

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
MID-MONTH MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 – 2:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A mid-month meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chambers 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 – *Council Member James Anderson*

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – *Mayor Webb* (VIDEO 5:59 – 7:04)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, amended the agenda to include an additional closed session pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) consultation with legal counsel pertaining to *Gregory W. Kelly vs. Town of Abingdon*, where such consultation would adversely affect the litigation posture.

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 – Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided and comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person. (VIDEO 7:06 – 18:54)

- Nathan Berg
- Jeff VanCleaf
- Doug Beatty
- Michael Ferracci

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS - Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided and comments are limited to five (5) minutes per person.

1. **Public Hearing** – An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia for a proposed budget amendment synopsis, Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022, which

includes additions to revenue from federal funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$4,081,156.00. **(VIDEO 18:55 – 20:00)**

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

G. PROCLAMATIONS

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding proposed amendment to Chapter 66 Ordinance – Taxation, Article 1. – In General, Section 66 – 3. Collection of delinquent taxes by distress, personal judgment or sale. – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 20:02 – 30:51)*

Mr. Morani advised Council that amendments have been made to the Ordinance to include publication of delinquent accounts and the provision of forwarding delinquent accounts to the Town attorney or a collection agency. Discussion ensued. Mr. Morani advised Council that this matter would be placed on the October 4, 2021 draft agenda for a first reading.

2. Discussion regarding Halloween – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 30:53 – 36:54)*

Discussion ensued and determined that the Town would observe Halloween on October 31, 2021.

3. Discussion regarding Historic Preservation Review Board terms – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 36:55 – 38:16)*

Mr. Morani stated this matter was to discuss the terms of office and vacancies pursuant to Town Ordinance 8-6-5. Mr. Morani asked that this matter be tabled until October 4, 2021.

I. RESOLUTIONS

J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

1. An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia proposing a budget amendment for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, to include additions to revenue from federal funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$4,081,156.00. – *Steve Trotman, Director of Finance (38:20 – 42:37)*

Mr. Trotman advised Council that this Ordinance recognizes that the Town of Abingdon, Virginia received Federal funds through the American Rescue Plan Act on June 30, 2021; however there were no expenditures, and funds were carried over to this fiscal year. This ordinance also recognizes the expenditures beginning this fiscal year as outlined in the draft Ordinance.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, adopted Ordinance as presented, and dispensed with the 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. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Non-professional services agreement with Old Glade Antique Tractor Association – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 42:38 - 45:20)**

Town Manager James Morani presented a draft non-professional services agreement with OGATA for \$10,000 as previously discussed. Mr. Owens suggested that Exhibit A, Section 3B be removed since the Town sold those items.

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Owens, authorized the Town Manager to execute the non-professional services agreement with Old Glade Antique Tractor Association as amended by deleting Exhibit A, Section 3B.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

2. Discussion regarding an outdoor refreshment area – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 45:39 – 1:16:40)**

Council heard presentations from Doug Beatty, Delegate William Wampler, Nathan Berg, and Abingdon Police Department Chief Holbrook regarding the outdoor refreshment area. Discussion ensued. Mr. Morani suggested that a public information meeting be scheduled soon to allow additional discussion.

3. Agreement with Woodard and Curran for wastewater contract operations – **James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 45:22 – 45:34)**

Mayor Webb stated that this matter would be discussed in closed session.

L. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER (VIDEO 1:16:42 – 1:30:57)

Mr. Morani advised Council that a 501(c)(3) has been established for donations to the Town’s historic properties and The Meadows. Discussion ensued. Mr. Morani stated that he would present a Resolution at the October mid-month meeting.

Mr. Morani advised that the K. C. St. Louis, owner and operator of the Abingdon Olive Oil, purchased the Hassinger House and Cameron Bell is working on the deed.

Mr. Morani reported that staff toured the Fields-Penn House recently. The Historic Preservation Review Board requested that the Town repurpose the brick sidewalk. Mr. Morani announced that the Tourism offices would be open by the beginning of 2022.

M. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

N. CLOSED SESSION (VIDEO 1:31:10 – 2:30:14)

1. Closed session permitted by Section 2.2-3711(A)(29) concerning terms or scope of an agreement with Woodard and Curran for wastewater contract operations because public discussion would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy.
2. Closed session permitted by Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711(A)(3), a matter involving disposition of publicly held property because discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect our bargaining position.

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, convened into closed session pursuant to the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, pursuant to the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Section 2.2-3711(A)(29) concerning terms or scope of an agreement with Woodard and Curran for wastewater contract operations because public discussion would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy; Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) a matter involving disposition of publicly held property because discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position; concerning a lease for sewer contract for discussion of the terms or scope of the contract, because public discussion would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy; and Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) consultation with legal counsel, pertaining to *Kelly vs. Town of Abingdon*, where such consultation would adversely affect the litigating posture of the public body.

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 Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, 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

Mrs. Quetsch 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:

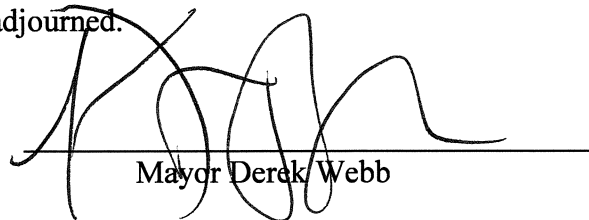
Mr. Owens	I so certify
Mr. Anderson	I so certify
Mrs. Pillion	I so certify
Mrs. Quetsch	I so certify
Mayor Webb	I so certify

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, authorized the Town Manager to complete negotiations with Woodard and Curran and sign the agreement for wastewater contract operations. (VIDEO 2:30:14 – 2:30:45)

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.



Mayor Derek Webb



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk