

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019 – 2:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A work session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building.

A. WELCOME- *Mayor Craig*

B. ROLL CALL – *Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk*

Members of Council Present:	Mr. Bradley
	Mrs. Quetsch
	Mr. Webb
	Ms. Patterson
	Mayor Craig

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 4:47 – 17:47)

- Walter Jenny
- Margaret Price
- Beth Scott

D. PETITIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES -

1. Public Hearing regarding the sublease of property between the Town and The Historical Society of Washington County, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, and Adventure Abingdon, LLC, a Virginia limited liability corporation, located at 306 Depot Square, Abingdon, Virginia, also known as *The Railway Station – James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 17:54 – 26:49)*

Town Manager James Morani briefed Council with regard to the Historical Society of Washington County's proposed sublease of Town's property located at 306 Depot Square to Adventure Abingdon and further stating that the approval was required subject to the Town's lease. Walter Jenny, President of the Historical Society of Washington County stated that the association would be assigning rights to the building for twenty-two months, which is the expiration of the lease with the Town. Counsel Bell added that Code of Virginia, Section 15.2-1800 required the public hearing and discussion.

Mayor Craig declared the public hearing open for comment. Hearing no comments, Mayor Craig closed the public hearing.

On motion by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Patterson, Council approved the sublease of property between the Town and The Historical Society of Washington County and Adventure Abingdon, LLC and authority for James Morani to sign the sublease.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Bradley	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Aye
Ms. Patterson	Aye
Mayor Craig	Aye

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding proposed Charter revisions – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 26:44 – 48:00)*

Town Manager James Morani and Counsel Cameron Bell discussed the proposed changes to the Town's Charter and the procedure to introduce the amendments to the General Assembly. Discussion ensued and it was agreed to place a Resolution on the January 2020 agenda, together with a public hearing.

2. Discussion and approval of Board and Commission revised application – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 48:00 – 55:33)*

Discussion regarding the proposed application included how to offer training for certain boards and commissions and encourage participation from citizens.

3. Discussion regarding procurement procedures – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 55:38 – 59:51)*

Town Manager James Morani advised Council that he would propose revision to the Town's ordinance regarding procurement, to include adopting the Virginia Public Procurement Act with additional language for further restrictions by the Town Manager. Discussion ensued and agreed that the proposed revised Ordinance would be included in the January 2020 meeting.

4. Discussion regarding Sanitary Sewer Infiltration Inflow Study – *John Dew, Director of Public Works (VIDEO 59:59 – 1:08:12)*

Mr. Dew addressed Council regarding the results of a sanitary sewer infiltration and inflow study by CHA, which revealed that water from other sources, other than wastewater, was being treated in the collection system. Mr. Dew stated that the areas that needed immediate attention

included East Valley Street/Walden Road and East Main Street/Exit 19 area and would request that the Council explore a low interest loan to address these issues. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that more information would be gathered and discussed at the January 2020 work session.

5. Discussion regarding participation in Virginia Municipal League/Virginia Association of Counties Local Government Legislative Day in Richmond (February 6, 2020) – ***James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 1:08:16 – 1:10:40)***

Town Manager James Morani provide Council with information regarding the Local Government Legislative Day.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding purchase of generators for municipal facilities – ***Rick Statzer, Director of Building Inspections (VIDEO 1:10:40 – 1:23:03)***

Rick Statzer provided Council with information regarding quotes for generators to be located at the municipal building and public works garage as discussed in the Capital Improvement Plan retreat. Discussion ensued and it was decided to include the purchase in the upcoming budget.

G. MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (VIDEO 1:23:05 – 1:27:12)

Town Manager James Morani advised Council that he had researched changing the town election from May to November, however he requested additional time and would place this matter on the January 2020 work session.

H. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL / STAFF (VIDEO 1:27:12 – 1:31:40)

Mrs. Quetsch stated that she attended the police academy graduation, the fire department's Christmas dinner and the Finance Committee meeting.

Ms. Patterson reported that she also attended the fire department's Christmas dinner and spoken with Teresa Sweeney at Montgomery Regional Waste in Christiansburg, Virginia regarding getting a recycling program back to Abingdon.

Mr. Webb conveyed that he attended a Recreation Advisory Commission meeting, the fire department's Christmas dinner and also a Finance Committee meeting.

Mayor Craig stated that the Infrastructure Advisory Committee and had made lots of progress with regard to the sewer system.

I. CLOSED SESSION (VIDEO 1:31:46 – 2:03:20)

On motion by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, moved that the Abingdon Town Council convene in closed session:

- (1) pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.**
- (2) pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultations pertaining to actual or probable litigation where such consultation affect the negotiating or litigation posture of the public body; and**

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Bradley	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Aye
Ms. Patterson	Aye
Mayor Craig	Aye

On motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Ms. Patterson, Council reconvened in open session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Bradley	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Aye
Ms. Patterson	Aye
Mayor Craig	Aye

Mr. Webb moved that the Town Council certify that, in closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in the motion.

The certification was as follows:

Mr. Bradley	I so certify
Mrs. Quetsch	I so certify
Mr. Webb	I so certify

Ms. Patterson
Mayor Craig

I so certify
I so certify

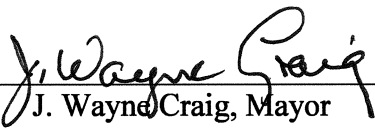
(VIDEO 2:03:20 – 2:04:10)

Ms. Patterson stated that she would like to discuss handicapped parking at the January 2020 work session. Ms. Patterson also stated that she was very saddened regarding the events at the Barter Theatre.

Mayor Craig adjourned the meeting.



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk



J. Wayne Craig, Mayor