

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015 – 7:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council chambers of the Municipal Building.

A. Welcome by Mayor Morgan

B. Roll Call – Cecile Rosenbaum, 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, Clerk/Int. Asst. Town Manager
John Dew, Dir. Public Services/Construction
Kevin Worley, Dir. of Parks & Recreation
Kevin Costello, Dir. of Tourism
Matthew Johnson, Dir. of Planning
Chuck Banner, Dir. of Finance

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member, Jayne Duehring.

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**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- January 5, 2015 Work Session minutes
- January 5, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes

**On motion of Mrs. Duehring, seconded by Mr. Humphreys, the Council approved the minutes of the January 5, 2015 Work Session and the January 5, 2015 Regular meeting minutes as presented.**

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

**Mr. Howard           Aye**  
**Mr. Humphreys       Aye**

Mrs. Duehring      Aye  
Mrs. Lowe            Aye  
Mayor Morgan        Aye

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E. PETITIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES – None.

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**F. SECOND READINGS – None.**

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G. SECOND READINGS OF ORDINANCES - None.

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**H. CONSIDERATION OF ANY BIDS – None.**

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I. REPORTS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

1. Consideration of appropriation of funds from Council Contingency for costs associated with a Council Retreat, February 20th through 22nd, 2015.

Greg Kelly, Town Manager reported that Council had agreed to hold a retreat in Asheville, North Carolina the weekend of February 20th through 22nd, 2015 and would include a professional facilitator. Mr. Kelly noted that the expenses associated with the retreat had not been budgeted and asked Council to appropriate the amount of \$10,000 from their contingency to cover the costs.

On motion of Mr. Howard, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council appropriated the amount of \$10,000 from Council Contingency for the purpose of holding a retreat the weekend of February 20th through 22nd.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Howard Aye
Mr. Humphreys Aye
Mrs. Duehring Aye

Mrs. Lowe **Aye**
Mayor Morgan **Aye**

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**2. Report on the Cruise In Car Club request from the January 2015 regular meeting.**

Greg Kelly, Town Manager reported on the charges that were paid in 2014 for the Cruise In Car Club to hold an event on Main Street on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. Mr. Kelly noted that the fees paid, totaling \$480, included two (2) police officers required for a street closure as well as the barricades and temporary fencing. Mrs. Lowe inquired if these charges were similar to what other organizations in town were charged. Mrs. Duehring encouraged the members of the Car Club to seek out sponsorships to help offset costs and applauded their efforts to donate proceeds to charitable organizations. Mr. McCall, Car Club representative indicated that the Club held a 501(c) 3 designation from the State Corporation Commission. Mrs. Lowe suggested that Council provide “seed money” for the group as a onetime allocation and have them complete a non-departmental budget request form.

**On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Council appropriated the amount of \$1,000 from Council contingency to the Cruise In Car Club for their event to be held on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

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

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

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3. Update on the Alliance for Rural Health project

Greg Kelly, Town Manager reported that he and Mayor Morgan had attended the meeting of the Tobacco Commission in Richmond in mid-January and were very encouraged about the Alliance for Rural health project. Mr. Kelly noted that the project was rejected but the Commission asked that it be re-submitted for consideration again in the spring. Mr. Kelly noted that all parties felt the project was moving forward.

No action was required by Council on this matter.

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**4. Consideration of dates for work session meetings to review budget 2015/2016**

Greg Kelly, Town Manager commented that Council had considered dates for budget work session meetings and had selected each Wednesday in the month of March.

**On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mrs. Duehring, the Council agreed to budget work session meetings on March 4, 2015 at 5:30; March 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 and March 25<sup>th</sup> , 2015 in the downstairs meeting room.**

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

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5. Update on Fields Penn House Museum

Matthew Johnson, Director of Planning, provided Council with a power point presentation relative to the structural issues at the Fields Penn House Museum. Mr. Johnson reported that the Davis Buckley group had been retained to do an assessment on the homes' overall structural integrity as the right front corner of the home appears to be sinking. Mr. Johnson indicated that he would report back to Council once a report with recommendations and cost estimates for repair had been received.

No action was required by Council on this matter.

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**J. RESOLUTIONS – None.**

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K. MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Dr. Couch, President of Virginia Highlands Community College presented Council the College's annual report. Dr. Couch commented on new programs the College was implementing to increase and sustain enrollment while preparing

students to finish a four (4) year degree or move into the job sector once they complete an associate's degree.

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- Mayor Morgan recognized Clayton Ball with Boy Scout Troop number 222 and presented him with a town pin.
- Rich Macbeth of 1139 Panorama Drive, Abingdon commented on the status of Empire Drive and the VDOT meeting schedule; the Exit 19 development area; and the status of Wi-Fi in Southview Subdivision. Mr. Dew noted that the town would not be able to provide sidewalks on Empire Drive as it was in the VDOT right of way and was a County roadway.

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L. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Sustain Abingdon Committee

On motion of Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, the Council appointed Lisa Sykes, Lydia Graves, and Langley Shazor to serve on the Sustain Abingdon Committee.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

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## **M. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

- Mrs. Lowe reported on the start of the Business Challenge and noted that the Noon Knowledge series had grown in attendance.
- Mr. Howard commented that he would serve as the Council representative on the Emergency Preparedness Committee.
- Mrs. Duehring commented on the article on the front page of the Bristol Herald Courier featuring Fire Chief John McCormick.
- Mayor Morgan commented on the first meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plate Book Club.

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Mayor Morgan declared the meeting adjourned.

Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk