

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 30, 2017, 2017**

Member(s) Present: Decorkus Allen, T. J. Davis, Cathy Johnson, Shirley McGill, David Norman, R. L. Miller and Vernell Ross

Member(s) Absent:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davis.

Council members Decorkus Allen, Cathy Johnson and David Norman were sworn in by Town Clerk Shelia Evans.

Councilman Allen made a motion to nominate Councilman Norman to serve as Mayor. Councilman Norman declined the nomination. Another motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Norman to re-elect T. J. Davis as Mayor and Vernell Ross as Mayor Pro Tem. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Davis called the public hearing to order. Mr. Michael Murphy, Mott MacDonald, led the discussion regarding the waste water treatment plant. Mayor Davis inquired if there was anyone in attendance for the public hearing. Mayor Davis introduced the new council members and advised the public hearing was because of the problems at the sewer plant. The plant is approximately 40 - 50 years old and has two (2) tanks with shafts and one has failed. Mr. Murphy stated Mott MacDonald was asked to find opportunities for grants/loans to make the necessary repairs to the waste water treatment facility. Mr. Murphy explained the sewer treatment process in detail and advised that the town is down to one tank. He advised that the evaluation for alternatives has not been completed. Mr. Murphy stated he has met with the town manager and CH2M Hill the plant operators. At this time we are looking at an aeration tank and a new grit removal system. After the discussion, Mayor Davis inquired if there were any questions. With there being no further comments, the public hearing was concluded.

Motion was made by Councilwoman McGill and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ross to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2017 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried.

The request to approve Change Order No. 1 from Dowdy Plumbing Corporation was discussed. The change order is for a firmer foundation under the ground water storage tank at the new well. Motion made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ross to approve the change order for the ground water storage tank. Motion carried.

Havana Main Street staff is recommending the Town approve Resolution No. 2017-02 which shows the Town's support for the Main Street program. The resolution is part of the application that will be submitted for the Main Street designation. Motion made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ross to approve Resolution No. 2017-02. Motion carried.

Hopewell AME Church will host a 5K Walk on July 15, 2017. They are requesting to host the registration tent at the park and have police escort to the town limits. The Sheriff's office will assist them outside town limits. The special events application was submitted and all requirements have been met. Motion made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Allen to approve the 5K Walk by Hopewell AME Church. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:

Mr. McKinnon stated the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) has a new federal rule for natural gas systems. All gas customers must be notified of this new rule regarding safety valves. The valves are extra protection for customers. The cost for residential customers is \$70 and \$150 for commercial customers. The risks are slim and it is the individual's choice. All customers will be notified and sent a form to complete and return indicating if they want to purchase the valve or not. Mrs. Amy McBride inquired if the notification of safety valves will include the Hampton Heights subdivision. Yes, if gas is available in the area. All customers that have gas service with the Town will be notified. Mr. McKinnon stated as a reminder, the safety valve is an extra protection for customers and anyone digging must call Sunshine State One Call to prevent danger.

Mr. McKinnon welcomed the new council members, Councilman Allen and Councilwoman Johnson and advised he certainly looks forward to working with them.

Mr. McKinnon advised at the next meeting, there are plans to have someone address the council on economic development activities.

In closing, Mr. McKinnon echoed Mr. Murphy's comments regarding the sewer plant. The plant is 40 - 50 years old and has reached its useful life. The town got good life out of it and now there are some decisions to make. There are options, the Department of Environmental Protection has federal funds available. Sewer is a major issue for any local government and is a vital service that we provide.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman McGill mentioned the traffic on the south side of town near 12th Avenue and Main Street. Cars are parked on the street going in the opposite directions causing problems driving by. To discourage parking on the street, police can possibly issue citations. There is also loud music. Chief Smith stated cars parked going in the opposite direction is certainly a violation of state law and the police will investigate. As far as the loud music, please call the police department.


Mayor Pro Tem Ross mentioned it is wonderful to see so many citizens attending the meeting.

Mr. Leroy Curtis inquired if there are any plans for sidewalks in the city. Mr. Curtis also mentioned concerns about a vacant building near his location. Councilman Miller stated it takes federal dollars to install sidewalks. Mr. McKinnon advised that he would like to meet with Mr. Curtis and discuss the areas of concern.

Councilman Allen thanked everyone for attending the meeting and thanked his constituents for voting. He advised that he is humbled and looks forward to working with the council. Councilman Allen stated a week ago he attended three events downtown; a car show, the Spanish trail event and the Main Street breakfast. He advised that on behalf of the town, he accepted an award for the designation for the Spanish trails in the Havana area.

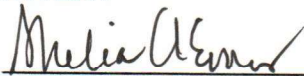
Motion made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ross to pay bills.

Motion to adjourn.



T. J. Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk