

**TOWN OF ABINGDON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023 – 6:30 pm  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

- A. WELCOME – Mayor Pillion**  
**B. ROLL CALL (VIDEO 6:01 – 6:10)**

Members of Council Present:

Wayne Austin
Donna Quetsch
Derek Webb
Dwyane Anderson
Mayor Pillion

- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**D. PRAYER**  
**E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 8:08 – 8:52)**

**On motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Austin, approved the amended draft agenda as presented.**

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

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

- F. POSTPONED – CLOSED SESSION** with Washington County Board of Supervisors pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(5), a matter involving a prospective business not yet disclosed.
- G. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 8:52 – 21:50)**
- Martha Keys
  - Ellen and Don Elam
  - Ed Morgan
  - R. D. Barr, Barr Gallery
- H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 21:50 – 24:01)**

**On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Anderson, approved the February 1, 2023 minutes as presented.**

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

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

**On motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Anderson, approved the February 6, 2023 minutes as presented.**

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

<b>Mr. Austin</b>	<b>Abstained (Not present)</b>
<b>Mrs. Quetsch</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Webb</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Anderson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**On motion of Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Anderson, approved the February 23, 2023 minutes as presented.**

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

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

**I. PROCLAMATION**

**J. PUBLIC HEARING (VIDEO 24:05 – 26:22)**

1. Public Hearing – the construction of a sidewalk addition, within the existing right of way, along the north side of East Main Street from an existing sidewalk at the Dollar General store to an existing concrete entrance gutter near St. John’s Lutheran Church for a length of approximately 345 feet. Funding for this project was secured through VDOT using the Highway Safety Improvement Program.

Mayor Pillion opened the public hearing. Mr. Ed Morgan addressed the Council. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Pillion closed the public hearing. Council Cameron Bell advised that the hearing was a VDOT requirement.

**K RESOLUTIONS**

**L. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**

**M. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES**

**N. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS**

1. Consideration of bid from American Ramp Company for design and construction of skills track at The Meadows for \$232,570.71. (VIDEO 26:28 – 29:45)

Tonya Triplett, Director of Economic Development and Tourism thanked the Council for funding the skill track at The Meadows. She advised the construction would begin in April and be completed in November 2023.

**On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to accept the bid from American Ramp Company for design and construction of skills track at The Meadows for \$232,570.71.**

Mr. Austin questioned if the money would be used from the General Fund. Town Manager Mike Cochran answered in the affirmative.

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

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

2. Consideration of contract for wayfinding signage allocated through the Capital Improvement Plan with Frazier Associates for \$50,000. (VIDEO 29:46 – 32:50)

Mayana Rice, Assistant Town Manager and Director of Community Development presented that in 2022 Town Council allocated money through the CIP. Staff advertised a Request for Proposal with five companies responding. Two local companies were interviewed with the selection of Frazier Associates. Mrs. Rice requested Council to allow the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Frazier Associates for \$50,000 with a proposed completion date in September 2023.

**On motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to allow the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Frazier Associates in the amount of \$50,000.**

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

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

**O. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consideration of disposing of personal property, specifically compost mixer, to the Town of Marion, Virginia for \$8,500 (VIDEO 32:51 – 35:38)

Mayana Rice, Assistant Town Manager and Director of Community Development conveyed the compost mixer was obsolete. The Town of Abingdon was contacted by Marion staff and offered \$8,500 to purchase the compost mixer.

**On motion of Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Webb, to dispose of a compost mixer to the Town of Marion for \$8,500.**

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

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

**P. OLD BUSINESS**

**Q. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER (VIDEO 35:43 – 36:27)**

Town Manager Mike Cochran said for the past couple of months he's been working very hard on the budget proposal and thanked the staff and the Council for being accommodating. He further said it has been great because the Town has a great professional team.

**R. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 36:28 – 44:52)**

Mr. Austin attended the Veterans Memorial Park Foundation meeting on Monday, March 20, and expects a nice Memorial Day weekend and the dedication of several trees. He also attended the Tuesday, March 21 meeting of the Sinking Spring Cemetery Committee, with the Committee presenting a required report to Council. Discussion included "Adopt a Plot" and the preservation plan for the Cemetery.

Mr. Austin also stated that he appreciated the persons speaking on behalf of the mural and that he personally supported the mural, and that going forward, the Council, either by Committee or however, would give some consideration to showing our support for keeping the mural in place. However, the Town has no legal recourse or ability to require the mural to stay in place.

Mrs. Quetsch said that she attended the Washington County Business Challenge awards with eight participants and was very encouraged as a judge.

Mr. Anderson also attended the Veterans Memorial Park Foundation meeting and the Washington County Business Challenge awards and thanked Tonya Triplett for her involvement. He also added that Ms. Matney would perform a song wrote during the Memorial Day event.

Mr. Webb announced the Arbor Day celebration is April 6<sup>th</sup> at Abingdon High School.

Mayor Pillion attended the Abingdon Arts Commission, where the mural was first discussed. She discussed a proposed plan for an inventory of public art and perhaps a Memorandum of Understanding for responsibility. She discussed the Virginia Commission of Arts and the mural program in Virginia Beach. She also invited Veterans to join the Veterans Advisory Board breakfast on the first Tuesday of every month and the planning of the Field of Flags during the Memorial Day celebration. Mayor Pillion also stated she wanted to add information to the "Monday with the Mayor" videos.

## **S. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (VIDEO 44:54 - 47:37)**

1. Board of Zoning Appeals  
- Appointment to fill two vacancies

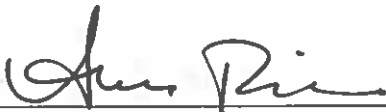
**On motion by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, to invite the Circuit Court to appointed Arthur Alan Bayse and David Cody Johnson to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals.**

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

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

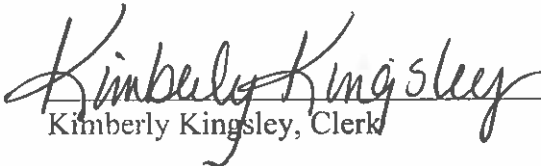
## **T. CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Pillion declared the meeting adjourned.



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Mayor Amanda Pillion



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Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk