

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on July 11, 2017, at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Council Chambers with Vice Mayor Thomas G. Gill presiding.

THOSE PRESENT

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

GUESTS

**Mr. R. H. Park III, WWTP Chief Operator
Mr. Ray Smith, Maintenance Supervisor
Ms. Olivia Allison, South Hill Enterprise
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Getz, Jr.
Mrs. Mildred Winn
Mr. & Mrs. Donna Ober & Susanna**

Vice Mayor Thomas G. Gill opened the regular meeting by thanking and welcoming everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting. He expressed his best wishes for Mayor Coleman III's continued recovery. He proceeded with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

The Vice Mayor requested approval of the regular minutes of June 13, 2017, minutes from the Public Hearing regarding the FY 2017-2018 budget, and the Called Meeting minutes of June 27, 2017, to adopt the FY 2017-2018 budget, along with other issues that had arisen. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to approve the three (3) sets of minutes as submitted, with Councilman David Crowder seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.

Vice Mayor Gill informed the council that he and Mr. Park III had spoken a couple of weeks ago concerning an effluent flow meter malfunctioning down at the WWTP and the need to replace it. Mr. Park III had acquired three (3) quotes and F. L. Showalter gave the lowest bid of \$4,982.95, which was below the estimate of \$6,000.00. The Vice Mayor stated that he approved the purchase with the lowest bid in order to get it up and running as quickly, as possible. Mr. Park III confirmed that it had been installed and running efficiently. Vice Mayor Gill stated that Chief Fox had contacted him about a week later, regarding the police car heating and discovered that a bolt had come loose and hit the fan; thus, driving it into the radiator. The Vice Mayor stated that he gave his approval for approximately \$1,000.00 to have the car repaired, to enable Chief Fox to be able to work. He, also, complimented the Sheriff's Department for being very congenial in allowing Chief Fox to borrow one of their vehicles until his was repaired and expressed his thankfulness & appreciation to them. He then requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of July 2017. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to pay the bills for July 2017, as presented. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor.

Police Chief Danny R. Fox greeted everyone and briefed the council on police activity during the month of June. Chief Fox reported that he had (3) vehicle stops, (1) petty larceny at Dollar General resulting in the arrest of the subject who was wanted by Nottoway County for shoplifting and some other charges, (1) a suspicious person on Finch Lane that turned out to be a lawn care person, (1) unlocking of a vehicle, and (2) reported burglar alarms at PATHS. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to approve the Chief's report. Councilman W. H. Coleman seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for June 2017, was 1,173,000 gallons. Mr. Park III reported that a large tree had fallen at the WWTP, knocking down an extensive section of chain link fencing and three (3) poles, which took the entire crew, practically all day Monday, to get the debris up from the damage. He stated he is currently seeking bids on repairing this and would report the cost at the next meeting. He informed the council that there have been some problems in the continued renovations at the WWTP, due to some of the remote control equipment being shipped in pieces and some pieces were not according to specs and also, some sections weren't shipped at all; however, Showalter Construction Company would deal with that. Mr. Park III stated that the expected substantial date of completion (without any delays) would be approximately November 15th. Councilman David Crowder inquired about the status of the pump station. Mr. Park III responded that nothing had been done, since he needed an approval from the council to proceed, and continued by stating that he would have to contact Harman Saunders to see if he would still honor the bid, since the time frame had expired. Councilman W. H. Coleman, Vice Mayor Gill, and Councilman J. M. Kirkland agreed (along with Mrs. Bowen) that the cost of the pump station was agreed upon in the new FY 2017-2018, budget as requested by Mr. Park III. Mr. Park III stated that he would contact Mr. Saunders immediately to see if he would still honor the bid to do the work. Mrs. Bowen asked Mr. Park III, if he would like her to make a claim to VML regarding replacing the fence. She advised that she would need details of what happened, the estimated cost, and she would file the claim on the computer. Mr. Park III told her he would gather the information and bring it to her to file the claim.

