

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on May 12, 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
J. M. Kirkland
David M. Crowder
Ronny Worley (Absent)
Shirley S. Bowen, Clerk-Treasurer**

GUESTS

**Mr. R. H. Park III, WWTP/Public Works
Mr. Will Ober
Ms. Olivia Allison, South Hill Enterprise
Mr. Charles Rouse, HBR, Inc., President**

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 along with a moment of silence.

The Mayor opened a public hearing, which had been properly advertised for proposed water/sewer rate increases for the upcoming fiscal year 2015-2016. With no comments being made, Mayor Coleman III declared the public hearing closed. Upon requesting a vote to approve the increased rates, Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to adopt the water/sewer rates as proposed for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconded the motion with all remaining council members voting unanimously.

Mayor Coleman III requested a motion to approve the regular minutes of April 14, 2015, and the work session minutes of April 20, 2015. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober moved to approve both sets of minutes as submitted with Councilman David C. Crowder seconding the motion. All remaining members voted in favor.

The Mayor called for approval to advertise the 2015-2016 proposed budget with the increase in rates included, and a public hearing would be held on June 9, 2015, at the regular council meeting. He also advised that the adoption of the budget, according to state law, would have to be officially approved seven (7) days after the public hearing. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to approve and advertise for a public hearing on the 2015-2016 proposed budget to be held at the next regular council meeting on June 9th. Councilman J. M. Kirkland seconded the motion with all members voting in favor.

Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to approve the bills for May 2015. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober seconded the motion and all members voted unanimously.

Chief Danny R. Fox briefed the council on patrol activity for the month of April 2015. Chief Fox stated that he worked on an attempted larceny of a tag-a-long trailer on Madison Street, he worked a hit-and-run at the Behavioral Health Center, he had three (3) vehicle stops and issued warnings, and he set up a speed box on Washington Street. He informed the council and audience that during this time period the total number of vehicles that went through and speed checked were 1,038 with the minimum speed of 11 mph and the maximum speed

was 53 mph. The average rate of speed was 26.89 mph. He felt it deterred some people from speeding and it helped slow down traffic through this area. He advised that now he had set the speed box up on Jefferson Street near Park Street. Due to the box having some technical problems at this time, he had contacted the sheriff's office to have it repaired as quickly as possible in order to determine the average speed on Jefferson Street.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for April 2015, was 986,000 gallons. Vice Mayor Gill questioned Mr. Park III on the progress that had been made on the Presbyterian Church as to whether anyone had given a bid on the repairs? Mr. Park III responded by stating that he had not, due to it being discussed at the previous meeting where it was suggested that a committee was to be formed to handle all the repairs. Vice Mayor Gill advised that he only asked because he had the name of a contractor that was interested in doing the job. Mayor Coleman III interjected by saying that we do need to move forward on this since the weather is better now to begin the process. He suggested that it could be discussed as to what the first priority would be in doing this. Mr. Charles Rouse, President of Historic Boydton's Renaissance, Inc. voiced that he had spoken to some members of HBR, Inc. and they expressed an interest in taking over this project with the council's approval. He stated that he would be willing to Chair that committee with Mr. Will Ober and Mr. Walter Beales, Jr. assisting in this endeavor. He also advised that this committee would help out with the expenses if the money in the town's Presbyterian Church fund account would be depleted. He continued by stating that they would adhere to the town's small purchase policy while working on this project. A brief discussion ensued concerning the work that should be done to the roof, painting, and window work. The Mayor thanked Mr. Rouse for undertaking this project and advised that he would seek at least two (2) more citizens to be on the committee, since he felt it should be a five (5) person committee. He also suggested that at least one person on the committee should be familiar and have knowledge of historic structures, and he would see if he could contact someone with this type of expertise. Mr. Park III questioned if he should try to get some bids for the roof work. Vice Mayor Gill said that would be a great idea and gave Mr. Park III a contractor's name and number to contact. Councilman W. H. Coleman suggested a Mexican gentleman that he felt would be good and inexpensive for the roof work, as well. Mr. Park III further stated that he would begin the process of getting some bids and leave them at the town office. Mr. Rouse commented that since the church was one of the town's historic structures/landmarks, the work should be done with approval of the town's Architectural Review Board to keep with the historic nature/structure of the building. Councilman Kirkland stated that if the work wasn't done in accordance or compliance with the guide-lines, rules, and regulations of the ARB, it could possibly cause problems. Mrs. Bowen advised that all the terms of the members on the ARB had expired and hadn't functioned in quite a while; therefore, this committee would have to be re-established and new members appointed.

Mr. Rouse reported that the Rails-to-Trails met on April 27, 2015, and a quorum was not present, which meant no action could be taken; however, some discussion took place. He informed the council that the trail portion in Boydton would be completed in approximately two (2) months and it was still unclear as to how much of the trail would be paved. He continued by saying that parts of it would be paved and parts not paved and he wasn't sure of future plans for the trail, but he was sure they would have a grand opening that we would be involved in. Mr. Rouse informed the council that he would be calling an HBR, Inc.

executive board meeting within the next ten (10) days due to some tax issues that HBR had incurred. Vice Mayor Gill inquired of Mr. Rouse if there would be a horseshow this year. Mr. Rouse stated that since there are only 2-3 members now, that a horseshow is not planned.

Mayor Coleman III informed the council that lots of things were happening in the town and progress was being made, but there are no final answers on issues to give at this time. The grant for the WWTP is being reviewed and it seems it will be approved. He continued to say that he had signed papers and mailed them, but there are a couple more documents to be signed and returned. He informed the council that he had met with Southside Planning today and the process is not a speedy one when dealing with Federal Grants. He mentioned that we were continuing to work on taxes and the website, but it is a work in progress and it will take a while to convert things over. He stated that he knew it was important to get the website updated as soon as possible in order to get the Big Bad Barbeque and Boydton Day activities on the site. The Mayor also advised that the town's new employee, Johnny Roberts, was now on duty and he felt that he was going to work out well in the maintenance and Wastewater Treatment Department. Mayor Coleman III stated that with the council's approval he would like to proceed with advertising for the position in the front office, which would become vacant after May 15th. He further stated that the office would be incurring more work responsibilities with this new grant agreement. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to advertise for the position with Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconding the motion. All members voted in favor. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober inquired if we could possibly contact some of the past applicants who applied previously. The Mayor indicated that it was possible, but under the law, we would still have to advertise for the position. Councilman J. M. Kirkland inquired of Mrs. Bowen, if the town belonged to a Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Bowen responded by advising that the town was a member of the Chase City Chamber of Commerce. He said that he only asked due to the fact that we could list our events with them. Mrs. Bowen also inquired of the council if they had any suggestions as to what they would like to see on the town's website so she could convey them to the new website designer in order for him to incorporate any and all ideas during his setup. The Mayor reiterated that any suggestions should be made as quickly as possible. Mrs. Bowen reported that she was in attendance at the Boydton Day meeting on Monday night and she was very impressed with number of volunteers who attended to help with Boydton Day 2015. She stated that the next Boydton Day meeting would be held here at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, June 15th. She invited the council and anyone else who had a desire to help be in attendance.

Mr. Rouse expressed his appreciation for the town employees watering the newly planted flowers; however, he said the weeds and wire grass were now becoming a problem. Councilman W. H. Coleman stated that he could provide the chemicals to kill the weeds and wiregrass from continuing to be a problem.

There being no further discussion or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P. M.

Shirley S. Bowen, CMC
Clerk to the Council & Treasurer
May 12, 2015

Thomas C. Coleman III
Mayor