

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

The regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, December 6, 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
Amanda Pillion
Donna Quetsch, Vice Mayor
Derek Webb, Mayor

Member(s) of Council Absent:

James Anderson

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. PRAYER – Associate Pastor Barbara Farmer, Pleasant View United Methodist Church

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 9:53 – 10:57)

Counsel Cameron Bell stated that a closed session was suggested to discuss salaries of Council appointees.

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Owens, added a closed session to discuss Council appointee salaries in addition to Item S, and approved the agenda as amended.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 22:49 – 46:59)

- Shannon Walls
- Eric McReynolds
- Richard Morgan
- Kristin Bresowar
- John Bradley

- Mary Boltwood
- Scott Boltwood
- Johnice Knight
- Link Elmore
- Wayne Craig

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 10:58 – 11:41)

- November 1, 2021 meeting
- November 18, 2021 mid-month meeting

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, approved the November 1, 2021 meeting and the November 18, 2021 mid-month meeting minutes as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

H. PROCLAMATIONS (VIDEO 11:42 – 22:14)

1. Proclamation to honor and recognize the Abingdon High School VHSL Class 3 Boys' State Championship Cross Country Team.

Mayor Webb read into the record a Proclamation honoring and recognizing the Abingdon High School VHSL Class 3 Boys' State Championship Cross Country Team. Mayor Webb and Council presented the team members and coaches with a framed Proclamation.

Mayor Webb also recognized Dylan Phillips for winning the Virginia School Board Association student video contest. Mr. Phillips' video was played.

I. PUBLIC HEARING - None

J. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution entering into a Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Town of Abingdon, Virginia and Enhance Abingdon Foundation, Inc. – ***James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 47:14 – 48:26)***

Town Manager James Morani expressed that the agreement had been presented and the final Memorandum of Agreement is for consideration.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, approved the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Town of Abingdon, Virginia and Enhance Abingdon Foundation, Inc. as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

K. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance regarding proposed Abingdon Arts Commission – *James Morani, Town Manager* (VIDEO 48:33 – 51:53)

Town Manager James Morani advised that a discussion was held at a work session and was being presented for action. Mr. Morani suggested that the Council adopted the Ordinance, dispense with the second reading, and make it effective immediately to seek candidates for appointment in January. Mr. Morani stated that it is an advisory commission that Council had a desire to establish, promote arts and culture in the community to bring contributions and make recommendations on programs and events.

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, approved the Ordinance establishing the Abingdon Arts Commission as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

2. Ordinance regarding proposed Veterans Advisory Board – *James Morani, Town Manager* (VIDEO 52:00 – 58:24)

Town Manager James Morani stated that this Ordinance was similar to the Abingdon Arts Commission and that Council expressed an interest in establishing a board that can promote not just one particular location, but promote programs and raises awareness of Veterans in the community in its entirety.

Mayor Webb communicated before the meeting whether a public hearing would be held regarding this Ordinance and answered incorrectly. Mayor Webb stated that with this type of Ordinance that a public hearing was not necessary, however, he allowed Richard Morgan to speak.

Town Manager Morani clarified that the Veterans Memorial Park Foundation is a 501(c)(3) and is not an official advisory board to the Town. Discussion ensued. Mayor Webb stated that this Board is not created to competing entity or a mutually exclusive venture, and work with the Veterans Memorial Park and the 501(c)(3) that is in existence. Mr. Owens added that was considered to enhance others. Mr. Morani stated that there are lots of community events that can be done to promote and recognize Veterans, with a broader vision or goals rather than encompassing one piece of property. Mr. Morani stated that as Member Owens stated that it would enhance the efforts made in the community to honor Veterans. Member Owens felt that since there was a public speaker that a second reading was warranted.

Mayor Webb questioned, "Shall this proposal be rejected?" Hearing no objections, Mayor Webb declared this matter would move to second reading.

L. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

M. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

N. NEW BUSINESS

1. Update regarding The Meadows sports complex – *Michael Surrett, Senior Management Assistant, Jennifer Johnson, Director of Recreation and Kyle Pollard, Assistant Director of Recreation (VIDEO 58:34 – 1:03:25)*

Senior Management Assistant Michael Surrett announced that construction was 80-85% complete with completion expected by the middle of February 2022.

Mr. Pollard advised the goal was to focus on our community, working with the local schools and local sports organizations for use Monday – Thursday. Tournament reservations include thirty weekends and will begin April 22, 2022, with fifteen baseballs and fifteen softballs.

Director of Recreation Jennifer Johnson announced that on November 4, 2021 posts were made to social media extending opportunities to local businesses for sponsorship with is currently \$48,000 and only nine outfield signs remain available.

Mayor Webb stated that he is excited that the project is coming to fruition and looking forward to the grand opening in mid-April.

O. OLD BUSINESS

**P. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN
MANAGER**

Q. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:04:01 – 1:06:29)

Mayor Webb expressed that the Kiwanis Christmas parade was fantastic and he felt that it was the largest parade thus far and hope that next year's trumps it.

Counsel Cameron Bell added that it would be remised on the Cross Country awards not to acknowledge the great services of Coach Don Cumbow and the foundation that he laid that ultimately led to this accomplishment. Mayor Webb stated that a tribute was held on the Virginia Creeper Trail with a bench dedication at the ¼ mile marker from the trailhead.

R. CLOSED SESSION (VIDEO 1:06:31 – 1:42:50)

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, pursuant to the Code of Virginia, 1950, Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for personnel matter involving consideration or interviews of candidates for employment or appointment and also salary or other compensation of specific employee or Council appointees.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Owens	Aye
Mr. Anderson	Absent
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	Absent
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	Absent

Mrs. Pillion	I so certify
Mrs. Quetsch	I so certify
Mayor Webb	I so certify

S. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (VIDEO 1:42:50 – 1:43:45)


1. Planning Commission
 - Appointment to fill the vacancy of R. Wayne Austin, who is ineligible to serve an additional term
2. Tree Commission
 - Appointment to fill the vacancy of Chris Sullivan, who is ineligible to serve an additional term
3. Abingdon Redevelopment and Housing Authority
 - Reappointment of Tracy Meek, who is eligible to serve an additional term

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, appointed Jeff Johnson to the Planning Commission, Vasiliy Lakoba to the Tree Commission, and reappointed Tracy Meek to the Abingdon Redevelopment and Housing Authority for an additional term.

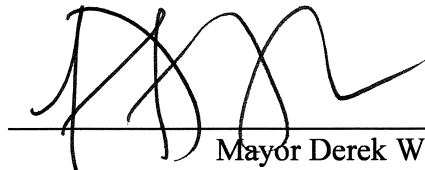
The roll call vote was as follows:

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

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk



Mayor Derek Webb