

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023 – 2:30 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 2:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

- A. WELCOME – *Mayor Pillion***
- B. ROLL CALL (VIDEO 3:23 – 3:32)**

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 4:01 – 4:25)**

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Austin, approved the agenda as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

- E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (VIDEO 4:29- 8:05)**

- Michael Henningsen

- F. PROCLAMATIONS**

- G. PUBLIC HEARING (VIDEO 8:16 – 11:25)**

1. Public Hearing - Easement is described as: *Access Easement for Parcel 7, The Meadows BEGINNING on a point located in the southerly right-of-way line of Cook Street (right-of-way varies), common corner between Parcel 7 of The Meadows Subdivision (Plat Book 79, Page 2), and Town of Abingdon Virginia property (Plat Book 80, Page 45); thence leaving said Parcel 7 and along said right-of-way line N65°47'10"E, 28.64; thence leaving said right-of-way line and crossing said Town of Abingdon Virginia property S24°12'50"E, 16.08 feet to the point of curvature of a curve; thence by a curve to the right having a radius of 54.50 feet, an arc length of 58.66 feet, a delta angle of 61°40'19", a chord bearing of S06°37'20"W, and a chord length of 55.87 feet to a point in the common line*

with said Parcel 7; thence along said line N24°12'49"W, 64.06 feet to the point of BEGINNING, containing 1,438.8 square feet, more or less.

Mayor Pillion opened the public hearing. Assistant Town Manager and Director of Community Development presented information regarding the public hearing. Hearing no public comments, Mayor Pillion closed the public hearing.

H. RESOLUTIONS (VIDEO 11:27 – 12:28)

1. Resolution granting easement is described as: *Access Easement for Parcel 7, The Meadows BEGINNING on a point located in the southerly right-of-way line of Cook Street (right-of-way varies), common corner between Parcel 7 of The Meadows Subdivision (Plat Book 79, Page 2), and Town of Abingdon Virginia property (Plat Book 80, Page 45); thence leaving said Parcel 7 and along said right-of-way line N65°47'10"E, 28.64; thence leaving said right-of-way line and crossing said Town of Abingdon Virginia property S24°12'50"E, 16.08 feet to the point of curvature of a curve; thence by a curve to the right having a radius of 54.50 feet, an arc length of 58.66 feet, a delta angle of 61°40'19", a chord bearing of S06°37'20"W, and a chord length of 55.87 feet to a point in the common line with said Parcel 7; thence along said line N24°12'49"W, 64.06 feet to the point of BEGINNING, containing 1,438.8 square feet, more or less.*

On motion of Mr. Austin, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, approved the Resolution which grants the easement.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Austin	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Abstained (Employed by Food City)
Vice Mayor Anderson	Aye
Mayor Pillion	Aye

I. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

J. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES (VIDEO 12:30 - 59:47)

1. An Ordinance of the Council for the Town of Abingdon, proposing a budget, make appropriation for the current expenses, and to fix a tax rate upon real and personal property, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

Town Manager Mike Cochran presented information regarding the proposed FY 2023-2024 budget. Information included accomplishments during the FY2022-23 budget, personnel, debt service, boards and commissions, etc.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Mr. Austin, the budget ordinance be passed with an amendment to the appropriation of the line item identified as "Use of General Fund Reserves" to be renamed "Council Appropriation Expenditures", meaning that before funds may be expended from General Fund Reserves that Town management first obtain Town Council's approval.

Discussion ensued between the Council, Mr. Cochran and Director of Finance, Steve Trotman and Counsel Cameron Bell.

After discussion, Counsel Cameron Bell asked for clarity from Mrs. Quetsch regarding her motion being if the Town gets to the point that it must spend \$1.3 million out of the General Fund, meaning that the Unassigned General Fund balance decreases by \$1.3 million dollars, then Council must appropriate that money.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

K. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS (VIDEO 59:50 – 1:01:48)

1. Consideration of bid to Ken Construction for \$1,103,308 for Virginia Creeper Trail Trestle repairs – *Michael Surrett, Director of Public Works*

On motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, approved the bid to Ken Construction for \$1,103,208 for Virginia Creeper Trail trestle repairs.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

L. NEW BUSINESS (VIDEO 1:01:45 – 1:11:52)

1. Discussion regarding First Amendment to Declaration of Restrictive Covenants and Reciprocal Access Easement Agreement (Marathon Realty and Town of Abingdon) – *Mayana Rice, Asst. Town Manager and Director of Community Development*

Assistant Town Manager and Director of Community Development Mayana Rice discussed the requested changes to the exhibit F-1, a limitation on the sale of certain items related to equipment and tools changing to allow future retail including outdoor storage and sales, and a distinguishing factor between a tire, oil change facility and a service garage with major repair. Marathon is requesting an amendment is neither the foregoing restriction or anything else contained in Exhibit F shall preclude, restrict or otherwise limit in any way the operation of vehicle service and/or tire centers such as Firestone Complete Auto Care, Pep Boys, Valvoline Instant Oil Change, Discount Tire, Jiffy Lube, Take 5 Oil Chane, Tire Discounters, or other

similar uses within the development. Mrs. Rice stated that the Planning Commission does an excellent job of ensuring that if something is designed in there that it will be designed well.

Stephen Spangler with Marathon Realty said he was seeking clarification on the allowed uses under Zoning B-2 as properties are sold.

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, authorized the Town Manager to sign such documents and legal counsel to prepare any documents.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Austin	Aye
Mrs. Quetsch	Aye
Mr. Webb	Abstained (Employed by Food City)
Vice Mayor Anderson	Aye
Mayor Pillion	Aye

M. OLD BUSINESS

N. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN MANAGER (VIDEO 1:11:55 – 1:19:24)

1. Request to transfer funds from the Abingdon Fire Department to the Abingdon Firefighter Foundation as a 501(c)3 – *Chief Tim Estes, Abingdon Fire Department*

Chief Estes requested the Council transfer benevolent funds totaling \$8,087.52 for the Abingdon Fire Department be transferred to the newly established Abingdon Firefighter Foundation. Chief Estes stated no local government money was included in the benevolent fund.

On motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, authorized the transfer of funds from the Abingdon Fire Department to the Abingdon Firefighter Foundation.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

Town Manager Mike Cochran relayed information regarding the July 1st Independence Day event.

O. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (1:29:27 – 1:26:07)

Vice Mayor Anderson advised the week of June 10th was Barter's birthday and he attended several events and presented a Proclamation. He also attended the Historic Society's African Heritage event.

Mrs. Quetsch conveyed she was at the Abingdon Fiddler's Convention, which was a huge success and she attended the Infrastructure Advisory Committee with lots of projects ongoing, and the Finance Committee, where today sort of gave a little bit of relief moving forward.

Mr. Austin questioned the scheduling of the Cumming Street closure. Mr. Cochran advised the last information was July 10 – 12 and a 72-hour closure with detours. He said Vice Mayor Anderson was a great ambassador for the Town on the stage and was thrown in the mix with a lot of politicians and the way he conducted himself was excellent.

Mr. Webb stated that he was out of town for half of June.

Mayor Pillion thanked the Town staff and Council members as everyone has been very busy summer. She stated there has been some very robust discussions, sometimes tense, sometimes not involving this budget and thanked the Finance Department. She also thanked the Coomes Center and The Meadows staff, Public Works, HPRB, Code Enforcement has been out working and making our Town beautiful. She stated that visitors to her home said Abingdon was a perfect little Hallmark town.

P. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Q. CLOSED SESSION

R. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pillion declared the meeting adjourned.



Mayor Amanda Pillion



Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk