

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021 – 6:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 6:30 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. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 3:37 – 4:15)

On motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, approved the 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

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 4:17 – 8:50)

- Emmitt Yeary

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 8:42 – 9:24)

- April 5, 2021 minutes
- April 22, 2021 mid-month meeting

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Anderson, approved the April 5, 2021 and the April 22, 2021 mid-month minutes as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Owens	Aye
Mr. Anderson	Aye

Mrs. Pillion	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mayor Webb	Aye

G. PROCLAMATIONS (VIDEO 9:27 – 17:10)

Mrs. Pillion read into record Proclamation on the occasion to honor and recognize the Abingdon High School Golf Team 2021 Class 3A State Champions. Mayor Webb and Council presented the players and coaches with a framed Proclamation and Town pins.

(VIDEO 17:34 – 17:47)

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, moved for a five-minute recess to investigate a HVAC problem in Council chambers.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

(VIDEO 23:06 – 23:26)

On motion of 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

2. Proclamation designating May 2021 as Small Business Appreciation Month – **Mayor Webb (VIDEO 23:28 – 26:24)**

Tonya Triplett, Director of Economic Development and Assistant Town Manager, advised Council that the Best of Abingdon 2021 winners will be awarded this week and invited Council members to join for the presentations.

Vice Mayor Quetsch read the proclamation designating May 2021 as Small Business Appreciation Month. Mayor Webb announced that fifteen new businesses opened in the Town during the pandemic and thanked all our businesses.

3. Proclamation designating May 9 – 15, 2021 as Virginia Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day – **Mayor Webb (VIDEO 26:23 – 30:11)**

Mr. Owens read proclamation designating May 9 – 15, 2021 as Virginia Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day. The entire Council thanked the members of the Abingdon Police Department for their commitment and hard work. Chief Holbrook thanked the Council for their support.

4. Proclamation designating May 3 – 7, 2021 as Public Service Week – **Mayor Webb (VIDEO 30:21 – 35:06)**

Mr. Anderson read the proclamation designating May 3 – 7, 2021 at Public Service Week. Mayor Webb thanked John Dew, Director of Public Works and all the public works employees for keeping Abingdon beautiful by providing excellent services. Mr. Dew thanked the sixty public works employees and all employees in the Town.

H. PETITION(S) AND PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Public Hearing** – An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia proposing a budget for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia to make appropriation for the current expenses of the Town and to fix a tax rate upon real and personal property, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 35:09 – 36:42)**

Town Manager James Morani advised Council that this public hearing was for the first reading of the budget ordinance and the second reading would be held in June 2021 for adoption and effective July 1, 2021.

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

2. **Public Hearing** – Proposed zoning map amendment to rezone Tax Map ID 020-11-1, parcel consisting of 1.079 acres more or less, located at 335 Cummings Street, Abingdon VA, from R-3 Residential District to O&I Office and Institutional District. – **Jason Boswell, Director of Community Development (VIDEO 36:44 – 46:08)**

Jason Boswell, Director of Community Development, stated that Council requested that this matter be referred to the Planning Commission for consideration to rezone Tax Map Parcel 020-11-1 from R3, Residential to OI, Office and Institutional District to be consistent with adjacent property, existing use and character of the property, the Comprehensive Plan, the suitability of property for various uses, and the trends of growth or change.

Mayor Webb declared the public hearing open for comment. Walter Jenny addressed the Council. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Webb closed the public hearing. Discussion ensued.

I. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution of the Council for the Town of Abingdon to dispose of certain personal property – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 46:13 – 57:11)**

Town Manager James Morani advised Council that as part of the restructuring and the process for special events, discussions were held regarding personal property owned by the Town

such as chairs, tables and tents. Mr. Morani stated that the Town could dispose of the personal property in a manner described in the Code of Virginia. Discussion ensued.

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, tabled matter until May 20, 2021.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

1. An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia proposing a budget for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia and to make appropriation for the current expenses of the Town and to fix a tax rate upon real and personal property, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 57:13 – 57:58)*

Mayor Webb questioned whether this matter should be rejected. Hearing no comment, matter will move to a second reading.

2. Proposed zoning map amendment to rezone Tax Map ID 020-11-1, parcel consisting of 1.079 acres more or less, located at 335 Cummings Street, Abingdon VA, from R-3 Residential District to O&I Office and Institutional District – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 57:59 – 59:04)*

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, adopted Ordinance as presented and dispensed with second reading.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

K. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

1. Proposed amendment to Part II – Code, Chapter 14 – Buildings and Building Regulations, Article III. – Spot Blight Abatement, Section 14 – 56(2), pursuant to Code of Virginia,

1950, as amended, Sections 15.2-1425, 15.2-1429, and 36-49.1:1. – **Jason Boswell, Director of Community Development (VIDEO 59:04 – 1:01-18)**

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, adopted Ordinance as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

L. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

M. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding amendment to budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021. – **Steve Trotman, Director of Finance (VIDEO 1:01:28 – 1:11:03)**

Steve Trotman, Director of Finance, provided Council with a synopsis regarding an amendment to the FY 2020/2021 budget. Mr. Trotman stated that a public hearing regarding this matter will be heard at the May 20, 2021 mid-month meeting.

2. Discussion regarding change to traffic control configuration at the Virginia Creeper Trail - Meade Drive intersection. – **John Dew, Director of Public Works (VIDEO 1:11:06 – 1:22:39)**

John Dew, Director of Public Works, stated that approximately twenty-years ago a two-light signalization. Mr. Dew stated that he understands there have been several close incidents and after research, he felt the signal is not warranted. Mr. Dew proposed that increase signage be installed consistent with assignment of the right-of-way pursuant to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Discussion ensued. Cameron Bell, Counsel, stated that an Ordinance would be presented at the May 20, 2021 mid-month meeting.

3. Schedule July – December, 2021 mid-month meetings – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 1:22:43 – 1:28:48)**

Council scheduled dates for July, 2021 through December, 2021 meetings.

N. OLD BUSINESS

O. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER (VIDEO 1:28:51 – 1:30:47) (1:31:52 – 1:32:22)

Tonya Triplett, Director of Economic Development and Assistant Town Manager provided an update on tourism matters. Town Manager James Morani advised Council that the pool at the Coomes Recreation Center is scheduled to open on June 2, 2021.

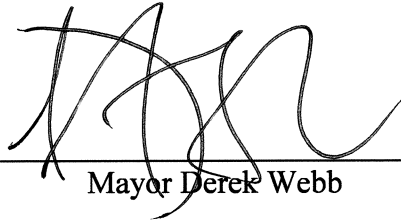
P. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:30:49 – 1:31:44)

Mayor Webb thanked the Council members for their hard work and reminded everyone to exercise the right to vote at tomorrow's Special Election.

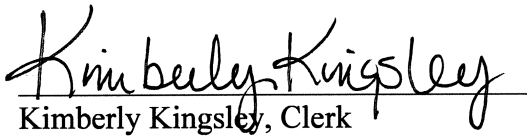
Q. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

R. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.



Mayor Derek Webb



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk