

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022 – 6:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, January 3, 2022 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 – Pastor Paul Seay, Abingdon United Methodist Church and Charles Wesley Methodist Church

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 27:45 – 28:10)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, approved the agenda as presented.

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 28:11 – 37:29)

- Michael Henningsen
- Emmitt Yeary

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 37:30 – 38:00)

- December 6, 2021 minutes

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, approved the December 6, 2021 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 38:01 – 38:26)

1. Proclamation to honor and recognize the Abingdon High School Football Team as the VHSL District 3 Champions.

Mayor Webb announced the Proclamation would be presented at the February Council meeting due to inclement weather.

I. PUBLIC HEARING - None

J. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution supporting the application for the Walkabout Mini-grant – *Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development (VIDEO 38:29 – 42:00)*

Director of Community Development Mayana Rice advised the Town supports the Walkabout Mini-grant, which, if granted, will provide funding to study the safety for students to bike and walk to the E. B. Stanley Middle School, Abingdon High School, and The Neff Center. Ms. Rice stated that this is an outside organization requesting support, with the Town providing no funding. However, if awarded, the Council would provide staff the day the Walkabout occurs.

Mayor Webb stated that he supported the Resolution to promote the health and well-being of the children by being active.

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Owens, approved the Resolution supporting the application for the Walkabout Mini-grant 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

L. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance regarding proposed Veterans Advisory Board – *James Morani, Town Manager (VIDEO 42:02 – 43:19)*

Town Manager James Morani stated this Ordinance was discussed at the last meeting. The Council desired to move to a second reading similar to the Abingdon Arts Commission regarding structure and terms.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, approved the Ordinance establishing the Veterans Advisory Board as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

M. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

N. NEW BUSINESS

O. OLD BUSINESS

P. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER

1. Presentation of 2020/2021 Financial Audit for the Town of Abingdon – *Jordan Owens, Brown, Edwards & Company* (VIDEO 43:20 – 50:27)

Jordan Owens with Brown, Edwards & Company presented to Council an unmodified opinion on the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2021 and discussed various findings.

2. Abingdon Police Department Update – *APD Chief Holbrook* (VIDEO 50:34 – 1:09:08)

Chief Holbrook provided Council with a brief update for August 2021 through December 2021.

(VIDEO 1:09:10 – 1:12:46)

Town Manager James Morani shared that the Park Street Project public information meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 6, 2022 from 5 to 7 pm at the Abingdon Fire Department. He announced that the Virginia Department of Transportation Central Office received approval and will soon receive authorization to begin the right-of-way acquisition process for temporary construction easements and permanent right-of-ways. He further stated that Town staff and consulting engineers would be at the meeting to answer questions.

Town Manager Morani advised that the Arthur Campbell Room is being renovated by removing the dais to accommodate more guests.

January 3, 2022

Regular meeting minutes

Town Manager Morani reminded Council that the Statement of Economic Interests was delivered and/or mailed with a February 1, 2022 due date.

Town Manager Morani announced the staff has moved into the Fields Penn House in hopes to open in March.

Q. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:12:46 – 1:13:36)

Vice Mayor Quetsch thanked the Finance Department and Treasurer’s offices for the excellent work during the audit, which involved a lot of work.

Mayor Webb requested that Mr. Anderson be in everyone’s thoughts and prayers and hopes to welcome him back to the Council meetings soon.

R. CLOSED SESSION

S. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (VIDEO 1:13:36 – 1:16:51)

- 1. Sinking Spring Cemetery Committee
 - Appointment to fill the vacancy of Martha Keys, who is ineligible to serve an additional term

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, appointed Donnamarie Emmert to the Sink Spring Cemetery Commission.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

- 2. Board of Zoning Appeals
 - Appointment to fill the vacancy
- 3. Tourism Advisory Committee
 - Appointment to fill vacancy for representative for a B&B establishment
 - Appointment to fill vacancy for representative for a hotel/motel
 - Appointment to fill vacancy for representative for a retail or downtown business owner

January 3, 2022

Regular meeting minutes

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, appointed Jamie Arnold to fill vacancy for representative for a hotel/motel on the Tourism Advisory Committee.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

4. Abingdon Arts Commission
- Appointment to fill vacancy for one *ex officio* Councilmember
 - Appointment by Town Manager to fill vacancy for *ex officio* Town employee designee to serve as staff support and/or as secretary
 - Appointment to fill three vacancies to serve from date of appointment until June 30, 2023
 - Appointment to fill two vacancies to serve from date of appointment until June 30, 2024

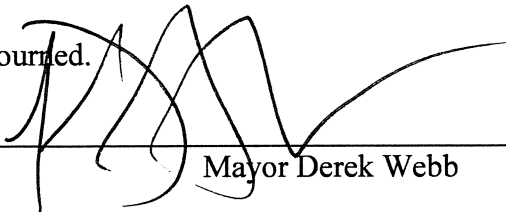
On motion by Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, to table appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals, B&B establishment and retail or downtown business owner for the Tourism Advisory Committee; and Abingdon Arts Commission.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

Mayor Webb requested that the vacancies for Board of Zoning Appeals; B&B establishment and retail or downtown business owner for the Tourism Advisory Committee, and Abingdon Arts Commission to re-advertised.

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.



Mayor Derek Webb



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk