


TO: Mayor Pillion & Town Council: 
FROM: Mike Cochran, Town Manager
RE: Town Manager Report for December 2022/January 2023

FINANCE & TREASURY -

- Taxing Authority Consulting Services (TACS) has been sent the delinquent utility bills for collection. TACS now has delinquent real property, personal property and wastewater utility billing. For the month ending 12/31/2022, the outstanding personal property balance of \$471,953 (principal and interest) was reduced by 7.9% to \$434,832. The outstanding real estate property balance of \$258,994 has been reduced by 14% to \$222,733. This is ongoing.

RECREATION -

- The Meadows - Staff is working on having a well permitted and installed to be used to irrigate the fields and provide water for the splash pad. The regulatory paperwork is in process. Design and various details are being worked on. When completed, this will vastly reduce the cost to maintain the fields and operate the splash pad. *This is still in process.*
- The youth committee working on the features for the inclusive playground at The Meadows is working with parks staff to finalize the design.
- Recreation has started our youth volleyball program. **We have 190 players** registered from 3rd - 8th grade. We use almost all volunteers to coach and keep score for the program. We will continue this program through March and hope to have monthly volleyball clinics throughout the year to keep interest and introduce the sport to those that are interested.
- Coomes Center Memberships are up as is facility usage. This time last year, we had 1,314 paying members. This year, we are at 1,647 members.
- Comparing the same week in 2022 vs 2023, building admittance is up from 1,183 to 2,265. Daily revenue is steadily growing as well.
- Our youth **swim program** continues to grow, and attendance is up for the month. We have also hosted two swim meets for the AHS swim team and other teams in the region. We typically serve right at 100 people per swim meet; we have one remaining swim meet next month.
- We are planning for the spring and summer, looking at a couple of different things to make the overall experience of the outdoor pool better for our patrons and community.
- The Meadows has a full schedule of tournaments for the coming season, from March 11th - November 12th we have a baseball or softball

tournament scheduled. We have also worked with AHS and Holston High School to help schedule their home soccer games. Rush soccer will be using The Meadows for their games this season on Saturdays. We are finishing up smaller projects in preparation for the season including extending the infield of field 2 to help make it easier for tournaments to have more baseball teams attend.

PUBLIC WORKS -

- The East Main Street Flood Mitigation is moving forward. Funded by \$4 million in ARPA money, the surveying and in-stream inspections are done. AMT engineers are at a 30% completion rate for the plans.
- Creeper Trail trestle repairs - this priority project is funded by \$1.25 million of ARPA money. The bid documents are nearly completed, and we expect to publish the bid starting January 30, 2023. The bid process is projected to be done by March 1, 2023.
- PW staff have been busy with winter operations along the Creeper Trail, removing or grinding trees that have been taken down along the trail over the past year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS -

Activities:

The 2023 Abingdon Fiddlers Convention is scheduled for June 9-10, 2023.

FIRE DEPARTMENT -

- The Town of Abingdon Fire Department responded to 68 incidents in the month of December. December was the busiest month of 2022. Responses occurring inside the Town of Abingdon Corporation Limits totaled 44 (65%) with 24 (35%) occurring outside the corporation limits.
- For the month of December, a total of 206.5 personnel hours were expended for responses outside the corporate limits vs. 359 for those inside the Town limits.
- False Alarms were responsible for 37% of the calls responded to in December. This high level of response was due in part to the sub-zero temperatures and responding to 14 sprinkler activations due to frozen pipes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT -

- The police department has conducted analysis of the crash and speeding data for the Valley Street traffic calming meeting. That data is attached.
- Lt. Eades has returned to duty.