

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on October 12, 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
J. E. Harrell**

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 requested a motion to approve the September 2021, meeting minutes. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to approved these minutes, with the exception of correcting a “typo.” Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

Mayor Kirkland requested a motion to pay the October 2021 bills, as submitted. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to pay the bills for the month of October 2021, with Vice Mayor T. G. Gill 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 September was 1,184,000 gallons and the DMR’s for the month of September were satisfactory, as well. Mr. Park III advised that he wanted to bring everyone “up to speed” on the upgrade at the WWTP. He stated that Dewberry is trying to get the bids set to go out at the end of December or the first part of January 2022. The final blueprints have been received and they are currently being looked over with the specifications to be sent to him by Wednesday. Once any changes are made, they will go back to the engineers and then be sent to the EDA for approval. When that is done, they can go out for bids. The next item that Mr. Park III addressed was concerning 8-10 trees covering the sewage lines that should be cut down and removed at the water tank, one on the road going into the plant, and the others are behind the chlorine & SO2 building. If these dead sycamore trees fall, they will fall into the chlorine building. He further stated he’d contacted three (3) different companies to do the work and received two (2) bids; however, the third one didn’t respond. These were Rowe Tree Service, Wall’s Tree Service, and another company out of Bracey (whose name he couldn’t recall), but didn’t submit a bid. The low bid was \$2,500.00 to remove all these trees and he asked for the council’s permission to have this done. Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to allow Mr. Park III to contact the low bidder and proceed with the tree removal. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. Councilman W. H. Coleman asked Mr. Park III as to where the meter would be located for

the new school. Mr. Park III responded by saying it would be placed at the lift station on the side of Highway 58.

Mr. Johnny Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor was called upon by the Mayor to give his monthly report. Mr. Roberts advised that he and his crew had repaired a “slit water line” behind Virginia Homes, a broken meter box on Washington Street was replaced with a new one, due to it being a safety hazard, and he and his crew had finally buried the pipe in front of the Bingo Hall, hoping there would be no more problems there. He informed the council that the lady in charge of the 5-K run down at the Trail on October 30th, had inquired about some of our trash cans being placed down at the area and asked the council, if this was agreeable with them. He also requested to purchase more mulch for the playground, since the rains had washed the area out quite a bit and is now “below grade.” Mr. Roberts also informed the council of a dead tree with limbs hanging over the road, across from Gene Coleman’s and his dad’s house on Jefferson Street. He advised contacting Mr. John Griles of VDOT, to see if he’d come and look at it for removal, since it could be a “possible danger” to anyone driving along that area and he agreed to come. Councilman Coleman also advised of another tree, on former Mayor Salzmänn’s property, that is leaning badly towards the road, which could cause considerable damage or a major power outage, if it were to fall. It was the consensus of the council to have the Clerk of Council write a “polite” letter to the Salzmänn’s advising them of their concerns, and that of other town residents, regarding its danger & removal. It was also suggested that Dominion Energy could possibly be of assistance with this.

The Mayor stated that he felt it would be fine for Mr. Roberts to place town trash cans down at the 5-K run site on October 30th and to contact Pallet One or check around with other sources to purchase more mulch for the playground. Councilman Cherry asked Mr. Roberts if he knew anything about conduit being placed over near the Goode building and the reason why it was put there. Mr. Roberts stated it was “only temporary” for internet service at the newly relocated registrar’s office, until it could be permanently placed for internet purposes.

Mayor Kirkland opened the floor for public comments. Mr. J. E. Harrell requested that the town pay for new tires/wheels on the hose carts for watering the plants in the bump-outs. Councilman Ronny Worley moved that the town approve this purchase, with Vice Mayor Gill seconding the motion. All remaining members voted in favor.

The Mayor and council discussed when it would work best for Halloween or “Trick or Treating” to take place in town, since Halloween falls on Sunday this year and some citizens had inquired. He further advised that there would be some functions and activities going on Saturday, with the Fire Department making stew, the Life Station preparing barbeque, and the 5-K run taking place that day. After a brief discussion, the council’s decision was to have “Trick or Treating” on Saturday, October 30th between the hours of 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Mayor Kirkland informed the council of a request made by the Bluestone Football team, to use our ballpark during the day on Saturday, November 6th, with a barbeque cook-out for the team, since it would be the last football team of Bluestone High School due to the new

consolidated school being built and scheduled to open in 2022. No councilman objected. The Mayor also inquired about our Grand Illumination, as to whether we should have it this year, since COVID caused us not to have it last year. Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council, stated she would check with the elementary school, and others that usually participated, to seek their thoughts, and would report at the next meeting, in order for the town to know how to proceed.

Councilman W. H. Coleman asked Mrs. Bowen, if she'd heard anything more from our town attorney regarding the Melody Manor property. She stated that she'd just received a call from her at 7:00 P.M. Mrs. Bacon advised that she didn't receive a definitive response from the COIA council and she was notifying Mr. Coleman by text. He then read her text message, asking if he'd be available the next day for a call from her.

With no other comments, Mayor Kirkland announced that the council would now be convening 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) (1) Discussion of a personnel issue pertaining to hiring a new employee for the WWTP position and a new Police Officer.


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

Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to hire Brandon Moore for the position at the WWTP with the stipulation of him acquiring his Waste Water license within 12 months, as well as, his CDL license. Councilman David M. Crowder seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor. Vice Mayor Gill moved to hire Mr. Nathan Bowen, as the town's new Police Chief. His motion was seconded by Mr. David M. Crowder, and all members voted in favor.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 P.M.


Shirley S. Bowen, MMC
Clerk of Council & Treasurer
October 12, 2021


John M. Kirkland
Mayor