

**TOWN OF ABINGDON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022 – 2:30 pm  
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The regular meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, April 21, 2022 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

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 7:28 – 8:28)**

**On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, amended the agenda to item M to include an additional closed session matter as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(29), concerning a Memorandum of Understanding to discuss the terms or scope, because public discussion would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**F. PUBLIC HEARING – (8:43 – 9:46)**

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

**G. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Abingdon Farmers Market update (VIDEO 9:47 – 16:11)

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Market Manager David McLeish provided Council with an update regarding customer counts, stating an average sale in 2021 was \$30 - \$35. Mr. McLeish discussed the vendors and plans for the upcoming season.

Mr. McLeish shared a new program, "Eat Smart, Move More," with the Virginia Department of Agriculture, securing a \$1,500 grant. During Tuesday's market beginning in July, for six weeks, \$10 in fresh food bucks will be distributed to children who participate in the program, limiting 25 kids per day. He also stated that he worked with the Virginia Highlands Festival regarding the Celebrity Chef events.

2. Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Update (VIDEO 16:15 – 1:25:36)

Director of Community Development Mayana Rice discussed the proposed update for the Zoning Ordinance rewrite to ensure a document specific to Abingdon has buy-in for adoption and enforcement and is easy to understand. The Planning Commission encouraged discussion regarding short-term rentals; accessory dwelling units, animals, landscaping, minor subdivisions, OH/merging the sub-districts uses; solar, cottage housing/pocket neighborhoods; signs; mobile vending, and rear-yard setbacks. Discussion ensued regarding several of these topics. Ms. Rice stated that representatives from Lamar Group were in attendance, and Council agreed to hear their presentation at an upcoming meeting regarding proposed changes to billboards. Ms. Rice noted a public workshop would be scheduled upon completing the final draft.

3. Authorization for Interim Town Manager to execute a deed to James D. Moore, Jr., Family Limited Partnership for property known as Fairview Farm and Homestead, 908 Hillman Highway, Parcel Number 106-A-2A (VIDEO 1:25:36 – 1:29:12)

Counsel Cameron Bell stated that this property was donated to the Town by James D. Moore, Jr., Family Limited Partnership, and included reversion language. Mr. Moore requested that the parcel be returned to the Partnership for management. Mr. Bell explained that Old Glade Antique Tractor Association will continue to operate in agreement with Mr. Moore and will make funding requests for events to Community Development for consideration.

**On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, authorized the Town Manager to execute the deed as discussed.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>

4. Consideration of a lease agreement for a portion of *The Train Station*, 306 Depot Square (VIDEO 1:29:15 – 1:31:01)

Mr. Bell advised that a first incubate would request Council to authorize a draft and Mr. Mathers to sign a lease with the entity. Mr. Bell stated that the lease would be the same as Adventure Abingdon’s lease for \$1.20 per square foot, which is the current market rate. Mr. Bell said the lease would be for one year with an automatic additional year, with any additional terms approved by Council.

**On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, authorized Mr. Bell to draft the lease and the Town Manager to execute it.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**H. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS**

1. Consideration of bids for asphalt resurfacing project for the 2022-2023 fiscal year  
**(VIDEO 1:31:01 – 1:33:00)**

Interim Director of Public Works Michael Surrett advised Invitations to Bid for annual asphalt resurfacing were released on or about March 20, 2022, with two bids received. On April 5, 2022, bids were opened, with W & L Construction being the lowest bidder at \$699,255.59 for fifteen streets and the municipal parking lot, totaling more than three miles.

**On motion of Mrs. Pillion, seconded by Mr. Owens, award the bid to W & L Construction for the asphalt resurfacing project for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**I. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE**

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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

1. Discussion regarding FY2022-2023 Budget – **(VIDEO 1:33:26 – 1:40:29)**

Director of Finance Steve Trotman advised of revisions to the base budget and continued working with the Finance Committee. He was hopeful that the first reading of the budget would be at the May mid-month meeting, the second reading at the June regular meeting, effective July 1, 2022. Mr. Trotman discussed matters involving ARPA funding and revenue not keeping up with expenses with the need to explore increases to fees.

**L. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:40:27 – 1:43:19)**

Mrs. Pillion commented that seeing all fields used and the project completion was an amazing accomplishment. She thanked the staff for all of their hard work.

Mayor Webb was excited to announce a donation of artwork for a permanent exhibit valued at \$8 - \$10 million to the William King Museum of Art. The collection contains bronze nature wildlife statues and approximately 320 paintings when the new facility is completed.

**M. CLOSED SESSION –**

**On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, to enter into closed session as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3), a matter involving acquisition of real property for a public purpose because discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body; and, as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of considering appointment of Council member to fill unexpired term of Councilman James Anderson to the District Three Governmental Cooperative, and as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(29), concerning a Memorandum of Understanding to discuss the terms or scope, because public discussion would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy. (VIDEO 1:43:23 – 2:37:30)**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, reconvened in open session. (VIDEO 2:37:30 – 2:37:49)**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**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)**

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**lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia  
Freedom of Information Act cited in the motion. (VIDEO 2:37:50 – 2:38:14)**

**The certification was as follows:**

<b>Mr. Owens</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mrs. Pillion</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>I so certify</b>
<b>Mayor Webb</b>	<b>I so certify</b>

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.

  
Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk

  
Mayor Derek Webb