

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021 – 2:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building.

A. WELCOME – *Mayor Webb*

B. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present:

Mike Owens
James Anderson
Amanda Pillion
Donna Quetsch, Vice Mayor
Derek Webb, Mayor

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 6:25 – 7:57)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, amended the draft agenda to include two closed sessions under item M pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, consultation with legal counsel, regarding the pending cases of *Icenhour v. Town of Abingdon; Kelly v. Town of Abingdon; and Reichler v. Town of Abingdon*; and as permitted pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(29) concerning a contract with Abingdon Main Street for discussion of the terms or scope of a contract, because public discussion would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

(VIDEO 8:06 – 8:52)

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, to approve the agenda as amended.

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 – None

E. PETITION(S) AND PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

F. PROCLAMATIONS - None

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding requested easement for Appalachian Electric Power to cross Virginia Creeper Trail right-of-way – *John Dew, Director of Public Works* (VIDEO 9:01 – 13:25)

John Dew, Director of Public Works, advised Council that Appalachian Electric Power requires an easement to cross the Virginia Creeper Trail right-of-way to provide power to a property and must have an easement from the Town of Abingdon and the Town of Damascus. Mr. Dew stated that Mr. Bell is reviewing the proposed easement. Discussion ensued. Mr. Bell stated that this matter would require a public hearing and will be considered at the next meeting.

H. RESOLUTIONS

I. ORDINANCES

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER

1. Presentation of the Town's annual tree report – *Kevin Sigmon, Town Arborist* (VIDEO 13:35 – 24:27)

Kevin Sigmon provided Council with updates regarding Tree City USA; Abingdon tree give-away program; memorial trees at the Veterans Memorial Park; various sites for tree plantings; and monitoring and removal of Ash trees.

2. Discussion regarding FY2021-2022 Budget – *Steve Trotman, Director of Finance* (VIDEO 24:29 – 1:11:25)

Steve Trotman, Director of Finance, provided Council with an update regarding the amendment to the FY2020-2021 and the upcoming FY2021-2022 budget. Discussion ensued.

L. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:11:26 – 1:15:46)

Vice Mayor Donna Quetsch read a statement in support of Town Manager James Morani. Discussion ensued.

M. CLOSED SESSION (VIDEO 1:15:47 – 2:15:58)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, to convene in closed session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, consultation with legal counsel, regarding the pending cases of *Icenhour v. Town of Abingdon*; *Kelly v. Town of Abingdon*; and *Reichler v. Town of Abingdon*. Also as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(29), concerning a contract with Abingdon Main Street for discussion of the terms or scope of the contract, because public discussion would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy.

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, reconvened in open session.
The roll call vote was as follows:**

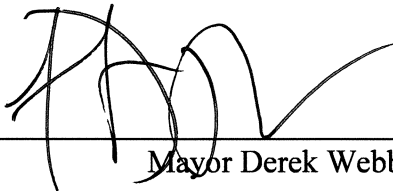
| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Mr. Owens | Aye |
| Mr. Anderson | Aye |
| Mrs. Pillion | Aye |
| Mrs. Quetsch | Aye |
| Mayor Webb | Aye |

Mr. Owens 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 declared the meeting adjourned.



Mayor Derek Webb



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk