

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
February 28, 2017**

**Member(s) Present:** Karen Bass, T. J. Davis, David Norman and R. L. Miller

**Member(s) Absent:** Shirley McGill, Vernell Ross and Matt Thro

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davis.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bass and seconded by Councilman Miller to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2017 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried.

**VISITORS:**

Mr. Eugene Kovacs, 501 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, stated he wanted to reacquaint the council with the storm water management plan that was approved in 2006 and provided copies to the council. Mr. Kovacs stated he moved to Havana in 2002. After moving in, he found there were serious problems with the storm water drainage near his location that was not reported by the previous owners. Mr. Kovacs mentioned he approached the council regarding this issue asking for assistance to repair the drains years ago. He stated the town advised that he could not get help individually and paid an engineer to do a city wide storm water management plan. Since approval of the plan, there is only one priority from the list that has been completed. Mr. Kovacs advised that he is continually seeing other things being done around town. The storm water plan cost the town money and Mr. Kovacs stated he is seeking a commitment from the council to follow through with the plan. Mayor Davis stated Town Manager, Howard McKinnon, is out of town and a meeting can be scheduled after his return to discuss this matter.

Mrs. Wendy Adams, 1305 Shady Rest Road, Havana, Florida mentioned she is currently the treasurer of the Havana Garden Club. She is before the council to report the vandalism that is going on at the community park. Mrs. Adams advised that Mr. McKinnon has been very supportive and the police department very helpful in this situation. The Garden Club spent \$5,000 for a butterfly garden, fountain and roses. The concern is primarily children vandalizing and defacing the area. Mrs. Adams mentioned posting surveillance signs in the area and also placing a cigarette butt

can near the gazebo to discourage people from littering. She advised that the Garden Club wants to continue to beautify the park. Another suggestion is to place an article in the newspaper to assist in getting the word out about the vandalism. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. Mayor Davis asked Chief Tracy Smith to comment on the Garden Club concerns. Chief Smith stated unfortunately this is happening after school and the police department will step up patrolling of this area. Chief Smith stated Mr. McKinnon also advised that a water fountain will be installed in the near future. Chief Smith thanked Mrs. Adams and stated he encourages the Garden Club to continue doing the wonderful work around town.

Mr. Bill Piotrowski commented that the vandalism is a serious situation. The veteran's memorial is a landmark and attraction for Havana. Councilman Miller stated the park started out as a passive park for people to walk and read books.

### ***Old Business:***

N/A

### ***NEW BUSINESS:***

Ms. Desiree Gorman, 2223 Pat Thomas Parkway, Quincy, Florida, gave a brief update on the TCC Gadsden Center. The direction for the center has changed to more of a college level. There are three (3) classes at this time with plans to grow. The community is starting to use the facility with an average of 20 - 25 people per day. Mayor Davis thanked Ms. Gorman for her presentation.

Mr. Chris Rietow, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, gave a brief background on the Planning Council. The council was formed in 1977 and was formed to provide technical assistance. The office was located in Blountstown for more than thirty (30) years before moving to Tallahassee four (4) years ago. Mr. Rietow stated the council provides planning, economic development assistance, a revolving loan fund program which is designed to give loans to small businesses which is a very popular program. At this time the council is working on expanding the revolving loan program with USDA. There is also the Emergency Preparedness plan in which the council is the bridge between municipalities, counties and state to provide a level of oversight. Mr. Rietow advised the board meets every two (2) months. The office has a staff of eight (8) and their main mission is to serve. After the briefing, Mr. Rietow inquired if there were

any questions. Councilwoman Bass stated she asked Mr. Rietow to attend the council meeting. The organization's wealth of experience and knowledge is amazing. Mr. Rietow stated if there are any problems or concerns please call their office and they will try to assist. Mayor Davis thanked Mr. Rietow for attending the meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Norman and seconded by Councilwoman Bass to approve FMEA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Proclamation. Motion carried.


Mayor Davis stated Mr. McKinnon is not in attendance. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for Engineer Inspection Services for the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Resurfacing project was received by the deadline, February 20, 2017. There were five (5) firms that responded. The selection committee ranked the top three firms which were Southeastern Consulting Engineering, North Florida Professional Services and Anchor CEI, Inc. The selection committee recommends awarding the services to Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. Motion made by Councilwoman Bass and seconded by Council Norman to award the Engineer Inspection Services for the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Resurfacing project to Southeastern Consulting Engineering. Motion carried.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

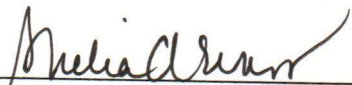
N/A

Motion made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Bass to pay bills.

Motion to adjourn.

  
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T. J. Davis, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk