

**The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on February 13, 2018, 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 (Absent)  
Bill Thompson  
J. M. Kirkland  
David M. Crowder  
Ronny Worley  
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer  
Krystle S. Magann, Deputy Clerk**

**GUESTS**

**Mr. R. H. Park III  
Mr. Walter Beales  
Mr. Ray Smith, Maint. Supervisor  
Ms. Hannah Cox, South Hill Enterprise  
Mrs. Mildred Winn  
Mr. J. E. Harrell**

**Vice Mayor Thomas G. Gill opened the regular meeting by welcoming everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting. He led the council and guests with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.**

**Vice Mayor Gill requested approval of the January 9, 2018, regular minutes. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to approve the minutes for January as submitted, with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.**

**Vice Mayor Gill requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of February 2018. Councilman David M. Crowder moved to pay the bills as submitted for February 2018. Councilman J. M. Kirkland seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor.**

**The next order of business was the police activity report given by the Police Chief, Danny R. Fox. He stated that police activity for the month of January was relatively quiet, except for three (3) traffic stops that were made. He asked if there were any questions or concerns. Councilman Kirkland stated that he had spoken to Chief Fox regarding the complaints he'd received concerning the corner parking areas on the streets to see what, if anything, could be done to alleviate the lack of being able to see approaching vehicles entering the highway at these intersections. He further advised that Mr. Ray Smith, Maintenance Supervisor, along with the Chief and himself, had decided to have the maintenance department paint these locations (such as the handicap parking areas) in order to enable the citizens to visually see better, when crossing these intersections with their vehicles; therefore, hopefully deterring an accident. Upon the council being questioned by Mr. Smith about the cost of the paint and their approval, it was the consensus of the council to have the paint purchased with maintenance department funds. Councilman Kirkland also stated that it was his desire that this work be done as quickly as possible.**

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for January 2018, was 2,063,000 gallons. Mr. Park III reported that due to the freezing temperatures, they'd had some damages to pipes and valves at the WWTP that cost approximately \$2,000 to repair. He added that the repairs to the lift station on Hwy. 707 had now been completed and is functioning well, with no complaints. He complimented the contractor for the excellent job that was done. In an update on the Washington Street lift station, discussed at the January meeting, Mr. Park III stated that a problem was discovered and it was repaired without having to replace the pump. Some other problems were also discovered during the repairs; therefore, he contacted a Representative from a company called the "401 Group" to get some recommendations to have it properly repaired. He advised that he would report back to the council on what should be done, along with the costs or bids. Mr. Park III informed the council that the WWTP upgrade is now substantially complete. He reported that about 99% of the items were in and functioning properly, the scada system is up and operating and there is only one item left that has to be replaced, which should be here within the next month. Mr. Park III invited anyone who was interested to come down and view the plant and he'd be more than welcome/happy to give a tour along with specifics of what was done. Councilman Worley inquired about the problems with the sewage system on Park Drive, reported by the Andrews family at a prior meeting. Mr. Park III said they had found settings on the pumps that were incorrect. He further stated they'd changed the settings and now they seem to be 100% correct. Once that was done, they've had no more complaints. Mrs. Bowen interjected that she had questioned Mrs. Andrews-Richardson when she stopped by to pay her bill, and she stated that, so far, she'd not smelled an odor or found a problem with water standing. Councilman Kirkland remarked, "This was good news." He then inquired about the progress of the fire hydrants being replaced. Mr. Park III advised that Mr. Smith would be updating the council on this subject during his report.

Vice Mayor Gill requested that Mr. Ray Smith give his maintenance report. Mr. Smith reported that two (2) fire hydrants had been replaced and one (1) was capped off. Mr. Smith informed the council that he had spoken to Showalter about replacing them, but they showed no interest. He stated that he then spoke to the Vice Mayor and a couple of councilmen about Harmon Saunders doing the work. Mr. Saunders advised that he would replace the hydrants contingent with repairing the lift station, when he was in town. Mr. Smith informed the council that while repairing one of the hydrants, it was discovered that one of them had an undetected leak and it was repaired, as well. The quote was \$7,000, plus materials, which totaled \$7,500.00. Mr. Smith stated they were supposed to come back and repair the sidewalks around these hydrants, after it settles. Mr. Smith reported on repairs to the streets by saying that VDOT had been contacted and they were to call to arrange a meeting. In the meantime, Mr. Smith stated that there were a couple of holes in urgent need of repairs; therefore, they filled in those areas and he had requested more "cold patch," but VDOT is currently out, as well. Vice Mayor Gill agreed that Mr. Smith

had contacted him regarding various situations that come up where there was a need at the time for a quick decision. He stated that he sometimes makes a decision to go ahead, while trying to make the best decision for the town. He further stated that he hoped no one had a problem with his decisions, and if so, tell him now. He asked that he not hear it later on the streets and added that he would never do anything that would hurt the town. Councilman Thompson stated that he felt he made a good decision with Vice Mayor Gill thanking him.

Mr. Ray Smith advised that he had another item to discuss with the council. He informed them that the front grill of the backhoe had fallen off and was in need of repair, since this was a vital part of the backhoe, which covers and protects two (2) radiators. He stated that the cost from Hinkle Welding was around \$500.00 and that would be to build and replace this grill with a heavier more durable material and also, to weld the bucket. Councilman Worley asked if he knew what material would be used to make this grill and also advised Mr. Smith to check with Mr. David Sandifer, before allowing Hinkle to do the job. Mr. Smith agreed, and he was also instructed to contact Vice Mayor Gill on the cost prior to the repairs being done and before it was approved.

