

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 26, 2018 6 pm**

Member(s) Present: Decorkus Allen, Eddie Bass, Nick Bert, Shirley McGill, David Norman and Vernell Ross

Member(s) Absent: Cathy Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ross.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem ^{Bert} Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2018 regular council meeting. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

A special presentation was made to Officer Israel Baity for his courageous act. Mayor Pro Tem Allen presented a plaque on behalf of the council.

The Citizen Task Force Advisory committee met to consider applying for a CDBG grant. Mr. McKinnon advised the committee recommends applying for a grant to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant. The deadline to apply is near. The town's consultant is asking the council to hold a public hearing on August 7th or August 9th at 3pm. After a brief discussion, the council agreed to hold the public hearing on August 7th.

The Nation of Patriots completed the Special Events application to host an event at the Veterans memorial on July 30th to present flags to a group. At this time, there are no specific details. Motion made by Councilman Bass and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to approve the Nation of Patriots special event. Motion carried.

Mr. McKinnon stated the millage rate must be set. The State, Property Appraiser and Tax Collector must be notified. Mr. McKinnon recommends setting the rate the same as last year at \$1.8777 mills. If approved the rate can be lowered later but not raised.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen mentioned the income from the millage rate would generate approximately \$100,000 in revenue. He also stated after the annexation south of town is final the income will increase.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. McKinnon gave an update on the annexation project. There were approximately 150 residences notified and only 36% responded to the survey. There is still more work to be done in order to get more responses back. Councilman Bert inquired about a cost study. Mr. McKinnon stated a formal process will have to be performed to finalize the annexation. Each owner must sign an agreement. Mr. McKinnon mentioned additional letters will go out and the council will be updated.

Hoover Wood Products is now in the process of constructing their facility. Their goal is to open in November. A press conference will be held at the Cecil G. Trippe Municipal Building on August 2nd at 10:30 am and the council is invited to attend. Mr. McKinnon stated representatives from the governor's office will also be in attendance.

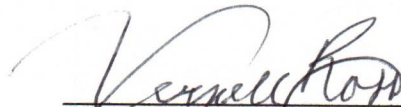
Gadsden County Development Council will host a round table discussion at the Havana Country Club to discuss different economic issues. This event will be held after the Hoover Wood Products press release at 11:30 am until 2 pm. The council must RSVP if planning to attend.

Mr. McKinnon reminded the council there is also a workshop to be held on August 6th at 3 pm to discuss the town buildings and guidelines for the community center.

Mayor Ross inquired about the status of the playground south of town. Mr. McKinnon advised he will contact the surveyor and follow up.

Motion made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to pay bills.
Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn.



Vernell Ross, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk