



"The Crossroads to the Future"

Town Council Minutes

February 05, 2024 ** 7:00 PM

Present at the Meeting: Mayor Knagge, Mr. Bass, Mr. Mellecker, Mrs. Bishop-Vargas, Ms. Shaw, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Pearce, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Gugliuzza Members of the 4 Community and 2 Members of the Media.

Absent: Mrs. Fleming

- I. **Call to Order** – Mr. Bass at 7:00 PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance to Flag & Invocation** – Mr. Bass
- III. **Visitors Welcomed & Reminded Meeting Minutes are Being Recorded** – Mr. Bass
- IV. **Persons Wishing to Address Council – 3 Minute Limit** – Taylor Bass 61844 River Road Callahan, FL. 32011 & Abigail Cartrette 54337 Jamie Drive Callahan, FL. 32011. We are from the West Nassau High School Women of Influence organization. We build leadership skills through workshops and mentorships. We are here to improve network skills through opportunities for young people at West Nassau High School. We help the hard and soft skills individuals will need to become business leaders of the future. To show off our success we host a annual gala to raise money for scholarships. It is the Influencing the Future Scholarship Gala and has raised \$2000.00 dollars for scholarships in the past two years for members of our club. However, this is not possible without sponsorship and support from the community and the council.
 - Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to The Young Women of Influence WNHS by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas and 2nd by Ms. Shaw
 - Discussion: A Resolution will be presented at the next council meeting
 - **Motion Carried**
 - Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

V. Minutes

- Motion to approve the Minutes by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Ms. Shaw
- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

VI. Treasurer's Report

- Motion to approve the revised November and the December Treasurers Report by Ms. Shaw and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas
- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

VII. Business:

➤ **Ordinance No: 2024-001 Land Use Change 51-2N-25-0000-0038-0000**

Mrs. Pearce read out loud Ordinance No: 2024-001 Land Use Change 51-2N-25-0000-0038-0000. Council President Mr. Bass closed the regular meeting at 7:07 pm and opened to the public. No public comments. Council President re-opened the regular meeting at 7:08 pm.

- Motion to approve the First Reading of the Ordinance No: 2024-001 Land Use Change 51-2N-25-0000-0038-0000 by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas
- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

➤ **Sewer Adjustment Heritage Villas**

- Motion to adjust the sewer side of the bill to the average usage making the total adjustment \$277.29 by Ms. Shaw and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas
- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

➤ **Resolution No. 2024-R01 Tourism Development Tax**

- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-R01 Tourism Development Tax by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas
- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

➤ **New Equipment**

- Motion to approve the purchase of equipment (backhoe) 2020 cost \$90, 000.00 by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Ms. Shaw
- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

VIII. Review & Approval of Town Expenditures:

General Fund the week of January 18th \$10,065.44, 24th \$6,358.10, 26th \$402.08 and February 1st \$12,688.02 totaling \$29,513.64

Motion to approve General Fund week of January 18th \$10,065.44, 24th \$6,358.10, 26th \$402.08 and February 1st \$12,688.02 totaling \$29,513.64 by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas

- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

Water & Sewer Fund week of January 18th \$4,935.80 24th \$583.15 and February 1st \$ 27,965.18 totaling \$33,484.13

Motion to approve Water & Sewer Fund week of January 18th \$4,935.80 24th \$583.15 and February 1st \$ 27,965.18 totaling \$33,484.13 by Ms. Shaw and 2nd by Mr. Mellecker

- o Discussion: None
- o **Motion Carried**
- o Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll

IX. Disbursements

The month of January 2024 – Tabled

IX. Around the Council Table

- Mayor – Two weeks ago I, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Bishop-Vargas, and Mrs. Gugliuzza had the opportunity to attend the 2024 Rural Counties Day and others from the county. We had a good opportunity to sit down and understand more of the process. Good experience for us. After confirming with Mr. Bass, the Fire Commissioner at the Monday night meeting for the Volunteer Fire Department we decided to go a different route as far as leadership within the VFD so current time Larry Downey and Mike Guinn will no longer be the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. Mr. Bass will take over that role for the time being and then we are going to advertise for that, select a new person and bring them before the council for approval. Mike and Larry have been a great asset to the Town we are just looking to try to reinvigorate. Mayor Knagge Thanked Mr. Downey for his service. Both Mike Guinn and Larry Downey are still on the Volunteer Fire Department if they wish to be. NCEDB is having a BRE on the 15th of this month in our Fire Department Downstairs Meeting Room from 8:00 am – 11:00 am please RSVP.
- Mrs. Bishop Vargas- I have already RSVP for the BRE and will be attending.
- Mrs. Fleming – Absent
- Mrs. Kirk- None
- Ms. Shaw- None
- Mr. Mellecker- None
- Mrs. Pearce- None
- Mrs. Gugliuzza- Touch A Truck Event March 9, 2024, from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm would like the council to attend. I went to a meeting about the mural and need some suggestions for the history of Callahan for images that could be placed on the mural.
- Mr. Williams- Looking for a generator for the Fire Department. I am looking to replace the generator for \$28,000.00
- Mr. Bass- None


X. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd Mrs. Bishop-Vargas

- Discussion: None
- **Motion Carried**
- Time 7:33 pm



John Kenneth Bass, Council President



Shawna Gugliuzza, Town Clerk

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based