

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
MID-MONTH SESSION
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020 – 2:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A mid-month session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building.

A. WELCOME- *Mayor Webb*

B. ROLL CALL – *Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk*

Members of Council Present: Mr. Owens
 Mr. Anderson
 Mrs. Pillion
 Vice Mayor Quetsch
 Mayor Webb

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – *Mayor Webb (VIDEO 5:23 – 6:03)*

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, Council approved agenda as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided and comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person.

- No public comments

D. PETITION(S) AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- No petitions or public hearings

E. PROCLAMATIONS

- No proclamations

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of request from the Virginia Department of Transportation to deviate from Section 30-32 (b) and Section 30-34 of the Town Code (Noise regulations) for intersection improvements at West Main Street and Jonesboro Road. – ***John Dew, Director of Public Works (VIDEO 6:18 – 14:43)***

Mr. Dew advised Council that the Virginia Department of Transportation has requested that the Town consider a waiver of the Town's noise ordinance since the construction was more suited for work at night. Mr. Dew stated that the project may not begin until 2022, however this should be addressed so Virginia Department of Transportation can continue the design. Mr. Bell questioned if residents would be affected and Mr. Morani advised that the residents would receive advanced notice. Mr. Dew stated that it was expected that the project would take approximately six-weeks.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, Council approved the Virginia Department of Transportation request to deviate from Section 30-32(b) and Section 30-34 of the Town Code for intersection improvements at West Main Street and Jonesboro Road during the duration of said construction.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

H. RESOLUTIONS

1. Rescind Resolution determining property located at 130 Wall Street, commonly known as "The Abingdon Mercantile", for redevelopment pursuant to Section 36-55.30:2.B, Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended. – ***Cameron Bell, Esq. (VIDEO 14:44 – 17:52)***

Cameron Bell, Counsel stated that he had discussions with the Virginia Housing Development Authority regarding "Area" vs. "Project" language included in the Town's Resolution. Mr. Bell stated that after further discussion, it was discovered that the governing body of a City or County could only act upon request and therefore the Town's Resolution should be rescinded. Discussion ensued.

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, Council rescinded the Resolution that determined property located at 130 Wall Street, commonly known as "The Abingdon Mercantile", for redevelopment pursuant to Section 36-55.30:2.B, Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Continued discussion from August 3, 2020 meeting regarding proposed Zoning Text Amendment, Part II – Code. Appendix B – Zoning Ordinance; Article 21. – Signs. – **Jason Boswell, Director of Planning (VIDEO 17:57 – 19:21)**

Jason Boswell, Director of Planning, advised Council that this was listed on the agenda for the public to have an additional opportunity to speak regarding the proposed amendments and to answer any questions from the Council. Mayor Webb stated that no action was required from Council at this time.

J. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER

1. Discussion regarding yard sale permits – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 19:26 – 25:30)**

Town Manager James Morani recommended to Council that discontinue the yard sale permit fee of \$3.00 ultimately costs more to process. Cameron Bell, Counsel stated that the Council could move for authority not to charge a fee for yard sale permits.

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Anderson, Council establish a fee of zero dollars for yard sale permits.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

2. Coomes Recreation Center reopening plan – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 25:31 – 34:05)**

Town Manager James Morani stated that a plan was being discussed to reopen the Coomes Recreation Center. Discussion ensued.

3. Police Operations Update – **Chief Jon Holbrook (VIDEO 34:06 – 47:00)**

Chief Holbrook presented Council with his quarterly Operational Report, June – July, 2020.

K. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

- No reports at this time

- L. CLOSED SESSION** – Discussion as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3), of potential disposition of publicly held real property where the discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the Town’s bargaining position. **(VIDEO 47:05 – 1:33:56)**

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, to convene in closed session for discussion as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3), of potential

disposition of publicly held real property where the discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the Town's bargaining position.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, to reconvene in open session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

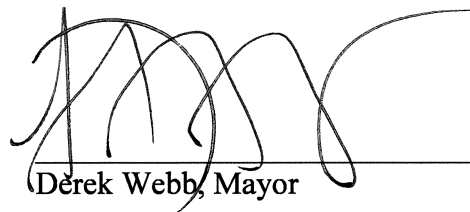
Mr. Owens	Aye
Mr. Anderson	Aye
Mrs. Pillion	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mayor Webb	Aye

Mrs. Pillion 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. Owens	I so certify
Mr. Anderson	I so certify
Mrs. Pillion	I so certify
Mrs. Quetsch	I so certify
Mayor Webb	I so certify

Mayor Webb adjourned the meeting.



Derek Webb, Mayor



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk