

## TOWN OF BOYKINS - RECORD OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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October 13, 2020

Present:

Jackie Robertson, Vice Mayor  
Linda Beatty  
Jerry Rice  
Freddy Felts  
Hank Fuller

Sergeant Brozzo  
Victoria Edwards  
Darryl Madison

Vice Mayor Jackie Robertson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm; at the Town Office located at 18206 Virginia Avenue. Linda opened the meeting with a prayer. Sergeant Brozzo led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Vice Mayor asked that everyone review the minutes and asked that we all keep Mayor Modlin in our prayers. He also stated that this was his first time leading a meeting. Victoria asked if anyone needed her to read the minutes. **Freddy said no and motioned to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Jerry, motion carried.** Minutes will be filed.

### REPORTS

#### Treasurer's Report

Victoria gave the financial report with an added note that she will need to update the financial report when she can get a better internet connection. Linda asked for clarification, and Victoria shared the continued internet connection difficulties made it difficult to get a statement from online and the mail has not been delivered daily. Freddy asked about the \$76,484.45. Victoria shared that about \$10,000 was from Pumpkin Fest income and received tax payments. The rest was from the VRSA claim on the tractor, mosquito fog machine, and Christmas decorations. (Corrected copy attached to minutes.)

#### Police Report

Chief Brozzo gave the police report (copy attached.)

He also shared that he had to put the Chevy Impala in for an inspection and it failed. It will need a new motor mount to pass inspection. Henry Story has estimated it will cost about \$300. The intent was to sell the vehicle. George asked if the Council wanted Henry Story to fix the car. Jackie opened the floor up to discuss if we should have the car fixed now or if we should wait until the shop is built for Darryl to fix it. Consensus was to wait until the shop is up and it can be safely fixed by Darryl.

Freddy mentioned that we need to know when the shop will be built, and that we do not know who to contact while Mayor Modlin is in the hospital to find out when they will break ground. Victoria shared that Mayor Modlin's daughter informed her that Hunter Brown with Howell's Construction was scheduled to meet with Mayor Modlin. The owner knew she was hospitalized, and Hunter did not make the trip to Boykins. Victoria will call them Thursday to schedule a meeting with Hunter. Jackie said we will find out when Hunter is available and call a special meeting to discuss when we can start construction so we can get started as soon as possible.

Freddy informed everyone that the tractor would be delivered Wednesday but not with the forks. He said we need it to get started on cleaning up Linda asked where we were keeping the tractor once we get it. She expressed her concern about it being stored securely since everything used to be locked up in the shop. Darryl said it would fit in the conex building. Jackie said we would do that (store it in the conex building) because we need the tractor to get started on picking up the big items left out for trash pick-up and the storm debris from Isaias. On that topic, Victoria shared the proposal from Anthony Persons out of Branchville. He reached out before Darryl was hired. Jackie said we no longer need his services and instructed Victoria to keep it on file.

## **Public Works Report**

Darryl gave a Public Works report. (Copy attached)

Victoria shared that her husband brought a damaged flagpole to the office just as she was closing the office earlier. It was laying on Main Street, near Deloatch Avenue, and looked to be run over.

Jackie shared that they had gotten the flags up for Columbus Day.

## **CITIZENS TO SPEAK PER AGENDA**

Barbara McDowell asked about the Modlins. Vice Mayor Robertson shared that Mayor Modlin had been transported to Sentara in Virginia Beach and that was the last update her daughter had given him.

Lynn and Chris Gagnier asked George what percentage of traffic stops were from big trucks. She has called the company to report them because when they speed it causes her home to shake. George shared that we have tried to get the speed limit lowered by having VDOT do a study 6 months ago. They found that a decrease was not necessary.

Victoria read a complaint form from Beverly Briggs dated 9/28/2020. (copy filed in Complaint Folder)

She called to complain about the trains stopping traffic for long periods of time. George informed her of the Virginia Code and instructed her and everyone to call him to report it. He can write them a ticket if they block the road for too long. He said he would also share that information in the town's facebook group.

She also mentioned a complaint from her neighbor, Jason Baldwin, about trash burning in town and asked if there were any ordinances that addressed trash burning.

Victoria also brought a request to the Council from Mr. Johansen. He wanted to ask for the Council's permission to cut volunteer trees damaging his fence. He said the property is town property. Linda said she would look that up and we would get back to him on that.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Insurance Matters**

Vice Mayor Robertson shared that we will get the tractor tomorrow (Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>). Freddy said we are getting the tractor with a bucket on it until the

grabber comes in at Seaboard. Then they will put the grabber on the tractor. In the meantime, we can use the tractor with the bucket.

## **Building**

Jerry asked Darryl if the forks were at the mosquito building. Darryl reported he had not seen them. George shared he had not seen them since the fire. Hank said the forks were stored in the building.

Vice Mayor Robertson said we will try to set up a meeting with Hunter Brown as soon as possible to see when they can get to work on the building.

Freddy asked Darryl to report on what he was going to ask Hunter. Darryl said he was going to ask for a pit or a lift in one of the bays. He shared he was supposed to meet with Hunter today and Mayor Modlin had instructed him that today, at that meeting, would be the last opportunity to make any changes or requests to the plans. Freddy asked if a pit would be cheaper and Darryl shared he felt it would be cheaper but did not know. Linda asked if we had agreed to remove the concrete so digging a pit would be easier. Hank shared that the concrete had been removed. Victoria said it was not possible to keep it for the new building according to the building inspector that came out at Mayor Modlin's request. Jerry told Darryl to go look at Dee Drewry's lift. He did not feel a lift would be more expensive than a pit.

Vice Mayor Robertson suggested to Darryl that he price lifts and compare it to the estimate Hunter Brown gives for digging a pit. He felt a pit would be more of a liability concern and a lift would make it possible to do more than a pit.

Vice Mayor Robertson asked how much of the insurance funds did we have for the building. Victoria shared she did not know. She reported that we have received a \$65,000 and a \$25,000 check but that she did not know what those funds were for specifically. She said she would look in Mayor Modlin's office to see if there was an itemized list that outlined what the funds sent had been for.

## **Jake Brake Ordinance**

Vice Mayor Robertson asked Victoria where we were with the Jake Brake Ordinance. Victoria shared that Mayor Modlin had tabled it last month with the intent to bring it back up this month. Jerry requested we table it again. Consensus was to table the Jake Brake Ordinance resolution until next month's meeting.

## **Pumpkin Fest**

Victoria gave a Pumpkin Fest financial report to date. (copy attached). She showed the Council the t-shirts she had ordered. She shared that Charlotte with Health Department was very pleased with the Covid-19 precautions and that we were compliant with the Governor's required guidelines.

Victoria asked the Council if they approved of a vendor wanting a booth for "Recall Lucas Petitioning". Linda said that it's political like last year's booths. We should take their fee money and give them a spot.

Victoria went over the event map and answered any questions the Council had. She said that she was not sure of attendance but that she reported an estimate of 500 in attendance at the peak of the event to the health department and that is well within the Covid-19 limits for an outdoor event.

Linda asked about insurance. Victoria shared the VRSA has given her the all clear and reported that the Town has always had event insurance.

She also shared that the original plan was to sell t-shirts and give out town information at a town tent with Mayor Modlin working at the tent. With Mayor Modlin being in the hospital that would no longer work. She also asked that the Council purchase its own tents. She has been lending the town her personal event tent but it is starting to show wear and tear.

## **Christmas Decorations**

Linda said that we had about 40 decorations damaged in the fire. She said she only ordered 30 pole decorations because that's the number of pole connections Darryl counted. Joel with Mosca gave us a great price for the replacements leaving us with funds left over to use for future light replacements or connections.

Victoria said that she had gone over minutes from last year and that Pat had noted using a boom to put up decorations along with the cost and that the rental was from Dail's. She wanted to know if that was something she should be working on for this year since Dail's will be out of business by that time.

Linda said Darryl should look into that. We have used bucket trucks in the past.

## **GENERAL**

Jerry told Darryl to be careful when he put timers up for the Christmas decorations because the streetlight can prevent the Christmas decorations from coming on.

## **Red Barn Trash Incident**

Vice Mayor Robertson shared that we have had an issue with picking up the trash at the Red Barn. Darryl reported that they have bought multiple cans but that they were stacked up and trashed piled onto the can on top of the stack. We then could not access the area for trash pick-up because vehicles were parked in front of the access. Vice Mayor Robertson has asked that they put a sign up to prevent vehicles from blocking access.

## **Pat Draper Memorial**

Victoria reminded everyone that Pat's memorial service was Saturday September 26. She had a few programs available to anyone who wanted one. She shared that the leftover funds raised will be set aside for future maintenance costs. Linda said there was an article and photo in the Tidewater News about the service as well which she had laminated to keep for town records.

Freddy asked about Roy Ricks trash pickup. Vice Mayor Robertson said we cannot remove the trailer because it is not our property and they do not seem to want to work with us. Victoria reminded the Council that Mayor Modlin sent a certified letter informing Mr. Ricks that the Council had deemed the trailer hazardous and it was unsafe for our employees to pick-up trash from the trailer.

## **Covid-19**

Vice Mayor Robertson shared that ServePro came out to fog the office with virucide and that Victoria has bought a machine and the chemicals for us to use to fog our offices ourselves after meetings. He also mentioned that Worrell's Cleaning Service came out to clean the floors. He did an excellent job.

Linda said we have 9 hero banners to put up. She asked about Buddy's banner and Victoria said it was in the breakroom. Victoria said she would find it and let Linda know.

Vice Mayor Robertson asked if anyone had any questions before going into closed session. Darryl asked Victoria about porta-john sanitizing during Pumpkin Fest.

He also discussed the pros of going with a dump trailer instead of a dump truck. It was decided that a dump truck is preferable because we have nothing to pull a dump trailer with.

Hank asked George if he could speak to the Gifford's about the Wilson Street extension. Mr. Gifford harasses anyone who parks along the extension, it usually being someone who cuts the adjacent property's grass. Linda and Hank explained the history to Victoria and Darryl and Linda will provide the information that was previously reported when Kent Clark owned the property.

Victoria thanked Vice Mayor Robertson and his wife, Shelly Robertson, for their help in mailing out personal property taxes.

She shared that trash billing accounts have been caught up from the period without a clerk. She is now updating personal property tax information. Several individuals have notified her that they no longer live in Boykins. Victoria thinks that Pat just knew these individuals had moved and withheld the bills. The official procedure is to notify the county so that they send us a 905 form for us to do an abatement.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Linda moved that the Boykins Town Council convene in closed session to discuss the following as permitted by VA Code 2.2-3711 (A)(1), a personnel matter involving: personnel, seconded by Jackie and motion carried.**

Closed Session was held.

**Linda moved that the Council certify that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information act cited in that motion, seconded by Hank and was affirmed by each member: Freddy-yes, Jerry-yes, Linda-yes, Hank-yes, Jackie-yes.**

Meeting was called back to order.

**Hank made a motion that the Town we offer a part-time position to Jason Ray at the rate of no more than \$9.50/hr for no more than 32 hours a week. Seconded by Jerry; motioned carried.**

## **Pay Bills**

**Adjournment**

**Jerry made a motion to pay bills; seconded by Freddy and passed by vote of Council.**

**Linda moved that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Hank and passed by vote of Council.**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Mayor/Vice Mayor**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Town Clerk**