V I R G I N I A:

At a recessed meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Thursday, June 13, 1991, at 7:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, Virginia, the following were present:

PRESENT:

James P. Litton, Chairman
Maurice H. Parris, Vice Chairman
Kenneth G. Mathews
Aubrey E. Brown
Charles O. Byrd
Thomas Whittaker
Cecil K. Simcox

Bruce E. Bentley, County Administrator
Cliff Walsh, County Attorney
Sandra M. Hatfield, Secretary

ABSENT:

Mark W. Seamon, Director of Accounting

Present from the Town of Abingdon:

Joseph T. Phipps, Mayor
French Moore, Jr., Vice Mayor
H. L. Coomes
Robert M. Howard
Lois Humphreys

ABSENT:

G. M. Newman, Town Manager

Other persons present were:

Al Bradley, Town Planner

Charles H. Smith, Judge, Circuit Court
David Brown, Judge, General District Court
Thomas Hutton, Judge, General District Court
Eugene Lohman, Judge, Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court

L. C. Angle, Chairman, Courthouse Committee
Al Tuell, Courthouse Committee
Tubby Walton, Courthouse Committee

Charles Day, Architect, Beeson & Beeson

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1. Call to Order

The recessed meeting of the Washington County, Virginia Board of Supervisors was called to order by Mr. James P. Litton, Chairman.

Mayor Phipps called the recessed meeting of the Town Council to order noting that all members were present.

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2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance - Maurice Parris

Mr. Parris asked Mr. Simcox to give the Invocation and lead in the Pledge to the Flag.

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3. Discussion of Courthouse Parking with Abingdon Town Council, Judges, and Courthouse Committee

Mr. Bentley reviewed the purpose of the meeting. He summarized the Courthouse parking options that have been considered. Mr. Bentley had the blue prints of the courthouse project available and affirmed that the County is ready to go to bid when the issue of the variance is resolved.

Discussion ensued among Supervisors, Council Members, Judges and Courthouse Committee members concerning the overcrowded courts; the Board of Zoning Appeals motion with regard to the County's request for a variance of the parking requirements and the direction that the Council and Supervisors resolve the parking problem within 30 days; lack of adequate parking on Main Street; the position of the Historical Society and the Architectural Review Board with regard to a parking garage.

Mr. Day responded to questions related to costs of a parking garage and distributed pictures of a parking garage in Fredricksburg, Virginia.

Mr. French Moore proposed consideration of the Town of Abingdon borrowing money to build a metered parking garage to accommodate the addition to the Courthouse as well as metered parking on Main Street. He stated that the County would be obligated to pay the money back to the Town over an agreed upon period of time, and be willing to maintain and operate the garage.

Mrs. Humphries proposed consideration in obtaining property for the purpose of an employee parking facility near Park Street.

Mr. Mathews asked the Town if they would consider sharing a percentage of the construction costs.

Mr. Walton commented that the proposed plan will address a short term need but will not resolve the long term problem of growth and need for additional parking spaces. He suggested building a complex that would address the present and future needs of the Courthouse. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Litton reiterated the County's request for a variance of the parking requirements so that the renovation project can be bid and work can begin. Mr. Moore responded that it is not within the authority of the Town Council to approve a variance.

Mr. Moore proposed that in addition to his previous suggestion, the Town contribute 25% of the building costs of a parking garage asking that the County commit to the 75% along with operating and maintaining the building.

On motion of Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Howard, it was resolved that the Town of Abingdon will issue General Obligation Bonds for the cost of constructing a Courthouse parking garage, further the Town will enter into an agreement with the Board of Supervisors, pending the approval of the Town attorney, whereby the Town agrees to contribute 25% of the annual payment for a parking garage and the County agrees to contribute 75% and provide the operation and maintenance of the building.

The vote on this motion was as follows (5-0):

Mr. Phipps	Aye	Dr. Moore	Aye	Mr. Howard	Aye
Mrs. Humphries	Aye	Mr. Coomes	Aye		

On motion of Mr. Mathews, second by Mr. Brown, it was resolved to take advantage of the generous offer of the Town Council has made for the benefit of the citizens of Washington County and accept the Town's offer, pending the legality of a lease-purchase agreement, and proceed with the Courthouse renovation project.

The vote on this motion was as follows (3-2-2):

Mr. Mathews	Aye	Mr. Litton	Nay	Mr. Brown	Aye
Mr. Byrd	Aye	Mr. Parris	Abstain	Mr. Whittaker	Nay
Mr. Simcox	Abstain				

On motion of Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to advertise for bids for the Courthouse reconstruction project.

The vote on this motion was as follows (7-0):

Mr. Mathews	Aye	Mr. Litton	Aye	Mr. Brown	Aye
Mr. Byrd	Aye	Mr. Parris	Aye	Mr. Whittaker	Aye
Mr. Simcox	Aye				

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At the conclusion of the meeting Mayor Joseph Phipps and Council members discussed the appointments of members to the Penn House Committee.

Board of Supervisors discussed and prioritized the Office of Economic Development Plan annual project list for Washington County to be forwarded to Mount Rogers Planning District Commission for their review.

Mr. Litton expressed appreciation to the Town of Abingdon, Judges and Courthouse Committee for meeting with the Supervisors on the Courthouse parking problem.

4. Adjournment

On motion of Dr. Moore, second by Mr. Coomes, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting of the Abingdon Town Council.

The vote on this motion was as follows (5-0):

Mr. Phipps	Aye	Dr. Moore	Aye	Mr. Howard	Aye
Mrs. Humphries	Aye	Mr. Coomes	Aye		

On motion of Mr. Mathews, second by Mr. Parris, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

The vote on this motion was as follows (7-0):

Mr. Mathews	Aye	Mr. Litton	Aye	Mr. Brown	Aye
Mr. Byrd	Aye	Mr. Parris	Aye	Mr. Whittaker	Aye
Mr. Simcox	Aye				

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James P. Litton, Chairman