

A Joint Public Hearing with the Boydton Town Council and Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 7:00 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
Bill Thompson
Paul “Ray” Cherry
David M. Crowder (Absent)
Ronny Worley
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer
Chief Nathan Bowen**

GUESTS

**Mr. & Mrs. Sciamacco
Mrs. Karin Kuhn, Realtor
Dr. Dave Eason, Chairman, Planning Commission
Mr. R. H. Park III, WWTP
Mr. Johnny Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor
Mrs. Virginia Ann Broyles
Host of Citizens**

Mayor John M. Kirkland opened the night’s monthly meeting by welcoming everyone for their attendance and began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

The Mayor then opened the joint public hearing between the Town Council and the Planning Commission to consider an application from Ron and Karen Sciamacco for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Bed & Breakfast at 1100 Jefferson Street, Boydton, VA in a Residential R-1 Division 2. Property Tax Map #110A06((A))003, Permitted uses: Section 38-182 (16) to allow for a bed and breakfast to be operated at this address, according to our town ordinance. Planning Commission Chairman, Dave Eason, discussed the application with the members of the Planning Commission, after which, comments were welcomed on this proposed application. Chairman Eason, requested the Sciamacco’s state their intentions of opening a bed and breakfast. A few other guests made favorable comments, with Mrs. Karin Kuhn, realtor, recommending the Planning Commission and town council to grant this application for the Sciamacco’s. After all comments were made, Chairman Eason closed the public hearing on behalf of the Planning Commission.

Upon reopening the meeting, the Mayor requested a recommendation from the Planning Commission to the council on whether to grant this Conditional Use application for a bed and breakfast at this location to Mr. and Mrs. Sciamacco. Chairman Eason, after discussion with the planning commission members, made a recommendation to the Mayor and Council to grant this application for a bed and breakfast to Mr. & Mrs. Sciamacco. Mayor Kirkland asked, “Do I have a motion from the council to approve the Planning Commission’s recommendation?” Councilman Ronny Worley moved to approve this Conditional Use application for a bed and breakfast located at 1100 Jefferson Street to Mr. & Mrs. Sciamacco. Councilman Bill Thompson seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. The new bed and breakfast would be known as “The Pearl on Jefferson Street.”

With the joint hearing concluded, the Mayor opened the regular council meeting. He asked for approval of the February 8, 2022, minutes. Councilman Bill Thompson moved to approve the

minutes as submitted. Councilman Paul “Ray” Cherry seconded the motion, and all members voted in favor.

Councilman W. H. Coleman moved to approve the monthly bills and Treasurer’s banking report for March 2022, with Councilman Paul “Ray” Cherry seconding the motion. All remaining members voted in favor.

Police Chief Nathan Bowen reported on activity in his department from February 7, 2022, through March 4, 2022. He stated that he’d had three (3) calls for service, forty (40) traffic stops, checked on “shell crackers” to scare off buzzards at a cost of \$50.00. He continued by saying he’d checked on a “kill” permit, but it is “virtually impossible” to get one, since they are a protected species. He stated that the “shell crackers” aren’t a permanent solution to the problem, but it would hopefully calm down the situation. He advised he’d been added to the VCIN/NCIC with the State Police, which would allow him to do his own vehicle checks. He presented the new/updated Town Police Policy for the town and hoped each councilman would read it over and adopt it for the town. The Mayor thanked Chief Bowen for this updated policy. He felt it was a necessary step to protect the town and he’d have the policy in his office for he and the councilmen to review, and possibly officially adopt it at the next meeting.

Mr. R. H. Park III reported that Boydton’s Department of Water, RRSA Meter Readings Report of water pumped for February 2022, was 866,000 gallons of water purchased from the RRSA, with the DMR’s being returned as satisfactory. Mr. Park III stated we received an unusual flow from the LVL South (old prison site) in which, we received over an 8,000-gallon flow within a 10–15-minute period, that seemed to be stagnant sewer. He stated he got conflicting reports on what “exactly” could have happened over at the site. Apparently, they may have had a sewer line to stop up. And another report stated they were dumping one of their pits making them way over their limit, as to what they were allowed to discharge at the sewer plant in strength. He felt the only way we would be able to start resolving this problem would be to “fine” them and our town ordinance states this can be done. He wanted to know, if the council would want to do this automatically or would they want to approach this on a case-by-case basis and then make a decision. Questions arose as to how many times this is happening, do we know what it was, who would be fined, and what trouble this would cause? Mr. Park III stated he went over to the site, took pictures as it came in, and tested it. The strength of this discharge was 10 times the strength it should have been. It’s in the solids and we have a limit on what we allow, with this being ten (10) times the amount. He further informed the council, it gets in the plant, I have to waste more, in wasting more, it has to be sent to the holding pond, and eventually the town would have to pay to get the holding pond cleaned out, causing the town to spend more money, it’s happening about every 6 weeks, and as to the person who’d be charged...it would be charged to the person paying the bill. The person being charged would then have the responsibility of finding the person or sub-contractor who actually did it. The Mayor stated that we discussed and worked on this last year and that’s why the ordinance was implemented. Councilman Coleman suggested to send a warning letter regarding this issue to the pertinent people in charge at the site, to hopefully avert more problems. Mr. Park III advised he’d bring Mrs. Bowen the information needed to send a letter

to the responsible parties. He also stated he'd prefer these types of things to be brought before the council on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Park III mentioned the Lift Station at the LVL North (Timber site), should be in operation by the end of this month. Once it goes into operation, the person in charge will come by the office and sign the sewer user agreement. Then I will meet with the person and show him the ordinance, so they will be fully informed of the consequences that could arise from muddy, dirty, discharge into that lift station, as it will become their responsibility. Mr. Park III advised that the yellow gate will be closed at the WWTP and possibly locked on the weekends, because while I was working on Sunday, I caught a guy down on the lot at the smokehouse. He said the guy told him he was working at Microsoft and had only come down there to eat his lunch and had fallen asleep. He felt this should be avoided and not proper for anyone, who didn't work for the town, to be on the premises. Mr. Park III also informed the council that Brandon Moore had resigned his position at the WWTP and had gone back to Chase City, to work as a full-time employee. He agreed to work on an hourly basis every third weekend, until a replacement could be hired. An ad was put in the newspaper last week and will be in tomorrow's edition, as well. Councilman Worley suggested we contact the second person on the list from the last hiring and possibly the third person, as well, to see if they'd still be interested.

Councilman Coleman asked, "Shirley, where are we at on replacing Angela?" Mrs. Bowen, advised, "The ad is going in the newspaper again tomorrow for someone in here." He then said, "So you didn't get no applications?" Mrs. Bowen stated, "I got a few and this job would be for someone (within 2-3 years) to replace me; however, I'd like to finish out this \$3.1 million grant, since Southside Planning District wants me to do it, and it will take approximately 3 years." Councilman Coleman, asked, "What new grant?" Mrs. Bowen, replied, "It's another grant to expand the WWTP. I also have another grant of \$426,200 for infrastructure (COVID related) given by the U.S. Treasury, to be used on replacing water/sewer lines and hopefully the garbage truck and dump truck can go into that, (as three other towns have requested with their funds), along with the PER (preliminary engineering report being done by Dewberry) that is required in order for us to replace these lines." The Mayor said, "In going back to Bill's question, you put another ad in the paper?" Mrs. Bowen, responded, "Yes, it will be in tomorrow's newspaper. I had a few applicants, but I didn't feel they were qualified enough to do what I do. I had very high hopes of getting someone I felt would be extremely good, but they sent me an email last Saturday, and told me after looking back over it, and knowing all the duties and responsibilities required, they declined, saying they wouldn't take this position for any less than \$50,000.00. I also had two (2) others who said the same thing. They'd checked other localities pay scale and determined with all my responsibilities and duties, said my job should be paying at least \$50,000.00." Councilman Coleman remarked, "Alright, Shirley, we ain't giving you a raise, so go ahead." Mrs. Bowen, said, "Okay, I'm just telling you what you asked for."

Mr. Johnny Roberts was requested by the Mayor to give his monthly maintenance report. He informed the council he'd gotten a price from a contractor for connecting a water line to a resident on Skipwith Road, which would cost approximately \$1100.00 (parts only) for going

under the road and putting in the boxes and valves. He also reported the playground mulch is in and the big playground slide is broken in two places at the top and needs to be replaced. A rough “guesstimate” should be between \$600 and \$1,000 dollars to replace it. Councilman Thompson asked, “Is it used that much?” Mr. Roberts responded that it’s been used pretty heavily in the past couple of weeks and in the afternoons. Mr. Roberts brought up an issue regarding complaints of a couple of dead trees hanging over the road on Madison Street Extension on the bank of the Carter Estate and the danger it presents, since it’s at a bus stop. Mr. Roberts advised he’d told Shirley about it, who then contacted Mrs. Marsha Lilly (co-executor of the estate, along with Tony Carter) and Mrs. Lilly advised she would take care of it. Mr. Roberts stated, he’d also told Mr. Carter about the complaints. Mr. Roberts advised, if he had tall enough equipment to take down the trees, he’d do it himself, but was also fearful of it taking down a powerline. Councilman Coleman and Mayor Kirkland both stated, since the executors had been notified, they felt it would be their responsibility and they should realize they’d suffer the liability, if something were to happen. Councilman Coleman stated he’d speak to Mr. Carter again in the morning. Mr. Roberts inquired if the council, had any thoughts on having Boynton Day this year. The council responded in unison; they’d like to go forward with having it. Councilman Thompson advised Mr. Roberts and the council that he’d bought a trashcan that fits the new garbage truck and he liked it a lot. He felt it helped the town crew, as well, since the truck picks up the can and the men don’t have to lift these types of trashcans.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Walter Beales noted that the cable company for the town had eliminated all the local Virginia news from their listings of TV channels and wondered, if something could be done. Some discussion ensued, but no one had a resolve to this issue, since most other carriers had done the same in this area, and we’re on the Carolina border.

The Mayor briefly discussed the issue of the name change of the new school, since the resolution had been sent to Senator Mark Warner and other government officials. He advised as of this date, nothing had officially been received by this office as to a determination, except a letter had been received from the Senator stating he had forwarded the resolution to the postal officials.

Also, Councilman Worley mentioned to Mr. Park III, the water to the town would be shut down for a day to put in a pump station and notice of this would be forthcoming. Mr. Park III advised that he’d not been notified of this, as yet, but the town could handle it, when it’s done.

There being no further questions or concerns, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Shirley S. Bowen, MMC
Clerk of Council & Treasurer
March 8, 2022

Mayor John M. Kirkland
Mayor