

**TOWN OF ABINGDON, VIRGINIA
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018**

**5:30- 6:45 PM
PUBLIC COMMENT/INPUT REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF COLLEGE
STREET AND CHURCH STREET ONE-WAY OPTIONS**

(PART 2 VIDEO 0:27 – 1:10:18)

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 – 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

A work session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

A. WELCOME- *Mayor Craig*

B. ROLL CALL – *Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk*

Members of Council Present:

Mr. Bradley
Mrs. Quetsch
Mr. Webb
Ms. Patterson
Mayor Craig

Administrative/Town Staff:

Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manager
Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk
Stacey Reichler, Director of HR
Chuck Banner, Treasurer and Director
Of Finance
Tonya Triplett, Community
Development Coordinator
Jason Boswell, Interim Director of
Planning

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided and comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person. **(PART 1 VIDEO 4:53 – 23:15)**

- Amber Fiorini, 127 West Main Street
- Erica Ramey, 127 West Main Street

- Rick Harmon, 127 West Main Street
- Steve Jett, 333 Court Street
- Jimmie Lou Bowden, 200 Mt. View Drive
- David Millsap, 95 Fairway Drive
- Linda Summers Giel, 15448 Briarwood Lane

D. REPORTS FROM INTERIM TOWN MANAGER -

1. Discussion regarding the Retiree Insurance Stipend – *Stacey Reichler, Director of Human Resources and Tamara Greer, Auditor (VIDEO 23:26 – 46:47)*

Stacey Reichler, Director of Human Resources; Chuck Banner, Director of Finances and Treasurer; and Tamara Greer, Auditor presented to Council an audit finding regarding Retiree Insurance Stipend concerning changes effective July 1, 2018. After the presentation, Council discussed participating in the VRS Health Insurance Credit Plan requesting a Resolution be placed on the October 4th agenda for adoption.

2. Monthly update regarding Community Development – *Tonya Triplett, Community Development Coordinator (VIDEO 46:56 - 1:07:28)*

Tonya Triplett, Community Development Coordinator communicated the progress within the Town concerning community development.

3. Discussion regarding appraisal of property and decision to offer to sell the Summers Law Office – *Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 1:07:32 – 1:21:13)*

Cameron Bell, legal counsel for the Town of Abingdon, addressed the Council with regard to entering into private negotiations with the descendants of the Lewis Summers for the sale of the property known as the Summers Law Office.

Mr. Bell stated that pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-1800(b) and Article VII, Section 9 of the Constitution that Council must hold a public hearing regarding any proposed sale of the Summers Law Office and is technically allowable, however, to enter into a private sale that is affirmed at a public hearing.

Mr. Bell pointed out that paragraph 2 of the Town of Abingdon Council Code of Ethics adopted July 2, 2018, Council agreed to place loyalty to the highest moral principles and to the people of the Town of Abingdon, as a whole, above loyalty to individuals, districts or particular groups. Mr. Bell felt that entering into private negotiations with one family group to the exclusion of other interested parties conflicted with this provision or at least invite criticism of Council.

Mr. Bell concluded that while technically permitted under the code to enter into a private sale after a public hearing, for the factors detailed above it seems that the best course would be to hold a public sale rather than a private one.

Discussion ensued. Mayor Craig instructed the Clerk to advertise a public hearing to discuss disposal of said property.

4. Update regarding negotiation of lease agreement with regard to Fairview Homestead – ***Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manger (VIDEO 1:21:14 – 1:33:39)***

Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manager updated Council with regard to his discussions with Jim and Judy Moore. Mr. Sullivan invited Jim Moore to come forth and discuss his terms. Mayor Craig advised Jim Moore that this Council could not obligate future Council with regard to the funding of Fairview Homestead and would further discuss at the next work session.

Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manager requested to deviate from the agenda for discussion regarding the scheduled departmental tours on September 19, 2019. Discussion ensued. Council agreed to postpone the departmental tours due to scheduling conflicts. (VIDEL 1:33:50 – 1:35:35)

5. Discussion regarding Non-Departmental Budget memo – ***Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 1:33:39 – 1:33:50) (VIDEO 1:35:36 – 1:38:08)***

Mayor Craig requested discussion at the next work session.

E. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Discussion regarding opening of Green Spring Road and a left only turn lane and a right only turn lane from Cummings Street to Valley Street – ***Cindy Patterson, Vice-Mayor (VIDEO 1:57:19 – 1:57:35) (VIDEO 2:03:31 – 2:05:21)***

Ms. Patterson commented that David Millsap presented his concerns during the public comments section Mayor Craig stated that he felt that the matter be referred to the Infrastructure Committee.

2. Discussion regarding purchase of rare artifact rifle to display at the Muster Grounds from Wallace Gussler, for \$6,500. – ***Donna Quetsch, Council Member (VIDEO 1:57:35 – 2:02:00)***

Mrs. Quetsch communicated to Council that Ms. Hunter with the Muster Grounds was approached with an offer to purchase a rare artifact rifle for display from Wallace Gussler for \$6,500. Discussion ensued. Mayor Craig noted that the Council did not budget for this purchase. Mrs. Quetsch agreed to convey this information to Ms. Hunter.

Ms. Patterson reported that she attended the 8th Annual Elected Officials Day at Feeding America and encouraged anyone to volunteer. (VIDEO 2:02:01 – 2:03:15)

3. Discussion regarding Noise Ordinance, Chapter 30 – Environment Article II - Noise Sec. 30-32. - Specific prohibitions including Quiet Zone B. 11:00 PM - 7 PM; Equipment plainly audible 50FT or more; and Construction work. – **Cindy Patterson, Vice-Mayor (VIDEO 1:38:04 – 1:56:19)**

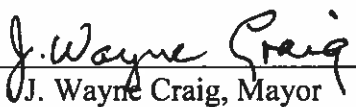
Ms. Patterson described several concerns with regard to noise in the Town of Abingdon. Cameron Bell, counsel for the Town, addressed the Council with regard to matters addressed by Ms. Patterson and the current construction on Green Spring Road. Mayor Craig commented that Council needs to discuss the revision of several ordinances in the near future.

4. Discussion regarding the HomeStay ordinance specifically the Code of the Town of Abingdon, Section 18-161(C)(5). – **Wayne Craig, Mayor (VIDEO 2:05:21 – 2:08:16)**

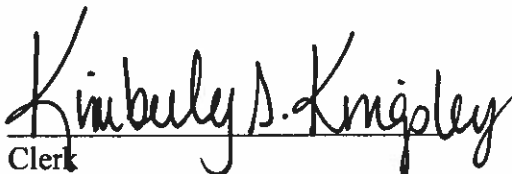
Jason Boswell, Interim Director of Planning addressed Council stating that Mr. Brenner has additional options available with regard to his property and would be discussing with him.

Tony Sullivan, Interim Town Manager, requested Council to set a date in October for a work session. Discussion ensued. Council agreed on October 25th at 4:00 pm and requested a Public Hearing with regard to the Summers Law Office on October 25th at 5:30 pm in Council chambers. (VIDEO 2:08: 17 – 2:17:10)

Mayor Craig adjourned the meeting.



J. Wayne Craig, Mayor



Clerk