

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 25, 2022 6 p.m.**

**Member(s) Present:** Mayor Pro-Tem Nick Bert, Mayor Janice Hart, Eddie Bass, Decorkus Allen, Warkeen Jordan, and Jenny Stone

**Member(s) Absent:** Dwight Vickers

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Hart.

Invocation was led by Councilman Allen followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**VISITORS:**

Mr. Jerome Harris questioned the Council about the playground that was tasked to be built in 2017. He also stated there was nowhere for people to congregate and that he wanted to see something done on the south side of town. Discussion followed about the property owner if they were still willing to allow the project to happen. Mr. Harris was asked to do research on the property designation. The Town Manager explained that last year they did speak with the property owner, Ms. Wood and about the Town of Havana obtaining a long-term lease of the property or even if she would be willing to donate some property in the area of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The family did agree at the time as long as we named the property after her grandfather. Since this time and a change in administration, he stressed that a citizen had come in with concerns about the park. This citizen was tasked with getting signatures, making contact with people in the community, and to his knowledge that was never completed. The Town Manager did convey the Town has had the property surveyed he replied it would be on the agenda at the February council meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A request was made by the Town Manager for the approval of the increase for Southern Water Services monthly contract. He explained that Southern Water Service currently holds the license for our Water Contract. An increase from \$2000 to \$2900 was requested. Motion made to approve by Mayor Pro-Tem Bert and seconded by Councilwoman Stone. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

A request was made to approve an annual increase in Waste Pro Services by 5.25% for residential customers. The monthly increase would go from \$19.21 to \$20.22. Mayor Hart questioned the Waste Pro Recycling Contract? She also stated the concerns with the Yard Debris pickup. Council agreed that there needed to be a Waste Pro workshop and a follow up agenda item. Motion to approve annual 5.25% increase was made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

A Special Events permit was submitted for approval for the Havana Main Street Hill Spring Classic, a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Another Special Events permit was submitted for approval of the Havana Antique Car Show, a motion was made by Councilwoman Stone and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bert. Motion carried.

Request to approve the purchase of a 2013 Dodge Altel Aerial Truck for the Town's Electric Department to be able to do their day-to-day operations was motioned by Councilman Eddie Bass and seconded by Councilwoman Stone. Motion to purchase carried.

Request to approve the 2007 ELGIN Street Sweeper which was motioned by Councilwoman Stone and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bert. Motion to purchase carried.

A request to approve appointment of Kenny Lewis as Interim Police Chief was motioned by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

A request to approve appointment of Lester Beach as Fire Chief was motioned by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilman Bass.

An approval bid request was made to re-roof the Havana Medical Center. Several estimates were collected by Town Manager Johnson back in August 2021. The Medical Center has had a tarp on it for a long time with an existing problem of leaking. After review of the different bids, it was recommended by the new Town Manager to approve Exterior Specialists redoing the roof. Motion was made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried for repairs.

A proposal was made to change the amount of the Commercial Zoning Application fee for existing locations. It was proposed to reduce the rate for already existing locations to be charged a reduced rate of \$75.00 instead of \$150.00. The Town Manager stated the reduced rate would encourage economic development. Motion to proceed with amending the ordinance was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion to proceed amending carried.

***NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:***

A Proclamation for Nora Dean Brown Ford James was motioned for approval by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. A Proclamation was presented to her granddaughter Brittany James.

A Request to Approve a Resolution Relating to the Town's State Revolving Fund Program was presented by Shakil Amin of Mott McDonald. Mr. Amin stated this Program is for the facility planning of all four pump stations the Town owns. The Department of Environmental Protection is funding is \$213,469 for a total of 80% grant funding. Agreement to continue with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection was motioned by Councilman Bass and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bert. Motion carried.

Mrs. Janice Eakins with the Havana Main Street presented with a Wayfinding Signs Presentation. She stated there was \$5,000 in the budget for the current year. She asked where the rollover money was from the previous year. The Town Manager stated there was no rollover money. Ms. Eakin continues with the presentation of the Wayfinding Signs. The Committee has narrowed it down to three bids. The signs will be located on private properties not on the State road. Request for second page of motion was tabled to a further date. Motion was made for first page approval by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

MSCOP for 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Resurfacing being redone by Dewberry was motioned to approve by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Allen.

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

The Town Manager reported that the Architect Mr. Joel Sampson has been reached out to for an update on the Police Department upgrades. He stated he will more information in the February Council meeting.

Robert F. Munroe School has asked for approval to use the Gus Bert Ball field for high school softball and baseball games. A motion was made to approve by Mayor Pro Tem Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass. Motion carried.

Follow-up concerning the insurance claim for the Betty West has been received by the Insurance Company and processed. We have received a insurance claim refund for purchase of damaged appliances.

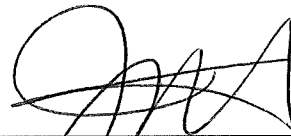
**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilwoman Stone, Councilman Bass, Councilman Allen, Councilman Bert, and Councilwoman Jordan had nothing to comment.

Mayor Hart asked for an update on the electronic copy for our Hazel Baker Community Center. She also inquired about the updates to be made on the website. The Town Manager stated that it was a work on progress and he hoped to have a better update at the next Council meeting.

Motion to pay bills was made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Allen. Motion carried.

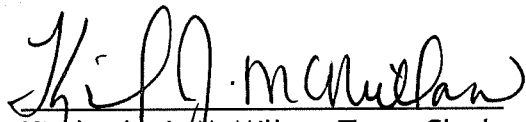
Motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.



---

Janice L. Hart, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



---

Kimberly J. McMillan, Town Clerk