

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021 – 2:30 PM
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The mid-month meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 2:30 pm in the Arthur Campbell Room of the Municipal Building.

A. WELCOME – *Mayor Webb*

B. ROLL CALL

Members of Council Present:

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

Member(s) of Council Absent:

James Anderson

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 7:15 – 8:11)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, moved Item H-1, discussion regarding advisory boards and commissions, after Item L – 4, and approved the agenda as amended.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Owens	Aye
Mr. Anderson	Absent
Mrs. Pillion	Not present for vote
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mayor Webb	Aye

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 8:12 – 17:10)

- Richard Morgan
- Walter Jenny
- Greg Lilly

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

G. PROCLAMATIONS

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding advisory boards and commissions – *James Morani, Town Manager* (VIDEO 51:03 – 1:03:17)

Town Manager James Morani discussed forming an advisory Abingdon Arts Commission and Veterans Advisory Board. Discussion ensued and agreed that staff would present Ordinances establishing Commission and Board.

Mr. Morani also discussed the adoption of “Standard of Excellence” for all boards, commissions and authorities. Mr. Morani advised that Counsel Cameron Bell presented some of the advisory boards with Freedom of Information training. Council agreed to add the Standard of Excellence to the January meeting for discussion.

I. RESOLUTIONS

J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

L. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER

1. Presentation of quarterly financial reports – ***Steve Trotman, Director of Finance*** (VIDEO 17:31 – 30:19)

Director of Finance Steve Trotman provided Council with a financial report through October 31, 2021. Mr. Trotman stated that the Town’s finances are in good order with an unrestricted/restricted balance of \$16 million. Mr. Trotman covered the revenue sources, contributing success to the Barter Theatre and Virginia Creeper Trail. Discussion ensued regarding bonds and ARPA funding.

2. Discussion regarding Memorandum of Understanding between Enhance Abingdon Foundation, Inc. and Town of Abingdon, Virginia and by-laws of Enhance Abingdon Foundation, Inc. – ***James Morani, Town Manager*** (VIDEO 30:20 – 37:11)

Town Manager James Morani stated that the Memo is for the Town to recognize the goal of fundraising. Director of Finance Steve Trotman noted that the Foundation has no assets or rights to install provided an example of needing the Town’s permission to create a giving tree on its property, “The Meadows” to recognize donations. Counsel Cameron Bell stated the Town has been working with other third-party entities, which should have something in writing that delineates that it is a manner of deciding who is doing what, with no confusion going forward. Discussion ensued regarding the Foundation’s bylaws and the development of the website and email address.

3. Discussion regarding the Train Depot – ***Tonya Triplett, Asst. Town Manager/Director of Economic Development and Tourism*** (VIDEO 37:13 – 44:25)

Assistant Town Manager Tonya Triplett advised that the Abingdon Farmers Market is interested in conducting a vendor market on Friday and Saturday from 2 pm – 6 pm beginning November 26 through December 18. Discussion ensued. Council agreed to allow the Abingdon Farmers Market to use the Train Depot as discussed. Town Manager James Morani announced that the necessary agreements would be drafted.

4. Discussion regarding Council meeting dates for January – July, 2022 – ***James Morani, Town Manager*** (VIDEO 44:27 – 51:01)

Council scheduled meeting dates for January – July, 2022.

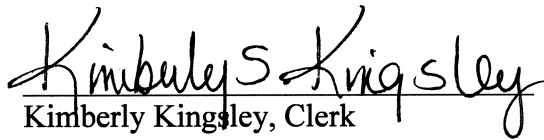
M. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:03:19 – 1:06:02)

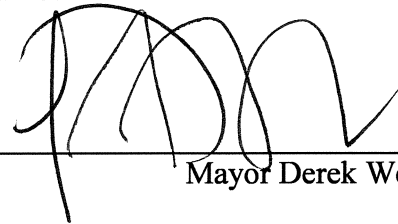
Councilmember Mike Owens advised the Council regarding the Historic Preservation Review Board meeting where they discussed the Historic District Boundary Expansion.

Mayor Webb requested prayers for Councilmember James Anderson, who has minor health issues and hopes he returns soon.

Mayor Webb stated that the next meeting is December 6, 2021.

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.


Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk


Mayor Derek Webb