

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on September 10, 2019, at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Council Chambers with Mayor J. M. Kirkland presiding.

THOSE PRESENT

**John M. Kirkland, Mayor
T. G. Gill, Vice Mayor
W. H. Coleman
Bill Thompson
David W. Crowder
Ronny Worley
Mr. Paul “Ray” Cherry
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer
Angela D. Amos, Deputy Clerk**

GUESTS

**Mr. Renny Park III, WWTP Chief Operator
Mr. Johnny Roberts, Maintenance, Supervisor
Ms. Heather Krauss – Dominion Energy
Mr. Glanzy Spain
Johnathan Kirkland, Reporter, The Sun**

Mayor J. M. Kirkland called to order and opened the regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council by thanking everyone for their attendance at tonight’s meeting. Following, he led the council, audience, and employees with the pledge of allegiance to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

The Mayor introduced Ms. Heather Krauss from Dominion Energy to address the council regarding underground installation of electrical wires down at the Pump Station on Washington Street. Ms. Krauss provided the council and Mayor with a map of the properties which would involve to gaining an easement on these properties, as well as, she was requesting an Underground Distribution Easement Agreement for the council to grant to Dominion Energy for this purpose. Mayor Kirkland also requested that Ms. Krauss mention to someone, who would listen, concerning the removable of poles down Washington Street, near the pump station, since there have been quite a few accidents that involved these electrical poles. She stated that she would “try;” however, it wasn’t in the realm of her work at Dominion Energy. After more discussion, Councilman Crowder moved to allow/grant this easement to Dominion Energy. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, with the remaining councilmen voting in favor.

Mayor Kirkland requested a motion to approve the August 2019 regular minutes, as submitted. Councilman Ronny Worley moved to approve the minutes as presented, and Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

Mayor Kirkland requested a motion to pay the bills as presented for September 2019. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to pay the bills for the month September 2019, as submitted. Councilman Ray Cherry seconded the motion, with all members voting unanimously.

Police Chief, Danny R. Fox, reported on his police activity for the month of August 2019. He reported that the final Bluegrass Concert went well, without any problems, and he's heard nothing but good things about it. He stated that he had two (2) vehicle stops, and one (1) Alarm Rescue Assist. Chief Fox stated also that Mrs. Bowen, had requested that he present the council with a request from a citizen to have a "Trunk or Treat" in the County parking lot on Halloween night. He stated that Ms. Bowen had cleared this with Judy Sheffield, Assistant County Administrator. Chief Fox commented that he felt it would be safer for the children, except the usual "trick or treating" should not be done, if we allowed this. However, he made it clear that it would be the town council's decision...not his. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Bill Thompson to table the issue for this year and meet with the individuals in the future to discuss doing it next year, allowing more time for preparation and notice to our residents. Councilman Ray Cherry seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. The Mayor asked the office personnel to contact/notify the individual, who made this request, of this action and the town would graciously entertain meeting with them to further discuss "Trunk or Treat" for next year and to also, let them know that they appreciated their offer of this kind gesture.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton's Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for August 2019, was 1,229,000 gallons. He also added that the DMR's came back with no problems. Mr. Park III stated that there was a progress report on the lift station regarding the new school that shows the location and specifications. He invited the council down to the plant to review the blueprints and ask questions.

Councilman W. H. Coleman asked Mr. Park III a few questions regarding the annual operating expense and what was involved. Mr. Park III responded by stating it was the cost the engineers figured in the construction. Councilman Worley asked if it included labor and Mr. Park III's response was, "No." More discussion ensued regarding this, but Mr. Park III stated that all of this was currently just "speculative" at this point.

The Mayor requested a motion to re-appoint Mr. R. H. Park III as the alternate on the board of the Roanoke River Service Authority. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to re-appoint Mr. Park III as the alternate from the Town of Boydton to serve on the RRSA's board. Councilman W. H. Coleman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Johnny Roberts reported on the Maintenance Department's work during the month. Mr. Roberts stated that everything was going as normal by keeping the grass cut and brush picked up, along with working up at the Ober's with their new water/sewer lines being installed. He also informed the council that the handicap (wheelchair type) swing had arrived and been installed down at the park. The commended Mr. Roberts on the good work his crew had done.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Glanzy Spain addressed the council regarding changing the name of “Prison Road” to something different, since new owners would be occupying the location of the old Mecklenburg Correctional facility. He stated that the County felt the name was no longer appropriate, since the prison was no longer there. He asked if the council, Mayor, or anyone had a suggestion, they would like to consider any and all names before making a decision. It was his request that names be shared with him, any Board of Supervisor member, or the County for consideration. The Mayor and Council members thanked him for sharing this with us and coming to tonight’s meeting.

The Mayor thanked Angela, Shirley, Danny, the maintenance and everyone who had a part in Boydton Day and asked Angela to give a short report on the Bluegrass Concert Series. She reported that the three (3) concerts went very well and about 30% of the people who came were from about 50 miles away. She stated that she would like to have the Concert Series again next year and asked the council’s opinion. No one commented, except the Mayor stated that it would be up to HBR to decide when they had their next meeting. Angela was also asked, if it was profitable, and her response was that she would have liked to have seen more revenue, but HBR didn’t lose any money.

Mayor Kirkland reported:

1. The final Bluegrass in Boydton’s Summer Concert Series was another success along with the first two and he praised all that had a part to making it a successful event.
2. He stated that he’d like to put to rest the rumor that had been circulating around town regarding the Episcopal Church being torn down. He emphatically stated that it was not true at all. That the dieses had been contacted and there were no plans at all to tear the church down.

The Mayor also requested a motion to accept the VML/VACo financial proposal and to proceed with setting up the plan they proposed. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to proceed with the financial proposal from VML/VACo and that Mr. Blevins be contacted to continue to go forward with his proposal. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconded the motion with a unanimous vote by the remaining members. Mrs. Bowen was advised to contact the representative, Beau Blevins, advising him of the council’s affirmation of the proposal and to take the next steps to proceed.

The Mayor advised that the council would be going into a closed session to discuss a personnel issue and invited the public back to enjoy refreshments of cake, food, and drinks in honor of his birthday that the office staff had prepared.

Councilman 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
Ray P. Cherry	Aye	T. G. Gill	Aye	Bill Thompson	Aye

A motion was made by Councilman Ronny Worley to hire the person discussed in the closed session. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion with all members voting in favor.

There being no further comments, questions or concerns, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M. Immediately following, the Mayor's birthday celebration was enjoyed by all.

Shirley S. Bowen, MMC
Clerk-Treasurer
September 10, 2019

J. M. Kirkland
Mayor