



**PROCLAMATION SUPPORTING OCTOBER AS
NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, unfortunately, breast cancer touches nearly every family in Virginia, including residents of our Town; and

WHEREAS, approximately every two minutes, one case of breast cancer is diagnosed in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in Virginia, 7,810 women and 2,800 men in the U. S. will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year; and

WHEREAS, nearly 44,000 women and men are expected to die from breast cancer in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, one in eight (12%) will develop breast cancer in her lifetime, with the most diagnosed among middle-aged and older, but 54% being diagnosed in women younger than 65; and

WHEREAS, improvements in early detection and treatment contributed to a 43 percent decline in the breast cancer death rate in the US between 1989-2020; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 4 million breast cancer survivors in the U. S.; and

WHEREAS, an annual “Pink 13.1 Bike, Run, Walk” on the Virginia Creeper Trail, where 100% of funds raised remain in Virginia, is scheduled for Saturday, October 21st has already raised over \$66,700 to fund:

- ❖ screening and diagnostic breast health services for uninsured and under-insured in Southwest Virginia; and
- ❖ individualized resource coordination; and
- ❖ free breast health educational materials; and
- ❖ newly diagnosed, caregiver, and survivorship packets; and
- ❖ advocacy for improved health public policy and research dollars for the state.

WHEREAS, celebrating the lives saved and remembering those we have lost, let the month of October be a moment of unity that rallies the Town and Washington County residents to end breast cancer and join in activities to increase awareness of steps to prevent and control breast cancer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, the Council acknowledge the importance of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the Town of Abingdon.

Amanda Pillion, Mayor