

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on September 8, 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. Charles T. Rouse, Pres., HBR, Inc.
Mrs. Mildred Winn
Ms. Olivia Allison, South Hill Enterprise
Dr. Dave Eason
Ms. Pam Gifford
Mrs. Ellen Walker
Mr. David Goodwin
Mr. Will Ober**

Mayor Thomas C. Coleman III welcomed everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting and upon doing so, opened the regular meeting. He began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

Mayor Coleman III requested approval of the August 11th, minutes. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober moved to approve the minutes with Councilman David M. Crowder seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.

The Mayor requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of September 2015. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to pay the bills for September with Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconding the motion. All remaining members voted unanimously.

Mayor Coleman III introduced Mr. Charles Rouse, President of Historic Boydton's Renaissance, Inc. to update the council on repairs being made to the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Rouse informed the council that he had emailed Sandra Tanner of Rails-to-Trails regarding connecting the trailhead to the proposed playground located on Hull Street near the Plank Road replica. He further stated that her response was that at their last meeting, which he was not in attendance, that nothing could be done to the trail for a period of one (1) year and after that time, it would be fine if something was done regarding the trail. Mr. Rouse advised that the construction group of Microsoft could go ahead and construct the playground and after the year has gone by, something could be done to connect the park with the trail. Mayor Coleman III reported that the construction employees of Microsoft had offered to construct the park along with maintaining it for 3-4 years; however, the only part that we weren't sure of was connecting it to Rails-to-Trails. He continued by saying he felt we should allow Microsoft to continue the work as planned and possibly later connect it with the trails due to the fact that they would like to have it completed and open the playground in conjunction with Boydton Day on October 31, 2015. Councilman J. M. Kirkland stated that he didn't want to disturb the trail area in any way, only to have access to and from the park to the trails and he felt that should be made clear to the people in charge of Rails-to-Trails. Mr. Rouse added that Mrs. Tanner's email made it quite clear and was adamant that nothing was to be done relative to the trail for one year and she would not do a straw poll of the board as he had suggested. A brief discussion concerning maintenance of the trail incurred with Mr. Rouse reporting that a former Mayor had signed off that the town would maintain the trail; however, since that time we've backed

out of doing it. There was a volunteer group called, "Friends of the Trail" and one person was to maintain the trail, but due to medical reasons that person is unable to do so now. Mr. Rouse stated that something would have to be done now to maintain the trail. The Mayor Coleman III advised that when all this began it was agreed that the town would assist in maintaining the trail and the town employees had already done some maintenance work prior to the Big, Bad Barbeque Battle.

Mr. Rouse reported that he had four (4) volunteers were working on the Presbyterian church and they had begun tearing the current siding off and would be replaced with new siding. He stated that HBR, Inc. had purchased a workmen's compensation policy to cover any uninsured contractors at the site since the town was unable to. The cost for the insurance coverage was \$1,354.00 and he was asking the town to pay that cost. He informed the council that upon advisement of the structural engineer, he had found someone to do the foundation work, which would include the center beam. The total cost for the foundation work & center beam work would be \$5,650.00 and would be good for 60-70 years. He asked for council's approval to pay that as well. Mr. Rouse informed the council on the roof repairs that would cost approximately \$2,500.00 and the contract would be awarded to Mr. Arrington from South Hill, which came under budget. The cost of the lift would cost \$580.00 per week and the plan would be to have it back within two weeks. He noted that he put about \$5,000.00 in the budget for painting, but Mr. Ober's volunteer work would possibly amount to over \$10,000.00, which was saving the town a huge expense in labor. He also mentioned that the new siding would be delivered in the next couple of days and he had scheduled someone to come and re-glaze the windows and replace the broken glass. As far as the shutters they only have a few more to be dipped for repainting and this cost came under budget, as well. He informed the council that he had a team lined up to work on the church just in case no more volunteers showed up to finish the work. The Mayor questioned Mr. Rouse again as to if everything was coming under budget for the work. Mr. Rouse responded that he was correct, but he didn't think HBR, Inc. should bear the burden for the cost of the foundation work cost or the workmen's compensation insurance. Vice Mayor Gill moved for the town to cover the cost of the foundation work costing \$5,650.00 and the cost of \$1,354.00 for the workmen's compensation insurance, which totals \$7,004.00. Councilwoman Donna C. Ober seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. Mr. Rouse also informed the council that he would be trying to raise money for the Presbyterian Church to recoup some of the church's expenses. Councilman Ronny C. Worley requested that pictures be taken. Mr. Rouse advised that this had been done today by Mrs. Ober.

Police Chief Danny R. Fox briefed the council on police activity during the month of August. He informed the council that he had three (3) vehicle stops which one resulted in a speeding citation on Washington Street. He further stated that he had no criminal reports for the month. He asked if the council had any concerns or requests of him and if so, he would be happy to answer. There were no comments from the council.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for August was 1,325,000 gallons. He also mentioned that a flushing report was also included with the report. Mr. Park III informed the council that the preliminary blueprints were received regarding the updating of the WWTP and they were in Mrs. Bowen's office for anyone to review. Also, he advised that there was

paperwork in the council packets regarding the purchase of a new lawnmower for the plant. He stated that he felt the town would be fine in purchasing the standard commercial lawnmower, unless the council wanted the semi-commercial mower. Councilman Ronny Worley questioned Mr. Park III on where he got the quote for the John Deere mower. Mr. Park III stated that he was quoted the price from South Hill due to the fact that he couldn't get in touch with Mr. Smith in Ashland, VA. Councilman Worley responded by saying he would call him tomorrow since he had just purchased three (3) mowers and the prices presented were not in comparison to his. Some discussion ensued with Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moving to allow Mr. Park III, the Mayor, and Councilman Ronny Worley to get together to purchase a lawnmower that was best for the WWTP. Mr. J. M. Kirkland seconded the motion and all members voted unanimously.

The Mayor reported that a meeting was held here in the council chambers with Randy Jones of Dewberry, Sangi Cooper of Southside Planning District Commission, Wayne Carter, Mecklenburg County Administrator, Mr. R. H. Park III, Mr. Eric Tollerson, Mrs. Bowen, and himself regarding plans for the \$4,000,000.00 grant that has been approved. He felt it was a very good, successful, and productive meeting and he appreciated everyone who participated in the meeting.

Mayor Coleman III opened the floor for public comments. Dr. Dave Eason inquired if the town crew could pick up the leaves earlier this year prior to Boydton Day to improve the town's appearance. The consensus of the council was to have this done.

Mr. Ober notified the council and audience that a coffee/sandwich shop would be opening in the front of the pharmacy hopefully in conjunction with Boydton Day and the opening of the pharmacy. He also informed the council that he had discovered when removing the siding that some electrical work may be needed that wasn't considered in the scope of work.

Mrs. Ellen Walker brought up more questions regarding the connection of the trail to the park and the work that was planned regarding the park. The Mayor advised her that it was all being worked out and everything was still on schedule to be done. More discussion about maintaining the trail arose among the guests and council, but this was of no real concern. The Mayor finished the discussion by welcoming and asking for volunteers to help with any of these endeavors, and if interested, to let the office personnel know.

Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Ronny C. Worley seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P. M.

Shirley S. Bowen, CMC
Clerk to the Council & Treasurer
September 8, 2015

Thomas C. Coleman III
Mayor