

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 8:30 p.m. in the Council chambers of the Municipal Building following a meeting of the Planning Commission held prior to the Council meeting.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

A. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present:

Mayor Lois H. Humphreys
Edward B. Morgan, Vice Mayor
Dr. French H. Moore, Jr.
Mrs. Cathy Lowe
Mr. Jason N. Berry

Administrative/Town Staff:

Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk
Deborah Icenhour, Asst. Town Attorney
Mark Godbey, Town Treasurer/Dir. Of Finance
Jim Smith, Dir. Of Wastewater Operations/Town Eng.
Garrett Jackson, Dir. Of Planning
Chris Johnson, Dir. Of Parks and Recreation
Myra Cook, Dir. Of Tourism
Jim Cowart, Dir. Of Econ. Dev/Grants Writer
John Dew, Dir. Of Public Services/Construction
Floyd Bailey, Dir. of Information Technology
Tony Sullivan, Chief of Police

Visitors:

Members of Girl Scout Troop 115, Maggie Campbell, Rebecca Kelly, Riley Sullivan, Erin Sullivan, and troop leader, Susan Sullivan and others.

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**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

At this time, the Mayor introduced the members of Girl Scout Troop 115 who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- November 3, 2008 Work Session Meeting
- November 3, 2008 Regular Meeting

- November 18, 2008 Work Session

On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Berry, the Council approved the minutes of the November 3, 2008 work session meeting as presented and the November 3, 2008 meeting as presented, the November 18, 2008 work session meeting with two (2) corrections noted and they are:

- **Page 208 of the minutes, the fourth paragraph under *Section B. Review and Consideration of Pedestrian for the Town*, should include the statement “ . . . targeted areas of discussion, which are roads that lead to Main and Valley Streets”**
- **Page 210 of the minutes, the motion at the bottom of the page should be corrected to read as seconded by Dr. Moore, not Mr. Berry**

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mr. Morgan	Aye
Mayor Humphreys	Aye

The motion carried.

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#### **D. PETITIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. **Public Hearing** – Special Use Permit – Senior Services Center, Inc. (Abingdon Senior Center dba Virginia Ballroom, application for Special Use Permit pursuant to Article 6, Section 6-2-2 and 6-2-3, Special Uses, of the Zoning Ordinance, in the R-3 Residential District of the Town of Abingdon to operate party houses and clubs. Tax Map No. 5(6)1.

The Mayor declared the public hearing open and invited comments from those in the audience wishing to speak.

- James Counts indicated that he was opposed to the granting of the special use permit for the Senior Center.
- Linda Sparrow commented that she was a member of the Board of Directors and was very pleased with the path of growth that the Center was taking.
- Polly Wirt commented that she was opposed to the granting of the special use permit for the Center and commented on her opposition to the serving of alcoholic beverages at the Center.
- Mary Calhoun commented that she was in favor of the special use permit and that the activities at the Center were beneficial for her.

- Madeleine Dene, employee of the Senior Center, commented that she was in favor of granting the special use permit and hoped it would help the growth of membership at the Center.
- Sharon McCall commented that she was in favor of the special use permit and that the nutrition program at the Center was an asset.
- Charlie Jessee commented that he was in favor of the special use permit and indicated that the benefits would be beneficial for all of Abingdon.

At this time, the Mayor closed the public hearing and asked the Council for their comments.

**On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Morgan, the Council agreed with the recommendation of the Planning Commission to grant the special use permit for the Senior Center's application for designation as a ballroom, a club, and a party house, and further request that you take the following actions:**

- **That the Center provide adequate access for emergency vehicles at all times**
- **That the Center refrain from obtaining a license to serve alcoholic beverages**
- **That the Center refrain from allowing employees of the Center to serve alcoholic beverages**
- **That the Center obey the noise ordinance at all times**
- **That the Center refrains from advertising the Café as a public restaurant.**

At this time, Mr. Morgan commented that the Center was thriving and appeared to be well managed.

Mr. Berry commented that he felt the Senior Center was a great facility but that he had two (2) concerns. His first concern was regarding the monitoring of the facility when a private function was taking place. His second concern was with regard to the limited amount of parking at the Center. His final concern and hope was that the senior events would always come before the private/paid events.

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

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Mr. Berry</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Dr. Moore</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Morgan</b>      | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |

**The motion carried.**

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2. **Public Hearing – First Reading – Proposed Amendment – Application by Kings Mountain Properties, LLC, J.D. Morefield, Representative, to repeal, amend and reenact the Town of Abingdon Zoning Ordinance, Article 9, Section 9-1-28,**

Permitted Uses By Right, to add light industry within the O&I Office and Institutional District. Tax Map No. 106(7)1A.

Garrett Jackson, Director of Planning, indicated that this matter had come before the Planning Commission at their November meeting. Mr. Jackson indicated that Mr. Morefield had applied for a use by right and that the Planning Commission recommended approval to add light industry within the O&I office and Institutional District as a special use and not as a use by right.

The Mayor declared the public hearing open and asked if anyone wished to speak to the matter. Mr. Kelly recommended that the Council proceed with the approval of the Ordinance associated with this matter and that would allow Mr. Morefield to come back to the Council at the January meeting with his request. There being no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Dr. Moore, the Council approved the Ordinance to Repeal, Amend and Reenact the Town of Abingdon's Zoning Ordinance, Article 9, Section 9-2-4, to allow Light Industry Uses Under the Special Use Category in accordance with Definitions provided by the American Planning Association ("APA") and further to approve the Ordinance on first reading thereby dispensing with the second reading of the ordinance.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mr. Morgan	Aye
Mayor Humphreys	Aye

The motion carried.

At this time, Mr. Kelly informed Mr. Morefield, that he would need to go back to the Planning Commission with an application for a special use permit in accordance with the Town's zoning ordinance. Mr. Morefield acknowledged he was aware of this and indicated he would do so.

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- 3. Public Hearing** – Lease Agreement – The renewal and modification of a Lease Agreement with the Fairview in Abingdon Foundation to occupy the property at 908 Hillman Highway, Abingdon, Virginia and being a portion of Tax Map No. 106-5-4, consisting of 22.1(+) acres.

The Mayor declared the public hearing open and asked if anyone wished to comment. Debbie Icenhour, Assistant Town Attorney indicated that she had worked with Dr. and

Mrs. Moore on the lease and they were satisfied with the contents. She further indicated that the Moore's would like to see the land used for a possible community crop growing project and that the lease was entered into at no cost to the Town.

There being no further comments, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

**On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Morgan, the Council authorized the Town Manager to enter into the Lease Agreement for the Fairview in Abingdon Foundation property at 908 Hillman Highway, Abingdon, Virginia and being a portion of Tax Map No. 106-5-4, consisting of 22.1(+) acres.**

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

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Mr. Berry</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Dr. Moore</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Morgan</b>      | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |

**The motion carried.**

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4. **Public Hearing** – Lease Agreement – The installation of a cellular tower to be located on a portion of the property located in the Town of Abingdon, Virginia on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College, Exit 14, Abingdon, Virginia and more particularly described on a plat “Showing a portion of Commonwealth of Virginia State Board of Community Colleges”, recorded in the Washington County Circuit Court Clerk’s Office in Deed Book, 426, page 218.

The Mayor opened the public hearing for comment. Floyd Bailey, Director of Information Services, informed the Council of the need for the Lease Agreement with the Community College and explained that the tower located on this site was the backbone piece to the Phase II project for Wi-Fi services to the Town.

Debbie Icenhour, Assistant Town Attorney, indicated that she had reviewed the contract and recommended that the Council authorize Mr. Kelly to enter into the agreement.

There being no further comment, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

On motion of Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Berry, the Council authorized the Town Manger to enter into an agreement for the installation of a cellular tower to be located on a portion of the property located in the Town of Abingdon, Virginia on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College, Exit 14, Abingdon, Virginia and more particularly described on a plat “Showing a portion of Commonwealth of Virginia State Board of Community Colleges”, recorded in the Washington County Circuit Court Clerk’s Office in Deed Book, 426, page 218.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mr. Morgan	Aye
Mayor Humphreys	Aye

The motion carried.

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**E. CONSIDERATION OF ANY BIDS – NONE**

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F. REPORTS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

1. Consideration of disposition of retired badges from the Abingdon Police Department.

Tony Sullivan, Chief of Police appeared before the Council and reported that he had received newly designed badges for the officers in his department requested that the Council consider declaring the badges retired and recommended that they be given to the officers of the department.

On motion Dr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council declared the prior issued officers' badges retired and further indicated that each officer may keep their prior issued badge.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mr. Morgan	Aye
Mayor Humphreys	Aye

The motion carried.

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**2. Consideration of appropriation of funds to make repairs to the Housing and Redevelopment Authority building located on Green Springs Road.**

Greg Kelly, Town Manager, commented that the Housing and Redevelopment Authority building, which is owned by the Town, is in need of repairs and asked the Council to consider authorizing the obtaining of bids for the necessary repair work.

**On motion of Dr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council authorized the Town Manager to seek bids for the repair work needed for the Housing and Redevelopment Authority building located on Green Springs Road.**

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

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Mr. Berry</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Dr. Moore</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Morgan</b>      | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |

**The motion carried.**

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3. Consideration of funding request from Abingdon Main Street, Inc.

Gary Kimbrell, President of the Abingdon Main Street group appeared before the Council to ask their consideration in appropriating additional funding so that the organization can meet the payroll of their director for the coming months. Mr. Kimbrell asked the Council for a \$25,000 appropriation.

Mrs. Lowe questioned Mr. Kimbrell about the funding they have been able to raise thus far and asked if they had begun their membership sales drive. Mr. Kimbrell indicated that they were starting their membership sales drive in next few days with a special downtown shopping event. Mrs. Lowe commented on the importance of the membership participation and sales and encouraged the group to implement this sales drive.

On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Berry, the Council appropriated \$10,000, from the Council contingency, for funding for the Abingdon Main Street, Inc., which is a match for the funding they have raised thus far, and further asked the group to put together a fundraising and business plan and report back to the Council for consideration.

At this time, Mr. Morgan commented that he would like for Jim Cowart, Economic Development Coordinator and Council member Berry to assist the Main Street group with these plans.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Aye
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Mrs. Lowe **Aye**
Dr. Moore **Aye**
Mr. Morgan **Aye**
Mayor Humphreys **Aye**

The motion carried.

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**4. Report on status of Tourism website and upcoming Tourism forum.**

Courtney Bledsoe, Chairman of the Tourism Advisory Committee reported that they were still in the process of finalizing their contract with DesignSensory and once that was complete, the website design work would begin.

Mrs. Lowe asked Debbie Icenhour, Town Attorney to give the Council an update on the contract with DesignSensory. Mrs. Icenhour gave a brief summary of the contract negotiations and indicated that once the final piece, a surety bond, was obtained by DesignSensory, the contract should be ready for signature by both parties. Floyd Bailey, Director of Information Services, also gave the Council supporting information for the need for a surety bond by the DesignSensory group.

Mr. Morgan asked that Town staff continue working closely with DesignSensory so that the work on the website can go forward.

Ms. Bledsoe also reported that a community wide tourism forum will be held on Monday, January 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Barter Stage II and encouraged the Council members to attend.

**No action was required by Council on this item.**

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5. Consideration of funding request from *ElderSpirit*.

Tom Boyle, Chairman of the ElderSpirit group appeared before the Council to ask for their consideration of an appropriation of \$70,000 to assist with operating funds and meeting their payroll obligations for their director. Mr. Boyle indicated their funding had been depleted and that no grant funding was anticipated at this time.

- Mr. Berry inquired about the \$35,000 deposit the ElderSpirit group had put down towards the purchase of property on Whites Mill Road for their proposed Phase II project.
- Mrs. Lowe inquired about the costs that had been expended thus in administration, land survey work, engineering services, appraisal services and geo technical services for the land for the proposed Phase II site.

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- Mr. Morgan indicated that he would like to meet with the ElderSpirit board to review their situation and report back to the Council at the January meeting.

Mr. Broyle indicated that the ElderSpirit group did not have funding to meet their payroll obligation for the coming month and asked if they would consider an immediate appropriation.

- Mr. Berry commented that he felt the group was asking for a bailout and had no guarantee of getting the \$35,000 deposit on the land on Whites Mill Road back from the landowner. Mr. Boyle indicated that was correct if the land deal falls through.

Dene Peterson commented to the Council that they needed \$6,500 to meet their payroll obligation and limited operational expenses for the coming month.

- Mr. Morgan reaffirmed his desire to meet with the ElderSpirit group and report back to the Council members.
- Mrs. Lowe commented that she would be supportive of appropriating the amount of \$6,500 in order for the group to meet the payroll obligation of their director.

On motion of Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council appropriated the amount of \$6,500 from their contingency for operating expenses and payroll obligation for ElderSpirit and further indicated that Mr. Morgan will meet with the group and report back to the Council at the January 2009 meeting.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Nay
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mr. Morgan	Aye
Mayor Humphreys	Aye

The motion carried.

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#### **6. Consideration of appropriation of funds for centrally located recycling bin.**

John Dew, Director of Public Services, appeared before the Council members to report on the costs associated with a centrally located recycling bin. Mr. Dew indicated that the bin could provide a service for citizens not currently being served but also commented that several details needed to be finalized before the bin could be purchased.

Mrs. Lowe inquired about the timing of the project. Mr. Morgan commented that he was very supportive of the project but felt that given the amount of funding needed for the bin, it should be considered during the Council's regular annual budget process.

**No action was required by Council on this matter.**

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G. PASSAGE OF RESOLUTIONS

- 1. Resolution of the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia to encourage the Washington County, Virginia Board of Supervisors and the Washington County Planning Commission to consider the contents of the Town's Comprehensive Plan as they review and amend the contents of their Comprehensive Plan.**

On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Morgan, the Council approved the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ABINGDON, VIRGINIA TO ENCOURAGE THE WASHINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE WASHINGTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE CONTENTS OF THE TOWN'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS THEY REVIEW AND AMEND THE CONTENTS OF THEIR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the County of Washington and the Town of Abingdon have had a long working relationship for over 230 years; and

WHEREAS, the Town applauds the County's recent efforts to update the existing Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town, being one of three incorporated towns wholly located within the County of Washington, thereby takes an interest in the policy process of the County of Washington in matters that affect the health, safety and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Abingdon, recognizing the importance of intergovernmental cooperation among localities, invited the Washington County Administrative staff in 2006 to participate in the formation of the Town's 2027 Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant County Administrator and County Planner participated in a day-long information and design charrette at the Town Municipal Building in May 2006 towards the aforementioned goal; and

WHEREAS the Town Council was represented at the October, 2007 Washington County Planning Commission meeting wherein it was requested of the County that the Planning Commission of the Town of Abingdon be given the opportunity to comment upon the recent revisions; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Abingdon Planning Commission, at their 24 November, Regular Meeting made the following recommendations to be included in the draft for adoption:

- Ch. III, p.22 – The sentence, "Focus is needed to improve the general appearance of this corridor", is shown as being stricken. The corridor in question, Lee Highway from Exit 7 to the Town of Abingdon is one in which special attention needs to be shown in terms of development, traffic study and aesthetics. This would include the adoption of Entrance Corridor Overlay Districts for roads leading into the Towns of Abingdon, Damascus and Glade Spring for development control and aesthetic purposes. This would also include study the need for Protective Overlay Zones for the Virginia Creeper Trail and Salt Trail corridors.

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- Ch. IV, p. 7 – In addition to working with the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission and the Commonwealth on gathering information on watersheds for the availability of clean water, the Town requests the County cooperate with the Towns of Abingdon, Damascus and Glade Spring in studies concerning storm water runoff and the effects of development within the county that ultimately effect the towns by flooding.
- Ch. IV, p. 13 – The encouragement of the preservation of historic resources and sites is applauded by the Town of Abingdon. In addition, the Town asks that consideration into Tax Credits for the preservation and restoration of the same. The Town is currently reviewing a tax credit program for use within the town limits.
- Encourage revision of Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances for better practices of land use, density and walk able and bike able communities.
- Encourage better coordination between the review/approval process of neighborhood developments and the Washington County School Board to ensure less overcrowding of schools.
- That the Washington County Planning Commission be enlarged to include representatives from the Towns of Abingdon, Damascus, Glade Spring and Saltville, appointed by each town and from their respective Planning Commission bodies.
- The need for the County to actively pursue compliance with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Erosion and Sediment Control Requirements by hiring staff for such duty; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia presents this document, in the hopes that the Washington County (Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors) will consider its content in the spirit of mutual friendship and cooperation that it is offered in when the Comprehensive Plan revisions are completed.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Berry	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mr. Morgan	Aye
Mayor Humphreys	Aye

The motion carried.

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**H. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**

1. **An Ordinance to Repeal, Amend and Reenact the Town of Abingdon’s Zoning Ordinance, Article 9, Section 9-2-4, to allow Light Industry Uses Under the Special Use Category in accordance with Definitions provided by the American Planning Association (“APA”).**

**No action was required by Council as this item was approved earlier in the meeting during agenda item D2.**

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I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES – NONE

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**J. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Consideration of memorial tree policy at Veterans Memorial Park.**

- Mr. Morgan commented that he would like to meet with the Town's tree commission members and asked that this matter be brought back at the January 2009 meeting.

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- Mrs. Lowe inquired about the status of the minutes from the October 14, 2008 joint Town Council/Board of Supervisors meeting. Mrs. Rosenbaum indicated that she would have those prepared for Council's consideration at the January 2009 meeting.

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- Rick Rose, Director of Barter Theatre appeared before the Council member to inquire about the release of funds to the Barter in exchange for the deed of dedication to the Town of the sidewalk along Partington Place.
- Mr. Kelly indicated that he was not authorized by Council to release the funds until the Town had received final clearance from the Department of Justice on the necessary repairs and Council had taken formal action on the appropriation.
- Mrs. Icenhour reported that she hoped to receive final clearance, in writing, from the Department of Justice, in the next several days.

**On motion of Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council appropriated \$36,401 from its contingency and authorized the Town Manager to accept a deed of dedication from the Barter Theatre for the sidewalk along Partington Place in exchange for \$36,401. The release of the funds are to be contingent upon the Town receiving written confirmation from the Department of Justice that all of the Town's ADA issues at this location have been properly addressed.**

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

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| <b>Mr. Berry</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Dr. Moore</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Morgan</b> | <b>Aye</b> |

**Mayor Humphreys      Aye**

**The motion carried.**

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K. MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Polly Wirt appeared before the Council to comment that she was in the process of forming a service group for elderly people in the community.

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**L. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

- Mr. Morgan commented that he has been appointed to the board of the Abingdon Senior Center.

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M. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Appointment of Council member to Tourism Advisory Board.

On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Dr. Moore, Valerie McConnel was appointed to the Tourism Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of Pat Jessee. Said term will commence on December 2, 2008 and expire on November 6, 2009.

Mr. Berry Aye
Mrs. Lowe Aye
Dr. Moore Aye
Mr. Morgan Aye
Mayor Humphreys Aye

The motion carried.

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**2. Appointment of two (2) members to the “Go Green” Committee.**

**On motion of Dr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Berry, Jackie Godbey from the Department of Building Inspection and Tammy Baldwin from the Department of Finance were appointed to the “Go Green” Committee.**

**Mr. Berry                      Aye**  
**Mrs. Lowe                     Aye**  
**Dr. Moore                     Aye**

**Mr. Morgan**                      **Aye**  
**Mayor Humphreys**              **Aye**

**The motion carried.**

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At this time, Mayor Humphreys turned the Council meeting over to Cecile Rosenbaum, Town Clerk for the selection process for Mayor of the Council.

Mrs. Rosenbaum indicated that Mayor Humphreys had submitted a letter stating that she was stepping down as Mayor effective December 31, 2008 and opened the floor for nominations as Mayor.

Mrs. Lowe voiced her nomination of Ed Morgan as Mayor.

Mrs. Rosenbaum heard no other nominations for Mayor and called for discussion. Mr. Berry commented that it was his hope that Mayor Humphreys would serve out the full two (2) year term as Mayor and commented on the process of the selection of Mayor. Mr. Berry asked that the Council consider two options in the future and the first was that they consider a change in the process and change the Town Charter and let the citizens elect the Mayor and the second was that Charter be changed so that the Mayor and Vice Mayor have no more power than any other member of the Council.

Mrs. Lowe asked to be on the record as to why she nominated Ed Morgan. Mrs. Lowe commented that people have voted for change in the last two elections and that she supported Mrs. Humphreys as Mayor because she captured the largest number of votes in the last two elections. Mrs. Lowe commented that she was supporting Mr. Morgan now because he was the next Council member in line for the position, without having to recycle a previous mayor and that she had great regard for all the Council members but Mr. Morgan had been elected three times at large and even though they may have philosophical differences, Mr. Morgan has earned his chance.

Mrs. Rosenbaum called the roll for the vote on the nomination of Ed Morgan as Mayor and it was as follows:

Mr. Berry **Nay**
Mrs. Lowe **Aye**
Dr. Moore **Nay**
Mr. Morgan **Aye**
Mayor Humphreys **Aye**

The motion carried.

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Mrs. Rosenbaum indicated that with Mr. Morgan's selection as Mayor, the Council would now need to select a Vice Mayor and opened the floor for nominations from the Council for Vice Mayor.

**Mr. Berry voiced his nomination for Dr. Moore as Vice Mayor.**

Mrs. Rosenbaum heard no other nominations for Vice Mayor and called for discussion. Mr. Morgan commented, for the record, that he would have to vote no to Dr. Moore's nomination as Vice Mayor. He indicated that he had tremendous respect for Dr. Moore, and said he felt that Dr. Moore's contributions to the Town of Abingdon are rivaled only by those of Robert Porterfield, but felt that as Dr. Moore has been on the Council for over 40 years and has served as both Mayor and Vice Mayor that he felt there was a need for a change to allow other persons to gain experience and move forward. Mr. Morgan said he regretted that he would not be able to support Dr. Moore as Vice Mayor.

Mrs. Lowe commented that she would like to inquire if Dr. Moore was planning to take his annual trip out west and questioned if he was able to fulfill the duties of the Vice Mayor since he would be gone from the first of January to the first of April. Mrs. Lowe indicated that she recognized all of Dr. Moore's contributions to the Town of Abingdon but commented that she was not comfortable that Dr. Moore could fulfill the duties as Vice Mayor if he was out of town for an extended period of time.

**Mrs. Rosenbaum called the roll for the vote on the nomination of Dr. Moore as Vice Mayor and it was as follows:**

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Mr. Berry</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>       | <b>Nay</b> |
| <b>Dr. Moore</b>       | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Morgan</b>      | <b>Nay</b> |
| <b>Mayor Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |

**The motion carried.**

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At this time, Mr. Morgan thanked Mayor Humphreys for her years of dedicated service as Mayor of the Council of the Town of Abingdon and for all of her contributions.

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**On motion of Mr. Berry, seconded by Dr. Moore, the meeting was adjourned.**

**The roll call vote was:**

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
|------------------|------------|

**Mr. Morgan**            **Aye**  
**Dr. Moore**            **Aye**  
**Mr. Berry**            **Aye**  
**Mayor Humphreys** **Aye**

**The motion carried.**

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Lois H. Humphreys, Mayor

Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk