

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2021 6 pm**

Member(s) Present: Decorkus Allen, Eddie Bass, Nick Bert, Janice Hart, Jenny Stone and Dwight Vickers

Member(s) Absent: Warkeen Jordan

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hart.

Invocation was led by Pastor Julius Harris followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve the minutes from the August 31, 2021 Regular Council Meeting was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2021, First Public Hearing was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes for the September 21, 2021 Final Public Hearing was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilwoman Stone. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

Mrs. Karen Kent, 102 East 5th Avenue, mentioned several pot holes on Short Street NE near 3rd Avenue.

Mrs. Katie Gainey and Mrs. Betty West addressed the council regarding the insurance claim presented and denied by the town's insurance company. Mr. Brad Johnson gave an overview of the claim and results from the insurance company. The insurance company denied the claim and advised the town had no liability. After a lengthy discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass instructing the Town Manager to resubmit the documents to the insurance company for review. Motion carried.

Mr. Terrance Roberts, 362 Frances Drive, invited all to attend the upcoming Trunk or Treat event.

OLD BUSINESS:

This is the final hearing for the subdivision of property located at 408 5th Street SW. The owner is requesting to have two (2) separate residences located on the property. Mrs. Leann Little, 606 NE 2nd Street, addressed the council and inquired about the property use. Mr. Johnson mentioned the use of this property will not change. The

owner is requesting to subdivide the property only. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass to approve the subdivision of the property. Motion carried.

The owner located at 204 2nd Street NW is seeking final approval for the proposed subdivision of the property. The owners are required to submit a survey for the recording. With there being no additional commentary, motion was made by Councilman Bass and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bert to approve the proposed subdivision of the property located at 204 2nd Street NW pending the survey. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Robert Barkley, Gadsden County Sheriff's Office, addressed the council and stated it is a pleasure to attend the meeting. He mentioned meeting with Mr. Jerome Harris, Havana SPAIN. Mr. Harris is interested in partnering with the Sheriff's Department to provide services to the Havana community. Mr. Barkley introduced Mr. Steve Winn, Director of Governor Affairs to the council. Mr. Winn gave a brief presentation.

Mrs. Karen Kent, Downtown Improvements Committee, provided quotes from the Christmas Tree Farms and stated the committee is seeking to purchase garland, wreaths and bows for the Christmas holiday decorations. The items will be placed along the US 27 corridor. Mrs. Kent advised the items requested are contingent upon their arrival. The committee is seeking to spend \$2,000. Motion to approve the request was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Chief Smith stated there is a request to host a Trunk or Treat for Halloween at the community park. This is a great event and Chief Smith advised he recommends approval. Motion to approve the event was made by Councilman Bass and seconded by Councilwoman Stone. Motion carried.

Mr. Johnson advised Resolution No. 2021-06R is for the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. The resolution is a requirement and provides for unification from the council. Motion to approve Resolution No 2021-06R, Statewide Mutual Aid, was approved by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

The Statewide Mutual Aid agreement must be approved and accompany Resolution 2021-06R. Motion to approve the agreement was made by Councilwoman Stone and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bert. Motion carried.

Mr. Johnson reported the application was submitted and Resolution 2021-07R, Hazard Mitigation Grant must be approved. Motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-07R was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Southern Corrosion Water Tank addendum is seeking approval. The addendum allows for the other tanks to be added. Mr. Johnson advised an additional quote was also received from U.S. Tanks. Motion to approve the Southern Corrosion Water Tank addendum was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilwoman Stone. Motion carried.

The resignation of Mr. L. Bradford Johnson, Town Manager, was discussed. Mr. Johnson tendered his resignation and the last day of employment will be October 8, 2021. Councilman Bass made a suggestion to make contact with the previous manager, Mr. Howard McKinnon to see if he is willing to come back for three (3) months. This will give the Town time to advertise and hire a manager. Mayor Pro Tem Bert mentioned the council pursue an emergency meeting to discuss this matter and invite Mr. McKinnon. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Allen to host an emergency meeting October 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:

Mr. Johnson made his final report to the council. He stated it has been an honor and privilege to serve the Town of Havana. He stated many of the accomplishments could not have been achieved without the coordination of staff and the leadership of the council.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Bass thanked Mr. Johnson and wished him the best.

Mayor Pro Tem Bert mentioned it's been an honor to work with Mr. Johnson and wished him much success in the future.

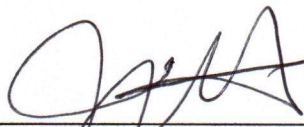
Mayor Hart mentioned South Main Street is unleveling and needs attention. She also advised she was appointed to the FLC Advocacy committee and will attend the upcoming conference.

Mayor Hart reported she received an email requesting participation of a local landmark on October 28, 2021. She advised that she will follow up with the council. The request is for a Proclamation and picture.

Mayor Hart stated she is a member of an organization and it has been an honor to serve. She was asked to prepare a welcome letter and video. She will cohost an event this year in Columbus, GA and there will be approximately 120 participants. The organization raised \$2.1M in a day.

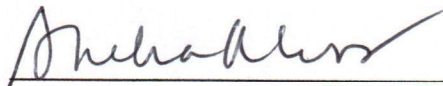
Motion to pay bills was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn.



Janice L. Hart, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk