

**Town Of Havana**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**March 31, 2026 – 6:00pm**  
**Meeting minutes**

**Call to Order**

The March 31, 2026 Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Eddie Bass at 6:00pm. Invocation was led by Mayor Pro Tem Lawrence Reed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

A roll call confirmed the presence of the following council members including Councilwoman Nelson, Mayor Eddie Bass, Mayor Pro Tem Lawrence Reed, Councilman McKinnon and Councilman Wesolowski. Councilwoman Key attended via phone with limited participation, Councilman Seymour and Councilwoman Nelson were not in attendance. Ensuring a quorum

**Request to Set the Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilman McKinnon and seconded by Councilman Wesolowski to set the agenda. Motion carried.

**Recognition of Visitors**

Sharica Howel, Havana, FL 32333 – General concerns as a taxpayer and homeowner in the Town of Havana, curious about any conversations regarding road safety in the town. Advised she lives on County Rd 12 right below the library would like to know about road safety, there are a lot of houses in town in her opinion that are in close proximity to the road. She had an incident at her home in January in the wee hours of the morning a vehicle came into her yard and hit her air conditioning unit, she's been going through the process to try and get it fixed. She's asking if road reflectors, barriers or signage have been discussed and if not, she would like to bring it to the town as a concern for discussion as a tax paying citizen, Mayor Pro Tem Reed questioned the location for clarification, Mayor Bass advised it's right outside of Cascade Falls and Ms. Howel agreed. Councilman McKinnon and Mayor Pro Tem Reed acknowledged that Ms. Howel brought up a valid point, Mayor Bass requested Chief Lewis look into the matter. Councilman McKinnon asked who maintains that stretch of roadway and the Town Manager Mrs. Wilkerson advised it is a County maintained stretch and after the incident described by Ms. Howel the County placed caution arrow signs along the roadway to warn of the curve. Mrs. Wilkerson advises they conducted some research and found no accidents had occurred heading in that direction in the last 10 years but obviously they want all roads in the town to be safe and were unable to find a pattern of activity in that direction to declare that as a specific problem. Councilman McKinnon requested the matter be looked into further.

**Consent Agenda Items**

Motion was made by Councilman McKinnon and seconded by Councilman Wesolowski to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried.

**OLD Business**

**No. 6 – Old Business-Old Elementary School/605 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave**

Mayor Bass stated they should slow down on moving forward with Leins on the properties and give it a month or two to think it over and then come back with a decision on how to move forward with the properties. Mayor Bass stated every meeting takes up more and more time discussing the properties and the Leins. Councilman McKinnon advises his thoughts, advises he's an advocate for property rights and this country is based on

property rights, homeowners have rights and he doesn't want to trample on those rights, but we have the other side of the coin where if someone isn't responsible there has to be a balance. Councilman McKinnon advises personally the Leins are an incentive because he's not in favor of taking a home or property but sees it as an incentive if the owner ever sells the property or needs to take a loan against the property. Advises personally he is fine with leaving both Leins where they are because the Town has accumulated enough of an incentive against the properties. Mayor Pro Tem Reed questioned if the discussion was speaking on the properties separately or as a collective, to which Councilman McKinnon advised we were addressing them both. Councilman Wesolowski suggested that it would be wise to have a foreclosure attorney make an appearance at a Council meeting and walk the Council through the process of what that would look like. Councilman Wesolowski stated the council doesn't have to agree to do a foreclosure but getting outside Council to explain the process may be beneficial. Mayor Bass suggested as much as he would like to see the issues dissolved if the Town chooses to foreclose there is no telling how long the process could take if the owner chooses to drag things out with the Town and attorney fees could be outrageous. Councilman Wesolowski suggested those are questions that could be answered by a foreclosure attorney instead of saying if we do, if we don't. After further discussion between Council, and the Town attorney Mr. Jody Finklea regarding the risks to the town and community due to both properties they will have the Town Manager make contact with a foreclosure attorney known to Mayor Bass who can possibly attend a future Council meeting and provide further direction to the council on how to move forward. Councilman McKinnon made a motion to table the discussion on the Liens and New Resolutions and bring in the foreclosure attorney to advise the Council on how to proceed. Councilman Wesolowski seconded. Motion carried.

## **NEW Business**

### **No. 7a – 2026 Gas Pipeline**

Mrs. Wilkerson shared the summary of the Gas Pipeline Safety Evaluation conducted in late January by PSC and the Town received a very favorable evaluation. Mrs. Wilkerson is requesting approval and acceptance of the 2026 Annual Gas Pipeline Safety Evaluation.

Councilman Wesolowski made suggested announcements being made to residents that these inspections are being conducted for privacy reasons. Mrs. Wilkerson advised she will speak with representatives and give residents a heads up when the Town is aware the survey associates and technicians are in the area.

Councilman McKinnon and Mayor Bass commended the Crews working for the Town on their hard work. Motion to approve the 2026 Gas Pipeline Safety Evaluation was made by Councilman Wesolowski and seconded by Councilman McKinnon. Motion Carried.

### **No. 7b – Special Meeting**

The Town Manager request approval to hold a Special Meeting on April 30, 2026 to appoint Council member to anticipated vacancy in Seat 5, swear in new Council members and appoint Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Pro Tem Reed made a motion to approve the Special Meeting on April 30, 2026, Councilman Wesolowski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **No. 7c – Special Events Permit-Havana Main Street Car Show**

The Town Manager stated Havana Main Street would like to hold a Car Show in downtown Havana on May 2, 2026. Contingency of the event depends on site map, \$200 festival fee, and insurance provided by Havana Main St. Councilman McKinnon made a motion to approve, Mayor Pro Tem Reed seconded. Motion carried.

### **No. 7d – Selection Process-Town Manager Candidates-Discussion**

Mrs. Wilkerson advises 41 applicants were submitted and a group of 7 Recommended were sent to Council. All resumes were submitted to the Council for review if they felt someone needed to be added they could and still can advise. The Town Manager is requesting changing the initial date of April 24<sup>th</sup> for interviews to May 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure all background checks are received on time. Due to the Councils request that all Backgrounds be completed prior to interviews. It will be an all-day event a quorum is needed and lunch will be provided to the Council. The Town Manager will be available on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of April to conduct Infrastructure tours for Candidates who may be interested. Also requested approval to pay for lodging for travel. The Council agreed to

the date of May 1, 2026 and Council also agreed to pay lodging for the Candidate and spouse who have to travel. Mayor Bass suggested instead of hosting an event for all of the Candidates like done previously it would be best if the Council hosted an event for the chosen Candidate to Meet and Greet with the town. The Council all agreed. The Town Manager requested clarification on cancelling Candidates due to a less than favorable background. Council agrees they should review all backgrounds of recommended Candidates before making a decision. Mrs. Wilkerson reiterated if the Council can not agree on a candidate, they can instruct her to readvertise the position to find a suitable candidate for the Town Manager position.

## No. 8 – Public Hearings

None

## No. 9a-Town Manager Report

Mrs. Wilkerson thanked the Council for approving the Town Staff Good Friday off to spend with their families. She wished a Happy belated birthday to Mayor Bass, and Congratulations to Councilman Wesolowski on the birth of his new baby girl. The Town still has 2 vacancies, Electric and Gas Technician and the Town Manager position. Council was reminded about the following upcoming events Sprout and Shout Easter Egg Hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Lashley Automotive Car & Truck Show benefitting the Fire Department on April 11<sup>th</sup>, and the April Council meeting was moved to April 21, 2026 up one week from normal due to Municipal Elections being held on April 28<sup>th</sup>. We have two assigned to the Canvassing Board, Chief Lewis and Councilman Wesolowski.

The Sewer updates we have one project moving down at the capital for sewer, SRF application has been worked by Dewberry and a vendor was selected for the Digester repairs estimated at between 20 and 30 thousand depending on the extent of the repairs and that work is scheduled and will be done in late May. Advised Police and Fire stats were attached to the Councils packet.

## No. 9b-Town Council Members

Mayor Pro Tem Reed inquired about the sidewalk being constructed at the Medical Center and Mrs. Wilkerson advised it is being completed by Dr. Browning and she will follow up with him in regards to when it will be completed. Councilman McKinnon inquired about the pharmacy closing down and what can be done to get a new Pharmacy to come to Havana. Mrs. Wilkerson advised the Town was made aware a few days before the pharmacy was closing.

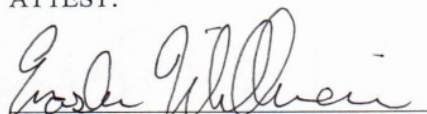
## Motion to Adjourn

Councilman McKinnon made motion to adjourn the March 31, 2026, regular council meeting. Councilman Wesolowski seconded, and motion carried.

Mayor Bass adjourned the meeting at 6:45pm.

  
EDWARD BASS JR, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
Enosha Williams, Town Clerk

