



**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015 - 6PM
ARTHUR CAMPBELL MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A Work session meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Arthur Campbell meeting room of the Municipal Building.

A. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present: Edward B. Morgan, Mayor
Mrs. Cathy Lowe, Vice Mayor
Mr. Richard E. Humphreys
Mr. Robert M. Howard
Mrs. Jayne A. Duehring

Administrative/Town Staff: Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile Rosenbaum, Asst Town Manager
Tonya Triplett, Deputy Clerk
Deborah Icenhour, Town Attorney
Matthew Johnson, Dir. Of Planning

The following items were discussed by Council:

On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mrs. Duehring, the Council went into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, the Council will convene in a closed session for the purpose of discussion concerning the acquisition of real property for a public purpose.

The roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Duehring	Aye
Mr. Howard	Aye
Mr. Humphreys	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Mayor Morgan	Aye

On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Council reconvened in regular session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mrs. Duehring	Aye
Mr. Howard	Aye
Mr. Humphreys	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Mayor Morgan	Aye

The Deputy Town Clerk, Tonya Triplett, 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:

Mrs. Duehring	I so certify
Mr. Howard	I so certify
Mr. Humphreys	I so certify
Mrs. Lowe	I so certify
Mayor Morgan	I so certify

1. Mr. Howard, Council Member stated Council needs to look at how Wal-Mart will affect businesses in town and how the town can support the local business owners. Consensus of Council is to meet with Economic Development Authority to discuss direction.
2. Cecile Rosenbaum, Assistant Town Manager reported that she and Deb Icenhour, Town Attorney had met to discuss the establishment of a foundation. Ms. Rosenbaum noted that they had discussions with Council member Duehring regarding fundraising and how to establish a foundation. Ms. Duehring commented that financial constraints of

potential donors were a barrier to raising money because of the recession and timing is vital to starting a charitable giving foundation. Ms. Duehring suggested that Council consider establishing a 501 C3 stand alone committee which would require two or three people who are extremely passionate about Historic Preservation. Mrs. Duehring agreed to initiate some conversations with others who might be interested to see if it is the right time to consider a historic foundation.

Mayor Morgan declared the meeting adjourned.

Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

Tonya H. Triplett, Deputy Clerk