Vice Mayor Gill opened the floor for public comments. Mr. J. E. Harrell commented, that from a citizens prospective, he felt that the Vice Mayor was correct in making decisions when it was needed. The Vice Mayor thanked Mr. Harrell for his comment. Mrs. Bowen also, stated that she felt Vice Mayor Gill had done a wonderful job.

The Vice Mayor advised that he was handed a document when he came in tonight by Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council, and he was as “clueless” on it as anything he’s ever run up on and as bad as he hated to...he supposed he would have to read it and hoped that everyone gets something out of it, because he sure hadn’t. He then read the “Wireless Resolution” sent from VML, our insurance carrier. Mrs. Bowen informed everyone that she had received this Resolution from VML via email after the packets went out on Monday and was unable to let anyone know about it, prior to the meeting. VML’s recommendation was for the town to sign this “Wireless Resolution” in opposition to HB 1258/SB405 introduced by Delegate Kilgore and Senator McDougle.

Citizen, Mr. J. E. Harrell, stated that it sounded like corporations may be putting up towers and other things around, which gives them the ability to acquire “imminent domain.” In other words, “Take your land from you and there would be nothing you could do to prevent it.” He continued by saying that his recommendation would be to send this to the town’s attorney and tell her to put this in “common man’s language,” but he didn’t feel it would be in our best interest, if not. Councilman Kirkland and Thompson said that Kilgore and McDougle aren’t our representatives, anyway. Councilman Worley said, “Just hold on to it.” Councilman Thompson stated, “McDonald was our Governor four years ago.” However, the Vice Mayor stated that it was McDougle presenting this resolution, not McDonald. Mr. Harrell reiterated that it didn’t sound like it was in the town’s best interest

by taking away our ability to have any “say so” in matters of this nature and he would send it to the town’s attorney, so she could take a look at it and get her legal opinion. Mrs. Bowen, stated that her interpretation was the same as that of Mr. Harrell. More discussion ensued, with councilman Worley asking when the Resolution was received. Mrs. Bowen, again replied that she received it Monday afternoon, after the packets were sent out. Chief Fox stated that VML was advising us “not” to support this House Bill by opposing it with this Resolution. The majority of the council said that it wasn’t the way it came across when it was read. The Vice Mayor advised Mrs. Bowen to contact Mrs. Bacon, the town’s attorney, the next day. Mrs. Bowen replied, “To save the town some money, I can also contact the VML attorney (who we don’t have to pay) for more detailed information regarding this, since they sent it and were asking us to sign the Resolution.” Councilman Kirkland responded by saying, “If they can’t send any more confusing information than that, then don’t send nothing...that’s ridiculous.” Mr. Harrell said, “That’s the way all laws read.” Councilman Kirkland said, “I’ve been doing it for 32 years, I know what it is, but I’m not going to sit here listening while it was ultimately confusing.” He further said, “And to come in here at the last minute...that really runs me hot! So if it can’t be in our packet...then we don’t get it to the next month and I don’t care what the deadline is.” Councilman Worley stated, “When you hand something to the Vice Mayor, when he comes in the door, he doesn’t benefit from that. He hasn’t had a chance to review it or nothing. He’s blindsided.” Councilman Kirkland, said, “That’s not fair to anybody...to us or the people because we have to make a “snap” decision and the majority of the time, I’ve found out, in my former job, when someone hands you something like that...”I need to know something right now”...they got something they want to come up and they don’t give you time to do your homework and I don’t like that. I’ve found that to be a lot more true than not. So again, if you can’t get it in here and be fair with us, then we will have to be fair to them and say we can’t consider it right now.” Vice Mayor Gill interjected by saying, “Well, I guess a no response would mean that we don’t support what they are trying to do.” Councilman Thompson said, “I think we should not support it, period.” Councilman Crowder agreed that we should send it to the town attorney with Councilman Kirkland advising Mrs. Bowen to email it to her for an opinion and present it next month.

The Vice Mayor mentioned that the town clock wasn’t working again and asked Mr. Smith did he get the man’s name who repairs clocks. Councilman Thompson advised that his name is Mr. Kish who lives in Clarksville and his phone number is in the telephone book.

Vice Mayor Gill reminded everyone once again that the town election is Tuesday, May 1st and the deadline to qualify is Tuesday, March 6, 2018, by 7:00 P.M. He stated that those up for re-election are the Mayor T. C. Coleman, Councilman Ronny Worley, Councilman J. M. Kirkland, and Councilman W. H. Coleman. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council, stated that she would remind each of them before the deadline.

**Mrs. Bowen advised Vice Mayor Gill that a discussion was needed for the upstairs renovation since a benefactor is interested in renovating the upstairs and HBR, Inc. had wanted to do so, as well. She told the council that three (3) contractors had come in to look at the upstairs and they couldn't give a quote until someone gives them an idea of what the upstairs would be used for, or in other words a drawing. Suggestions have been made to have two bathrooms installed, the stage left in place for presentations, a small area for a museum to display the collectibles that have been gathered over the years, and according to Code, an elevator would have to be installed in order for it to be handicap accessible. Councilman Thompson responded by saying that he felt an architect would be needed and the people who want to do this, could hire someone to do the work. She stated that a meeting had been held on January 30<sup>th</sup> with this being briefly discussed. After more discussion, it was decided that Mrs. Bowen contact Mr. Eddie Harris, the County Building Inspector, for his recommendations. Councilman Kirkland concurred that Mr. Harris should be contacted, initially, to see what his recommendations would be. Mrs. Bowen advised that she would contact Mr. Harris and follow up with the Vice Mayor and the council.**

**There being no further comments or questions, Councilman Bill Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting, which was recorded at 8:50 P.M., with Councilman Ronny C. Worley seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.**

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**Shirley S. Bowen, MMC**  
**Clerk of Council & Treasurer**  
**February 13, 2018**

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**Vice Mayor T. G. Gill**