

**TOWN OF ABINGDON  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019 – 6:30 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building.

- 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:

Kenneth Vittum, Interim Town Manager  
Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk

Chuck Banner, Treasurer/Director of  
Finance  
Floyd Bailey, Director of IT  
Chief Tony Sullivan, APD

- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –** *Derek Webb, Council Member*
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO )**

- January 4, 2019 Regular meeting
- January 22, 2019 Work Session

**On motion by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Bradley, Council approved the minutes of the January 4, 2019 Regular meeting and January 22, 2019 work session as presented.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Mr. Bradley                      Aye**  
**Mrs. Quetsch                    Aye**

<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**F. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 17:41 – 17:55)**

- No Comments

**G. RESOLUTIONS –**

1. A Resolution of the Council for the Town of Abingdon supporting the Town requests the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation / Department of Historic Resources to designate the Abingdon Sports Complex as a public recreational area and to recommend to the Commonwealth Transportation Board that recreational access funds be allocated for an adequate access road to serve said park area. – ***Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 17:59 – 24:32)***

Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager read the proposed Resolution.

**On motion by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Patterson, Council adopted the Resolution as presented.**

Mr. Bradley requested that Mr. Vittum briefly explain the contents of the Resolution. Mr. Vittum stated that the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Historic Resources and the Commonwealth Transportation Board govern the allocation of recreational access funds up to but not exceeding \$600,000, to allocate an adequate access road to serve the sports complex but would not include the actual parking areas.

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

2. A Resolution of the Council for the Town of Abingdon directing the daily operations and duties of all appointees, department heads and employees be under the direct supervision of the Town Manager – *Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 24:33 – 27:50)*

Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager read the proposed Resolution. Mayor Craig advised that this Resolution was a result of tightening up the grievance procedure set forth in the personnel manual containing exclusions for appointees.

**On motion by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Bradley, Council adopted the Resolution as presented.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**H. PETITIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES - NONE**

**I. SECOND READINGS – NONE**

**J. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS – NONE**

**K. REPORTS FROM THE INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**

1. Presentation regarding residential energy savings program, *Take Charge Virginia*, by Melvin Ross with Appalachian Power – *Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 28:00 – 32:27)*

Melvin Ross with Appalachian Power provided information regarding a new program sponsored by Appalachian Power to provide a free energy assessment and an eScore evaluation for residents and described available rebates. Mr. Ross stated that the energy advisor would evaluate air sealing, attic insulation, duct system, lighting, heating & cooling systems, appliances & electronics, water heater, windows & doors, wall insulation and demand response to provide residents with their eScore. Mr. Ross invited residents to bring up to eight incandescent light bulbs for an exchange of LED bulbs at the Earth Day Celebration in April.

2. Presentation regarding bookplates in book purchased with money provided by the Town of Abingdon and a unique way to make a presentation – ***Charlotte Parsons, Director - Washington County Public Library (VIDEO 32:30 – 42:06)***

Charlotte Parsons, Director of Washington County Public Library addressed Council and thanked them for their support of \$7500 during the last fiscal budget, which purchased approximately 484 title books and “book plates” placed in these books acknowledging funding by the Town of Abingdon. Ms. Parsons requested that the Council consider an additional \$2,500 this year to expand the library’s “*Lucky Day Collection*” to include popular non-fiction titles (history, biography, health, social sciences and business).

3. Introduction of Jason Boswell as Director of Planning – ***Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 42:12 - 44:58)***

Mr. Vittum announced that Jason Boswell named Director of Planning and possessed many qualifications. Mr. Bradley stated that Mr. Boswell does a good job with the Planning Commission and Ms. Patterson stated that she worked with him as a member of the Historic Preservation Review Board. Ms. Patterson stated that he has the passion and heart for his job and thanked him for his hard work.

4. Consideration of stabilization and foundation repair to Fields-Penn 1860 House Museum with necessary funding – ***Kenneth Vittum, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 45:02 – 49:21)***

Mr. Vittum stated that staff has reviewed and developed a list of need repairs and is ready to proceed with work which is estimated to be \$184,000. Mr. Vittum stated that the next step is to move forward with requests for proposal and begin work in the near future. Mrs. Quetsch questioned if the Town has funding for this project. Mr. Vittum explained that we would not know until the proposals returned and would hope that the proposals would be at or below the estimated \$184,000. Ms. Patterson stated that recently that Mike Pulice with the Department of Historic Resources proclaimed that the Fields Penn House was one of the best pre-civil war historic homes and she was pleased to see that repairs are near.

**On motion by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Bradley, Council authorized the Town Manager to issue Requests for Proposal for stabilization and foundation repair to the Fields-Penn 1850 House Museum.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>

<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Ms. Patterson requested that the geotechnical study and the Committee recommendations placed on the website for the citizens to view.

5. Consideration of revised Grievance Procedures (Council Appointees and Police) and Use of Leave by Exempt Employees policies for adoption. – ***Cameron Bell, Counsel (VIDEO 49:25 – 52:14)***

Cameron Bell, Counsel stated that this policy coordinates with the Resolution passed earlier this event to exclude appointees from a grievance procedure consistent with the Code of Virginia.

**On motion by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, Council adopted the revised Grievance Procedure relating to appointees and police as presented.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**On motion by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, Council adopted the Use of Leave by Exempt Employees policy as presented.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

6. Update regarding discussion with Recreation Advisory Committee with regard to pickleball courts. – ***Derek Webb, Council Member (VIDEO 52:19 – 58:00)***

Council member Derek Webb updated Council stating that the Recreation Advisory Committee was in favor of additional pickleball courts however, Committee needed direction as to whether the Council was interested in new or repurposed courts. Mr. Webb advised that the Committee was considering six to twelve options. Mayor Craig communicated that he would like to see an exclusive facility dedicated to pickleball, however would not consider tournaments at this time. Ms. Patterson stated that based on information from club members received that an exclusive court is needed.

7. Update on Comprehensive Plan Kickoff Meeting held on January 28, 2019– *Cindy Patterson, Vice Mayor (VIDEO 58:02 – 1:03:19)*

Ms. Patterson acknowledged that she participated in the Comprehensive Plan Kickoff meeting on January 28, 2019 in which they toured several sites and discussed the Town's future needs. Ms. Patterson encouraged public involvement by providing input by attending upcoming meetings (TBD) and complete the Town of Abingdon Comprehensive Plan Citizen Questionnaire (link on the Town's website) or by visiting [www.envisionabingdon.org](http://www.envisionabingdon.org) Nan Harmon commented that she encountered problems with the website recently. Floyd Bailey, Director of Information Technology provided information to assist with locating the questionnaire.

8. Discussion regarding entering into an Agreement for Professional Services with CHA Consulting, Inc. for Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Study Proposal; CHA Proposal Number X53184-P1 – *Ken Vittum, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 1:03:19 – 1:07:00)*

Mr. Vittum stated that the proposed agreement required revisions and CHA Consulting, Inc. would be providing an updated timely. Mr. Vittum requested that Council consider a motion instructing the Town Manager execute the agreement after reviewing with appropriate staff and counsel.

Mayor Craig stated that 80% of the Town's system was terracotta, which needs replacement and tighten up the elimination of stormwater runoff. Mayor Craig further stated that the area around Exit 19 was nearing capacity and plans considered.

**On motion by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Patterson, Council authorized the Town Manager to enter into any satisfactory agreement for professional services with CHA Consulting, Inc. for comprehensive sanitary sewer study proposal.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Mr. Bradley**

**Aye**

<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**L. OLD BUSINESS/MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**M. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:07:03 – 1:09:00)**

Mr. Bradley reported that he attended the Sinking Springs Cemetery Committee meeting; Chamber of Commerce Luncheon; Veteran's Park Board meeting; and the Comprehensive Plan Kickoff.

Ms. Patterson thanked her brother, Chip McCall for attending and supporting her; attended several ribbon cuttings and the Abingdon Book Lovers Club and Tourism Advisory Committee; Chamber of Commerce Luncheon and congratulated Sally Stringer Scott as being named the 2019 President; attended the Summers Law Office sale; participated in the Martin Luther King march; and attendance at the Washington County Leadership class.

**N. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (VIDEO 1:09:03 – 1:21:32)**

1. Sustain Abingdon

- Appointment to fill a vacant position on committee

2. Tourism Advisory Board

-Appointment to fill the unexpired term of Katy Blankenship representing the Retail or Downtown Business Owner which will expire in June 2020.

*If Council so desires, Closed Session pursuant to the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of considering applications for appointment/reappointment the position(s) on Sustain Abingdon and Tourism Advisory Committee.*

**On motion by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Webb, Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of considering applications for appointment/reappointment the position(s) on Sustain Abingdon and Tourism Advisory Committee.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**On motion of Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Bradley, Council reconvened in open session.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Kim Kingsley, Clerk, read the following certification to be adopted by the Council members:

*WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia has convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and*

*WHEREAS, Sec. 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a certification by the Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; and*

*NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from an open meeting requirement by Virginia law were discussed in closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.*

**The certification was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>I so certify</b>

**On motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Bradley, Council appointed Chelsea Goulding to the Sustain Abingdon committee.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Webb, Council appointed Nicole Dyer to the Tourism Advisory Committee to fill the unexpired term of Katye Blankenship representing the Retail or Downtown Business Owner, which term will expire in June 2020.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

- O.** Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Council will convene in a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. (VIDEO 1:21:33 – 1:47:44)

**On motion by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Bradley, Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**On motion of Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Webb, Council reconvened in open session.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Kim Kingsley, Clerk, read the following certification to be adopted by the Council members:

*WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia has convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and*

*WHEREAS, Sec. 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a certification by the Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; and*

*NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from an open meeting requirement by Virginia law were discussed in closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.*

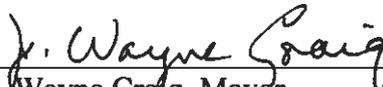
**The certification was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Ms. Patterson</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mayor Craig</b>	<b>I so certify</b>

**Mayor Craig announced to save the date for the United Way of Southwest Virginia 2019 Impact Awards on March 14, 2019 at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center at 5:30 pm.**

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Craig adjourned the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Wayne Craig, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk