

**HAVANA TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 25, 2019 6 pm**

Member(s) Present: Decorkus Allen, Eddie Bass, Nick Bert, Shirley McGill, Vernell Ross and Dwight Vickers

Member(s) Absent: Cathy Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ross.

Motion to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2019 Regular Council meeting was made by Councilwoman McGill and seconded by Councilman Bert. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

Ms. Veronica Chandler stated she resides at 95 Stillwater Lane. She mentioned she is before the council to request installing street lights near her property in the Twin Ponds subdivision. Mr. McKinnon advised the town crew will evaluate the area but we are limited to where transformers are installed.

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Howard McKinnon introduced Mr. Jacob Williams. Mr. Williams is the CEO of Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA). Mr. Williams is an asset to FMPA. Since joining FMPA, there has been a lot of improvements. Mr. McKinnon also welcomed and recognized Mr. Jodi Finklea, counsel for FMPA.

Mr. Williams addressed the council and discussed Havana's potential participation to join FMPA for a solar project. The project will come in late 2022 or 2023 and will cost the town an additional \$165 per month. This will supply power to the town owned facilities and will be a good thing to consider. There is no impact to the individual customer bill. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass to approve participating with FMPA in the "Going Green" project for the town's electric accounts. Motion carried.

Mr. Wilbert Butler, President of Havana Community Development Corporation (HCDC) recognized all HCDC board members that were in attendance. Mr. Butler and Mr. Harold Knowles gave an overview of the committee and their accomplishments. Since 2009 it has been their goal to renovate the school. Mr. Butler stated there is an importance to finish the project and asked the council to consider funding the project by donating \$281,500. Comments were made by Mr. Jerome Harris and Mrs. Edna Hall Whitehead. After discussing the funding request, it was recommended to host a workshop for questions and answers. The workshop will be held at HCDC on July 8, 2019 at 5 p.m. An ad will be placed in the newspaper to give notice of the meeting.

The proposed nuisance ordinance was discussed. Mr. McKinnon advised the attorney made the recommended changes to move forward. There were other zoning issues to consider that were items of concern from Havana Main Street. A notice of intent to change the ordinance will be advertised in the newspaper. The first reading of the ordinance will be at the next council meeting. Motion made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to approve moving forward with the nuisance ordinance. Motion carried.

Mrs. Terri Paul, Wanderings, addressed the council and stated her concerns regarding a six-month moratorium for the downtown area. She mentioned any new buildings downtown will need to fit the historical footprint to keep in tune with downtown. Mr. McKinnon stated the town will need to advertise the proposed temporary moratorium before moving forward. After discussing, a motion was made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass to consider adopting a six-month moratorium for the downtown area. Motion carried.

The Town was awarded a grant from the Department of Transportation (DOT) for median improvements. DOT agreed to remove the fast-growing grass planted in the medians and there are also plans to replant some of the crate myrtles on US 27. Bids were received for the project and Conrad was the lowest bidder (\$69,669). Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and seconded by Councilman Vickers to award the DOT Landscaping project to the lowest bidder, Conrad. Motion carried.

Mr. McKinnon mentioned his retirement date is December 2019. Options were discussed to begin the process of advertising for his replacement. Mr. McKinnon stated he will work up a suggested list to assist the council with advertising for the position. A position description is listed in the town's charter which is a great starting point.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:

Mr. McKinnon stated the grant consultant, Mrs. Robin Phillips, prepared a timeline for the community center project. He advised this is part of the process to receive the grant funds.

Regular Council Meeting

June 25, 2019

Page 3

The summer youth employment is now underway. There is one position filled at this time.

Mr. McKinnon mentioned Mayor Ross will elaborate on the Kiwanis Summer Camp program. Mayor Ross stated the camp is up and running and the Town is very fortunate to have use of the middle school. This year the camp is not at the capacity with the number of kids that normally attends but doing well.

Mr. McKinnon recognized Chief Smith. Chief Smith updated the Council on the nuisances that were sent out to property owners. They are as follows:

- Badcock - cleaned up property and the sign will be replaced
- Old Baps location on US 27 - violation corrected
- Old school property - extended deadline to complete by June 30, 2019
- Property at 11th Ave and US 27 - property owner working on it, wants to remodel and rent out.
- Corner of 5th Ave and US 27 - property owners in attendance. They were served notice to attend the meeting. Chief Smith will meet with owners after the meeting.

In conclusion, Chief Smith made notice of a meeting that will be held at the Havana Public Library on Thursday, June 27, 2019, 4 pm to 6 pm. This is a public meeting which is being held by the Pastor of Old Jerusalem Church. The meeting is in reference to the car show to discuss the loud noise complaints. All are invited to attend.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Vickers stated he looks forward to touring the old high school.

Motion made by Councilman Bert and seconded by Councilman Bass to pay bills.

Motion to adjourn.

Vernell Ross, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shelia A. Evans, Town Clerk