

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2011 – 5:30 P.M.
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A Work session meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, November 7, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Municipal Building.

A. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present:

Mayor Edward B. Morgan
Mrs. Cathy Lowe, Vice Mayor
Mr. Jason N. Berry
Mr. Richard E. Humphreys
Mr. Robert M. Howard

Administrative Staff:

Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk
Debbie Icenhour, Town Attorney
Jim Smith, Town Engineer/Dir. of Wastewater Operations
Mark Godbey, Town Treasurer/Dir. Finance
John Dew, Dir. of Construction/Public Services
Floyd Bailey, Dir. of Information Technology
John Phelps, IT Department

Visitors:

Rick Rose, Mike Haslam, Peyton Boyd, Tom Patton with
Tysinger Hampton

The following items were discussed by Council:

1. Mayor Morgan invited Rick Rose, Producing Artistic Director to address the Council members regarding the proposed expansion project for the Barter Theatre. Mr. Rose commented on the project and invited Mike Haslam with Peyton Boyd Architecture to comment on the construction plans and schedule. Discussion ensued about the project and the Council members agreed that the plan referred to as "original scheme 1" would be the best fit for the proposed expansions. Mr. Kelly indicated that he had a meeting scheduled with Howard McElroy to discuss the changes to the lease between the Town and the Barter with regard to the expansion project.
2. John Dew, Director of Public Services and Construction asked Tom Patton of the firm Tysinger Hampton to comment to on the redesign plan scenarios for the replacement of Trestle #7 on the Creeper Trail. Mr. Patton reviewed each of the design concepts his firm had prepared and discussion ensued with regard to construction materials and costs for each concept. Council


members requested that Mr. Kelly and Mr. Dew meet with the owners of the farm where the trestle is located to make them aware and of the proposed design concepts. Council members also suggested that the members of the Creeper Trail Club be notified of the design concepts. Mr. Dew indicated that he would keep the Council apprised of the progress of those meetings as well as the design concepts as they progress.

3. Garrett Jackson, Director of Planning reported on the status of the Arthur Campbell Award. Mr. Jackson showed the Council and town staff the two choices for the medal design and the Council agreed that the darker colored medal was the best selection for the award. Mr. Jackson noted that he would also have the company producing the medal send him ideas for an appropriate display box for the medal. Council members and staff discussed the nomination process and qualifications for recipients. Mr. Jackson indicated that he had prepared a draft form for the public to use for nominations for the award and Council members agreed that the form should be placed on the town's website and media outlets for nominations.
4. Ms. Icenhour, Town Attorney reported on her meeting in Richmond with the officials at the Virginia Department of Emergency Management regarding the status of the FEMA funding award for the Country Club Estates stormwater project. Mr. Smith, Town Engineer commented on several issues that still need to be addressed before the project can proceed. Ms. Icenhour reported that the hazard mitigation plan prepared by MRPDC had been returned to them for some additional modifications. Ms. Lowe indicated that she was prepared to make a motion at the regular meeting regarding the Country Club matter.
5. Mayor Morgan reported that he had resigned from the Senior Center Board and inquired if any of the Council members could replace him on that Board. Ms. Lowe said she would fill the position but would not be available until after the first of January.
6. Mr. Kelly reported that he had asked the town staff to begin looking at plans to increase parking for town employees at the Town Hall building. Mr. Kelly indicated that he was considering making College and Church Streets one way to allow for additional parking on the street. Mr. Smith, Town Engineer commented that Church Street is suited for one way designation. The Mayor requested the town Manager provide Council with further information before moving forward with the project and Mr. Kelly noted he would keep the Council apprised of this matter as he proceeded.
7. Mr. Bailey introduced new Information Technology Department employee, John Phelps.
8. Mr. Bailey commented on several items of surplus equipment that he planned to place on the website govdeals.com.
9. Mr. Kelly reported that he was preparing for the Council agenda and packet process to go paperless. He indicated that he would like for the Council packets to be sent out on ipads and asked the Council members to select a meeting date in January for training on the ipad. Council members set Saturday, January 7th 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Town Hall for the paperless Council agenda ipad training.
10. Mr. Kelly also requested a December work session to discuss various matters and Council members decided to hold that work session meeting on December 15th at 5:30 at the Town Hall.

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

  
Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk

  
Edward B. Morgan, Mayor