

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020 – 2:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A work session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, 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

(VIDEO 0:01 – 16:28)

Mayor Craig stated that he and Vice-Mayor Patterson received complaints regarding Elderspirit regarding a matter that was discussed at a meeting recently. Mayor Craig explained that this matter would be treated as an agenda item so staff could respond, if necessary.

Town Manager James Morani stated that he spoke with staff, including Chief Tony Sullivan and Town Counsel, Cameron Bell and provided an update regarding the matter recently filed in the Washington County General District Court.

H. Randall Grumpelt was called to speak on this matter at this time. Discussion ensued.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 16:37 – 20:49)

- H. Randall Grumpelt (see above)
- Michael Miano

John Dew, Director of Public Works, introduced Matt Henderson, Facilities Maintenance Manager and was welcomed by the Council. **(VIDEO 21:07 – 22:40)**

D. NEW BUSINESS (VIDEO 22:42 – 25:48)

1. Discussion regarding proposed amendment to Town of Abingdon Code, Part II – Code, Chapter 2 – Administration, Division 4, Ordinances and Resolutions, Section 2-96 Generally. – *James Morani, Town Manager*

Cameron Bell, Counsel stated that the proposed amendment to this Ordinance would set forth procedures for enacting an ordinance and effective from the date of their passage, unless indicated otherwise in the ordinance or resolution. Council agreed to place this matter on the February 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

2. Discussion regarding amendment to Section 2-129. – Fire Department – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 25:48 – 26:42)**

Cameron Bell, Counsel reported that this section is being amended to state that the Town Manager or designee shall appoint the fire department officers, as provided in Code of Virginia, Section 27-13 as a result of the proposed Charter amendments. Council agreed to place this matter on the February 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

3. Discussion regarding proposed amendment to Town of Abingdon Code, Part II – Chapter 2 – Administration, Article V. – Procurement; Sales – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 26:45 – 27:31)**

Town Manager James Morani stated that this proposed amendment states that the Town of Abingdon will follow the Virginia Public Procurement Act and that the Town Manager or designee may establish purchasing procedures in writing that do not require competitive sealed bids or competitive negotiation for certain contracts that are consistent with the Act. Council agreed to place this matter on the February 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

4. Discussion regarding proposed amendment to the Town of Abingdon Code, Part II – Code, Chapter 74 – Utilities, Article II. – Sewers and Sewage Disposal – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 27:32 – 34:13)**

Town Manager James Morani stated as a result of an Inflow and Infiltration System study and a review of the Town code that lead to the proposed amendments. Mr. Morani stated that Section 74-34. Application for Service would allow the Town Manager or designee to refuse any application if there were insufficient capacity in the sewage works to allow for a new connection and Section 74-28. Administration changes “facility manager” to “town manager”. Discussion ensued. Council agreed to place this matter on the February 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

5. Discussion regarding recent Infrastructure and Infiltration sewer study – **John Dew, Director of Public Services (VIDEO 34:14 – 39:56)**

John Dew provided Council with an update regarding two projects identified that require immediate attention, namely East Valley Street/Walden Road that includes grade problems, and a force main at Exit 19. Mayor Craig questioned as to whether both studies had been finalized and requested that they be posted to the Town’s website at that time.

6. Discussion regarding alternative election of mayor and council at November general election – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 39:59 – 48:33)**

Town Manager James Morani stated that information contained in the Code of Virginia and Town Code was included in the packet as discussion was held regarding moving from the May election to the General Election in the Fall. Discussion ensued and Council asked Mr. Morani to contact Richard Macbeth, a citizen who spoke during the public comments recently.

7. Discussion regarding handicapped parking on Main Street – **John Dew, Director of Public Services (VIDEO 48:35 – 56:47)**

John Dew briefed the Council with regard to regulations required for on-street parking and that his professional opinion was that off-street parking was far better for safety issues. Discussion ensued.

8. Discussion regarding recycling – **Cindy Patterson, Vice-Mayor (VIDEO 56:49 – 1:16:09)**

Joseph Benedetto with Recycling & Disposal Solutions from Roanoke, Virginia presented information to Council. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that John Dew, Director of Public Works and Town Manager James Morani would meet with Mr. Benedetto to discuss the possibility of working with the Town.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding a lease agreement by and between The Town of Abingdon, Virginia and Senior Services Center, Inc. dba The Community Center of Abingdon for a portion of property located at 300 Senior Drive, including a non-exclusive fifteen-foot (15') wide permanent easement for ingress and egress. – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 1:16:10 – 1:18:35)**

Town Manager advised Council that the proposed lease has been agreed upon and this matter will be scheduled for public hearing at an upcoming meeting.

F. MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA - None

G. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL / STAFF – None

Mayor Craig adjourned the meeting.



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk



J. Wayne Craig, Mayor