

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023 – 2:30 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

- A. WELCOME – *Mayor Pillion***
- B. ROLL CALL (VIDEO 4:54 – 5:04)**

Members of Council Present:

- Wayne Austin
- Donna Quetsch
- Derek Webb
- Vice Mayor Dwyane Anderson
- Mayor Pillion

- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (VIDEO 5:31 – 8:06)**

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

Counsel Cameron Bell questioned whether Council was going into closed session. Mrs. Quetsch asked to go into closed session. Mr. Bell suggested that Mr. Austin amend his motion.

On motion of Mr. Austin, seconded by Mrs. Quetsch, to amend his motion to allow for a closed session for purposes of discussing salaries.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Austin	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Aye
Vice Mayor Anderson	Aye
Mayor Pillion	Aye

Mayor Pillion questioned whether the closed session would be conducted prior to or after public comments. Mrs. Quetsch responded before public comments.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, to go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for discussion and consideration of salaries of all appointees and employees of the Town.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Austin	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Aye
Vice Mayor Anderson	Aye
Mayor Pillion	Aye

(CLOSED SESSION 8:06 – 1:02:11)

On motion by Mr. Webb, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, reconvened in open session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Austin	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Aye
Vice Mayor Anderson	Aye
Mayor Pillion	Aye

Mr. Webb 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) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in the motion.

The certification was as follows:

Mr. Austin	I so certify
Mrs. Quetsch	I so certify
Mr. Webb	I so certify
Vice Mayor Anderson	I so certify
Mayor Pillion	I so certify

- E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- F. PROCLAMATION**
- G. PUBLIC HEARING**
- H. RESOLUTIONS**
- I. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**
- J. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES**
- K. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS**
- L. NEW BUSINESS**

M. OLD BUSINESS

N. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER

1. Summary presentation from Emory & Henry students regarding the Available Parking Study
(**VIDEO 1:02:43 – 1:24:31**)

Assistant Town Manager and Director of Community Development, Mayana Rice; Senior Town Planner Gabe Cristofari; and Planning Technician Nick Howard discussed the Kickoff Summary.

The presenters covered the following topics:

- *How public parking is utilized
- *The Courthouse project
- *History of parking studies
- *Public parking
- *Private parking lots
- *Areas researched (North Court, South Court, East Valley, Whites Alley, East Main and Court; Main Street (divided into East Main, Tanner, Park & unnamed street) North Church, Oak Hill, Park Street; Barter Stage parking lot; and Sinking Spring Church parking lot.
- *Research conduct at three different times on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, February 27 to March 3 at 9 am; 3pm and 6pm on these days. Data was solely collected during the 3pm and 6pm slots.
- *The results of the parking study were that despite there being a good availability of parking, only 22% of the spots are actually being used. This leads to believe that it is less of a problem with parking, and more a problem of walking distance.
- *Trends included spots on Main Street seemed most popular location for parking as many are filled in the evening. Parking at the Barter Stage 2 lot, Abingdon United Methodist Church and Sinking Springs Presbyterian Church lots are rarely used, with the exception of the church parking lots being used on Wednesday evenings.

Discussion ensued.

2. Discussion regarding proposed policy for banner poles (**VIDEO 1:24:31 – 1:35:03**)

Town Manager Mike Cochran advised he reviewed the existing documents and found one pole was intact and would need to replace one at a cost of approximately \$5,500 with a 60 day delivery. He said the banners would be used for Town sponsored events. Mayor Pillion request Counsel Cameron Bell to consider the legalities and write a memorandum for consideration. Discussion ensued with Mayor Pillion requesting the matter be placed on the May 1st agenda to discuss legalities and an arrangement with the property owner.

3. Discussion regarding FY23-24 budget (**VIDEO 1:35:08 – 1:38:02**)

Mayor Pillion stated this time will be moved to the May 1, 2023 agenda.

Town Manager Mike Cochran announced the Veterans Memorial Park waterfall is operational, the splash pad opening would be Sunday, May 28 at 2:00 pm at The Meadows and VDOT is actively monitoring Exit 17 traffic.

O. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (VIDEO 1:38:02 – 1:40:37)

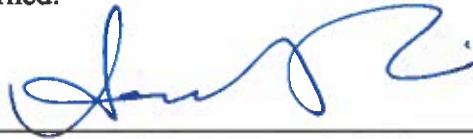
Vice Mayor Anderson reported that he attended the Tourism Advisory Committee. He understood the Garden Faire was a huge event and shared flyers for the Fiddlers Convention in June and the Monroe Mandolin Camp in September.

Mayor Pillion shared the Best of Abingdon Awards would be revealed next week.

P. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Q. CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Pillion declared the meeting adjourned.



Mayor Amanda Pillion



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk