

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2012 – 5:30 P.M.
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A Work session meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, April 2, 2012 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
Garrett Jackson, Asst. Town Manager/Dir. of Planning
Mark Godbey, Town Treasurer/Dir. Finance
John Dew, Dir. of Construction/Public Services
Deborah Atkins-Vance, Director Human Resources
Jim Cowart, Dir. of Economic Dev/Grants
John Phelps, IT Department

Visitors: Wayne and Jennifer Ketron, Rich Macbeth, Debra McCown,

The following items were discussed by Council:

1. Wayne Ketron provided a power point presentation to Council regarding his concept for locating an indoor sports complex in Abingdon, approximately 150 X 300 feet. Mr. Ketron's concept included such sports as football, soccer, wrestling, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, dance competitions and other plans that would include hosting tournaments and special events. Mr. Ketron said he hoped to operate the "for profit" facility himself and expressed interest in partnering with the town by locating his complex on property the Council is pursuing for the development of an outdoor sports complex facility. Mrs. Lowe inquired about bids and procurement and Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. and Mrs. Ketron for their presentation and commented that the town would be in touch as things progress with the town's acquisition of property for a sports complex facility.
2. Mr. Jackson provided an update about discussions he and Mr. Kelly the Town Manager had recently regarding the Abingdon Farmers Market. Mr. Jackson reported that vendors had expressed concern

about the prices for renting a booth at the market and the need for additional booths to accommodate all the vendors who wished to sell their products at the market. Mr. Humphreys inquired about market employee Darnell who oversees the market on behalf of the town. Mr. Kelly commented about allowing the vendors to also set up across the street on the Fields Penn House lawn. Mrs. Lowe suggested that space would be suitable for craft vendors. Mr. Kelly commented that the matter we would be back before Council for consideration at their May 2nd meeting to review the revised Farmer's Market Rules.

3. Mr. Kelly inquired if the Council members wished to continue the bi-weekly breakfast meetings. Mr. Humphreys commented on the bullet reports that were going out to Council every 2 weeks. Discussion ensued among the Council and staff and it was agreed that the breakfast meetings would no longer be held, the bullet reports would continue to go out every 2 weeks to Council, and the addition of monthly work session meeting would be considered at the May meeting.
4. Mr. Kelly inquired about setting a meeting date to discuss various matters of the Historic Properties Committee. Mrs. Lowe suggested that Council meet to determine the uses for each of the identified properties and then pass those recommendations along to Mr. Kelly so he can direct the staff as the Council's vision for the properties.
5. Mr. Jackson, Assistant Town Manager reported that VDOT has not announced the confirmation of the Urban Trails Project enhancement grant but indicated that he would notify Council as soon as a decision had been made.
6. Mr. Jackson provided a summary of the establishment of the Arthur Campbell Award and commented on the nominations that Council had received for the award. Council members determined that each nominee was worthy of the award and Mayor Morgan indicated that the announcements would be made during the regular meeting and he would send out letters to each of the nominees notifying them of the award.
7. Mrs. Icenhour, Town Attorney commented on the additional funds the Town was able to secure for the Country Club Stormwater Management project and indicated that she lacked one easement of having all the easements signed and recorded. Mrs. Icenhour also reported on the Breckenridge Cabin located on the Washington County Public Library property. Ms. Icenhour commented that the cabin was affixed to the property and from all indications it appears to be the property of Washington County. Council recommended that Mr. Kelly and Ms. Icenhour meet with Charlotte Parsons, Library Director before proceeding further.
8. Mrs. Lowe commented on an addition she would like to have made to the March 5, 2012 regular meeting minutes.

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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.

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Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

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Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk