

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL RETREAT
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 – 9:00 am
JUBILEE HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, 822 E. Main St., Abingdon, VA**

The Retreat of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 9:00 am at the Jubilee House Retreat Center.

- A. Welcome – *Mayor Pillion***
- B. Roll Call**

Members of Council Present:

Wayne Austin
Donna Quetsch
Derek Webb
Vice Mayor Anderson
Mayor Pillion

- C. Approval of Agenda**

On motion of Mrs. Quetsch, seconded by Vice Mayor Anderson, 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

- D. Introductory Remarks**

Town Manager Mike Cochran welcomed everyone. Mr. Cochran introduced David Rose and James “Jimmy” Sanderson with Davenport & Associates.

- E. Presentation from Davenport & Associates**

David Rose and Jimmy Sanderson provided the Council and staff with information regarding the Town’s financial background, General Fund update, existing tax-supported debt profile, and wastewater fund overview. Discussion ensued. Both Rose and Sanderson commanded the Town to sharing the monthly financials with the Finance Committee.

F. Review of 2023 projects completed and goals met

Town Manager Mike Cochran discussed the Council's 2023 goals including infrastructure projects, increasing tourism, local business support, enhancing recreation and art, and attracting young families to the area.

Discussion ensued regarding projects that were not completed, including the Main Street flooding issue and the Park Street project. Mr. Cochran conveyed the Main Street flooding mitigation was redesigned, saving approximately \$1.5 million.

Mr. Austin asked if the Coomes Recreation Center had plans to resume Sunday hours. Mr. Cochran responded that staff were working on ways to have twenty-four-hour access. Mr. Austin discussed the William King Museum of Art expansion.

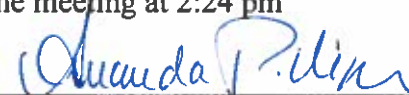
G. Discussion regarding 2024 goals

Town Manager Mike Cochran recapped the Council appropriated \$4.0 million in ARPA funds to Main Street flooding. After consultations with engineers and property owners, a final plan was developed, saving \$1.5 million dollars. Mr. Cochran presented several projects that were included in the Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion ensued regarding the projects suggested.

Council suggested updating Latture Field, looking into additional tennis/pickleball courts; a generator for the town hall, updating Coomes playground equipment (with community buy-in), CRC pool heater, wayfinding signage, and roofing needs for the police department. Mayor Pillion requested staff to provide a list of the most important items and costs. Discussion ensued regarding working with County officials.

Mayor Pillion declared the meeting adjourned the meeting at 2:24 pm


Kimberly Kingsley, Clerk


Mayor Amanda Pillion