

**TOWN OF ABINGDON  
COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2014 – 5:30 P.M.  
ARTHUR CAMPBELL MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A Work session meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, June 2, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the Arthur Campbell meeting room of the Municipal Building.

**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:

Garrett Jackson, Assistant Town Manager  
Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk  
Deb Icenhour, Town Attorney  
Mark Godbey, Town Treasurer/Dir. of Finance  
Jim Smith, Town Engineer  
John Dew, Dir. of Construction/Public Services  
Floyd Bailey, Dir. Of IT Services  
Kevin Costello, Director of Tourism  
Jon Phelps, IT Department

*Administrative Staff – Absent*

*Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager*

Visitors:

The following items were discussed by Council:

1. Mayor Morgan commented that Mr. Kelly, Town Manager was absent this evening from the meeting because of his father's hospitalization. Mayor Morgan noted that this was the only meeting Mr. Kelly had missed in his time as the Town Manager. Council members commented that they would keep Mr. Kelly and his family in their thoughts and prayers.
2. Deborah Atkins-Vance reported that Council had been provided a paper copy of the newly proposed Employee Handbook for their review and consideration. Ms. Atkins-Vance reviewed with Council the main areas of the policy that had changed and would have the greatest impact on employees. Discussion ensued and Council members asked that they have additional time to review the policy before adoption. Mr. Howard inquired about the proposed manual as it pertained to the Abingdon Fire Department.

3. Floyd Bailey, Director of Information Technology reported that he had received three (3) quotes for the purchase of a 50KW generator to be installed at the Police Department building. Mr. Bailey reviewed the quotes with Council and noted that this generator was important because it would provide power to the Police Department during outages and would allow the computer system to remain active relative to internet, servers, alert system and other vital operations needed during an emergency. Mr. Bailey asked that Council consider approving the quote provided by Carter CAT for a price of \$30,697.50.
4. Kevin Worley, Director of Parks and Recreation reported that the Fire Alarm Monitoring System at the Coomes Center had malfunctioned and was in need of replacement. Mr. Worley noted that this system breakdown constituted a code violation and it needed to be replaced as quickly as possible. Mr. Worley indicated that he has received a quote from Simplex Grinnell for the amount of \$9,800 and recommended that Council consider approving the quote and authorizing him to move forward with the replacement.
5. Mr. Jackson, Assistant Town Manager reported on the status of the TransDominion Rail project. Mr. Jackson noted that that the level of interest in rail transportation in Southwest Virginia was high and inquired if Council members would like to attend a meeting on the subject in Roanoke on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Howard expressed his interest in attending the meeting.
6. Debbie Atkins-Vance reported on the Resolution before Council for consideration during the regular meeting relative to Virginia Retirement System. Ms. Atkins-Vance explained the content of the Resolution and recommended Council approve it as presented.
7. Mr. Jackson reported on two (2) matters that had recently come before the Planning Commission. The first matter involving the VFW and Washington County, Virginia relative to the construction of a new facility and reported that they had been requested to provide the Commission with additional information. The second matter was relative to the location of a Popeye's Chicken at Exit 17. Mr. Jackson noted that town staff had a meeting with the representatives of the fast food chain scheduled for the upcoming Wednesday morning.
8. Mayor Morgan reviewed the format for the agenda for the regular meeting.
9. Mr. Humphreys inquired if a Council member wished to serve on the Veterans Park Board since he was serving in his capacity as a member of the Tree Committee. Council members asked Ms. Icenhour, Town Attorney to inquire if Mr. Humphreys could serve as the representative for both Council and Tree Commission and report back to Council. Mr. Humphreys also reported on two roadway issues raised by Mrs. Ellis on Court Street and Ms. Johnson on Oak Hill Street.
10. Mayor Morgan reported on the status of his meeting with the Tobacco Commission relative to the establishment of the Southwest Virginia School of Medicine.
11. Mrs. Lowe reported that she had spoken with several members of the Kiwanis Club regarding the recent Plumb Alley Day event.

Mayor Morgan declared a 5 minute recess for Council and Town staff to reconvene in the Council Chambers for the regular 7:30 meeting.

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Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

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Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk