

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on November 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
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer**

GUESTS

**R. H. Park III, WWTP Chief Operator
John M. Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor
Teresa Downey**

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

The Mayor introduced and welcomed Mr. Nathan A. Bowen, Sr., who was hired to be the town’s new Chief of Police and added that he would begin his duties here on Monday, November 22nd. Mr. Bowen thanked the Mayor and council by stating that he was eager to fill this position.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2021, meeting. Councilman Paul “Ray” Cherry” moved to approved these minutes, with Councilman David Crowder seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.

Mayor Kirkland requested a motion to pay the November 2021 bills, as submitted. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to pay the bills for the month of November 2021, with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported Boydton’s Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings report of water pumped for October was 984,000 gallons and the DMR’s for the month of October were satisfactory, as well. Mr. Park III informed the council that things were going pretty smoothly with his new employee, Brandon Moore, at the WWTP. He reported on the progress of the work being done for the new phase of the Microsoft facilities and the progress of the new consolidated school. Also, he updated the council on the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) that was properly advertised, with Dewberry winning the bid. He continued by saying they will be working on all the specs provided with their bid to get this up and running for our infrastructure needs to upgrade our sewer lines. He noted that Dewberry felt this could lead to more grants being obtained for future infrastructure development.

Mr. Johnny Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor, was requested by the Mayor to give his monthly report for October 2021. Mr. Roberts reported that he’d had a request from Ms. Ann Brewer, to expand the entrance to the Behavioral Health Center on Washington Street, if possible. Mr. Roberts advised that he and his crew had done the work and Mrs. Bowen, had

sent them an invoice. He also informed the council that the garbage truck was in dire need of repair, but would prefer the council to consider purchasing a new garbage truck. He explained the garbage truck being used now has large holes in the bottom of the bed and would need to be totally replaced and also, the garbage part of the truck is breaking away from the frame, which is not good, nor was it safe. A brief discussion ensued, with the council's approval for Mr. Roberts to seek the cost of a used garbage truck.

Mayor Kirkland opened the floor for public comments. Mrs. Teresa Downey (Boydton Day Committee) advised the council, since Boydton Day was cancelled in October, that she'd like to possibly have a "one day wine festival event" at the end of March or in April. She felt it would bring more people into town and offered to get it started, with the council's approval. Some ideas and questions were discussed; however, she wanted to select a date to get this started, due to other towns already setting up dates to do their events. The Mayor and council advised her to contact a board member of HBR, Inc., first, since events of this nature were run through their 501C (3) organization. Mrs. Downey stated that she would contact someone with HBR and try to move forward with this plan. It was the consensus of the council that once this was done, they would certainly agree with whatever HBR wanted to do. Mrs. Downey thanked them for their time and consideration and advised she would let them know their decision.

With no other comments from the public, the Mayor advised the council that it had been discussed before in other meetings regarding updating our town ordinances, especially since new ones had been adopted and some older ones seemed to have been left out of the original Town Code book done in 2001 and another update done later. He asked for volunteers to assist with this. Mr. Renny Park III, Councilman W. H. Coleman, and Chief Bowen agreed to work as an "ordinance committee" for this purpose.

The Mayor also asked the council if they were in agreement to go forward with this year's Grand Illumination that's held on the first Monday in December, which would be December 6th this year. It was the consensus of the council to go ahead and move forward with having it. Mrs. Bowen, the Clerk-Treasurer, would be in charge of this event.

Mayor Kirkland stated that he'd received a notice from our town attorney, Tessie Bacon, stating she'd contacted the "Conflict of Interest Advisory Council" (COIA) regarding the purchase of the Melody Manor Property by Mr. W. H. Coleman in a "Sealed Bid" process. Mrs. Bacon and the COIA board felt it necessary to re-vote on the motions made over the past few months regarding this sale, to avoid any problems being brought up later as a "conflict of interest." This would be done for the protection of the town and for Mr. Coleman's protection, as well. The Mayor added, to make all of this clear and legitimate, Mrs. Bacon and the COIA council requested that the three (3) motions made on May 11, 2021, June 24, 2021, and July 20, 2021, be re-voted on at tonight's meeting.

These motions were made as follows:

1. Re-vote of Motion on May 11, 2021:

Councilman David M. Crowder moved to advertise for sealed bids for the sale of the rest home upon completion of proper documentation from our town attorney. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion with all members voting in favor, with the exception of Councilman W. H. Coleman, who abstained.


2. Re-vote of Motion on June 24, 2021:

The Mayor asked for a vote from council as to whether the proposed ad from the town attorney for the sale of property (formerly known as Melody Manor) was approved, and if so, did he have a motion from the council to go forward with the ad to sell. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to proceed with the advertisement for the sale of this property (known as Melody Manor) in a sealed bid process and the sealed bids would be opened here at the Town Hall on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 5:00 P.M. with all councilmen present during the opening of the sealed bids. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion, and all members voted unanimously, with the exception of Councilman W. H. Coleman, who abstained.

3. Re-vote of Motion on July 20, 2021:

Mayor John M. Kirkland advised that the one “sealed bid” from Mr. W. H. Coleman would now be opened for the Melody Manor Rest Home and adjoining house, which documentation had been prepared by the town’s attorney, Tessie Bacon, and properly advertised for the past two (2) weeks in the Mecklenburg Sun newspaper. The Mayor stated the bid for the Rest home and house was \$2,901.00, from Mr. W. H. Coleman. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to accept the bid of Mr. W. H. Coleman in the amount of \$2,901.00, and Vice Mayor T. G. Gill seconded the motion. All remaining members voted in favor, with the exception of Councilman W. H. Coleman, who abstained.

With no further comments or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.


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


John M. Kirkland
Mayor