

**The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on August 11, 2015, at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Council Chambers with Mayor Thomas C. Coleman III presiding.**

**THOSE PRESENT**

**Thomas Coleman III, Mayor  
T. G. Gill, Vice Mayor  
Donna C. Ober  
W. H. Coleman (Absent)  
J. M. Kirkland  
David M. Crowder  
Ronny Worley  
Shirley S. Bowen, Clerk-Treasurer**

**GUESTS**

**Mr. Jonathan Hite  
Mrs. Mildred Winn  
Ms. Olivia Allison, South Hill Enterprise  
Susanna Manton  
Mr. Will Ober  
Mrs. Ellen Walker  
Mr. Charles Rouse  
Mr. Preston Butler  
Mr. Walter Beales**

**Mayor Thomas C. Coleman III called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting. He began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.**

**Mayor Coleman III requested approval of the July 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>'s, minutes. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober moved to approve the minutes with Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.**

**The Mayor introduced Mr. Charles Rouse, President of HBR, Inc. to update the council on various topics of interest regarding repairs to the Presbyterian Church. He reported that he had been seeking bids for the foundation work that was needed, but one contractor had given him a bid of \$32,000.00, which was totally out of the realm of possibility. He then contacted a structural engineer from Cary, NC to inspect the church's foundation. He verbally gave him his recommendations, but a report would be forthcoming from his observations as to the scope of work that should be done, which was not as extensive as others that had been contacted. Mr. Rouse stated that HBR, Inc. would pay him approximately \$700.00 for this service, which consisted of about three (3) hours of his time. The engineer informed Mr. Rouse that about 6-8 feet of foundation would have to be ripped out due to the condition of the footing being compromised in that section, which is at the access to the crawl space door, and the wall is beginning to fall out. The engineer also said that the front foundation seemed to have been worked on previously with cement, but upon putting the stones back, they were not put in straight, and were leaning; therefore, it was only catching the beam slightly and this section would have to be reinforced. He continued by saying that, all in all, the foundation looked pretty good, with some other reinforcements having to be made with rocks or wood in some rotten areas. More areas couldn't be checked due to very low areas where there was no crawl space, but the engineer felt those areas were not a problem. Mr. Rouse further stated that he & the committee would continue to seek estimates for repairing the foundation based on the engineers report when it arrives. Mr. Rouse spoke about the condition of the siding on the building and informed the council that he felt all the siding should be replaced. He had sought estimates for this, which would be approximately 2500 sq. ft. and cost a little over \$8000.00. He noted that he would be trying to do some fund raising to help with the cost of all repairs being made, but**

he stated that between HBR, Inc. and the town, there was enough money to do them and he was running these expenditures through the town since it would save the amount of sales tax. He also stated that South Hill glass would be here on Friday to give him an estimate of how much it will cost to re-glaze the glass in the windows. As far as the shutters, he would be taking them to be dipped to strip off the old paint at \$45 each, for a total of \$1200.00, which was a third of the cost of other quotes he had received. He advised the council that the roof work could be handled by the town depending on what method was used, since HBR, had gone over their threshold of expenditures by paying for the engineers fees, the windows, shutters, and siding. He stated that Mr. Will Ober had requested a lift and wanted approval, so he'd be able to do the same. Mr. Rouse stated that a 35 foot lift would be required to install the siding and the cost would be approximately \$160.00 per day or \$500.00 per week. He also reported none of these costs included labor, since no one had been selected to perform the work. He advised that he would like for the siding work to be done as quickly as possible, before the roof, since it would be better to do that before painting to avoid damaging the roof. Mr. Rouse stated that one of HBR's main purposes was to help restore old buildings.

Mayor Coleman III requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of August 2015. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to pay the bills for August, with Councilwoman Donna C. Ober seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.

The Mayor introduced Mr. Preston Butler to speak to the council regarding his interest in the town. Mayor Coleman III advised that Mr. Butler was a resident of the town, as well as, an associate who is working with Microsoft. The Mayor informed the council that during their lengthy conversations, Mr. Butler had shown a great deal of interest in helping the town. He told the Mayor that he and his fellow workers would be interested in moving the playground equipment, and cleaning out an area for this equipment. Mr. Butler took the floor and stated that he had approached his boss at Microsoft to help the town out with the possibility of establishing a town park. He stated that when asked by his superiors to put together a presentation and proposal for that purpose, it was well accepted and they were more than willing to begin work towards that endeavor. He put together a proposal and brochure for his boss and the council members indicating that they would do as the Mayor had mentioned in moving the playground equipment, constructing a community park that would meet playground standards, constructing a parking lot, putting a couple of picnic tables and benches, and would maintain it for a period of 4-5 years that would be of no cost to the town. He advised the council that the location that he and the Mayor had discussed was over near the Plank Road replica and would adjoin the trailhead for the Rails-to-Trails project. He stated that all he needed for his superiors was an approval from the town council to proceed. The Mayor interjected by advising the council that the location was on the lot that the town owns near the Plank Road replica and Mr. Butler had also agreed to clean the area with his crew and their equipment. Councilman Ronny C. Worley made one request, which was, that he would like to make sure there is an access from the Rails-to-Trails to the park area. Mr. Butler totally agreed that this would be utmost in their minds to get this done. He also stated that he would like this park area to be completely done and opened in conjunction with Boydton Day. Mrs. Ellen Walker asked some pertinent questions of Mr. Butler as to the construction of the park and their

consciousness of the street being a one-way street along with concerns for her and the neighbors. Mr. Butler assured her that all these concerns have been talked about and they would make sure everything would be done in a well-designed manner. Councilman J. M. Kirkland inquired if Rails-to-Trails was in agreement to have this area adjacent to their site. The Mayor stated that he had advised them of this being done during the final inspection and walk through of the trail, and they were very interested in seeing this come to fruition; however, he needed a decisive answer from them and has yet to be successful in receiving their final approval. Mr. Butler stated that if it comes down to it...and we don't have permission from Rails-to-Trails to tie into the park, he would put a contingency clause in his proposal package regarding the approval from Rails-to-Trails to connect with them at a later date. Vice Mayor Gill stated that we get some touch stuff sometimes to vote on but he said, "If this isn't the biggest "no brainer" since I've been on the town council...I don't know what is." Councilman Ronny C. Worley moved to allow Microsoft to construct and proceed with their plan for the town park. Vice Mayor Gill seconded the motion and all members voted unanimously. Mr. Butler was thanked by the council and the Mayor and expressed their appreciation for his and Microsoft's help.

Chief Danny R. Fox briefed the council on patrol activity for the month of July 2015. He stated that he had six (6) vehicle stops, and issued one (1) speeding citation. He further stated that the police car and tuning forks calibration had been completed for the next six (6) month period. He asked if the council had any questions or requests of him; however, there were no questions or comments from the council.

Since Mr. R. H. Park III was not in attendance at tonight's meeting, the Mayor reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for July was 1,525,000 gallons. The Mayor reported that the storage tank had been sold for \$2,000.00 and the bush hog was sold for \$350.00 through GovDeals. Also, bids have been acquired for a new bush hog with the lowest price of \$1,550.00 and he asked the approval of the council to purchase it. Councilman David M. Crowder moved to approve the purchase of the new bush hog from T & J Equipment. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

The Mayor advised the council of another problem that had just come up regarding the lawn mower at the wastewater treatment plant. He stated that the engine had blown all of the blower units and was leaking oil and the mower that is used to mow grass in town is currently in the shop being repaired. He advised that Mr. Park III had made calls to get quotes on a regular mower. Mr. Park III had received bids on four (4) different mowers and from two (2) different dealers. The Mayor stated that Mr. Park III had chosen a John Deere X320, 48" cut mower that cuts regular style and was the cheapest of the four (4). The Mayor requested that he also gets bids on zero turns; however, they are more expensive and Mr. Park III did not want those types due to the hillsides that they cut. Vice Mayor Gill asked about the John Deere lawn mowers that are sold at Home Depot or

Lowe's since they seemed to cost less. Beth Swain, Deputy Clerk, interjected by stating that she had been an employee of James River Equipment and stated that the John Deere mowers sold at those places are not the same quality and don't have the warranty that the ones do that are sold by the dealers. After more discussion, it was the consensus of the council to have Mr. Park III to contact more dealers to see what would be the best choice of mower for the WWTP.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public for questions, concerns, complaints, or any other subject that may need to be addressed. Mr. Charles Rouse stated since the council had approved Microsoft constructing the park and he being advised by one of the structural engineers to take field dirt and slope it down, away from the foundation of the Presbyterian Church, it would hopefully not allow the footers to get clogged again; therefore, he asked if a load of field dirt could possibly be put at the church for that purpose. The Mayor stated that he would make a note of it and make this request to Mr. Butler.

Mayor Coleman III reminded the council of Mr. Glanzy Spain reporting, at last month's meeting, concerning some trees owned by the county that needed be removed. He informed the council that Mr. Spain had contacted him and requested that he report to the council that the one tree considered to be a danger, had already been removed. Also, the county put the contract out to bid to remove the trees and they have given the bid to a contractor in South Hill, VA. He further stated that the trees would all be moved as soon as possible.

Mr. Rouse stated that a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Rails-to-Trails would be held at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, August 22, 2015, in conjunction with the Big, Bad Barbeque Battle, which would begin at 10:00 A.M. and end around 4:00 P.M. He stated that everyone was invited.

Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Ronny C. Worley seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

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**Shirley S. Bowen, CMC**  
**Clerk to the Council & Treasurer**  
**August 11, 2015**

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**Thomas C. Coleman III**  
**Mayor**