

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022 – 6:30 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Monday, December 5, 2022 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers 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. PRAYER

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 8:11 – 8:32)

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

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 8:42 – 13:20)

- Dr. Mark J. Matney

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 13:23 – 14:00)

- November 7, 2022 meeting

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Owens, approved the November 7, 2022 minutes as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation to honor and recognize the Abingdon High School Golf Team 2022 for winning a Third Straight Class 3 State Golf Championship (**VIDEO 14:00 – 22:05**)

Mayor Webb welcomed the coaches and members of the Abingdon High School Golf team and congratulated them on a successful season, including six out of eight years as State champions. Mr. Owens read the proclamation into the record. Mayor Webb presented the team with a framed proclamation.

2. Proclamation to honor and recognize the Abingdon High School Cross Country teams winning the Class 3 State Titles (**VIDEO 22:11 - 32:22**)

Mayor Webb congratulated the Abingdon High School Men and Women Cross Country team and coaches for winning their first State Titles. Mrs. Pillion read the proclamation into the record. Mayor Webb presented the team with a framed proclamation.

I. PUBLIC HEARING - Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided; comments are limited to five (5) minutes per person.

1. **Public Hearing** – pursuant to Article VII, Section 9 of the Constitution and Virginia Code Section 15.2-1800 to consider a deed of dedication of 1.8 acres of open space land (Parcel Number 105-A-35). This deed is necessary to obtain grant funds from Virginia Outdoor Foundation’s Preservation Trust Fund Public Access Program for the consideration of certain portions of a bicycle pump track. (**VIDEO 32:25 – 37:26**)

Director of Tourism and Economic Development Tonya Triplett conveyed that the Nicewonders donated 1.8 acres to join the Virginia Creeper Trail, The Meadows Sports Complex, and Interstate 81. Mrs. Triplett advised for the Town to be eligible to obtain grant funds for certain portions of a bicycle pump track from Virginia Outdoor Foundation’s Preservation Trust Fund Public Access Program, the Town needs to dedicate the 1.8 acres as open space land.

Counsel Cameron Bell stated the public hearing requirement is for the dedication of open space, but it will remain Town property. Mr. Bell noted per statute, should the property is not used for said purposes, it allows it to revert from open space. Mr. Bell advised the deed of

dedication is drafted, along with attachments to the survey, the Nicewonders deed to the Town, and a grant application. The grant application does not require a public hearing but requires for dedication to use public space.

Mayor Webb opened the public hearing. The following individual(s) spoke during the public hearing:

- Link Elmore, Abingdon Cycling

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Webb closed the public hearing.

2. **Public Hearing** – this is a second public hearing to solicit public input on local community development concerning Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Local Innovation proposal to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for the Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center expansion project. The project proposal will include the following activities: Funds will be used to pay a portion of equipment and construction costs to build and equip 5 (five) additional Operatories. This project will enable the clinic to double patient capacity. Phase 2 would provide training space required to support other residents and current equipment in remaining ops, which will be moved. **(VIDEO 37:26 – 46:13)**

Director of Tourism and Economic Development Tonya Triplett said the first public hearing was held on July 11, 2021, and this is the second required public hearing required for the pre-application process for the Virginia Community Development Block Grant Local Innovation. Mrs. Triplett requested that Council adopt a Resolution. Should the grant be awarded, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center would be entered to help with the expansion.

Mayor Webb opened the public hearing. The following individual(s) spoke during the public hearing:

- Jan Hurt
- Elaine Smith, Executive Director at Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center
- Dr. Dana Chamberlain, Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Webb closed the public hearing.

3. **Public Hearing** – Proposed comprehensive updates to the Town’s Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. **(VIDEO 46:14 – 1:04:42)**

Assistant Town Manager Mayana Rice said the process of updating the Zoning and Subdivision ordinance began with the Planning Commission on March 1, 2021. Mrs. Rice conveyed that comments were recently received, and those corrections will be made before January 2023 for adoption.

Rebecca Cobb with The Berkley Group presented highlights of the ordinance changes.

Mayor Webb opened the public hearing. Hearing no, Mayor Webb closed the public hearing.

J. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution local community development concerning Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Local Innovation proposal to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for the Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center expansion project. The project proposal will include the following activities: Funds will be used to pay a portion of equipment and construction costs to build and equip 5 (five) additional Operatories. This project will enable the clinic to double patient capacity. Phase 2 would provide training space required to support other residents and residents and current equipment in remaining ops, which will be moved. **(VIDEO 1:04:42 – 1:06:59)**

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Anderson, approved the Resolution as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

2. Resolution of the Council for the Town of Abingdon supporting the Virginia America 250 Commission. **(VIDEO 1:07:02 – 1:08:36)**

Town Manager Mike Cochran was contacted requesting the Town support this Resolution to be eligible to secure grants for the upcoming 250th Celebration of Virginia. Mr. Cochran conveyed that Martha Keys has agreed to lead a committee, and staff time will not be involved.

On motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, approved the Resolution as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

K. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

1. Consideration of proposed comprehensive updates to the Town's Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. (VIDEO 1:08:38 – 1:09:16)

Mayor Webb procedurally questioned should the proposal be rejected. Hearing no response, the ordinance will move to a second reading.

L. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

M. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

1. Consideration of appropriation of \$328,771.00 to purchase a 2023 Mack trash truck – *Mike Cochran, Town Manager* (VIDEO 1:09:19 – 1:12:58)

Director of Finance Steve Trotman stated during the FY22/23 budget discussions, and the critical need for a replacement with the lead time being 18 to 24 months, with that expenditure not included in this year's budget. The Town has received the truck, and we are requesting to use general fund revenue or funds available at the foresight of the Finance Committee as a result of an inability to fill positions and move to the Council contingency line. Mr. Trotman stated there was no bottom-line impact to the budget. Counsel Cameron Bell noted that a 1% adjustment on the budget would not require an amendment.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Anderson, approved the appropriation of \$328,771 to purchase a 2023 Mack trash truck from the

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

N. NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of 2021/2022 Financial Audit for the Town of Abingdon – *Jordan Owens, Brown, Edwards & Company (VIDEO 1:13:03 - 1:25:33)*

Senior Audit Manager Jordon Owens of Brown, Edwards & Company provided Council with the financial audit for FY 21/22. Discussion ensued.

2. Presentation regarding a wing mural photo-opportunity – *Jan Hurt (VIDEO 1:25:37 – 1:31:02)*

Jan Hurt discussed her desire to bring adult, youth, and tiny “angel wings” for a photo op and #abingdon tag at the mural near Humphreys Park on Main Street. Discussion ensued. Council agreed that staff would research, and Mrs. Hurt would begin her search for an artist and present at a future Council meeting.

3. Consideration of a deed of dedication of 1.8 acres of open space land (Parcel Number 105-A-35). This deed is necessary to obtain grant funds from Virginia Outdoor Foundation’s Preservation Trust Fund Public Access Program for the consideration of certain portions of a bicycle pump track. – *Mike Cochran, Town Manager (VIDEO 1:31:06 – 1:32:35)*

Counsel Cameron Bell stated that Virginia Outdoor Foundation wants to approve what the Town says is okay before the Foundation signing. Mr. Bell requested a motion allowing the Town Manager and Town Attorney to work up the final documents as the signatory authority and the grant documents.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Pillion, authorized the Town Manager and Town Attorney to sign grant documents, deed, and any applicable documents

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

4. Presentation of Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey (SSES) conducted for the Town of Abingdon through a Virginia Department of Environmental Quality SSES Pilot Program – *The Lane Group (VIDEO 1:32:35 – 2:01:49)*

Matthew Lane and Mark Osborne with The Lane Group provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey and discussion ensued.

5. Wastewater Operations Report – *Ryan Sullivan, Woodard & Curran (VIDEO 2:01:50 – 2:13:46)*

Ryan Sullivan, Chris Pritt and Mike Greenberg with Woodard & Curran provided Council with an update on the Wastewater Operations, including discussions with Councilmembers.

6. Consideration of dates for Council meetings for January – July 2023 – *Mike Cochran, Town Manager (VIDEO 2:13:47 – 2:21:43)*

Council set meeting dates for January through July 10, 2023.

O. OLD BUSINESS (VIDEO 2:21:47 – 2:30:36)

Town Manager Mike Cochran thanked the Town staff for an excellent Christmas parade and stated he was proud of the organization. Mr. Cochran advised the restrooms were being vandalized after hours and appeared in Google as a public restroom, and in the process of installing a magnetic lock system. He also stated that his monthly report would be posted online. Mr. Cochran thanked Mr. Owens for his service.

Mr. Owens said it was an honor to serve the citizens as a Councilmember, thanked the employees and conveyed that Abingdon would do well into the future.

Mrs. Quetsch said it had been a blessing working with Mr. Owens and considered him a gentleman and pragmatic and hopefully will find his way back to the Council one day.

Mrs. Pillion agreed 100% with Mrs. Quetsch, stating he would be missed. Mrs. Pillion also addressed Dr. Mark Matney's public comments regarding taxes on boats and campers, saying she was awaiting an Attorney General's formal opinion from Chuck Slemph.

Mr. Cochran added the livestream of the parade had 3400 views.

Mayor Webb stated that the Kiwanis Club set the bar high this year regarding the Christmas parade and thanked the volunteers and staff for their time and effort in making it a huge success. Mayor Webb thanked Mr. Owens for his service to the Council and the Town citizens and welcomed Mr. Wayne Austin as a member of the Town Council.

- P. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER**
- Q. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**
- R. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**
- S. CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Webb declared the meeting adjourned.


Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk


Mayor Derek Webb