Mr. Ray Smith, Maintenance Supervisor, reported on activity during the month in his department. He gave an update on the playground by stating that he hadn't called all of the vendors who install playground equipment, but the ones he had called, don't do all the necessary work; such as grading, sidewalk work, etc., they are only playground equipment installers. Therefore, he would have to get other quotes from more sources to do the grading and other requirements involved, prior to moving and installing the older equipment at the schoolboard office, as well as, get quotes on at least three (3) handicap accessible pieces. He asked for guidance from the council on how to proceed, if they would like him to continue with this. Vice Mayor Gill asked if the first bid included everything in its entirety. Mr. Smith responded with by saying, "It includes everything from beginning

to end, except the three (3) handicap pieces that are required.” He noted that it did include the labor involved with installing those pieces. Vice Mayor Gill reiterated, “The first bid included everything?” Mr. Smith replied, “Yes, it includes two (2) handicap parking spaces, grading, repairing the ditch, new timbers, mulch, and everything else.” The Vice Mayor asked how the council felt about this. Councilman W. H. Coleman stated, “Well, I’ll be honest with you, this thing has gotten so blown out of proportion, I think we ought to forget it! If all those calls hadn’t been made, we’d have the playground equipment up there and it wouldn’t have cost the town a penny, so it’s up to the council.” Councilman Bill Thompson stated, “I don’t think the town can afford that kind of money.” Mr. Smith asked if they were willing to hold off another month to let him make some more calls and report back at the August meeting. The council agreed, and Mr. Smith, stated that he would call Brian Dalton, at the school board office, to make him aware of the situation. Mr. Smith, also, advised that the uptown lawn mower was still giving them trouble and they were continually having to get the mower from the WWTP to cut the grass uptown. He asked the council would they approve getting a new mower for the maintenance department, if he sought three (3) bids. A brief discussion ensued, with Councilman Kirkland suggesting that three (3) bids be obtained and presented at the next meeting. Then it was suggested that Mr. Smith obtain the bids, but due to time constraints, present the quotes to the Vice Mayor and he would call enough of the councilmembers to approve the purchase of the new mower, since it was in the new budget, anyway. Mr. Smith informed the council that the Regional Jail offered to supply the labor to cut the Rails-to-Trails, if the town provided the equipment. Councilman Kirkland asked if they had any kind of contract to do this type of thing or did he know. Mr. Park III advised that they were allowed to do it last year with their own personnel watching the inmates while it was being cut, and noted that cones were placed there to block it off during that time. It was the consensus of the council to allow them permission to do this. Mr. Smith mentioned one other thing, and that was Mrs. Bowen had told him that the council had requested the town crew to clean the exterior entrance into the Town Hall. He advised they would get it done on the next rainy day.

The Vice Mayor opened the floor for public comments. Mrs. Donna Ober reported on the upcoming Big, Bad, Barbeque Battle and stated that there were about fifteen (15) official applicants and about five (5) more who advised that they were sending in their applications. She stated that they were hoping to have about 25 participants this year. She made a request for the town crew to clean up early Saturday morning this year, since the teams would be here on Friday, with a band and street dance that night until 10:00 P.M.; therefore, the streets would need to be clean on Saturday (by 10 o’clock A.M.) since the event started by that time on Saturday, and they would, also, have to clean the streets after the event on Saturday. Mr. Smith responded that it would be no problem. Mrs. Ober presented and distributed “patches” to the town officials and stated they would be selling them this year for the event, rather than T-shirts. Councilman Kirkland suggested that

some type of “eye” should be kept on the town as far as grass cutting goes, prior to the event. Vice Mayor Gill suggested that we put notice on the water bills to “spruce up” your yards for the BBB Battle to be held on August 18th. Councilman Kirkland interjected by stating that he was told that nothing like that could be placed on the water bills due to lack of space. Discussion regarding this erupted since he was told by the office personnel that the notice of a change in the garbage pickup date last month, (due to the holidays) couldn’t be placed on the postcard size bills, since only approximately twenty (20) extra characters could fit on them. After several suggestions were made, Ms. Olivia Allison, the reporter from the South Hill Enterprise, offered to publish whatever the council requested in the South Hill Enterprise. They all thanked her for offering this service to the town.

Vice Mayor Gill complimented the volunteers on the beautiful flowers in the bump-outs and for the town crew keeping them watered with everyone agreeing.

The Vice Mayor’s comments consisted of the following:

- 1) He informed the council that Ms. Bowen had advised him that she had spoken to Ms. Tessie Bacon from Kenbridge, and she agreed to represent the town as its attorney, upon motion from the council. Councilman Ronny Worley moved to approve Ms. Bacon as the new town attorney. Councilman J. M. Kirkland second the motion with all members voting unanimously. Councilman Kirkland requested that Mrs. Bowen, the Clerk of Council, to invite Ms. Bacon to next month’s meeting and any other meetings that she would like to attend in order to meet each other, possibly advise them of what is expected from them, and just to get acquainted. Mrs. Bowen replied that she would contact her advising her of the council’s request.
- 2) Vice Mayor Gill reported that the ad for the sealed bids on the “Yellow House” had been prepared and advertised in the Mecklenburg Sun newspaper and would run in the News-Progress and the South Hill Enterprise on July 19th and 26th with the closing date for the bids to be in by August 8th at 5:00 P.M. He also stated that the bids would be opened at our regular meeting that night around 7:30 P.M., and a decision would be made.
- 3) Vice Mayor Gill informed the council that he met with Mr. Walter Beales regarding the continued plans for the Rails-to-Trails that Walter, Mayor Coleman III, and Mr. Elmer Hodge (former retired County Administrator of Roanoke, VA) had been working on prior to Mayor Coleman III’s illness. He stated that Mr. Hodge, who was volunteering his services to help the town, had gotten a bit discouraged in these efforts and felt that since Mayor Coleman’s illness, the progress had essentially ceased, and he needed more support from the town to continue working on this project. He stated there are many obstacles that are

involved. One is the property that is to be crossed and the cost that is involved. The Vice Mayor spoke to him at length and he is still more than willing to help in continuing this endeavor and would be coming to Boynton at the end of this month, possibly the 27th, the 28th, and 29th. Mr. Hodge told the Vice Mayor that there was money out there from grants, if we wanted to seek it. The Vice Mayor felt this was a worthwhile endeavor and advised that as the time nears, they would be hearing more, as to the time and dates Mr. Hodge would be coming to talk to him, Walter, and any of the councilmen that would like to see this work continued.

- 4) The Vice Mayor inquired of the signage committee, if they had made any progress regarding a signage ordinance for the town, not covered by the Architectural Review district. Councilman Bill Thompson reiterated from last month's meeting, that he didn't feel that Clarksville's, South Hill's, or the County's sign ordinance was a "good fit" for the town. It was suggested that something be prepared following his suggestions from last month's meeting, and refer it to the new attorney for assistance/guidance.
- 5) The Vice Mayor referred to the prior meeting regarding the request from Ms. Angie Kellett, Director of Mecklenburg County Office of Economic Development, as to the town's participation or commitment to help cover the cost of a marketing\recruitment company working with various towns in the county on recruiting retail businesses coming into the area. Mrs. Bowen, advised that she had spoken to Ms. Kellett since the last council meeting, and expressed that the consensus of the council was uncertain on whether to participate or not and advised her they were "not for or against it." Mrs. Kellett surmised from this response, that the town did not want to participate. Vice Mayor Gill stated that he "thought" the town of Clarksville was going to participate, but was unsure. Mrs. Bowen stated that she had spoken with the Town of Brodnax, and they had decided not to participate. The Vice Mayor then commented that he assumed this was no longer an issue or a "moot" point now.

There being no further comments, questions or concerns, Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to adjourn the meeting, which was recorded by the Clerk at 8:15 P.M. Councilman J. M. Kirkland seconded the motion, with all the members voting in favor.

Shirley S. Bowen, MMC
Clerk of Council & Treasurer
July 11, 2017

T. G. Gill
Vice Mayor

