

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
MID-MONTH WORK SESSION
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017 – 12:00 noon
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A mid-month work session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, June 12, 2017 at 12:00 noon in the Arthur Campbell Meeting Room of the Municipal Building.

A. WELCOME – Mayor Lowe

B. ROLL CALL – Cecile Rosenbaum, Town Clerk

Members of Council Present:

Mrs. Cathy C. Lowe, Mayor
Mr. Richard E. Humphreys, Vice Mayor
Mr. Robert M. Howard
Mrs. M. Cindy Patterson
Mr. J. Wayne Craig

Administrative/Town Staff:

Greg Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile Rosenbaum, Asst. Town Mgr/Clerk
Deb Icenhour, Town Attorney
Floyd Bailey, Dir. of IT
C J McGlothlin IT Department
Chuck Banner, Director of Finance
Stacey Reichler, Director of HR
Matt Bolick, Dir. of Public Services/Const.
Kim Kingsley, Paralegal/Deputy Treasurer
Jason Boswell, Code Enforcement Officer
Tyler Vencill, Town Engineer

1. Floyd Bailey, Director of Information Technology provided a training session on Sharefile, a new format for opening Council packets on i-pads. Mr. Bailey commented that if anyone wished to have more training, one on one, please let him know and he and the IT staff could accommodate that request.
2. Mr. Humphreys and Ms. Patterson both commented for the record that they were Bed and Breakfast owners in town and did plan to participate in the discussion of the Homestay Ordinance. Mr. Humphreys and Ms. Patterson both read the certification from the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Sec. 2.2-3112(A)(2) stating that he/she was “able to participate in the transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest”.

3. Ms. Icenhour, Town Attorney presented Council with the proposed "Homestay" Ordinance, also known as "Air BnB". Lengthy discussion ensued as Council members worked through each part of the proposed Ordinance. Council agreed that the Ordinance was ready for inclusion on the July 10th agenda for first reading and public hearing.
4. Mr. Kelly reported that he had confirmed that the town had Urban Construction Funds from VDOT that could be used to facilitate the Park Street project. Mr. Kelly noted that Council would have to provide a small percentage of a match that would total \$20,000. Mr. Kelly commented that the project had to begin before December 31, 2017 and staff would be working on the RFP for project scope before that deadline.
5. Mayor Lowe commented on the use of colorful umbrellas in the town's walkable alley ways.
6. Mayor Lowe commented on the Virginia Highlands Festival's plans to move the arts portion back to the Barter Green area. Discussion ensued relative to designating areas in town for artists to sell their work.
7. Ms. Icenhour noted that the mural commissioned by Abingdon Main Street was in need of maintenance to preserve the paint colors.
8. Councilman Howard requested that the town staff consider painting a stop sign on Russell Road at the intersection with Valley Street to assist traffic with stopping in the left lane.
9. Mr. Howard commented on the Board of Supervisors lack of appropriation of funding for Abingdon Fire Department in their annual budget. Discussion ensued regarding the number of calls the town's department makes in the County. Mr. Craig commented that he would like to see action taken to make the funding situation more fair for the department.
10. Vice Mayor Humphreys declared the meeting adjourned.


Cathy C. Lowe, Mayor


Cecile Rosenbaum, Town Clerk