

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020 – 2:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A work session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building.

A. WELCOME- *Mayor Craig*

B. ROLL CALL – *Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk*

Members of Council Present:

Mr. Anderson
Mrs. Pillion
Vice Mayor Quetsch
Mayor Webb

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided and comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person. **(VIDEO 4:01 – 4:07)**

- None

D. PETITIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

1. **Public Hearing** - Solicit public input for local community development in relation to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) proposal to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for General Community Support in the COVID-19 Environment Program. The General Community Support in the COVID-19 Environment Program will include the following activities: The project will consist of a partnership between the Town, locally owned dine-in restaurants to provide ready-to-go meals to Faith In Action for families in need affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. – *Tonya Triplett, Economic Development Coordinator (VIDEO 4:08 – 6:13)*

Tonya Triplett, Economic Development Coordinator updated Council stating that the first public hearing was held on July 1, 2020. Mrs. Triplett stated that the program has now expanded and revised the proposed Resolution to include up to \$200,000 with approximately \$60,000 for the restaurants to provide the meals and some funds for Faith In Action to make expansions and adjustments to accommodate curbside delivery and food storage.

Mayor Webb declared the public hearing open. Hearing no additional comments, Mayor Webb declared the public hearing closed.

E. RESOLUTION

1. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Preparation and Filing of an Application for Community Improvement Grant Funds for COVID-19 Response through the Community Development Block Grant Program – ***Tonya Triplett, Economic Development Coordinator (VIDEO 6:16 – 7:39)***

On nomination by Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, adopted the Resolution as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Anderson	Aye
Mrs. Pillion	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mayor Webb	Aye

2. Discussion regarding Resolution determining property located at 130 Wall Street, commonly known as “The Abingdon Mercantile”, for redevelopment pursuant to Section 36-55.30:2B, Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended – ***Tonya Triplett, Economic Development Coordinator (VIDEO 7:43 – 10:20)***

Tonya Triplett, Economic Development Coordinator provided information regarding a developer interested in this property and working with Virginia Housing Authority for financing. Mrs. Triplett stated that should the Council pass this Resolution, the developer could receive additional resources with VHDA. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Webb stated that no action is needed at this time, and the matter will be placed on the August 3, 2020 agenda.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding lease of space at Coomes Recreation Center – ***James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 10:22 - 19:24)***

Jennifer Johnson, Director of Recreation, presented Council with information regarding leasing vacated space as a therapy/rehab service. Discussion ensued.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Adoption of revised Financial Policy Guidelines – ***James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 19:30 – 22:16)***

Town Manager James Morani advised Council that the Finance Committee discussed the proposed revised Financial Policy Guidelines property by Davenport & Associates at the July 1, 2020 meeting. Discussion ensued.

On nomination by Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Anderson, adopted the revised Financial Policy Guidelines as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Anderson	Aye
Mrs. Pillion	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mayor Webb	Aye

H. MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

I. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL / STAFF (VIDEO 22:27 – 36:24)

Vice Mayor Quetsch thanked the Town Manager for all of his hard work on the budget that ended being in the black, together with Stephanie Davis and Davenport & Associates.

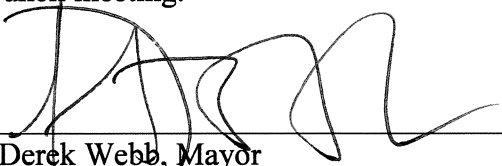
Mayor Webb expressed his thoughts regarding the struggles dealing with the COVID-19 matter and thanked the tremendous number of employees that do a fantastic job and especially during this very peculiar circumstances and everyone steps up and just creates a lot of good in the community.

Mrs. Pillion questioned whether or not closing the town hall. Discussion ensued.

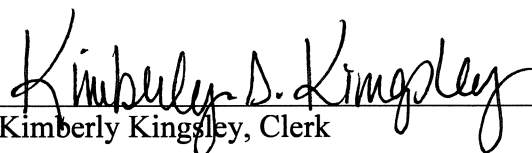
Tonya Triplett, Economic Development Coordinator, provided brief information regarding the CARE Act.

Mayor Webb stated that Council will be interviewing candidates next week and will be prepared to make an appointment at the August 3 Council meeting.

Mayor Webb adjourned the meeting.



Derek Webb, Mayor



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk