

**The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on February 9, 2021, at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Council Chambers with Mayor John M. Kirkland presiding.**

**THOSE PRESENT**

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

**GUESTS**

**R. H. Park III, WWTP Chief Operator  
John M. Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor  
R. H. Park III, WWTP  
Ray & Kathy Smith  
Butch Decher  
Joe Lombardi, MD  
Gary Clifford**

**Mayor John M. Kirkland called to order and welcomed everyone for their attendance at tonight’s meeting. He then led the council, audience, and employees with the pledge of allegiance to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.**

**The Mayor requested a motion to approve the minutes of the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting and the approval of polled cancellation minutes from what was to be our January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Due to Ms. Amos and Mrs. Bowen, both having COVID-19, this prevented them from being at the meeting, and also out of the office by having to be quarantined for 14 days, according to CDC regulations. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to approve these minutes for December 2020 and January 12, 2021. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconded the motion, and all members voted in favor.**

**Mayor Kirkland requested a motion to pay the February 2021 bills. Councilman David M. Crowder moved to pay the bills for the month of February 2021, with Councilman Paul “Ray” Cherry seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.**

**The Mayor called upon Chief Fox for his January monthly report. Chief Fox reported a relatively quiet month. He informed the council of the mobile data terminal unit, provided by COVID funding, was installed on the police car with the Sheriff’s department’s internet provider helping with the hardware and software installation. He also advised that the Sims Card (hot spot) will be installed on the unit by the Sheriff’s Department and they will maintain the upkeep of this device, at no cost to the town.**

**Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton’s Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for December was 1,541,000 gallons and the January reading report was 1,280,00 gallons. The DMR’s for the months of December and January were both satisfactory. The water influent reports (included in the packets) show the higher usage, highlighted in yellow, indicating the dates that rainwater affected those days.**

Mr. Park III advised they've been watching the construction of the new forced mains for the lift stations, as they're being installed down Highway 58. He said everything seems to be going as planned according to the blueprints, with no problems, thus far. He continued by saying they haven't started on the lift stations yet, but they should be built when the forced mains are in. The temporary lift station has gone out to bid and should be closed on by the end of this month and the contract should be awarded with construction beginning at that time. This temporary lift station will be in operation for about three (3) years before they replace it with the permanent lift station. Vice Mayor Gill questioned, "Why are they temporary to begin with?" Mr. Park III responded, "They are having some problems with getting permitting where they want to put the permanent site and when they get the permitting figured out, they will move them to the permanent location." He also stated that a lot of this is due to area wet lands at the site, which takes a lot of prep time and permits are required for water and sewer, before they can have a permanent site.

Mr. Johnny Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor, was requested to give his monthly report. Mr. Roberts informed the council that although they'd been trying to fight the rain and weather off, they got most of the leaves up with some still laying around, but they will try to get the rest of them up with the backhoe, since the leave machine can't get those that are wet, without messing up the machine. He advised that he has a cylinder messed up on the back part of the backhoe and he's limited to only using the front end. He reported a rusted-out valve was replaced up at the bingo hall that was leaking and causing standing water, which was hopefully the cause of the water to stand at that location. He also stated, any time it rains, the water stands there and runs all the way down to School Street, but until it stops raining so much, we won't know if the valve is the entire cause of the water to stand or not. Mr. Roberts also addressed the issue of the cracks in the asphalt on the highway. He said that Mr. John Griles met with him and advised that they may "possibly" come through town this year and put down some "squiggly" sealant to help with the cracks. Mr. Roberts also stated that he wanted to go ahead and get work started on Park Street up near the ballpark, since a resident had inquired about the work that needed to be done there. He stated that he'd like to contact Harmon Saunders to see, if his prior quote still stands, which was around \$10,000.00 to do the work. The Mayor advised Mr. Roberts to contact Mr. Saunders and report back to council at the next meeting. Also, Mrs. Bowen, interjected that we had wanted this done prior to the "Wall" coming that was rescheduled for this year, but due to COVID restraints, she was told by Mrs. Connie Boyd, that they have once again, rescheduled it for 2022.

Councilman Paul Ray Cherry asked Mr. Roberts how the asphalted driveway outside of the building was working, as far as, water standing. Mr. Roberts responded, "It's doing great."

The Mayor asked for an approval of the Board of Zoning Appeals representatives to be appointed by the Circuit Court Judge. These names are: Mrs. Ann Lee Reamy, Mr.

Michael Cochran, Mr. David Thompson, and Mr. R. H. Park III. He further stated that one more person needs to be approved; however, there was no other person selected to replace Mr. Will Ober; therefore, he asked for suggestions to fill this position. These four (4) agreed to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals for another term and can still function until one other can be chosen. Vice Mayor Gill moved to approve these representatives to serve and the names be sent to Judge Nelson in the form of a resolution to be appointed. Councilman W. H. Coleman seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

Mayor Kirkland introduced members of the “Train Club” to present a proposal to the town council regarding they’re desire to locate in the upstairs of town hall, due to their unfortunate plight of having to move from their old location in Clarksville. Mr. Butch Decher, President of the club, addressed the council by saying their group was composed of seventeen (17) retired men that are interested in the history of old model trains. He continued by saying they are a not-for-profit organization (501) (c)(3) and make no money, except from donations and their own dues. Their organization has seven (7) train layouts built on different size scales. He stated the reason for their attendance at tonight’s meeting was to get an idea, if the town would be interested in allowing them to set up their new home upstairs in the town hall, since they would be losing the place they’re currently in at Clarksville. The Mayor advised he had spoken to Howard Fisher, a member of this board, and advised him of our upstairs not being used; however, it would need upgrading, but also felt it would be a great asset to our town. Mr. Decher explained they would renovate the upstairs to accommodate this set up and once done, they’d be having an annual open house and open to the public as in the past at the Clarksville location, and also have it open on Boynton Day, when COVID is under more control. After more discussion, Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to continue the dialogue with the Train Club while making sure insurance liabilities are taken care; thus, going forward with the plan of locating upstairs with the possibility of legal assistance from our attorney. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion, and all members voted in favor. Mayor Kirkland thanked the group for attending and proposing this new endeavor.

Mayor Kirkland presented and read the language inscribed on a 30-year retirement plaque to Mr. Ray Smith (Mrs. Smith) from the Town of Boynton for his past thirty years of service to the town. The Mayor and council thanked and congratulated Mr. Smith on this achievement. Mr. Smith also thanked the town for the plaque and kind words spoken.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Jimmy Walters was recognized by the Mayor, however, he asked that he refrain from commenting until the closed session.

Mayor Kirkland commented that it still looks like there is a problem over at the old school with water standing. He stated that if it ever dries out, maybe a clearer picture could be found as to the problem there. The Mayor advised that the personnel committee could now meet to discuss the applications sent in and with all the work coming up quickly, we need to

choose someone to fill the position, as soon as possible. He felt we could possibly meet after tonight's meeting to look over the applicants and set up another time to meet.

Mayor Kirkland also asked Councilman W. H. Coleman to report on the status of the location of the Confederate Statue. He reported the place selected at the cemetery was not suitable due to the fact of unmarked graves at that location; therefore, another place would have to be located with more thought going into the process of choosing its new home.

The Mayor complimented the employees on how well they handled the COVID situation, with some having the virus, while still showing their loyalty and dedication to getting the work done, that others may not have noticed or seen. He also thanked the town's employees and wanted them to know, their efforts didn't go unnoticed.

Mrs. Bowen asked for suggestions of names to serve on the ARB Board, since the terms of the members on the board have expired, and to let her know of anyone willing to serve at the next meeting.

Vice Mayor Gill asked Mrs. Bowen, if she and Angela had been rotating during the week, prior to them getting COVID, so both of them wouldn't have come down with the virus at the same time. She responded by saying, that each department had rotated for a period of a couple of weeks, when the virus began, but after the cases slowed down in the latter part of last year, we all went back to our regular schedules, but being precautionous with the wearing of masks, using hand sanitizers, washing hands, and keeping a 6-foot distance. Councilman Coleman commented he knew this was a bad and serious virus, but he was so sick of people using excuses of COVID, not to work with some councilmen agreeing. He continued by saying, "Both of them have had COVID, both of them can probably get the shot in the next month or six weeks, and if they want to alternate days, I'm fine with that, but change the pay." Vice Mayor Gill said, "No, I just asked. It's not going to work; I mean it didn't work before they implemented it." Mrs. Bowen advised "According to statistics and the doctors, Angela nor I, should be able to get the virus again for ninety (90) days or contaminate anyone else within that time frame, nor were they allowed to get the first shot until after those number of days have passed."

Mayor Kirkland advised the audience that the council would be going into a closed session.

Councilman Worley moved that the Town Council hold a closed meeting to discuss the following, as permitted by the Virginia Code 2.2-3711 (A) (3) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of publicly held real property.

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

Upon reconvening, Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to purchase twelve (12) Rails-to-Trails signs, along with the bolts and posts to mount them. Councilman Ronny C. Worley seconded the motion with all members voting unanimously. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to close on the rest home property and to pay the balance on the real estate taxes to the County, along with forgiving the town real estate taxes owed on the property. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. It was the consensus of the council to discuss what will be done with the property at the next meeting.

With no other business to discuss, Councilman Ronny C. Worley moved to adjourn. Councilman Bill Coleman seconded the motion, and all members voted in favor. The recorded time of adjournment was 9:35 P.M.

  
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC  
Clerk of Council & Treasurer  
February 9, 2021

  
John M. Kirkland  
Mayor