

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on May 9, 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 (Absent)
David M. Crowder
Ronny Worley
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer
Krystle S. Magann, Deputy Clerk**

GUESTS

**Mr. & Mrs. Donna Ober
Mr. Charles P. Reamy
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Getz & children
Mr. R. H. Park III, WWTP Chief Operator
Mr. Ray Smith, Maintenance Supervisor
Mrs. Shirley Lundy & Guest
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Hite
Ms. Olivia Allison, South Hill Enterprise**

Vice Mayor Thomas G. Gill opened the regular meeting by welcoming everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting. He advised once again, that during Mayor Coleman III's recovery, he would still continue to fill in for him during his absence. He then began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

The Vice Mayor requested approval of the minutes from April 11, 2017. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to approve the April minutes as submitted, with Councilman David M. Crowder seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.

Vice Mayor Gill requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of May 2017. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to pay the May 2017 bills, as presented. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor.

Police Chief Danny R. Fox was not available in time to present his report; therefore, Vice Mayor Gill read Chief Fox's report of police activity during the month of April. He reported that Chief Fox had (3) vehicle stops, (1) vehicle unlocked, (1) burglar alarm, and (1) attempted murder where a juvenile was involved.

The Vice Mayor stated that the Motor Vehicle Code, Title 46.2 and Article 18.2-266-18.2-273 as amended was to be re-adopted each year with a motion by council. Councilman David M. Crowder moved to re-adopt the Motor Vehicle Code, Title 46.2 and Article 18.2-266-18.2-273 as amended and required by law. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, and all members voted unanimously.

Mr. R. H. Park III, reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for April 2017, was 1,030,000 gallons. Mr. Park III stated that he found some problems with the sewer lines up at the ball park that would have to be addressed and as soon as the land dries out they would be working on them, which would take about the next couple of months to correct. Mr. Park III advised that he had spoken to Harman Saunders regarding his bid on the lift station and his bid was correct and included all the same expenditures as requested. Councilman Ronny Worley questioned Mr. Park III on renovating the pumping station as to replacing the 10" line in the bottom of the manhole. Mr.

Park III stated that it would be a 10" line on the receiving manhole to the pumping station. Councilman Worley asked, "What size pipe would be on the discharge side there?" Mr. Park III responded by saying, "On the pump side, it would be a 4" pipe, forced main." Councilman Worley's concern was how that would help, if the pipe sizes were different. Mr. Park III said there would be pumps that are forced mains and right now we have one 4" gravity fed line coming in that continually stops up because it is gravity fed and nothing is forcing it in. By putting the 10" gravity line in from the receiving manhole over to the pumping station you are alleviating the stoppage and once it gets into the pumping station the pumps will pick it up and lift it up to the high manhole, which would be under force with 30-35 lbs. of pressure, so those pumps would pump through the 4" inch pipes by forcing it in. Councilman Worley asked, "Well, when it pumps out, what size line is it pumping to?" Mr. Park III stated, "It's pumping all the way up to the old library on Washington Street, which is an 8" line that goes down to the new line in front of the Vice Mayor's house and that's a 10" line." And he, also, stated that we need to get the water over to the pumping station, which is one of the biggest problems he has in getting it up the hill.

Mr. Ray Smith gave the maintenance report for the month by first stating that the tractor, that operates the bush hog, is in need of repairs since the power steering cylinders aren't working. He informed the council that the parts would cost approximately \$1,000.00, and the crew could do the repairs themselves. Councilman Ronny Worley moved to purchase the parts to repair the tractor. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. Mr. Smith advised the council that he met with Matt Reid of VML (the town's insurance carrier) regarding the relocation of the playground equipment. Mr. Reid suggested that a professional should be brought in to make sure the equipment is dismantled properly, relocated, and professionally put back together due to the ADA guidelines and requirements. He continued by stating that Mr. Reid would have to return to inspect it and to make sure it was done properly, as well as, within the required guidelines. He further stated that Mr. Reid advised that if it wasn't done correctly, it would have to be redone. Councilman Coleman expressed his concerns of why VML had to be contacted and involved in everything, and also, why would it be so hard to unbolt some screws from a sliding board and swing set and putting it back together? Mr. Smith responded by saying that it wasn't that hard to take down, but in putting it back together there was a list of ADA guidelines to go by and it would have to be ADA compliant. Also, the town would have to purchase three (3) pieces of handicap accessible equipment to go with the eight (8) pieces already up at the schoolboard site, along with landscaping the new site, grading for parking spaces, a special type of wooden mulch placed on top of gravel, all of which the guidelines specify. Councilman Coleman voiced his dismay as to why it seems things have to be done the hard way. Mr. Smith stated that these new ADA standards had just come into "play" a few years ago and in order for VML (as the town's insurance carrier) to continue to cover us with liability insurance on the town, we would have to comply with their recommendations. He mentioned that Mr. Reid made this comment, "That you can put it up, if the town doesn't want VML to insure you, and the town could do whatever they wanted to...but if you end up in a lawsuit ...then we're not going to cover you." He stated that parking and lighting was discussed, as

well. However, you could put up a sign stating that the park is open from dusk till dawn to alleviate the need for lighting. Also, parking has to be handicap accessible in addition to the handicap accessible playground equipment that would be needed. Vice Mayor Gill interjected at this point by stating that at the last meeting it was questioned if the town actually owned the playground equipment. He stated that Mr. Will Ober visited a meeting of the schoolboard where he found out that the equipment was definitely given to the town a few years ago. He then asked if a sign couldn't be put up saying, "Play at your risk. Town not responsible for accidents." Mr. Smith stated that he asked that question to Mr. Reid and was advised that if the park was on town owned property, it would be considered a public playground of the town and a sign of this nature wouldn't apply. It was the consensus of the council to have Mr. Smith gather more information concerning who the town could hire to relocate the equipment and the cost involved. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Ober for all his help and advised that he would like to keep in contact with Mr. Dalton, of the schoolboard, to let him know the relocation status, as well, as Matt Reid with VML. Mr. Smith informed the council that Mr. Reid advised in an email that the next Safety Grant cycle would begin on July 1, 2017, and if applied for, that could possibly help with some of the cost involved with this project and would be available July 1, 2017.

Vice Mayor Gill questioned Mr. Park III in regards to any available information from VDOT on the town street repairs? Mr. Park III stated that he was told that no repairs are scheduled for the next two (2) years.

The Vice Mayor referred to last month's meeting regarding his appointed committee looking into a signage ordinance for the town. Councilman Thompson stated that he had reviewed both ordinances from two (2) other towns, but the committee needed to meet to discuss what would be the best solution for the town. The Vice Mayor stated that he was contacted last week by the County in regards to having a sign installed at the Commissioner's & Treasurer's office due to the fact that their buildings are hard to locate. He also had a drawing of the sign they would like to install for the council's perusal. Councilman Worley remarked that the town already had guidelines in place to cover this type of sign through the ARB. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council, brought Councilman Worley the Town Ordinance Book to look up the ordinance, and while doing so, the regular meeting continued and would this topic would resume upon retrieval.

Vice Mayor Gill inquired of Mr. Getz if he had anything to add regarding the playground equipment. Mr. Getz reiterated that the park had to be ADA compliant as stated previously. The Vice Mayor advised Mr. Smith to keep Mr. Getz updated on the status of the playground.

The next item on the agenda was to appoint a Representative from the town to the Roanoke Rails-to-Trails. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of the Council, advised Vice Mayor Gill that Mr. Jim Walters had volunteered to be our town representative as he was a few years ago. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to appoint Mr. Walters as the town's representative to the Roanoke River Rails-to-Trails. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion, and all members voted unanimously.

The Vice Mayor stated that the town had been advised by the Roanoke River Service Authority that Mayor Coleman III's term on their board would expire on June 30, 2017; therefore, the Mayor or another person would have to be appointed to serve on their board as of July 1, 2017. Mr. Jeff Hinkle, of the RRSA, asked that the town appoint a town representative to serve another two year term. It was the consensus of the council to have Mr. Park III, the town's alternate, to attend the meetings until Mayor Coleman III could return to his position as Mayor and as the town's RRSA representative. Mr. Park III agreed to attend the meetings until the Mayor could attend those meetings once again.

Vice Mayor Gill opened the discussion regarding plans for the "Yellow house" on 865 Jefferson Street. Councilman W. H. Coleman stated that he had spoken to another councilman a couple of days ago, and felt it was a good idea. He stated that if we want to sell the house, we could put it up for sale with sealed bids, however, reserve the right to turn down all bids, if the council felt it was not an appropriate amount of money. Vice Mayor Gill asked, "Are you speaking of selling the house and "all" the land or a portion of the land and the house?" Councilman Bill Thompson interjected by stating that he liked the idea of selling the entire property with sealed bids and agreed with Councilman Coleman to the refusal of bids, if it didn't sell for what the council felt was a fair price. Councilman Coleman stated that he felt we should check with the town attorney to seek advice as to what or how this language should read for sealed bids. Councilman W. H. Coleman then moved to check with the town attorney as to what can legally be done concerning the sealed bid process, what we can and can't do, whether we can reserve it, accept the highest bid, deny it, not sell it, and make a final decision at the next meeting. A guest interjected by asking if the house was a historical home in the town. Councilman W. H. Coleman responded by saying that it wasn't in the historic district. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

Councilman Worley reverted back to the issue regarding signage and read the town's ARB ordinance concerning this. He, Mrs. Bowen, and Mr. Park III could not find the language they were looking for at this time; however, Mrs. Bowen stated she knew she had sent various businesses in town the ordinance that they needed to comply with. She stated she would continue to search for it at a later time.

Vice Mayor Gill opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Ober inquired if anyone was going to let the schoolboard know about the status of the playground equipment. Councilman Coleman affirmed that Ray Smith was to keep Mr. Dalton informed. Mr. Smith again, thanked Mr. Ober for all his help regarding the equipment and reiterated that he would continue to keep Mr. Dalton abreast of the situation with the equipment.

A guest inquired about street work being done and whether VDOT would repair her drive-way entrance down at the old laundromat while she would be repairing the parking lot. Mr. Smith advised her that he would contact VDOT concerning her request and get back to her.

Councilman W. H. Coleman stated that he had two (2) things to discuss. First, of all he stated that a letter should be sent to Verizon advising them that when Virginia Dominion Power removes their electrical poles, they should be responsible for cleaning up the telephone wires

or debris that they have left, belonging to them. Secondly, he stated that a letter or action should be taken regarding unsightly yards not being cut. Councilman Coleman stated that he would give Mrs. Bowen a list of residents that should be contacted.

Mr. Ober informed the council that there is already a parking lot for two (2) cars down at the location where the playground equipment would be installed. Councilman Coleman stated that those could be used for handicap accessibility.

Vice Mayor Gill asked Mrs. Bowen again, if she'd found anything in the ordinance book regarding the signage dimensions. She reiterated that she had not, but she knew she had sent other businesses in town the requirements and they had complied. Upon not being able to retrieve the language tonight, Councilman Bill Thompson moved to allow the County to install a sign for their building. Councilman W. H. Coleman seconded the motion, all members voted in favor.

Vice Mayor Gill stated that the town council would be going into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Councilman Ronny Worley moved that the Town Council hold a closed meeting to discuss the following, the discussion of a personnel matter as permitted by the Virginia Code 2.2-3711 (A) (1).

The executive session being closed, the council reconvened into open session. Councilman Ronny Worley moved that the Boydton Town Council certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, that nothing was discussed except the matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. The motion was passed by a roll call vote as follows:

Ronald C. Worley	Aye	W. H. Coleman	Aye	David M. Crowder	Aye
J. M. Kirkland	Absent	T. G. Gill	Aye	Bill Thompson	Aye

No action was taken or motion made from the discussion after the closed session.

There being no further comments, questions or concerns, Councilman Ronny C. Worley moved to adjourn the meeting, which was recorded by the Clerk at 8:45 P. M. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor.

Shirley S. Bowen, MMC
Clerk-Treasurer
May 9, 2017

T. G. Gill
Vice Mayor

