

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
November 26, 2019 6 pm**

**Member(s) Present:** Decorkus Allen, Eddie Bass, Nick Bert, Cathy Johnson, Warkeen Jordan, Vernell Ross and Dwight Vickers

**Member(s) Absent:** N/A

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ross.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by the American Legion Post 84.

Motion to approve the minutes from the October 29, 2019 Regular Council meeting was made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

**VISITORS:**

Mr. James Brennan, American Legion Post 84, thanked the council for the assistance given to Post 84.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Sharon Berrian, Director of Membership Services with Florida League of Cities, stated it was an honor to attend. She mentioned Florida League of Cities recognizes longstanding and dedicated services to members. She presented a resolution and pin to Mayor Ross for his 35 years of services. Mayor Ross thanked the citizens, the council and manager for showing their support throughout the years.

**Resolution No. 2019-10R**, Municipal Lien for the old Alexander property is the final step in the process. The final lien is \$87,708.22. Motion made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass to approve **Resolution No 2019-10R** to move forward with the lien process. Motion carried.

Mr. McKinnon stated the Alexanders are asking the council to reconsider purchasing the lot and they would like the council to consider a counter offer. The owners are recommending the town purchase the lot for a community park. Councilwoman Johnson stated the town has a lien on the property and the owner should not be awarded because this is tax payer's money. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to table the request for further discussion. Motion carried.

The owner of the property located at 912 Magnolia Drive is requesting the council's approval to re-divide the property. They are the owners of both properties and are interested in selling one lot. Their request is to move the property line approximately 10 feet. This meets the town's zoning requirements. Motion made by Councilman Bass and seconded by Councilman Bert to approve the redivision of property. Motion carried.

A special events request was made to host a one-man (Santa) parade on December 8, 2019. This is the third year the event has taken place. The route was approved with Chief Smith and meets the town's requirements. Motion made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the parade. Motion carried.

Mr. Brad Johnson's contract is up for approval. Councilwoman Johnson assisted in the contract negotiations but would like for the council to approve the compensation. Attorney Scott Seagle drafted the contract. After discussing the salary, motion was made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass to set the town manager's salary at \$90,000 and revisit the salary during budget time. Motion carried.

Due to the holiday season, a request was made to change the regular council meeting date to December 17, 2019 at 6pm. Mr. McKinnon stated the date change will be advertised in the newspaper. Motion made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the December 17, 2019 regular council meeting date. Motion carried.

#### **REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:**

The town received notification from Department of Revenue (DOR) approving the TRIM certification.

The bid for the contractor for the community center is being advertised. The roofing program will be advertised during the middle of December.

Councilman Bert inquired about the paving of First Street. McKinnon stated it is in the design phase and the survey is complete. Also, traffic calming devices will be suggested.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilwoman Jordan stated she is glad to be in attendance.

Councilman Vickers mentioned looking into an electronic information board for town events. Mayor Pro Tem Allen stated the Downtown Improvements Committee have discussed it and are working on a proposal.

Councilwoman Johnson wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and congratulated Mr. Brad Johnson on his new position.


Councilman Allen thanked Mr. Jerome Harris, Councilman Bass, Councilman Bert and Mayor Ross for their comments in support of Mr. Johnson during his contract negotiations. Mayor Pro Tem Allen also stated he was honored that Florida League of Cities (FLC) formed a new advisory board and he was chosen to represent Havana. He mentioned he also serves on the Northwest Florida League of Cities board.

Councilman Bert congratulated Mayor Ross on his thirty-five (35) year accomplishment of serving the Havana community. He also congratulated Mr. Johnson on his new position and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilman Bass congratulated Mayor Ross for doing an amazing job for the Havana community. As a life-long resident of Havana, Mayor Ross service to this community has been outstanding. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Motion to pay bills was made by Councilman Bass and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn.

  
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Vernell Ross, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk