

**The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on February 14, 2017, at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Council Chambers with Mayor Thomas C. Coleman III presiding.**

**THOSE PRESENT**

**Thomas Coleman III, Mayor  
Ronny Worley  
T. G. Gill, Vice Mayor (Absent)  
W. H. Coleman (Absent)  
J. M. Kirkland  
David M. Crowder  
Ronny Worley  
Bill Thompson  
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer  
Krystle S. Magann, Deputy Clerk (Absent)**

**GUESTS**

**Mr. R. H. Park III, Public Works Supervisor  
Ms. Mildred Winn  
Mr. Walter Beales  
Mr. Allen Getz**

**Mayor Thomas C. Coleman III opened the regular meeting 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 minutes from January 10, 2017. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to approve the January minutes as submitted, with Councilman J. M. Kirkland seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.**

**Mayor Coleman III requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of February 2017. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to pay the bills for February 2017, as presented, with Councilman David M. Crowder seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.**

**Police Chief Danny R. Fox greeted everyone and briefed the council on police activity during the month of January. Chief Fox reported that he had (4) vehicle stops, (1) larceny, (1) alarm, and (2) Rescue assists for the month. He stated he also had been helping the Sheriff's office in investigating the larceny.**

**Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for January 2017 was 1,068,000 gallons. He updated the council on the oxidation ditch by stating that the bulkhead in Ditch #1 was back online and he hadn't seen any problems. Now, they would proceed on working with Ditch #2 bulkhead, which would probably be worked on by the end of this month and by doing so, it would complete the repairs to the oxidation ditch. He reported on the sewage line going to the Industrial Park by informing the council that it was progressing with minor problems, but it should be completed by the end of March or the first of April. He noted that there would be a little delay in getting the overhead electrical service completed, but the job should still be finished on schedule. Mr. Park III also updated the council on the work being done at the Waste Water Treatment**

Plant. He stated that the contractor had been working there as the weather has permitted and moving along as planned. He noted that there are a lot of details and approvals that need to be gotten, but that portion of the grant is still on schedule, as well. Mr. Park III mentioned to the council that he'd been working on trying to get high speed internet down at the WWTP, since he would need that after the renovation/construction work had been completed for the skater system. He told the council that he had been working with Verizon to see what they could do for him as far as wireless. Verizon has a "mi-fi" that would allow him to get faster internet speeds for their needs and would handle both phone lines. The cost for the phone lines and the internet would be approximately \$110.00 per month, with a one-time \$50.00 fee for the equipment; thus, costing about \$30.00 less than what the town had been paying monthly. A brief discussion ensued about the office changing to Comcast and the cost involved for the WWTP, which would have been about \$50,000.00, since they didn't have lines going there. He was asking for the council's approval in order to install this with Verizon. Councilman J. M Kirkland moved to allow Mr. Park III to go ahead with the wireless internet service through Verizon as he had researched. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor. Mr. Park III reported on upgrading the electrical service around the Courthouse for Boydton Day, since a lot of vendors needed 220 amp electrical service and the town couldn't offer it to them and he was asking the council if they would like for him to get some quotes from some electrical contractors before Boydton Day. The Mayor advised Mr. Park III to proceed with contacting some electrical contractors to get some cost amounts and report back to council. Lastly, Mr. Park III reported on the Hwy. 707 lift station. He reported that a pump had been delivered for that station and it is down at the WWTP, so it can be installed in an emergency on a temporary basis, if needed. He had five (5) contractors to come there to give him a quote; however, only one, Harman Saunders Construction, Inc., only gave him a quote, which was in the council packets. It was for a turn-key job with two (2) new pumps included, the rail system, bringing the check pump valves up top (where they are supposed to be), re-do the bypass pumping, and installing a ten inch line. This cost would be \$47,500.00. The Mayor questioned Mr. Park III on how many quotes he had on paper and asked if there was a closing date. Mr. Park III stated that he only had one contractor that would give him a quote so far, and the others that came, declined to give him a quote, stating they didn't want the job. Mr. Park III responded by saying there is no real closing date, since he had one pump down now, one pump that doesn't work, and only one pump in the ground, but he'd like to go ahead and have the work done all at the same time in order for the lift station to work like it should. Councilman Ronny Worley stated that he felt we needed more bids, as did the remainder of the council. Councilman Bill Thompson felt that if the contractors turned down the job, it should be written down as "proof" that we had requested other bids. Councilman J. M. Kirkland requested that Mr. Park III try to obtain more bids for the job and report back to the council at the next meeting.

Mayor Coleman III introduced Mr. Walter Beales to give an update on Historic Boydton's Renaissance, Inc. Mr. Beales began by stating that over the years there has been a lot of ideas/interest in doing something advantageous with the upstairs portion of the Town Hall by using this valuable asset here. He continued to say that HBR, Inc. was formed to try and do various things to help the town, such as the restoration and preservation of the Presbyterian Church, which worked out well. At their last meeting, HBR, Inc. discussed the upstairs portion of the Town Hall and wanted him to appear before the council to ask if there were any

plans to restore the upstairs and what use they would like to make of it. He stated that he would like some guidance on what to tell the board members at their meeting on Thursday night. He further stated that there are many things on hand that were left here for a museum, and he was sure there would be much more. But he noted that a museum wouldn't generate large revenues, that it mostly used revenues. It was their board members thoughts that doing something of this nature in this building, wouldn't be as costly since it's already here, the overhead wouldn't be much, and the upstairs was not being utilized. They also felt this would be a "draw" to the town and would help preserve its heritage. He said there probably wouldn't be many people to come by, but when they did, it could be shown by the staff who works here, since volunteers from this community would be a "witch hunt," as it is with other communities. Councilman J. M. Kirkland totally agreed with Mr. Beales that the town should utilize the upstairs portion of the building, but the problem was long ago was it needed to be handicap accessible and that's what held up the process. Mr. Beales concurred and stated that the HBR, Inc. board knew the town wouldn't have funding for possibly an elevator in order for it to be handicap accessible or the cost to restore the bathroom. He said the idea was to get a consensus of their common goal and then start to research and inquire about possible sources of funding that may be available to utilize the upstairs for something of this nature. Councilman Bill Thompson remarked that he felt we would have to get a ruling as to whether we would need handicap accessibility first, some preliminary cost figures of what it would be for HBR, Inc. to undertake this restoration by acquiring a realistic amount of what it would take to raise enough money. Mr. Beales interjected by saying, "Or wherever we can get it from, since HBR wouldn't probably be able to raise that much money even with grant sources or other public funds." He then stated that he was hearing that everyone favored the concept of pursuing this, so he would take this information back to the HBR, Inc. board on Thursday night and he would get back to the council.

Mayor Coleman III opened the floor for public input. Mrs. Ellen Walker spoke regarding the consolidation of public schools that had just been approved by the County. She was asking the council to keep aware of what's going on and support all their efforts of the school board for the sake of our children's education.

Mr. Walter Beales and questioned the progress of the playground. The Mayor responded that he had lost contact with Mr. Preston Butler, since he moved to the Chase City area and we need someone else to "spearhead" this once again. Mr. Beales stated that Mr. Allen Getz (who was in the meeting) was encouraged to be the person we need to continue pursuing the playground. Mr. Getz said, "Well, it looks like I've been volunteered." He then asked if there was anything done in Boydton at spring time. He offered an idea of having a town wide yard sale, perhaps in April or May. The Mayor, Councilman Thompson, and Mr. Beales like that idea and invited Mr. Getz to the HBR, Inc. meeting on Thursday at 5:30 P.M. to get involved and offer his ideas to their board. Secondly, Mr. Getz asked about the old assisted living place (Melody Manor) as to whether it had to be restored by historic standards, as far as the façade matching things in the late 1800's or early 1900's and he was thinking something could be done with that building. Council J. M. Kirkland responded that we have a historic district that is concentrated mostly around the Courthouse Square and he doesn't think that would building would fall into that category. Councilman Bill Thompson advised that the town would have to own it to do anything to it, but it belongs to someone else who wants to sell it;

therefore, we can't do anything about it. Mr. Walter Beales stated that it is a complicated matter.

Councilman Ronny Worley reminded the council that a citizen came forth at the last meeting inquiring about the house owned by the town on Jefferson Street and that they needed to come up with some ideas of what to do with it. The Mayor advised that he had some ideas, but the council needed to tell him when they would like to discuss it. Councilman Worley expressed that he felt it should be put on the agenda for next month, since the council told him that it would be discussed and he didn't want him to be left in the dark. The Mayor stated that he would get with the board to see what they could do.

Mayor Coleman III stated that it should be discussed tonight whether the \$500 contribution should be made to the Roanoke River Rails-to-Trails for the FY 2017-2018 budget. Councilman Ronny C. Worley moved to support the Roanoke River Rails-to-Trails for the FY 2017-2018 annual budget by contributing \$500. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion. Before the vote was taken, Councilman Bill Thompson stated that the Rails-to-Trails had \$90,000.00 remaining from the extension and we would lose it, but they needed a Resolution supporting the project from the town. Mr. Beales had a suggestion, which was to go ahead and prepare a Resolution of support from the town council and have it ready when any issues arise. As far as the \$90,000.00, Mr. Beales reported that it is not on the board this year, but possibly next year. Councilman Worley asked if we made a motion to contribute the \$500.00 to them then wouldn't that be supporting them. Mr. Beales and the Mayor responded by saying that this was entirely two different things, and Mayor Coleman III stated that this Resolution of support being talked about, could never hurt anything to have available when/if needed. Mrs. Walker brought up the subject of whose property would be involved to carry the trail through town; thus, a brief discussion ensued regarding that, with Mr. Beales stating that he and his brother owned property behind his house and they would gladly donate it for the project. The Mayor stated that a motion was already on the floor and he needed a vote. All members voted in favor of the motion. Also, Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to prepare a Resolution supporting the Rails-to-Trails with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously. Councilman Bill Thompson thanked the Mayor for his efforts and the initial groundwork he's done to make this project successful that a lot of people aren't aware of. The Mayor stated that there were many people who have done a lot to make this project work and should be thanked. He also asked that the community support this, if they were to be asked, since things like this would make this project work.

Mayor Coleman III informed the council that there were two memo's sent to the town from Wayne Carter asking for the town's request of funding from them for the ballpark and in lieu of taxes. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved that the town make the same request as last year from the County of \$98,000.00 in lieu of taxes. Councilman Ronny Worley seconded the motion, and all members voted unanimously. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk-Treasurer, stated she would write the letters to Mr. Carter of their request.

**The Mayor announced that the town hired a new employee, Ray Smith, who had been with the town for 27 years prior, and he thought he would be good for the town and the town would be good for him.**

**Councilman Bill Thompson had another question. He wanted to know if the town was that short of help on Friday's, since he had seen only one person, Clay Wootton, on the garbage truck last Friday. Councilman J. M. Kirkland advised that they had previously addressed that issue before and for safety reasons, no "one person" should be on the garbage truck. Councilman Thompson reiterated that Clay was driving the truck, as well as, getting out and getting the garbage can when he went by his house and no one else was with him at that time. Councilman Kirkland inquired of Mr. Park III about it, with Mr. Park's response being that there was supposed to be two (2) people on the garbage truck at all times and every Friday, as well. Councilman Kirkland asked Mr. Park III if he would check on this due to safety reasons. Mr. Park III stated that he would check on this to see exactly what happened.**

**Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to adjourn the meeting with Councilman David M. Crowder seconding the motion. All members voted in favor at the recorded time of 8:40 P.M.**

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**Shirley S. Bowen, MMC**  
**Clerk-Treasurer**  
**February 14, 2017**

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