

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 28, 2017 6 pm**

Member(s) Present: Decorkus Allen, T. J. Davis, Cathy Johnson, Shirley McGill, Vernell Ross and Phyllis Thomas

Member(s) Absent: David Norman

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davis.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ross and seconded by Councilwoman Thomas to approve the minutes from the October 30, 2017 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Tracy Smith addressed the council and advised that he is withdrawing his request seeking to change the town's ordinance stating the police chief must reside inside the town limits. Chief Smith stated he appreciates the council's time and effort and will bring this item back at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Sharon Berrian, Director of Membership Services for the Florida League of Cities, 301 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida stated it is an honor to make a special presentation for thirty five years of dedicated service. The honoree is Mayor T. J. Davis. Mayor Davis was presented with a pin and also a resolution. Mayor Davis thanked Mrs. Berrian and Florida League of Cities.

Mr. Jody Finklea, Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA), mentioned he appreciates the opportunity to be in Havana. He gave a brief presentation and discussed **Resolution No. 2017-05R**. Vero Beach entered into an agreement to sale their electric system to Florida Power and Light. In order to permit the sale, the contract has to be amended and must be approved by all member cities. Vero Beach agreed to pay FMPA \$108 million dollars and is seeking a complete release. There are nineteen

(19) member cities that are project participants and all members must approve this before Vero Beach can move forward. If approved, the deal will close sometime in October of next year. Councilman Allen asked Mr. McKinnon for his comments. Mr. McKinnon advised he recommends approving the resolution. The money will be used to pay off debt and the Town will see a benefit in the lower debt cost. This will result in overall savings for the Town in years to come. Mayor Pro Tem Ross inquired if one member doesn't approve this, will it change the outcome. Yes, all members must give approval to move forward and the Town will not incur any additional cost. Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017-05R** was made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ross. Motion carried.

Mr. McKinnon advised the second amendment to the Sprint antenna tank lease agreement must be approved. Sprint is renting space at the water tower that is located on 5th Street SW. The lease expires in January 2018. Mr. McKinnon stated this is a good source of revenue for the Town. Mayor Pro Tem Ross inquired if the funds will go into the general fund. Mr. McKinnon advised the water fund. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Ross and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the Sprint antenna lease agreement. Motion carried.

Mr. McKinnon stated in getting ready for the upcoming audit, there were some additional expenses and funds will need to be allocated. Mr. McKinnon advised he recommends approving the 2016 - 2017 budget amendment. Motion made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilwoman McGill to approve the 2016 - 2017 budget amendment. Motion carried.

Getting proposals for maintaining the 5th Street elevated water tank was discussed during the budget hearing. Several proposals were received and Southern Corrosion had the best quote. The proposed agreement is for ten (10) years. Southern Corrosion will make the required environmental protection washouts and tank paintings. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Ross and seconded by Councilwoman Johnson to approve the Southern Corrosion agreement for the elevated water tank. Motion carried.

Chief Smith updated the council regarding the bank fraud. He advised the Town fell victim to a scam. A fraudulent email account was used to request funds. The money was totally refunded back to the Town and the bank's fraud department is trying to recover the bank funds. Councilman Allen stated he noticed it took sometime before the council was notified. He advised that he heard about the fraud from another source. Mr. McKinnon mentioned he takes responsibility for not notifying the council in a timely manner. A lot of time was spent reviewing records and he certainly understands the concern.

Because of the holiday and Christmas falling near the end of the month, Mr. McKinnon stated he recommends changing the December council meeting to December 19, 2017 at 6 pm. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Ross and seconded by Councilman Allen to approve changing the regular council meeting to December 19, 2017. Motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. McKinnon stated the Town received a letter of award from the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for the request to extend the water and gas lines for Project Azalea. The project has not been finalized but if they decide to come, DEO will award the Town \$300,000 for the project. This project will be substantial and beneficial to the town because of the natural gas load.

Mr. McKinnon recognized Chief Smith. Chief Smith stated back in July the police department made a raid and \$31,000 was seized. The funds were awarded through forfeiture and he is requesting to purchase two (2) new vehicles. Mr. McKinnon stated this will get the police department's fleet in pretty good shape and he recommends approving the request. Motion made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Thomas to approve the purchase of two (2) vehicles. Motion carried.

The final item announced were plans for the municipalities to host Gadsden Day at the Capitol during the upcoming legislative session. Mr. McKinnon advised this will occur sometime in January and he will keep the council updated.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Johnson mentioned she truly cares about the people and serving on the council. If anyone has been offended by her comments, she apologizes. She advised that she worked for the State and understands rules and regulations. Items that are placed on the agenda are studied before making a decision. She advised she will look up the information and know the facts before voting.


Councilwoman Johnson also stated she had the opportunity to attend the National League of Cities Conference and was able to network with other colleagues. She mentioned if we stay within our own city, we cannot be innovative or make changes.

Councilwoman Thomas stated she is very excited to be on the council and looks forward to attending seminars as well.

Councilman Allen advised during the National League of Cities conference he had an opportunity to visit with a recreational vendor. He was contacted by the vendor and stated there are plans to invite them to come and show slides of what they offer. He mentioned instead of a swimming pool maybe there is a possibility to add a splash pad.

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

Motion to adjourn.



T. J. Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk