

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022 – 6:30 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, March 7, 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 – *Dr. Bill Bryan, Pastor at Abingdon Baptist Church*

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 7:46 – 9:11)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, adopted the agenda with tabling Item M- 1 Consideration of Bids and accepted 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 – None

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 9:23 – 9:52)

- February 7, 2022
- February 21, 2022
- February 24, 2022

On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Owens, approved February 7, 2022, February 21, 2022, and the February 24, 2022 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 9:52 – 29:21)

1. Proclamation honoring and recognizing the Abingdon High School Football Team as the VHSL District 3 Champions.

Mrs. Quetsch read the Proclamation into the record. The Council presented team members and coaches with a framed Proclamation.

2. Proclamation honoring and recognizing the Abingdon High School Boys Indoor Track and Field Class 3A State Champions; and Girls Indoor Track and Field members Makaleigh Jessee, Josie Jackson, and Chloe Odum having four top-five finishes. – **Rescheduled for April 4, 2022 meeting**
3. Proclamation recognizing March as MS Education and Awareness Month

Mrs. Pillion read the Proclamation into the record.

I. PUBLIC HEARING (VIDEO 29:27 – 34:17)

1. Proposed Zoning Text Amendment – Appendix B – Zoning Ordinance, Article 10. B-1 Limited Business District, Section 10 – Permitted uses – By Right, Subsection 10-1 and Article 11. B-2 General Business District, Section 11 – Permitted uses – By Right, Subsection 11-1 to add Day-Care Facility.

Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development informed the Council of a request received by United Way to the Planning and Zoning Commission to expand child care facilities into the B-1 and B-2 Zoning Districts. Ms. Rice explained that child care is the number one limiting factor in rebuilding the workforce during the pandemic. There is a push for more child care facilities throughout the zoning districts. Ms. Rice stated that the facilities stretch beyond home day-cares focusing on the integrating workplaces and child care nearby. She stated United Way initially requested B-2; however, during the January 2022 meeting, added B-1 to the motion of the Planning Commission with a 6-0 vote. Ms. Rice also discussed that it works within the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

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

J. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution confirming Earl Mathers as Interim Town Manager and appointment as a signatory to bank accounts – ***Cameron Bell, Counsel* (VIDEO 34:19 – 35:33)**

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, approved the Resolution confirming Earl Mathers as Interim Town Manager and appointment as a signatory to bank accounts 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. Proposed Zoning Text Amendment – Appendix B – Zoning Ordinance, Article 10. B-1 Limited Business District, Section 10 – Permitted uses – By Right, Subsection 10-1 and Article 11. B-2 General Business District, Section 11 – Permitted uses – By Right, Subsection 11-1 to add Day-Care Facility – *Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development (VIDEO 35:34 – 38:02)*

Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development advised that the Planning Commission at their regularly scheduled meeting voted 6-0 recommending this proposed text amendment be adopted by Town Council. She noted no public comments in opposition to the amendment.

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, adopted the Ordinance with the typographical correction of B-12 to B-2 and allowed the second reading to be dispelled.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

L. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

M. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

1. Professional services to perform structural engineering and costs analysis for rehabilitation of Trestles 1 – 15 of the Virginia Creeper Trail- *Michael Surrett, Interim Director of Public Works (TABLED until March 16, 2022 mid-month meeting)*

N. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Chief of Police Jon Holbrook and Katie Garrett as Freedom of Information Officers – *Tonya Triplett, Interim Town Manager (VIDEO 38:07 – 39:29)*

Interim Town Manager Tonya Triplett requested Chief Holbrook and Katie Garrett be appointed as Freedom of Information Officers, and Cameron Bell has provided some video training.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, appointed Chief Jon Holbrook and Katie Garrett as Freedom of Information Officers.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

2. Consideration of vehicle surplus – *Michael Surrett, Interim Director of Public Works*
(VIDEO 39:29 – 41:09)

Michael Surrett, Interim Director of Public Works requested that the Council declare certain vehicles and equipment as surplus.

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, declared the personal property presented as surplus.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

O. OLD BUSINESS

**P. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN
MANAGER (VIDEO 41:12 – 44:06)**

Interim Town Manager Tonya Triplett provided updates regarding “Restaurant Week”, “Best of Abingdon”, and Town-wide Yard Sale on April 2, 2022.

Q. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 44:06 – 46:31)

Mr. Owens thanked Mrs. Triplett for acting as Interim Town Manager.

Mrs. Quetsch provided an update regarding the Infrastructure Advisory Committee, specifically Woodard & Curran’s concerns regarding I&I (Inflow and Infiltration). Mrs. Quetsch stated that an Ordinance to prohibit stormwater from being discharged into the Town’s sewer system. Mrs. Quetsch advised letters would be mailed to citizens addressing the concerns soon.

Mayor Webb stated that Council was working delinquent through the budget-cycle and thanked the staff, Cameron Bell, and fellow Council members for their service and making it a pleasure to serve.

R. CLOSED SESSION (VIDEO 46:33 – 1:53:02)

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, to convene in closed session pursuant to Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, and pursuant to Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of considering applications for appointment for position on Veterans Advisory Board, Economic Development Authority, Board of Building Code Appeals, Planning Commission, Sustain Abingdon, and 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 |

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, reconvened in open session. (VIDEO 1:53:02 – 1:53:54)

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 1:53:52 – 1:57:10)

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, appointed members as follows:

Veterans Advisory Board:

Amanda Pillion, *ex officio* Councilmember
Gary Bailey to serve until June 30, 2025
Linda Bennett to serve until June 30, 2023
Elizabeth Francine Ivery to serve until June 30, 2023
Kyle Craig to serve until June 30, 2023
Richard Kiser to serve until June 30, 2025
Albert Lawson to serve until June 30, 2024
Mel Schwartzstein to serve until June 30, 2024

Economic Development Authority:

Link Elmore to fill expired vacancy of Kenneth Shuman, who is ineligible to serve an additional term
Reappointment of Nathan Berg, who is eligible to serve an additional term

Board of Building Code Appeals: Tabled

Planning Commission:

Reappointment of Kenneth Shuman, who is eligible to serve an additional term
Reappointment of Scott Wilson, who is eligible to serve an additional term

Sustain Abingdon:

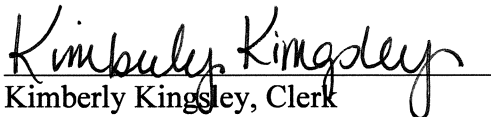
Reappointment of Deborah Robinson, who is eligible to serve an additional term

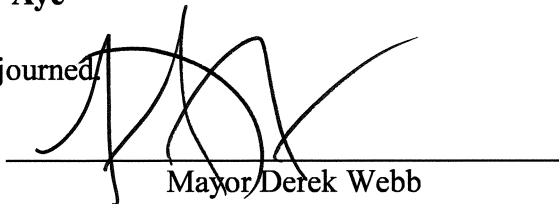
Tourism Advisory Committee: Tabled

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



PROCLAMATION

DESIGNATING APRIL 14, 2022 AS ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are renewable resources giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our Town increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Derek Webb, Mayor of the Town of Abingdon, do hereby proclaim April 14, 2022 as **ARBOR DAY** in the Town of Abingdon, I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and further urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.



Derek Webb, Mayor