

The regular meeting of the Boydton Town Council was held on September 14, 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 (Absent)
Bill Thompson
David M. Crowder (Absent)
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
Butch Decher-Boydton Model Railroad Club**

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 minutes of the August 10, 2021 meeting. Vice Mayor T. G. Gill moved to approved these minutes, with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted in favor.

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

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton’s Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for August was 942,000 gallons and the DMR’s for the month of August were satisfactory, as well. Mr. Park III informed the council of being contacted regarding the LVL South, which is the “old prison” site and it was requested to start sending us some production water. Johnny Roberts went and checked the sewer lines and he didn’t see a problem there. Mr. Park III also didn’t see a problem with us actually taking the water at the treatment plant from this site, since they have installed a meter there. He stated when they call him back, he and Johnny would take a ride over to the site to see how easy it would be to read this meter, and with the council’s approval, he wanted to start accepting the readings from this location. The Mayor voiced his opinion by saying, if they were comfortable with it, and since there’s a meter there now, he felt it would be fine. Mr. Park III reported there had been no more problems with the mud that was coming through and if it happened again, he had the contact person to call and get it corrected. On another issue, Mr. Park III gave a follow-up with the sewage lines around town. He advised that he had spoken to Drew Arnold with Dewberry regarding the preliminary engineering report (PER). He stated it would cost approximately \$30,000.00, and this cost could be covered by the NEU funding from the government grant that we’d already partially received. Mr. Park III advised that he’d received four (4) applications for

the position at the WWTP, and he'd like the council to review them, possibly tonight, and choose one (1) out of the four (4) to go ahead and hire. The Mayor advised that he was going to bring that up himself when he'd be making his comments. Councilman Thompson asked, "Do any of them have the required licenses?" Mr. Park III responded, "No, but one has been trying to get his license and he also had experience in working at a WWTP." Mr. Park III also asked, if the council had any questions. Vice Mayor Gill asked about the \$30,000 for the PER. He wanted to know the difference between spending this \$30,000 now or just waiting until later when the lines finally collapse. He also inquired as to how engineers could predict the future of these lines. Mr. Park III replied, "We can't wait to spend this government funding until the lines collapse, since the funds need to be spent during a timeline." He continued by saying, "the engineers would come in and look at the lines after determining the footage needed and then decide which lines would need to be replaced, versus which ones would need to be slip-lined. They would also find out which manholes need to be repaired and the ones that need to be replaced. After doing that, they could apply for grants that would pay for these costly repairs or replacement of these lines, so the town wouldn't have to pay for them." The Mayor basically added that this PER would cover the cost of determining which lines would need to be repaired and replaced. Mr. Park III stated that this PER was a requirement, prior to applying for any grants, to take care of new lines or repairs to these lines. The Mayor asked, if we hadn't already gotten the NEU funding for infrastructure. Mrs. Bowen responded, "We've received half of this funding from the State on June 30, 2021, and I have send a report to them as to what the money was going to be spent on by October 15, 2021." Mayor Kirkland asked for a motion to move forward with this proposal. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to approve contact Dewberry in order to move forward with having a PER done. Vice Mayor Gill seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. Also, Vice Mayor Gill asked about the remaining money from the NEU funding and how it would be used. Mrs. Bowen replied, "I've spoken to Renny and advised him that possibly he, Johnny Roberts, and I sit down and discuss what other uses the remaining money would be spent on and as I stated earlier, I only have until October 15th to get this done." Mr. Park III asked the council to approve this request, and a report given at the next council meeting on October 12th.

Mayor Kirkland called upon Mr. Johnny Roberts for his monthly report. Mr. Roberts stated he had installed two (2) water cut-off valves to isolate the area which helped with the problem of the water leak on Craddock Court. He advised he'd like to use some of this money (approximately \$10-\$20,000) to do more of this type of thing in other areas, should the need arise. He advised that another problem he had encountered was the inside bottom (floor) of the garbage truck rusting out, which now had large holes. He continued by saying he would have to put metal in the bottom of the truck for an estimated cost of \$2,300.00, with the council's approval; however, he also said that the outside frame on the bottom is beginning to separate and he didn't know what could be done with this situation. The council asked if a garbage truck could be considered "infrastructure?" Mrs. Bowen

responded, "I'll look into that, since I watched a webinar with Southside Planning District Commission which involved all the surrounding towns, and one or two of them had put this down as something they were requesting." It was questioned if we'd ever checked into purchasing a used garbage truck. Vice Mayor Gill advised that he felt we should go ahead and check into this now. And for the time being, we could just keep using the one we have. The Mayor advised that he had spoken to Mr. Kirk Gravitt again, as to whether the council had discussed or made any decision on his garbage pickup proposal. He and others voiced their opinions that it really wasn't a feasible idea for the town at this time, due to the cost per household offered by Mr. Gravitt. Mr. Roberts asked Vice Mayor Gill if they'd made a decision concerning their dumpsters at Virginia Homes. He stated he'd ask others what they would like to do about changing from the County to the town and would let him know. Mr. Roberts also reported that the Boydton Day committee met last night and they had decided that it may NOT be best to have Boydton Day again this year, due to the new strain of COVID and the new regulations that have been put in place, but wanted the council's opinion before making a definite decision. Councilman Ronny Worley moved to take the advice or recommendation of the Boydton Day Committee to not have Boydton Day this year. Vice Mayor Gill seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. However, the Firemen would still make their stew and possibly the Life Station would be selling BBQ. Mr. Roberts said the committee is tossing around some ideas about doing something in the spring of 2022. The 5-K run was also mentioned and if the council had any objections to allowing the Mrs. Blue to go ahead with that. It was the consensus of the council to allow the Boydton Day Committee make this decision, as well. Vice Mayor Gill asked if a motion needed to be made regarding the repairs to the dump truck. Mr. Roberts stated he felt it would last a while longer and he could do some research on purchasing a newer one.


The Mayor opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Butch Decher, with the Boydton Model Railroad Club, was in attendance and he advised the council of the chairlift being installed; however, it cost them \$4,400.00, rather than \$3,000.00, as the council had agreed upon to pay. He wanted to know, if the council would consider paying the difference. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to pay the difference in the cost of the chairlift, since it was an improvement to the town. Vice Mayor Gill seconded the motion with all members voting unanimously.

Mayor Kirkland advised the council that the town had three (3) positions to fill and we'd like these positions filled as quickly as possible. The first position was that of the Police Chief and we didn't have any applicants for a while, however, we have some now. The second position was at the WWTP, and the third one is the Deputy Clerk position in the office. He also stated that we needed to go ahead and advertise for the office position. The Mayor said he'd spoken to two (2) officers who'd like to apply and one of them stated he may come down for a visit, although he never heard from him. Vice Mayor Gill moved to advertise for a Deputy Clerk with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All

members voted in favor. The Mayor advised the personnel committee to go ahead and set up a meeting, as soon as possible. Mayor Kirkland stated he'd let them decide the date.

The Mayor asked if anyone on the HBR board had any type of final report regarding the outcome of the Bluegrass Concert on August 28th. Councilman Thompson, an HBR board member, stated that he didn't know and that maybe Mrs. Bowen knew more. Mrs. Bowen, advised that Karen Whitten came by to pick up the money from the concert and the money was banded in four (4) portions; one for Gate A, Gate B, petty cash startup money, and beer sales money. She took the money with her to deposit, but didn't have a report at that time. She advised she wasn't at the concert and hadn't had any contact with Angela since then. Mrs. Bowen, stated from the looks of the money, (she and Karen saw), there was approximately \$3,500 money made from the event, if all expenses had been paid prior to that date.

With no further business, the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor Gill moved to adjourn the meeting with Councilman Bill Thompson seconding the motion. All members voted in favor. Recorded time of adjournment was 8:22 P.M.


Shirley S. Bowen, MMC /
Clerk of Council & Treasurer
September 14, 2021


John M. Kirkland
Mayor