

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on May 8, 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  
Bill Thompson  
J. M. Kirkland  
David M. Crowder  
Ronny Worley  
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer  
Chief Danny R. Fox (Absent)

**GUESTS**

Mr. R. H. Park III, WWTP Chief Operator  
Mr. Johnny Roberts, Jr., Maint. Supervisor  
Mrs. Donna Ober  
Mr. Will Ober  
Mrs. Ellen Walker

Vice Mayor T. G. Gill opened the regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council by welcoming everyone for their attendance at tonight's meeting. He then led the council and guests with the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

The Vice Mayor requested approval of the April 10, 2018, regular minutes as submitted. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to approve the minutes for April as presented, with Councilman W. H. Coleman seconding the motion. All members voted unanimously.

Vice Mayor Gill requested a motion to pay the bills for the month of May 2018. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to pay the bills as submitted for May 2018 with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.

Police Chief, Danny R. Fox, wasn't in attendance for tonight's meeting; therefore, Vice Mayor Gill read his report. He reported that Chief Fox's police activity report for the month of April included two (2) vehicle traffic stops, one (1) assist with the Sheriff's Department regarding an in-town scam, and one (1) assist with the Sheriff's department for an unfounded shoplifting offense in town.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSa Meter Readings Report of water pumped for April 2018, was 1,290,000 gallons. Mr. R. H. Park III advised that the WWTP Grant/Loan Project was now completed and the paperwork is being finalized, as well. Mr. Park III inquired of Councilman Kirkland (Mayor-elect) if he would like to begin attending the Roanoke River Service Authority meeting for the month of May as Mayor-elect for now and continue this until he takes office in July, and he would continue to be his alternate. Councilman Kirkland stated that he would do this as part of the new Mayor's duties. Mr. Park III also advised Councilman Kirkland that these meetings would be held the

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. Vice Mayor Gill asked Mr. Park III, if he found out why the RRSA were raising their rates. Mr. Park III stated that they had an increase in the tank maintenance, chemicals, repairs, electrical service, and lab costs. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council, interjected by stating that she had been in contact with Jeff Hinkle, Director of the RRSA, and it was her understanding, from Mr. Hinkle, that once the new Mayor took office, the council was to approve him for the RRSA board, along with an alternate, and then he would attend those meetings at the onset of the new fiscal year. She asked Mr. Park III, if this was agreeable with the RRSA for Councilman Kirkland to begin those duties at the May meeting, and if so, a motion would need to be made by our town council agreeing to this. Mr. Park III advised that he felt this was fine. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to appoint Councilman J. M. Kirkland as the town's representative to the RRSA with Mr. Park III as his alternate. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion with all members voting in favor.

The Vice Mayor introduced and welcomed Mr. Johnny Roberts, Jr. as the town's new Maintenance Supervisor, as of May 1, 2018, and requested his report. Mr. Roberts stated during his first week on the job, an underground leak had been detected near Farm Bureau and Mrs. Ellen Walker's home. He said they had done some repairs to the old pipe line, but it didn't seem to fix the leak. He requested that the council advise him on how he should handle this problem, as to whether they would like to see if the town crew could repair it or hire someone to do the job. Vice Mayor Gill inquired on the quantity of water that was leaking in a given amount of time. Mr. Roberts advised that it was a hole about a foot deep and approximately two feet wide and upon pumping it out, it would refill in about four (4) hours. Councilman W. H. Coleman suggested that he would check to see if it could be repaired and to determine whether the asphalt would have to be cut in front of Farm Bureau. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the council to have Mr. Roberts continue looking for a resolve to this problem and get back to the council after making a determination. Vice Mayor Gill also informed Mr. Roberts of another possible leak on the opposite side of the street across from Touchstone Bank. Mr. Roberts stated that Mr. Ray Smith had informed him about that one, as well, and he and the crew would take care of it.

Vice Mayor Gill re-introduced the Virginia Retirement Resolution regarding rates for the FY 2018-2020. Mrs. Bowen advised the council that she had attended the VRS meeting in South Hill, as discussed last month, and the instructor from VRS stated that these new rates "would not" affect the employee at all. The rates were all decided by the General Assembly and sent to the various towns for the councils to choose, either the lower rate as determined, or choose the higher alternate rate, which would be totally the town's decision. However, if the alternate higher rate was chosen, the provided Resolution from VRS would have to be adopted.

Councilman W. H. Coleman (who was not in attendance at the last meeting when this was discussed) raised questions and concerns as to why there were two different rates to choose from. Mrs. Bowen, reiterated that she was told that the General Assembly had determined these rates and was emphatically told once again, it would not affect the employees, since the town had a huge reserve built up, but other than that, she couldn't explain it any more. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to approve the lower rate of .43% contingent on Shirley verifying the lower rate with the correct person at VRS to ascertain/assure them that the lower rate would not affect the employee's retirement. Councilman J. M. Kirkland seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. Vice Mayor Gill stated if it could not be verified, that it wouldn't affect the employees, then Councilman Coleman's motion would have to be rescinded at the next meeting, and the council would adopt the Resolution for the higher rate of 3.93%. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council, advised that she would take care of this and contact the appropriate person (who wrote the letter) to give her an explanation, as to the reason for the two rates, in order to make sure it would not affect any of the employee's retirement fund.

Vice Mayor Gill opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Ober stated that the upstairs renovation project was a "go" and the contractor bidding process was in effect. Councilman W. H. Coleman suggested that the architect be let go as soon as possible after any bids came in on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ober stated that it had already been agreed upon to do that.

Mrs. Walker expressed some concerns she had with the water line work that was to be done near her house. Mr. Roberts responded to her questions to her satisfaction.

The Vice Mayor congratulated the newly elected officials, which were: Councilman Johnny Kirkland, who will assume the role of the town's new Mayor, Ray Cherry who will become a first time councilman, and Councilman Bill Coleman and Councilman Ronny Worley, as the incumbents, who won in the town election. He also reminded them of taking their oath at the Clerk's office in the Circuit Courthouse, prior to July 1, 2018. Mrs. Bowen advised that she would periodically remind them before then.

Vice Mayor Gill mentioned the Indemnity Agreement between Lake Country Satellite and the town to cover the town in case of personal injury to a worker of Lake Country Satellite when climbing the town's tank. Councilman Worley explained what was involved with this agreement, for the councilman who wasn't at the last meeting. Councilman J. M. Kirkland moved to have the Vice Mayor sign the agreement on behalf of the town. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion, and it was passed by a unanimous vote of the remaining members.

The Vice Mayor read a letter from the Commonwealth Attorney's office to approve and execute an updated ordinance adopting Title 46.2 and Article Two 18.2-266-18.2-273 of the Code of Virginia of 1950 as amended. By doing so, it would enable the Town of Boydton to abide by any new rules or laws as amended by the Virginia State Statutes. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to approve/adopt the amended ordinance with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.

Vice Mayor Gill praised the citizens of the town, especially Gene Coleman, on the work he'd done on cleaning out the bump-outs and requested, if anyone should see Gene or any of his helpers, to please let him/them know their appreciation. It was also mentioned that more volunteers would possibly be needed for planting the flowers this upcoming Friday, if anyone could assist.

The Vice Mayor stated that it was budget time and a meeting date needed to be set. After a brief discussion, it was decided to set the meeting date and time for Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 P.M. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk-Treasurer, asked that Mr. Park III and Mr. Roberts give her any of their requests for the budget preparation. She also assured the council that she would do her best to have it all done for their approval.

Vice Mayor Gill then stated, even though Mrs. Bowen had requested at the last council meeting, that she would like to wait on hiring an assistant for the office, he felt it should be decided tonight to go ahead and agree to advertise the position, since something was posted on Facebook over the weekend regarding Mrs. Bowen being in Duke Hospital having a portion of her brain removed, and it would involve a lengthy recovery period. He continued by saying this got him to thinking and said, "Heaven forbid, should something like this happen," that no one would even know how to open the door, much less know what to do, with having to rely on "only one person" being in the office. Therefore, he suggested that the council go ahead and approve to advertise for the position, and to also decide tonight, if it would be part-time or full-time. Mrs. Bowen stated that she was in agreement with this and had spoken (prior to tonight's meeting) to Mayor-elect J. M. Kirkland and Councilman Crowder, advising them that she was fine with it and fully expected it to be brought up and voted on at tonight's meeting, anyway. Councilman Coleman voiced his opinion, along with several others, for it to be a full-time position. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to advertise for the position, as quickly as possible, which would be Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and Councilman Worley advised that the cut off day be May 31<sup>st</sup>. Councilman Ronny Worley seconded the motion, and all members voted unanimously. Councilman Kirkland suggested, and was agreed upon, that the ad should include the need for the applicant to be willing to help with all events of the town, as well.

**There being no further comments or questions, Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to adjourn the meeting, which was recorded at 8:15 P.M., with Councilman J. M. Kirkland seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.**

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**Shirley S. Bowen, MMC**  
**Clerk of Council & Treasurer**  
**May 08, 2018**

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**Vice Mayor T. G. Gill**