. Q? Mr. Quattlebaum?

21 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Yes? Yes ---

22 (Inaudible background noise.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: Who decided to call this meeting
24 at this time?

25 MR. QUATTLEBAUM: Council decided to call the



1 meeting back in ... I think it was either June
2 or May, or the beginning of the -- I'm sorry,
3 going back to March. Under the -- when the
4 COVID-19 ---

5 **MS. HILL:** Oh, maybe I'm not clear. I want to know
6 did Council decide in March to call this
7 meeting on the 4th of September?

8 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** No, ma'am. I'm trying to give you
9 ---

10 **MS. HILL:** That was my question.

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yeah ---

12 **MS. HILL:** Who decided to call this meeting at this
13 time?

14 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Council. Okay, I'm trying to give
15 you the basis for the reason the Special
16 Meeting can be called ---

17 **MS. HILL:** Oh, I heard -- I heard a great
18 explanation as to why special meetings could be
19 called. Then ---

20 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Okay.

21 **MS. HILL:** --- that kind of follows into my next
22 question. What about this meeting -- this
23 Special Meeting that we're having right now --
24 could not be taken up at our next regularly
25 scheduled meeting that everyone would be



1 expecting? Why was it necessary to have this
2 Special Meeting and not allow this matter to
3 wait until our regularly scheduled meeting.

4 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's a ---

5 **MS. HILL:** --- as to why we have special meetings
6 and the fact that it's legal to call them. I'm
7 not questioning that. My question is, what is
8 the urgency that kept this from waiting until
9 our next scheduled meeting?

10 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Council directed me to call a
11 special meeting for Friday at 4:00 o'clock.
12 That's all I can tell you.

13 **MS. HILL:** Okay. Well, then -- then my
14 understanding I -- and please correct me that
15 I am wrong. My understanding is that the
16 Council decided they didn't want to take this
17 matter up at the next regularly scheduled
18 meeting that everyone would be expecting, that
19 they wanted ---

20 **FEMALE SPEAKER:** (Inaudible.)

21 **MS. HILL:** --- that they wanted to take this matter
22 up as a special meeting that -- well, that is
23 happening right now -- I'll just leave that at
24 that. Am I correct?

25 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.



1 **MS. HILL:** Okay, thank you. My next meeting -- my
2 next question is, with reference to the drug
3 clinic -- and I know it's -- it's the methadone
4 clinic. What is the status of that issue right
5 now please?

6 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** The developer has submitted an
7 application, which I denied because it did not
8 meet our housing code and standards to be
9 approved. At this time, they have not
10 resubmitted any application and to submit --
11 and a request for development.

12 **MS. HILL:** Okay.

13 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** It was not ---

14 **MS. HILL:** So I understand you to say that the ---

15 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

16 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Ms. Hill, are you there? Ms.
17 Hill?

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Hello? I'm sorry, you guys, this is
19 Mayor Evans. For some reason I messed up.
20 Thought the call was 5:00 instead of 4:00. But
21 were you guys able to get everything take care
22 of it?

23 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

24 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Mayor ---

25 **FEMALE SPEAKER:** Good afternoon.



1 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Hold on one second. Let Ms.
2 Hill finish her questions then I'll turn the
3 meeting over to you, Mayor. Ms. Hill?

4 **MS. HILL:** I'm here.

5 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay, let Ms. Hill complete her
6 questions then I'll turn it over to you, if you
7 don't mind.

8 **MS. HILL:** Dianne Hill is back on -- to the phone.
9 Am I still there?

10 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

11 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes ---

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** We hear you.

13 **MS. HILL:** That phone died.

14 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

15 **MS. HILL:** Thank God I have another phone. Okay ---

16 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Okay ---

17 **MS. HILL:** --- what I was asking. I think I said I
18 understood what you said, and I was so bothered
19 by my phone dying (inaudible) so I'll just ...
20 I know, I had asked the status of that. Okay,
21 so the drug clinic has been delayed because
22 they have not resubmitted a proper application.
23 The first application was flawed, it was not
24 correct and therefore it could not go forward.
25 So they now have an opportunity to submit a



1 corrected application, am I correct in that?

2 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

3 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yes.

4 **MS. HILL:** Okay. Now, let's say tomorrow -- this is
5 hypothetical -- let's say tomorrow they come
6 back with a correct application, what happens
7 then?

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Ben?

9 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** I can't address a hypothetical in
10 terms of that.

11 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** Just so we're (inaudible) I'm just
13 getting on the call. This is Mayor Evans, and
14 I want to know how far we have gotten into the
15 agenda, but unfortunately I got on the call
16 late. I was mistaken, thought the call was at
17 5:00 instead of 4:00. But to the best of my
18 knowledge, this meeting is just for the second
19 reading of the moratorium on building and
20 doesn't have anything to do with any other
21 matter. Is that correct, Ben?

22 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's correct.

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** So if anyone who's on the call, this
24 -- that's what this meeting is called for, just
25 for the second reading of the moratorium on



1 building along Highway 17, which has nothing to
2 do with any other matter. So have we gotten to
3 the New Business to actually vote on the second
4 reading of the moratorium, have we done that
5 yet?

6 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Not yet. There's ---

7 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Good afternoon, Mayor Evans. Good
8 afternoon, Mayor Evans, point of clarification,
9 following Robert's Rules of Order, this is
10 Maria Pierce-Ford, property owner. I know
11 we're still in discussion. The motion has been
12 made and seconded for us to go to the New
13 Business. Aren't we still in discussion on the
14 ordinance that was presented?

15 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yes.

16 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

17 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay ---

18 **FEMALE SPEAKER:** Yes ---

19 **FEMALE SPEAKER:** Okay ---

20 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** --- could I have a question now.
21 Could I have a minute to ask a question?

22 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yeah, and you ---

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yes.

24 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay. My name again is Maria
25 Pierce-Ford, daughter of Melvin and Helen



1 Pierce. (Inaudible) -- want a clarification
2 with the notes that I have taken and listening
3 to the Town Manager. This new ordinance, the
4 second reading of this new ordinance, will stop
5 all and any businesses as of 4:00 o'clock today
6 from applying for a permit to build, am I
7 correct?

8 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's correct.

9 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** When would this -- 'cause this
10 ordinance will go in effect today at 4:00 p.m.
11 as of your vote, am I correct?

12 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

13 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay. And you have said, Mr.
14 Quattlebaum, that the meth clinic has been
15 denied on their first application. So after
16 4:00 o'clock today if they submit another
17 application under the new moratorium ordinance,
18 they would not be allowed to submit an
19 application, am I correct?

20 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** They would be allowed to submit
21 one. It will not be ---

22 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** But the moratorium will protect
23 them from not getting it, am I correct?

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's correct.

25 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Right, uh-huh.



1 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay. So at 4:00 o'clock today,
2 any new businesses that submit an application
3 that we do not feel qualifies to support the
4 Town or benefit the Town will be denied for the
5 next six months, am I correct?

6 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's correct.

7 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay, I think -- I think that's
8 where the clarity needed to come in. I think
9 that's where all the confusion was. No one was
10 saying that. We need to be specific when we're
11 talking to the Town's people, as well as
12 property owners, that the fact that this
13 moratorium would allow businesses to submit an
14 application. However, because of a moratorium
15 put in place by the Town Council, it would give
16 us the opportunity to deny them for the next
17 six months, am I correct?

18 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** That's correct.

19 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay, thank you.

20 **MS. HILL:** Thanks, Maria.

21 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** So we -- so we have voted on the
23 second reading already? We're just in Public
24 Time right now, is that correct ---

25 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** No, Mayor. No ---



1 COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS: Not yet ---

2 MAYOR EVANS: --- vote as of yet?

3 MS. PIERCE-FORD: No, there has not been a vote as
4 of yet. We're still in discussion ---

5 COUNCILWOMAN ISOM: (Inaudible) ---

6 MS. PIERCE-FORD: --- but I think there needed to be
7 some clarity on the questions being answered
8 and stop beating around the bush today. This
9 is 4:00 o'clock on a holiday weekend, and your
10 Town people are asking questions and they're
11 beating around the bush. So I think that if
12 wanted clarity, all we needed to do was just
13 simple clarity.

14 MS. HILL: Right.

15 COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS: Well, Mr. Mayor, this is
16 Councilwoman Glenda Williams. I was trying to
17 speak for a while now. If you don't mind, and
18 I know -- I do respect -- I've given other
19 people the opportunity to speak for -- thank
20 you for asking for clarification. I was
21 actually trying to say, you know, prior to
22 actually -- before waiting to speak that --
23 directly where we are. When it comes to the
24 moratorium, it is to protect the Town. I don't
25 have any -- I don't have a problem saying I too



1 agree to what Mr. Sketers was saying as it
2 relates to the Town, protecting the Town, also
3 making sure that whatever comes into the Town,
4 commercialism-wise, residential, whatever
5 happens in the Town, it is for the better --
6 growth of the town. We do not have the
7 manpower when it comes to our Police
8 Department, or any other department, to handle
9 such things as a methadone clinic coming to the
10 place. Not only that, we do not want the Town
11 smeared after taking a few years to clean up
12 the name, or the stigmatism, that has always
13 been on Atlantic Beach when it comes to drugs.
14 So again, I was trying to speak, Ms. Ford, and
15 thank you for asking for clarity to saying that
16 the purposes of it is to withhold the Town and
17 to carry forth, especially after a lot of work
18 has been done, to protect the citizens and with
19 the Police Department now, the crime rate is
20 down, and the Town is in -- the betterment of
21 the Town is in a much better place that it was
22 before. So I do agree with you and, again,
23 that moratorium will protect as far as someone
24 submitting another application for such type
25 entities coming to the Town.



1 **MR. SKETERS:** Yes, I ---

2 (Inaudible background noise.)

3 **MS. HILL:** After your public time -- and for public
4 time, Dianne Hill has another question
5 (inaudible).

6 **MAYOR EVANS:** If -- yeah, if I may, for
7 clarification, everybody that's on the call, I
8 don't want it to be put out there because it is
9 not. We're not putting this moratorium in
10 place to block the methadone clinic. That is
11 not the purpose of this ordinance, of the
12 moratorium. The purpose of this moratorium is
13 that we have plans here in Atlantic Beach for
14 a beautification project on Highway 17 which
15 would include raised medians with Palm trees,
16 more signs to welcome them to Atlantic Beach,
17 continuing the sidewalks along Highway 17 in
18 Atlantic Beach. That's why this moratorium is
19 being put in place. The purpose of the
20 moratorium is not or have -- doesn't have
21 anything to do with the methadone clinic. And
22 I want the Town Manager, Ben, to understand
23 that as well as the rest of Council members.

24 **MS. HILL:** Well, at the ---

25 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Um ---



1 **MS. HILL:** --- understand that, Mr. Mayor, and I
2 applaud you -- I applaud you for saying that
3 because we are not (inaudible) that and we're
4 all about beautification and edification and
5 positive moves. Thank you so much for saying
6 it just the way you did.

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** Thank you ---

8 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Excuse me, mayor, (inaudible) I am
9 the daughter of Melvin and Helen Pierce,
10 Fayetteville, North Carolina. My question is
11 if this moratorium has nothing to do with this,
12 in looking at your agenda, New Business,
13 Ordinance Number 8-2020, it says this is an
14 ordinance to declare a moratorium on a building
15 on High -- on building on Highway 17 so ... I
16 don't get this.

17 **MAYOR EVANS:** Well, nobody is allowed to build
18 anything as long as this moratorium is in place
19 because there may be some ingress on people's
20 property as far as the turn lanes go. There's
21 a lot of things that come into play. So when
22 we're talking about beautification on Highway
23 17, I don't know if everybody on the call had
24 noticed but, even to put the sidewalks -- the
25 sidewalks, where the sidewalks stop on each



1 side of us, of course, that takes up some
2 property and how far the -- in they're gonna
3 come. We don't know. But no, you can't build
4 anything, but that's the focus of our putting
5 in this moratorium, it's for the beautification
6 project (inaudible).

7 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Okay, thank you.

8 **MS. HILL:** Right ---

9 **MAYOR EVANS:** I mean on -- on Highway 17 ---

10 **MS. HILL:** Okay, I'd like to go back to my -- one of
11 my original questions. This is Dianne Hill
12 speaking. Which was, what precluded the
13 business that is being handled right now, what
14 precluded that business being handled at the
15 next regularly scheduled meeting? I realize
16 there's a sense of urgency here, but I am not
17 quite understanding what the urgency is. Why
18 does it have -- why did it have to be today and
19 could not wait until our next regularly
20 scheduled Town meeting? That is the question
21 I had. And I didn't hear the answer to that.

22 **MAYOR EVANS:** It is sort of a sense of urgency ---

23 **MS. HILL:** I said (inaudible) before. By the way,
24 when is the next scheduled meeting?

25 **(Inaudible background noise.)**



1 **MALE SPEAKER:** Mr. Mayor, we ---

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** I'm sorry?

3 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Mr. Mayor, I was (inaudible).
4 If you don't mind, can I chime in about the
5 (inaudible) of the regular -- the next
6 scheduled meeting was September the 14th and
7 ---

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Right. Yeah, that's what it was ---

9 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Right.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** Monday is a holiday, and then we can't
11 have it Monday because of Labor Day ---

12 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

13 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- so we're wanting to go ahead and
14 get this taken care of.

15 **MS. HILL:** But why did we not -- I mean why could we
16 not have done this on September 14th? I mean
17 is there a specific reason why ---

18 **FEMALE SPEAKER:** Because we could not have a meeting
19 ---

20 **MS. HILL:** Right.

21 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yes, ma'am. It is -- it
22 would prolong further out than the date of our
23 regularly scheduled meeting, and under the
24 preclusion -- or under the classification of
25 special meetings, special meetings are also to



1 reduce the amount of prolonged regular
2 meetings. Therefore our meeting that we could
3 not have on our standard first Monday has been
4 prolonged to a further out state -- a further
5 stated date. So therefore, we wanted to go
6 ahead and take care of the matter ---

7 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

8 **MS. HILL:** Okay, I understand what you're saying.
9 Yeah. If this meeting was heard on the 14th,
10 what would be different?

11 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Nothing.

12 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** You said ---

13 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

14 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** --- if it was heard on the
15 14th?

16 **MS. HILL:** Yeah, if we were having -- right now, if
17 we -- on September 14th, how and why and in
18 what way would the meeting we're having right
19 now be different from that?

20 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Well, we wouldn't anticipate
21 having this meeting on the 14th so I can't
22 speak to a date that's that far out when I know
23 that the meeting will never have happened on
24 that particular date because ---

25 **MS. HILL:** (Inaudible.) So you're saying that the



1 meeting that you're having right now, it could
2 not conceivably occur on the 14th, it would
3 just be ---

4 (Inaudible background noise.)

5 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Because it would fall into
6 parameters of a prolonged regular meeting.

7 **MS. HILL:** But you know our regular meetings are
8 very short.

9 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** No, I'm not talking about
10 ---

11 **MS. HILL:** I (inaudible). Okay, I ---

12 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** All right ---

13 **MS. HILL:** --- the Town meetings started at 6:00
14 o'clock and end at 6:15 ---

15 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yes, yeah. This is just something
16 that's been on the back burner for a while and
17 we had to just make sure we get it done as
18 quick as possible, and we just ---

19 **MS. HILL:** Okay, well you -- I'm gonna lift the veil
20 (ph). I'm gonna lift the veil, and the veil is
21 back. I realize this is an important matter
22 and I realize ---

23 **MAYOR EVANS:** Right.

24 **MS. HILL:** --- Town members and we came together and
25 -- and thank God there's some kind of



1 (inaudible) going on. But when things are like
2 this, it's the clarity gets clouded -- just so
3 you understand what I'm saying. I mean we all
4 came (inaudible) what the heck is going on, and
5 I'd really like it to be more open, more clear,
6 more sensible, more accessible to everyone to
7 get the word out that we are having a meeting.
8 I know this is not the case, but it looks like
9 a hidden agenda. I know that there's no hidden
10 agenda, but it's just the appearance of a
11 hidden agenda. And there are times when
12 misconception becomes reality. I don't ever
13 want misconceptions to become our reality. And
14 I promise you I'm not gonna say another word
15 today.

16 **MAYOR EVANS:** You're fine. So is there anybody
17 else?

18 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** This is Councilwoman Glenda
19 Williams again. I just want to conclude, thank
20 you for clarifying the beautification. And
21 again, I just wanted to say I still think that
22 Ms. Ford, for the (inaudible) that we weren't
23 directly saying that the meeting was just for
24 -- the moratorium wasn't just for anything
25 about the methadone. Her clear question, as a



1 personal concern in -- of community for having
2 investment -- clear question was only to Mr.
3 Quattlebaum was in the submission of the
4 application, would that fall under the
5 moratorium, not so much directing everything
6 towards the methadone clinic. I just wanted to
7 clear that up.

8 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay ---

9 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** But thank you for bringing
10 clarity.

11 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Yes ---

12 **MAYOR EVANS:** You're welcome.

13 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** --- I wanted to know is that --
14 what the moratorium got put into effect today,
15 would that stop any -- of all applications of
16 what we consider inappropriate for the Town,
17 would those be denied, that's what I was
18 asking, yes.

19 **(Inaudible background noise.)**

20 **MAYOR EVANS:** So, where are we now, Council, are we
21 down to putting the motion on the floor to
22 approve the second reading ---

23 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yes.

24 **MAYOR EVANS:** --- are we there yet? Is that what
25 we're down to?



1 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yes, yes.

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** Okay, Council, seek a motion to adopt
3 Ordinance Number 8-2020, an ordinance to
4 declare a moratorium on building on Highway 17
5 in the Town of Atlantic Beach, South Carolina,
6 and this will be the second reading. Seek a
7 motion, Council.

8 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** So moved, Mayor.

9 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Second.

10 **MAYOR EVANS:** There's a motion and a second to adopt
11 Ordinance Number 8-2020, and this is the
12 ordinance to declare a moratorium on building
13 on Highway 17 in the Town of Atlantic Beach,
14 South Carolina, and this is the second reading.
15 There's a motion and a second. If there's no
16 other questions or comments, roll call.

17 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

18 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

19 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

20 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

21 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Jacqueline Gore? Councilwoman
22 Glenda Williams?

23 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

24 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

25 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion is granted.



1 Public Time:

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** We're down to Public Time. Have we
3 already had that or is something ...

4 (Inaudible background noise.)

5 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Mayor Evans, this is Maria
6 Pierce-Ford again. I just sent an e-mail back
7 to all that I got the e-mail from. Can I get
8 a copy of that Ordinance Number 8-2020. I'm
9 gonna come in town tonight. I just rearranged
10 my schedule to come down there. Can I get a
11 copy of that ordinance to be available tomorrow
12 at the City Town Hall Police Station for me to
13 pick up?

14 **MAYOR EVANS:** Ben? I know that Town Hall is closed
15 on Saturday and Sunday, but Ben or -- who's
16 gonna be there tomorrow for her to do that?

17 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Well, we can -- do you have an
18 e-mail address? We can e-mail it to.

19 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** Yes ---

20 (Inaudible background noise.)

21 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** I just sent an e-mail requesting,
22 and you can e-mail it back to
23 mariaford6@aol.com.

24 **MR. QUATTLEBAUM:** Yes.

25 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** And I'm still coming in tonight.



1 I just wanted to check out some things. Okay?

2 **MAYOR EVANS:** All right. Okay.

3 **MS. PIERCE-FORD:** All right, thank you.

4 **MAYOR EVANS:** Is that it, Council, we ready for our
5 motion to adjourn?

6 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** So moved.

7 **MAYOR EVANS:** Need a second.

8 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Second.

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

11 **CLERK:** Councilman Lenearl Evans?

12 **COUNCILMAN EVANS:** Yea.

13 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Josephine Isom?

14 **COUNCILWOMAN ISOM:** Yea.

15 **CLERK:** Councilwoman Glenda Williams?

16 **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS:** Yea.

17 **CLERK:** Mayor Jake Evans?

18 **MAYOR EVANS:** Yea. The motion is granted. Thanks,
19 everyone.

20 **(There being nothing further, the meeting was**
21 **adjourned.)**

22

23

24

25

