

**TOWN OF ABINGDON
COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009 – 6:00 P.M.
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A budget work session of the Abingdon Town Council was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Municipal Building.

A. Roll Call

Members of Council Present: Mr. Edward B. Morgan, Mayor
Dr. French H. Moore, Jr., Vice Mayor
Lois H. Humphreys
Cathy Lowe
Jason N. Berry

Comprising a quorum of the Council

Administrative Staff: Gregory W. Kelly, Town Manager
Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk
Mark Godbey, Town Treasurer/Dir. Of Finance

Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order and Council members agreed to discuss the funding of Capital Outlay Projects.

Council began reviewing the Town Departmental Operational Capital Outlay Projects as presented by Mr. Kelly. Mr. Kelly explained that the presented lists comprised those projects that he had been asked by Council not to include in his funding recommendations as had been done in the past.

- Council discussed the funding under the *Street Department* and the consensus was that they would fund:
 - Sidewalk, curb and gutter \$50,000
 - Street Improvements 50,000
 - Storm Drainage 40,000
- Council further discussed and agreed by consensus that they would fund, under the *Parks and Recreation Department*, the following unit but would most likely include this amount with funds borrowed for other Town Projects in the upcoming fiscal year:
 - Gouvernaire Unit Chiller \$400,000

- Council discussed and agreed by consensus to fund consulting fees under the *Town Manager's Department* for \$75,000.

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At this time, Council began discussion of the Community Capital Outlay Projects.

- Discussion ensued about the renovation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Convention and Visitors Bureau building. Council agreed that they would fund the renovation project in the amount of \$150,000 but would most likely include this amount with funds borrowed for other Town projects in the upcoming fiscal year.

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At this time, Mr. Kelly addressed the Council members about an office building located at the corner of Main Street and Russell Road and belonging to Tom Hicok. Mr. Kelly commented that Mr. Hicok had been corresponding regularly about his opinion that he had lost parking spaces for his office building during a property transaction wherein a municipal parking lot had been traded to Highlands Union Bank in return for the park property located across from the Post Office. Discussion ensued among the Council members about this matter.

By consensus, the Council agreed that they would not lease/grant and/or designate five (5) parking spaces to Mr. Hicok as he had proposed during communication with the Town Manager, Greg Kelly.

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Mr. Kelly discussed with Council the acquisition of a piece of property on the west end of Main Street and Council, by consensus, agreed that Mr. Kelly should pursue this option and report back to them at a later time.

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The Council considered the remainder of the projects on the Community Capital Outlay listing and indicated they would fund the following items:

➤ Depot Square Phase 2	\$60,000
➤ Dog Park	25,000
➤ EVA Expansion	*175,000
➤ EVA Web Construction	25,000
➤ Go Green	90,000
➤ Taylor's Hill Project	25,000
➤ Walden Road	90,000
➤ Watershed Study	27,000

*Council, by consensus, agreed that they would most likely include the EVA Expansion amount of \$175,000 with funds borrowed for other Town projects in the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Kelly commented that the Council should consider a retreat in the coming weeks in order for Council to prioritize the Community Capital Outlay projects.

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At this time, Council members commented that they would like to address employee salaries and non departmental requests at the April 14<sup>th</sup> budget work session.

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Dr. Moore addressed the Council members to report on the status of the purchase of a new space by Ecumenical Faith in Action and asked the Council if they would consider an additional appropriation for their new facility.

On motion of Mrs. Lowe, seconded by Mr. Berry the Council appropriated \$25,000 from their contingency for Ecumenical Faith in Action to be used for their new facility.

The roll call vote was:

Mr. Berry	Aye
Mrs. Lowe	Aye
Dr. Moore	Aye
Mrs. Humphreys	Aye
Mayor Morgan	Aye

The motion carried.

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Mr. Morgan declared the budget work session recessed until Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 for further budget discussions.

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Edward B. Morgan, Mayor

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Cecile M. Rosenbaum, Town Clerk