

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
April 10, 2018 6 pm**

Member(s) Present: Decorkus Allen, Cathy Johnson, Vernell Ross and Phyllis Thomas

Member(s) Absent: Shirley McGill and David Norman

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ross.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2018 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Tony Lombardo, Executive Director of Havana Main Street, stated there will be a festival held on May 11th and 12th. The festival will be a dual focus on arts and bikes and will be partnered with the Havana Merchants. Events are planned for Friday night and all day Saturday. Mr. Lombardo mentioned he is seeking approval to close the street and also request police assistance during the event. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Thomas to approve the request to close the street. Motion carried.

Mr. Rick Soskis, 270 Small Pond Road, Havana, Florida addressed the council. Mr. Soskis provided packets to the council regarding passing of the 28th amendment of the constitution. Amending the constitution is not an easy task. Corporations are being defined as people which gives them people's rights and this shows there is corruption in the system. Mr. Soskis stated Move to Amend is a group that is focused on ending corporate rule and legalizing democracy and stated this process is years long. He

provided a resolution template for the council to consider. The resolution will assist in building support for Florida to join in with other states and also make a pledge. Mayor Ross inquired if there were any comments. Mayor Pro Tem Allen stated he likes the process and would like to study and review it before making a decision. Mr. Howard McKinnon mentioned the resolution is a template and can be considered at the next meeting if action is to be taken. Mayor Ross thanked Mr. Soskis for the presentation.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) Traffic Signal Maintenance and Compensation Agreement is up for renewal. The agreement is to maintain the two (2) traffic signal lights. The town receives \$6,600 in compensation and Mr. McKinnon stated he recommends approving the agreement. Motion made by Councilwoman Thomas and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to approve the DOT Traffic Signal Maintenance and Compensation Agreement. Motion carried.

The public hearing for the Sewer Plant Design Grant/Loan was held. The agreement was received from Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval. The Town will be responsible for 20% of the cost. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the sewer plant design grant/loan from Department of Environmental Protection. Motion carried.

A motion to read Ordinance No. 374, Annexation of Havana Community Development Corporation, one time by title only was made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Thomas. Town Clerk Shelia Evans read Ordinance No. 374 by title. With there being no additional comments, a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 374 was made by Councilwoman Johnson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen. Motion carried.

The council will need to appoint two (2) representatives to the canvassing board. The representatives will report to the Supervisor of Elections Office by 6 p.m. on Election Day, April 24, 2018 to assist with counting the absentee ballots. The two representatives are Mr. Decorkus Allen and Mr. Howard McKinnon. Motion made by Councilwoman Johnson and seconded by Councilwoman Thomas to approve the canvassing board members. Motion carried.

Mr. McKinnon stated he recommends changing the Regular Council Meeting to April 23rd or April 26th because of the election. After a brief discussion, the council agreed to meet on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6 p.m. Mr. McKinnon advised the meeting will be posted.

Next item is to approve the water/sewer line proposal that was presented at the last meeting. Mr. McKinnon advised that after researching, he found there are seventeen (17) cities/municipalities that are using this service in the State of Florida. Eatonville,

Florida is using the service and they are comparable to Havana in size. Eatonville was contacted and they advised there are no issues with the service. Mr. McKinnon stated he found this to be a reputable company and recommends approving the agreement. Mr. McKinnon stated he also recommends not taking the \$.50 cents franchise fee. The fee can be passed on to the citizens. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the water/sewer line agreement. Motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. McKinnon notified the council regarding funds that were received for Havana Main Street to administer. There will need to be a masterplan for the comprehensive plan amendment which can be discussed during a public hearing. The amendment when adopted will designate an area within the town as a Florida Main Streets Local Planning Area. A Public Hearing will be advertised for April 23, 2018.

Mr. McKinnon reported Project Azalea (Hoover Wood Product) was approved by the County. The Town will receive money to extend the water/gas line. This will be a very good gas customer for the town's gas system.

Mr. McKinnon updated the council regarding the energy efficiency program that was approved. A meeting will be scheduled with the Tax Collector to discuss the process. All agreements will be presented to the council for final approval.

Career Source will assist with the GED program. Mr. McKinnon advised the interest must be determined and Mr. Jerome Harris agreed to assist in getting the word out.

Mr. McKinnon stated Havana Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 9 a.m. at Gus Bert Ballfield. The event will focus on recreation for the entire family. Everyone is invited to come out and have a good time.

Mr. McKinnon gave a brief update on the new water well. Progress has slowed down because of the manufacturing of the high pressure pumps. The pumps should be received within two (2) weeks.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Johnson stated the National League of Cities will be sending the Town information on grants that are available.

Councilwoman Johnson stated the council must revisit the Ygrene agreement that was approved. After researching the company, she found their name had changed several times and was very concerned that they do not offer a disclosure statement.

Councilwoman Johnson provided information to the council that shared the pros and cons of the PACE funding program. She advised that she would like to rescind her vote on this project. The council is here to protect the citizens of this community and not approve anything that will be a threat to our citizens.

Mayor Ross commended John and Linda Evans for hosting the Easter celebration that was held at the community park. It was impressive that the function was well received and a lot of people attended.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to pay bills. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn.

Vernell Ross, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk