

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016 – 6:00
ARTHUR CAMPBELL MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A Work session meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Arthur Campbell meeting room of the Municipal Building.

A. Welcome – Mayor Morgan

B. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present:

Edward B. Morgan, Mayor
Mrs. Cathy Lowe, Vice Mayor
Mr. Richard E. Humphreys
Mr. Robert M. Howard
Mrs. Jayne A. Duehring

Administrative/Town Staff:

Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile Rosenbaum, Assistant Town Manager
Tonya Triplett, Deputy Clerk
Matthew Johnson, Director of Planning
Chuck Banner, Director of Finance
John McCormick, Fire Chief
Jon Phelps, IT Department
Aaron Phillips, Assistant Director of
Parks and Recreation
Kevin Costello, Director of Tourism and ED
John Dew, Dir. Of Construction/Public Services

Visitors:

Greg Tucker, Joe LeVine, Cindy Patterson, Jennifer
Montgomery, Main Street Director

The following was discussed by Council:

1. Greg Tucker, CPA with Bostic & Tucker reported on the town's 2014/2015 audit. Mr. Tucker noted that a significant change for this year's reporting included the requirement that all VRS pension liability be captured and included in the audit. Mr. Tucker indicated that the town's VRS retirement is approximately 85% funded. Mr. Tucker noted that reimbursement requests from VDOT were not received in the budget year requested but would be accounted for in the upcoming 2015/2016 audit report. Mr. Tucker commented adequate internal controls were in place and the town, in his opinion, is in solid financial standing.
2. John Dew, Director of Public Services & Construction reviewed a list of paving needs and reported there is about \$310,000 left in the paving budget for the current fiscal this year.

The intersection of Main Street and Jonesboro Road is rutted due to truck traffic, which will likely increase because of construction and improvements to Exit 14.

Mr. Dew stated the town has a right-of-way at the entrance of 84 Lumber. Mr. Patel, owner of the new Fairfield Inn, across the street, may designate a public right-of-way on his side of the street, which would allow for a traffic signal in the future, if needed. Mr. Dew recommended expanding the entrance at First Bank and Trust which would allow more room for turns and improve safety. Mr. Dew stated some of the budget is needed to replenish the salt supply and he is hopeful additional VDOT funds will be available next year for paving.

3. Greg Kelly, Town Manager reported the lease with the Summers Law Office did not work out. Consensus of Council is to put out a RFP to find a tenant. Matthew Johnson, Director of Planning reported he has had difficulty getting bids for repairs on the Fields-Penn house. Mr. Johnson suggested the repairs be done in phases, beginning with stabilization and then looking at repairs on the interior at a later time. He is also looking into costs associated with a full restoration of Retirement. Mr. Johnson stated the first workshop for the sports complex design had gone well and another will be held in the near future. CHA, (Clough Harbour and Associates) the design firm from Blacksburg, VA, is very mindful of comments they have received so far and will be tweaking the plans.
4. Vice Mayor Lowe expressed concerns about an after school program with the Boys and Girls Club at the Coomes Center. Aaron Phillips, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation reported the Coomes Center staff is working on some options for next school year.

Mayor Morgan declared a 5-minute recess for Council and Town staff to reconvene in the Council Chambers for the regular 7:30 meeting.



Edward B. Morgan, Mayor



Tonya Triplett, Deputy Town Clerk