

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
MID-MONTH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022 – 2:30 pm
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The mid-month meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, May 19, 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:

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

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 6:37 – 7:02)

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

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 7:02 – 10:00)

- **Betsy White, Director of William King Art Museum**

F. PUBLIC HEARING – (VIDEO 10:03 - 16:37)

1. **Public Hearing** – An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia proposing a budget for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia to make appropriation for the current expenses of the Town and to fix a tax rate upon real and personal property, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. – ***Steve Trotman, Director of Finance***

Director of Finance Steve Trotman provided Council with a review of the proposed budget.

Mayor Webb declared the public hearing open for comment.

- **Katie Brown spoke on behalf of The Barter Theatre**
- **Amanda Bailey spoke on behalf of The Washington County Public Library**

Hearing no comments, Mayor Webb closed the public hearing.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation from Lamar Sign Group regarding billboards located in the Town of Abingdon – *Jimmy Collins, VP General Manager (VIDEO 16:39 - 40:23)*

Ashley Gasbarri and Jimmy Collins shared a PowerPoint presentation to consider the possibility of allowing a digital billboard located on Main Street, across from the old Southern States building. It was requested that Lamar be allowed to remove the old structure and replace with the same size, one side digital and one side static. Discussion ensued with Council agreeing to entertain Lamar to apply.

H. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

I. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE

1. An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia proposing a budget for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia and to make appropriation for the current expenses of the Town and to fix a tax rate upon real and personal property, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. – *Steve Trotman, Director of Finance (VIDEO 40:29 – 1:17:45)*

Mr. Trotman provided Council a detailed outline of the proposed budget with the priorities of government services provided to Town residents, balanced with revenue streams. Mr. Trotman stated this budget presentation was a snapshot in time and could change daily. Mr. Trotman said the Town's number one asset were the employees. He addressed that changes were needed, including the costs for services and fees. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Webb questioned should this proposal be rejected. Hearing no objections, the ordinance will continue to the second reading.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding fee schedule changes for the Community Development and Engineering Departments – *Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development and Tyler Vencill, Engineer (VIDEO 1:17:45 – 1:33:16)*

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Ms. Rice and Mr. Vencill conveyed that during the budget process, fees were reviewed at surrounding compared communities, with the Town’s falling below average. Mrs. Rice stated that the average fee for a \$200,000 project was \$485, which is 55% higher (0.24%) than the Town’s. For this reason, Mrs. Rice and Mr. Vencill requested Council’s direction. Council agreed for a mid-range percentage.

Council thanked Tyler Vencill for his service to the Town and wished him the best in his next adventure. (VIDEO 1:33:17 - 1:34:06)

K. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER

- 1. Discussion regarding meeting dates for July mid-month meeting through December, 2022 - *Kim Kingsley, Clerk* (VIDEO 1:34:09 – 1:38:20)

Council scheduled the following meetings:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
July 11, 2022 (rescheduled from July 5, 2022)	6:30 pm	Council Chambers Municipal Building
August 1, 2022	6:30 pm	Council Chambers Municipal Building
August 18, 2022	2:30 pm	Arthur Campbell Room Municipal Building
September 6, 2022	6:30 pm	Council Chambers Municipal Building
September 22, 2022	2:30 pm	Arthur Campbell Room Municipal Building
October 3, 2022	6:30 pm	Council Chambers Municipal Building
October 20, 2022	2:30 pm	Arthur Campbell Room Municipal Building
November 7, 2022	6:30 pm	Council Chambers Municipal Building
December 5, 2022	6:30 pm	Council Chambers Municipal Building

L. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:38:20 - 1:40:00)

Mr. Anderson thanked Mrs. Rice and Mr. Vencill for the thorough presentation. Mayor Webb stated that the Town has an amazing staff and welcomed Mr. Anderson again.

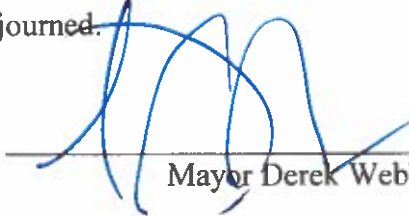
M. CLOSED SESSION –

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk



Mayor Derek Webb