

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL MID-MONTH WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2014 – 9:00 A.M. / 3:15 P.M.
ARTHUR CAMPBELL MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A Mid- Month Work session meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 starting with a tour of Town Departments at 9:00 a.m. and a meeting in the Arthur Campbell Meeting Room starting at 3:15 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present:

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

Administrative Staff:

Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk
Deb Icenhour, Town Attorney

The following items were discussed by Council:

1. Starting at 9:00 a.m. Council members and Mr. Kelly, Town Manager toured the Town Hall Building, the Police Station, the Coomes Recreation Center, the Town Shop, the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Convention and Visitors Bureau.
2. At 3:15 Council returned to the Town Hall and began their work session meeting.
3. Deborah Atkins-Vance and Deborah Icenhour presented a second set of modifications to the proposed Employee Handbook. Ms. Icenhour and Ms. Vance noted the areas in the manual that were in red ink that would be modified from the original version that Council was provided. Ms. Icenhour commented that several other necessary changes had come to her attention since this revision went out and recommended that Council consider those changes during their August work session meeting with final adoption at the August regular meeting.
4. Ms. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk provided Council with an update to proposed changes to the Conflict of Interest Act which went into effect on July 1st. Ms. Rosenbaum reported that the statements of economic interest would have to be filed twice a year instead of the current once per year. Ms. Rosenbaum indicated that she had contacted the Secretary of the Commonwealth to get a final decision on the changes and would update Council once she received an answer.

5. Ms. Rosenbaum reported that she would be purchasing new navy jackets for Council members and would let them know when they arrived.
6. Ms. Rosenbaum reported that nominations were being submitted for the annual Arthur Campbell Awards and Council needed to set a date for the banquet. Council chose Friday, October 17th at Heartwood.
7. Mayor Morgan asked Council members to determine 2 dates for upcoming Work Session meetings. Council decided that the August mid month work session meeting, held on August 20th starting at 5:00 p.m., would be devoted to the subject of the town's historic properties and would include a tour with Betsy White. Council members determined that the mid-November work session meeting would be held on November 19th starting at 5:30 and would be devoted to fire, police, and emergency preparedness.
8. Mr. Kelly indicated that Mike Chandler, Planning Consultant with Virginia Tech would be holding his Planning and Zoning certification class the end of August at the Hotel Roanoke. Mr. Kelly noted that it was open to Council members, Planning Commission members, BAR and BZA members.
9. Mr. Howard asked CJ McGlothlin, Assistant Fire Chief to provide Council with a power point presentation relative to a building concept for a Fire Station museum and additional garage bays and apparatus storage. Mayor Morgan asked that they return to Council with a projected price for the construction.
10. Mr. Kelly reported that he had met with Rick Rose relative to the town's music events and Mr. Rose had expressed his willingness to assume the music events from the town after the first of the year. Mr. Kelly noted that Mr. Rose and Barter would handle the January Jams, the Abingdon Music Experience and the Thursday night music Jams.
11. Ms. Icenhour, Town Attorney reported on the letter received from Charlie and Steve Smith relative to the replacement of Trestle 7 and the property offered to the town known as "the Knobs" which is adjacent to the Wastewater Plant.
12. Mayor Morgan reported on a meeting he and Mr. Kelly attended with Jason Berry, County Administrator and Phil McCall, Board Chair relative to development at Exit 19.

Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk