

**TOWN OF ABINGDON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2015 - 7:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, August 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council chambers of the Municipal Building.

**A. Welcome by Mayor Morgan**

**B. Roll Call - Cecile Rosenbaum, Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk**

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, Assistant  
Town Manager/Town Clerk  
Tonya Triplett, Deputy Clerk  
Deborah Icenhour, Town Attorney  
Chuck Banner, Director Of Finance  
Matthew Johnson, Dir. Of Planning  
John Dew, Dir. Public Services/Construction  
Tony Sullivan, Chief of Police  
Kevin Worley, Dir. Of Parks & Recreation  
Kevin Costello, Dir. Of Tourism

Visitors: Rich Macbeth, Marcy Miller

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**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rick Humphreys, Council Member

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- July 6, 2015 Work Session Meeting
- July 6, 2015 Regular Meeting
- July 15, 2015 Work Session Meet

**On motion by Mr. Mr. Howard, seconded by Mrs. Duehring, the Council approved the minutes of the July 6, 2015 work session, July 6, 2015 regular meeting and July 15, 2015 work session minutes as presented.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

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#### **E. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS**

Mr. Kelly recognized the following employees for their years of service to the town:

- Mike Roark, Wolf Creek Wastewater Reclamation Facility Collector, for twenty five (25) years of service
- Myra Martin, Front Desk Assistant Coomes Recreation Center, for ten (10) years of service
- Reba Profitt, Accounts Payable Clerk, for ten (10) years of service
- Melisha Wynne, Assistant Director, Aquatics Coordinator, Coomes Recreation Center, for ten (10) years of service

#### **F. SPECIAL COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Mayor Morgan announced that Steve Smith, Wayne Miller and Emmitt Yeary are the recipients for the 2015 Arthur Campbell Award and will be recognized October 16 at an award ceremony and dinner at the Martha Washington Inn. Vice Mayor Lowe read the biography for each nominee and reported the 2016 nominations is now open.

**On motion by Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mrs. Duehring, the Council formally accepted Steve Smith, Wayne Miller and Emmitt Yeary as the 2015 Arthur Campbell award recipients.**

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

<b>Mrs. Duehring</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Howard</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Humphreys</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Lowe</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Morgan</b>	<b>Aye</b>

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#### **G. RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution of the Council of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia designating August 2-8, 2015 as "Farmers Market" Week.

David McLeish, Dreamland Alpacas and Haley Stewart, Abingdon Farmer's Market Manager reported the market is doing well and vendor space is filled on Saturday mornings. They noted shoppers are coming from all over the Tri-Cities area.

Mayor Morgan read a resolution declaring August 2-8, 2015 as "Farmers' Market" week.



**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ABINGDON, VIRGINIA DESIGNATING AUGUST 2-8, 2015 AS "FARMERS' MARKET" WEEK IN ABINGDON, VIRGINIA**

**WHEREAS**, the popularity of Virginia's farmers' markets has grown dramatically in recent years, from 88 markets in 2006 to nearly 250 in 2015 and plays a vital role in giving farmers direct access to consumers and consumers direct access to farmers; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers' markets provide the public with a convenient, fresh, competitively-priced source for high quality fruits, vegetables, eggs, honey, herbs, flowers, organic items, cheeses, baked goods, meats, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers' markets reinforce and maintain community identity and help to foster new businesses, encourage and support the growth of new entrepreneurs and are good for the economy, good for consumers' health and good for the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic impact of Farmers' Markets include direct benefits to farmers and business owners, but also indirect benefits to the community in stimulating downtown revitalization, enhancing parks and waterfronts and preserving farmland through economic viability; and

**WHEREAS, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Council recognizes that the Abingdon Farmers' Market has played an important role in the life of our town and helped connect our citizens with the people who produce our food and has heightened public awareness of the role that agriculture plays in our region; and

**WHEREAS, NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Council does hereby proclaim August 2-8, 2015, as "FARMERS' MARKET" week in Abingdon, Virginia, and calls this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

**TOWN OF ABINGDON, VIRGINIA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Town Manager

The undersigned clerk of the Town of Abingdon, Virginia (the "Town"), hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Council held on August 3, 2015. I hereby further certify that such meeting was a regularly scheduled meeting and that, during the consideration of the foregoing resolution, a quorum was present. I further certify that the minutes of such meeting reflect the attendance of the members and the voting on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

| MEMBERS                   | ATTENDANCE | VOTE |
|---------------------------|------------|------|
| Edward B. Morgan, Mayor   | Yes        | Aye  |
| Cathy C. Lowe, Vice Mayor | Yes        | Aye  |
| Robert M. Howard          | Yes        | Aye  |
| Richard E. Humphreys      | Yes        | Aye  |
| Jayne A. Duehring         | Yes        | Aye  |

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Town of Abingdon as of August 3, 2015.

(SEAL) Cecile M. Rosnbrum Clerk,  
Town of Abingdon

**On motion by Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Council accepted the "Farmers'**

**Market” week resolution as presented.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

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#### **H. PETITIONS, PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**

1. Consideration of a final plat for subdivision: **Holston Mountain Artisans, 214 Park St. SE, Abingdon, VA 24210, Tax Map No. 013-1-133.**

Matthew Johnson, Director of Planning asked Council to consider a request from Holston Mountain Artisans, to subdivide their property located at 214 Park Street, SE, Abingdon, Tax Map No. 013-1-133. Mr. Johnson noted that the Planning Commission reviewed the request and voted unanimously to approve it.

**On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Council moved to allow the subdivision at 214 Park Street, SE, Tax Map No. 013-1-133 as presented by Mr. Johnson, Director of Planning.**

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

<b>Mrs. Duehring</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Howard</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Humphreys</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Lowe</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Morgan</b>	<b>Aye</b>

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#### **I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES – None.**

#### **J. CONSIDERATION OF ANY BIDS –None.**

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

1. **Consideration of sponsorship request from Appalachian School of Law for The Governor’s Second Biennial Natural Resources and Energy Law Symposium.**

Greg Kelly, Town Manager, asked Council to consider a request for sponsorship from Appalachian School of Law for The Governor’s Second Biennial Natural Resources and Energy Law Symposium, to be held at the Southwest Higher Education Center September 21, 2015.

**On motion of Mr. Howard, seconded by Mrs. Duehring, the Council allocated \$1,000, a Bronze Sponsorship, to Appalachian School of Law for The Governor’s Second**

**Biennial Natural Resources and Energy Law Symposium.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

**2. Consideration to change the date for September Council meeting.**

Cecile Rosenbaum, Assistant Town Manger/Town Clerk, asked Council to consider changing the September meeting date, as the first Monday is Labor Day and town offices will be closed.

**On motion by Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council changed the September work session and regular meeting date to Tuesday, September 8, 2015.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

**3. Consideration to change the date for October Council Meeting.**

Cecile Rosenbaum, Assistant Town Manger/Town Clerk, asked Council to consider changing the October meeting date, as the first Monday in October Council will attend the VML Annual Conference in Richmond, VA.

**On motion by Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Humphreys, the Council changed the October regular meeting date to Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30 and agreed to dispense the work session that evening.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

**4. Consideration of authorization for Town Manager to sign and send MOU for passenger rail.**

Mr. Kelly, Town Manager reported he met with Andrew Trivett, City of Bristol about the

possibility of passenger rail service in our area. Mr. Trivett traveled to NY to meet with Amtrack about the possibility and has asked communities to sign a Passenger Rail Memorandum of Understanding that would expand passenger rail service and would allow travel options to the Midwest and Eastern metropolitan areas.

**On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Council authorized Mr. Kelly, Town Manager to execute the Memorandum of Understanding for passenger service.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

**5. Consideration of authorization for Town Manager to sign letter to VDOT in support of study of transportation and safety benefits of a bypass connecting Exit 14 to Route 19.**

Mr. Kelly, Town Manager, and John Dew, Director of Public Service/Construction, explained that VDOT has requested a letter of support to conduct a study of the transportation and safety benefits of a bypass directly connecting Jonesboro Road in the vicinity of Main Street and I-81 Exit 14 to Route 19, Porterfield Highway, in the vicinity of Elementary Drive, via the House Bill 2 process.

**On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Council authorized Mr. Kelly, Town Manager, to sign a letter of support to conduct a study of the transportation and safety benefits of a bypass directly connecting Jonesboro Road in the vicinity of Main Street and I-81 Exit 14 to Route 19, Porterfield Highway, in the vicinity of Elementary Drive., via the House Bill 2 process for a VDOT administered study.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

**6. Appropriation of sewer refund to Glenrochie Country Club.**

Council members reviewed the matter during the work session meeting and no further action was required.

**L. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Update on blight issue on Panorama Drive.**

John Dew, Director of Public Service/Construction presented photos of a vacant lot with high grass on Panorama Drive, Abingdon. Rich Macbeth of Panorama Drive had reported last month that there was a smell of chemicals; Mr. Kelly stated the proper procedure would be to contact DEQ, which has the ability to identify chemicals. Mr. Macbeth expressed concerns about other property owners not maintaining their property and concerns that the town may not be enforcing property maintenance. Mr. Kelly, Town Manger noted the town was aware of the problem, but is currently without a Code Compliance Officer. Mr. Kelly commented that he would meet with Mr. Macbeth if further discussion was needed. Mayor Morgan noted that the Council takes citizen concerns seriously.

**K. MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

- o Rich Macbeth of 1139 Panorama Drive, Abingdon reported the September Council meeting date would now coincide with the BZA meeting.

**L. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

- 1. Economic Development Authority

**On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council approved the reappointment of John Mahaffey and Laura Blevins to the Economic Development Authority for a four (4) year term, expiring August 2019.**

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

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Mrs. Duehring</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Howard</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mr. Humphreys</b> | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mrs. Lowe</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Mayor Morgan</b>  | <b>Aye</b> |

- 2. Sustain Abingdon

Vice Mayor Lowe requested the appointment be tabled as more applications have been submitted.

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**M. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

Mr. Humphreys reported the Fairview dedication and Old Glade Antique Tractor Show went very well. He also thanked Kevin Costello, Director of Tourism and Economic Development for the opening of the Creeper Trail Welcome Center and also John Dew, Director of Public Service and Construction for a great job on the parking lot on Russell Road.

Vice Mayor Lowe thanked all Town Department Heads for staying within their budgets during the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Mrs. Duehring, encouraged everyone to attend the Fields-Penn forums, August 11, 6-7 pm at K-VA-T Headquarters, August 13, 1-2pm at Town Hall and August 17 9:30-10:30 am and 2:30-3:30pm at the Washington County Library.

Mayor Morgan reported that he attended a meeting at White's Mill recently and reported the flume is being repaired and they should be close to grinding with water again. Mayor Morgan noted that Fairview, Old Glade Antique Tractor Association and Harvest Table had partnered to bring heirloom corn back to the area. The corn will be grown at Fairview, harvested by Old Glade Antique Tractor Association and served at the Harvest Table Restaurant.

Mayor Morgan declared the meeting adjourned.

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Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

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Tonya H. Triplett, Deputy Clerk