



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, January 25, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Billy Bain
- Vice Mayor Dan Espino
- Councilwoman Jennifer Ator
- Councilman Bob Best
- Councilman George V. Lob

Also Present:

- City Manager James R. Borgmann
- Assistant City Manager Ronald K. Gorland
- City Attorney Jan K. Seiden
- Chief of Police Peter G. Baan
- Finance Director William Alonso
- Comptroller Alicia E. González
- City Planner Richard E. Ventura
- City Clerk Magalí Valls

2. Invocation: Councilwoman Ator offered the invocation.

Salute to the Flag: The audience participated.

3. Awards & Presentations:

3A) Certificate of Sincere Appreciation to Miami Springs Middle School Principal Maria Mason for her Cooperation with the City's Recreation Department

Miami Springs Middle School Principal Maria Mason received a Certificate of Sincere Appreciation for her community involvement and partnership with the City of Miami Springs Recreation Department and the youth Basketball Program.

Assistant City Manager Gorland expressed his appreciation to Principal Mason and her Staff for allowing the City's Recreation Department to use the school's basketball courts.

“Operation Springs Helps Haiti”

Mayor Bain introduced Jasmine Atkinson, a student at Miami Springs Senior High who asked to make a presentation regarding a walk-a-thon for Haiti.

Jasmine Atkinson of 5840 N. W. 31st, Avenue, Miami, 33142, presented her idea for a walk-a-thon called “Operation Springs Helps Haiti”. She said that donations will be made to either the American Red Cross or United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

Ms. Atkinson asked to hold the event on a Saturday along the Bike Path on Curtiss Parkway from the Golf Course to the Circle. Those participating would collect sponsorship donations and a bake sale is also planned. Local schools will participate and entertainment will be provided by the school’s dance group and marching band. She said that the Anchor Club and Eco-Hawks have volunteered to pick up after the event and they will provide police security.

Council agreed and Mayor Bain asked Ms. Atkinson to meet with the City Manager, select a date and go forward with the preparations for the event.

4. Open Forum:

No speakers.

5. Approval of Council Minutes: (approved with one motion)

5A) 01/11/2010 – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the January 11, 2010 Regular Meeting were approved as written.

Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes as written. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on voice vote.

5B) 01/13/2010 – Workshop Meeting

Minutes of the January 13, 2010 Workshop Meeting were approved as written.

Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes as written. Vice Mayor Espino seconded

the motion which was carried 5-0 on voice vote.

6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

6A) 12/15/2009 – General Employees Retirement System – Minutes

Minutes of the December 15, 2009 General Employees Retirement System meeting were received for information without comment.

6B) 12/15/2009 – Police and Firefighters Retirement System – Minutes

Minutes of the December 15, 2009 Police and Firefighters Retirement System meeting were received for information without comment.

6C) 01/06/2010 – Architectural Review Board – Minutes

Minutes of the January 6, 2010 Architectural Review Board meeting were received for information without comment.

6D) 01/12/2010 – Recreation Commission – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the January 12, 2010 Recreation Commission meeting was received for information without comment.

7. Public Hearings:

7A) Second Reading – Ordinance No. 988-2010 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Approving and Adopting the City’s Capital Improvement Element (CIE) and Corresponding Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the City of Miami Springs Comprehensive Plan; Authorizing the Amendment of the City Comprehensive Plan in Accordance with the Capital Improvements Element and Corresponding Comprehensive Plan Amendments; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date (First Reading: 1/11/2010 – Advertised: 1/13/2010)

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden read the ordinance by title.

Attorney Seiden stated that there have been no changes in the proposed ordinance since the first public hearing.

Mayor Bain opened the public hearing to those persons wishing to speak. There were no speakers, and the public hearing was closed.

City Planner Richard E. Ventura explained that there was a sign up sheet in the back of the room for anyone that wished to receive a written update from the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) as to the progress with the Comprehensive Plan review. Assuming that Council adopts the ordinance and approves transmittal to the State, DCA has forty-five days to review it and respond back to the City.

Councilwoman Ator moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

8. Consent Agenda:

8A) Ratification of Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Miami Springs and the City of Doral Relating to Usage of the Miami Springs Municipal Pool

City Manager Borgmann stated that the City entered into the first year of a three-year agreement with the City of Doral relating to usage of the City of Miami Springs municipal pool by Doral residents who pay the residential rate. Last year Doral paid \$15,000 and will continue to do so this year and next year. The agreement calls for a re-approval of the Interlocal Agreement each year, which is recommended by the Administration.

Councilman Lob moved the item. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion.

Mayor Bain expressed his approval of the cover memorandum explaining the agenda item.

The motion was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

8B) Recommendation that Council Approve a Purchase to AC Shutters and Awnings, Inc., the Lowest Responsible Proposer, in the Amount of \$15,575.00, for the Purchase and Installation of an Aluminum Roof for City Hall, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (2) of the City Code

City Manager Borgmann read the title of the recommendation and clarified that it was an awning and not a roof that was being installed.

City Manager Borgmann explained that the aluminum awning will be placed on the north side of the City Hall building over the police storage area. Funds are available in the Police Department Machinery and Equipment account.

Councilwoman Ator moved the item. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

9. Old Business:

9A) Appointments to Advisory Boards by the Mayor and Council Members

None.

9B) Consideration of Pelican Playhouse Expenditures for New Community Center

City Manager Borgmann stated that a proposal was received from Ralph Wakefield, the Executive Director of Pelican Playhouse, Inc. The request is for sound and lighting equipment, portable staging and the curtain and pipe grid, totaling approximately \$108,000. He said that Project Manager Bill Sprague was present to discuss additional outlets in the dressing room, cabinets, and a curtain wall.

Community Center Construction Manager Bill Sprague explained that he was representing Mr. Wakefield who had presented additional items that he feels are needed in order to make the theatre functional. The additional cost for the non-theatre items were determined, including the conduit for additional lighting, the extension of walls, door installation, work tables, receptacles and mirrors.

Mr. Sprague presented the following estimates:

Theatre System Equipment	\$28,915.68
Lighting Equipment	\$33,080.12
Portable Seating	\$12,442.00
Stage Curtain/Track/Lighting Pole Grid	\$35,939.00
Receptacles/Outlets/DMX (estimate)	\$10,000.00
Dressing Room Requirements (estimate)	\$10,000.00
<u>Curtain Wall Enclosure (estimate)</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Sub Total	\$140,376.80
Link Group Markup (15%)	<u>21,056.52</u>
Total Costs	\$161,433.32

Mr. Sprague explained that the 15% markup for the contractor includes their pricing if they purchase the equipment and associated costs should the architect have to bring the drawings back up to meet building codes.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, Mr. Sprague stated that he believes the pricing is firm.

City Manager Borgmann received an e-mail from the construction regarding a comment from the

Fire Inspector who said that seats in assembly occupancies accommodating more than two-hundred persons shall be securely fastened to the floor, except where fastened together in groups of not less than three and not exceeding seven, and permitted by NFPA 101-12.7.9.2.

City Manager Borgmann explained that the Administration had already looked into the chairs and they are estimated to cost \$35.00 to \$45.00 each. There are currently 75 functional chairs that do not clip together and they would not meet the specifications. In discussions, it was determined that at least 200 chairs are needed for the theatre and fifty for the remainder of the building.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, Mr. Borgmann clarified that the theatre capacity is approximately 220 fixed seats, but later it was decided to have portable seating so that it could be a multi-use facility. He clarified that the Fire Code would not apply if there were less than 200 seats.

Mayor Bain asked to consider limiting the seating to less than 200 seats.

Artistic Director Ralph Wakefield said that he would be satisfied with less seating in order to comply with the Fire Code.

Mr. Sprague explained that the drawings would have to indicate that the room capacity is earmarked for less than 200 seats. He said that should the Fire Marshall happen to show up and sees more than 200 people in the room he can shut it down. He added that there must be chairs in the room at the time the Certificate of Occupancy (C.O.) is issued, or some guarantee in writing that there will not be more than 200.

Councilwoman Ator asked what would be the price difference between the two types of chairs.

City Manager Borgmann responded that the cost for individual chairs was approximately \$25.00 each two years ago. The less expensive locking chairs for \$35.00 are more comfortable than the \$45.00 chairs and they might be able to reduce the cost to \$30.00 per chair. There are seventy-five chairs left from the original group.

To answer Councilman Lob's question, City Manager Borgmann stated that when the plans were designed they indicated space for 220 chairs.

Councilman Lob agreed with Mayor Bain to cap the seating at less than 200 chairs.

City Attorney Seiden questioned why Mr. Sprague had indicated tax in his cost estimates.

Mr. Sprague clarified that the City would not be charged sales tax if the items are ordered direct. He said that Link would still have to be paid to manage the operation to be sure it is done properly.

City Attorney Seiden stated that normal purchasing procedures would require a number of quotes or bids. Technically, there are four categories and the only one that applies to the current code would be the portable staging since it is below the \$25,000 threshold. He advised that if Council were to approve the other categories that they would be waiving the competitive bidding process by not

obtaining quotes.

City Attorney Seiden reiterated that when Council votes on each of the categories they would be doing a waiver of the competitive bidding process.

Councilman Lob said that if Link purchased the equipment that there could be an overall warranty.

Attorney Seiden clarified that the City should purchase the equipment in order to save the tax. He said that the warranties would be passed on to the City from the manufacturers of the equipment.

City Manager Borgmann stated that the warranties would be passed on to the City for the other equipment that was purchased by the contractor, including the scoreboards, backboards, refrigerator, etc. This request is basically a change order to the scope of the project to add the particular equipment to bring the room up to a functioning performing arts venue.

City Attorney Seiden explained that the motion would be to approve the purchase of sound equipment in the approximate amount of \$27,024, lighting equipment in the approximate amount \$33,080, portable staging in the approximate amount of \$12,442, curtain and pipe grid in the approximate amount of \$35,939, waiving the competitive bidding process.

Mr. Sprague verified that the estimates are good, but if other items are added there is no guarantee that they would be covered under his estimate. He referred to the summary page in his presentation, explaining that the request is not to exceed an amount of \$160,000.

To answer the Mayor's question, Mr. Sprague said that the City would not pay for anything that is not spent, including tax.

Vice Mayor Espino stated that after he toured the facility, he noticed that the room does not include an overhead projector or screen, which a multi-purpose room should have in order to accommodate Town Hall meetings or a Movie Night.

Mr. Wakefield confirmed that there is a motorized screen that is approximately 6' x 8'.

Councilwoman Ator asked for clarification as to whether the equipment is being purchased for the City's use or the Pelican Playhouse.

City Manager Borgmann said that Mr. Wakefield had agreed to attract other acting troupes and the sound system and equipment would also be there for their use for the purpose of entertaining the community. The equipment would be the City's property, but certainly under Mr. Wakefield's supervision.

Ralph Wakefield of 255 Springs Avenue presented a rendering of what the theatre will look like when it is finished. He clarified for Councilwoman Ator that there is a new sheet for the sound system with a different projector and microphone transponders that altered the cost. He agreed that Pelican Playhouse, Inc., as a non-profit corporation, would be able to contribute to the expense of a

larger overhead screen or additional equipment.

Mr. Sprague clarified that there was an increase of \$700.00 in the section related to the sound. He reiterated that he is asking for approval not to exceed \$160,000 for the theatre.

Mayor Bain expressed his approval because he knows Pelican Playhouse will help with the cost of additional items in the future and it will be a team effort.

Mr. Sprague added that the curtains may not be installed until after the C.O. is issued, but they will install all of the required equipment and conduit.

Councilman Best complimented Mr. Sprague and Mr. Wakefield for their efforts. He understands that the equipment will be delivered on site and Link will be responsible for the labor and installation.

Mr. Sprague responded that Link will be responsible for coordinating the installation.

City Manager Borgmann said that the light rigging, stage curtains and tracks must be purchased and installed at the same time, which could be after the C.O. is issued.

Councilman Lob wants everyone to understand that Mr. Wakefield did not have the opportunity to give his input when the original pricing was set. He remembers being told that there was not going to be any new equipment and the additional equipment was not foreseen. He feels that approving the request would be for the benefit of the facility.

Councilwoman Ator stated that there seems to be a general consensus that the equipment is important, but she would like for Mr. Wakefield to report back to Council on the status of the Pelican Playhouse, the 501-c-3 corporation, and what efforts are being made to acquire grants.

Councilman Best moved to approve an amount not to exceed \$160,000 based upon the summary of costs provided by Mr. Sprague. Councilman Lob seconded the motion.

City Attorney Seiden commented that the record should be clear that the City Council is waiving the competitive bidding process for each of the individual categories for theatre equipment as outlined in the Summary of Costs, which includes five categories: theatre system lighting, lighting equipment, portable seating, stage curtain/track/lighting pole grid, and three separate categories for estimated costs for receptacles/outlets/DMX, dressing room requirements and curtain wall enclosure for a total amount not to exceed \$160,000.

Councilman Best moved the amended motion based on the City Attorney's clarification and Councilman Lob seconded the motion, which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

9C) Discussion of Priority Items for Downtown Improvements

Former Mayor Richard L. Wheeler of 33 Pinecrest Drive commended Council for their work on improving the City, whether it is Downtown or N. W. 36th Street. He knows it is a lot of work involving extra meetings and questions, but it is worth the effort because it affects the quality of the City and provides services and products.

It is important to plan for Downtown and put the ideas in place, according to Mr. Wheeler. There is nothing worse than what he has seen throughout the state, which is haphazard revitalization. Business owners will look out for themselves; the City should be considering what they want to end up with in the Downtown. Simple plans and schemes are needed to guide the City in the right direction to begin with and then the other elements can be addressed.

Mr. Wheeler asked Council to have patience with the business community and to extend an “olive branch” back to them so that they can develop faith in the system that has been lost in the past. He urged Council to pace themselves, stay positive and keep working toward their goals. The relationships with the business community will go a long way. The best example of successful Downtown revitalization is what Carlos Santana did with his property.

Mr. Wheeler suggested that there should be a liaison person to work with the business community in the Downtown. He knows that there was some discussion about a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional services, and he would suggest both. He has experience having made decisions that resulted in mistakes and successes along the way. Council should outsource some of the elements, including urban planning, traffic engineering, etc. There is much talent within the City and there are people who can do what is needed to bring the business community back together as part of the process.

Mr. Wheeler referred to a proposal from Mark Pruitt and said that some items belong in a professional category. He asked Council to consider Mr. Pruitt’s proposal because he has experience in real estate, retail, leasing, renovations and he is familiar with Miami Springs. There would be a learning curve for anyone who is brought in from outside the environment.

Mr. Wheeler thanked Council and urged them to stay positive.

Mayor Bain asked the City Manager to review his memorandum outlining the goals for Downtown, steps and actions to be taken and the recommendation for issuing an RFP that was previously discussed at the January 13th meeting.

City Manager Borgmann stated that Council should consider exactly what the RFP should entail. Mr. Wheeler had mentioned a liaison and a professional advisor(s) to help move the process forward. The liaison could be a person who has a feel with the business community and reports to the City on a regular basis, while a professional might be able to provide technical assistance in regard to traffic or other types of opportunities.

The purpose of this agenda item was for Council to go back over their thoughts, according to City

Manager Borgmann. He explained that Vice Mayor Espino presented a list and if Council, if so inclined, could begin their discussion with those items.

The City Manager explained that his memorandum was more or less a summary of what had transpired going back to 1983, when the earliest study was done on Downtown revitalization. He listed the following six items from the 2001 Dover Kohl report that seemed to be the key to getting the Downtown back on track:

1. Accommodate pedestrians (81% of those surveyed opted for wider sidewalks and a single lane without touching the existing median).
2. Focus retail on residents on residents and not expect too much from outside customers.
3. Hire an Administrator with specific job duties.
4. Suggested ways that the businesses should cooperate for their mutual success:
 - a. Setting common hours of operation.
 - b. Joint ads and marketing efforts.
 - c. Improve store fronts and window displays.
 - d. Eliminate the perception of a parking shortage through better signage and upkeep of existing parking areas.
 - e. Host recurring events and activities Downtown such as car shows, concerts, movie nights, art shows, farmers markets, etc.
 - f. Host small business clinics to assist local merchants.
 - g. Scour the globe for grants
 - h. Actively recruit new businesses, the types of which could be ascertained by the marketing study provided by the Lambert Group of 2001.
5. Suggested how we could promote the City and the Downtown, through the following:
 - a. Focus on the small town charm.
 - b. Don't worry about a "theme" or similarity of structures; the diversity is part of the charm.
 - c. New construction that would showcase retail/office on the first floor with two floors above for residential use.
6. When asked for citizen and business input from the community, they were told that the ways to promote the City would be:
 - a. Stop hiding the City from the rest of Dade County.
 - b. Sponsor more events in and around the Circle.
 - c. Two prong advertising . . . resident versus non-resident.
 - d. Better directional and informational signage.
 - e. Work with rental car agents, taxi drivers, airline customer service reps, hotel

managers, etc., and provide brochures and maps of Miami Springs as a potential lay over destination for travelers.

With regard to the Lambert marketing study, the City Manager suggested that if Council decides to hire an outside consultant or Downtown Administrator to assist in the implementation of the various activities, that Council ask them to review the data contained in the report to see if there needs to be any updating of the data to assure that they will be pursuing the right businesses that were recommended nine years ago. The demographics of the City have changed in the past nine years and the shift in cultural factors may have produced a significant change in the types of businesses the residents will patronize.

Vice Mayor Espino submitted a revised Commercial Revitalization Worksheet. He explained that the summary of proposed tasks was grouped together; lane reduction, expansion of sidewalks could fit under a Westward Drive streetscape project. The Circle has been a topic of discussion since early on and it is almost a separate issue, considering the fact that the City must work together with the County. He also included some of the Mayor's recommendations for other Westward Drive improvements.

Vice Mayor Espino felt that parking is its own "animal", unlike other capital improvements, because it is a blend of capital improvements in terms of improving existing lots or purchasing property to build lots, as well as other programs.

Vice Mayor Espino stated that the professional implementation support is of critical importance. He referred to a 2000 memorandum that addressed the organization for Downtown in terms of what could be done for management organization. It listed very important attributes for a commercial redevelopment director, including parking and transportation management, urban design, public space regulation, business recruitment and retention, consumer marketing, maintenance, capital improvements, public relations and grant managing.

Vice Mayor Espino said that the Dover Kohl report recommended adopting a plan in concept and bring in an administrator to flush it out. He felt that Council must decide whether or not to issue an RFP for an administrator and determine what qualities that administrator should have. Council must also develop a design concept for the Downtown. He recommended putting out an RFP for an administrator and another for a Westward Drive streetscape project so that Council can determine what should be done and how it should be implemented and funded.

In response to Councilwoman Ator's question, Vice Mayor Espino read the list of recommended attributes that a commercial redevelopment director should have.

Councilwoman Ator agreed with the list of recommended attributes for a commercial redevelopment director. She would also like the RFP to include some emphasis on N. W. 36th Street. The revitalized Chamber of Commerce should have the opportunity to address the items listed under number four in the City Manager's memorandum. She feels that the Westward Drive streetscape plan is important, as well as the Circle improvements for traffic calming. She would like to continue working and following up with the County on a regular basis regarding a plan for the Circle.

Vice Mayor Espino suggested an RFP for the entire area.

Mayor Bain liked Councilwoman Ator's idea to include N. W. 36th Street.

Vice Mayor Espino said that is the reason why he changed the title to commercial development director, as opposed to a downtown administrator, because it would limit the scope of the individual's job.

Councilman Lob stated that the Comprehensive Plan amendment process is almost complete and the next step for 36th Street is to work on the district boundary regulations and code revisions, which allows the City to market the area. He proposed two separate RFP's, one for 36th Street and another one for Downtown.

City Manager Borgmann clarified that 36th Street needs to know that Downtown exists in order for the customers to be able to utilize the services provided by Downtown.

Councilman Lob reiterated that the district boundary regulations and code revisions are necessary for N. W. 36th Street.

Councilman Best was of the opinion that the RFP's should be tied together rather than hiring multiple consultants. There are professional people who are well versed and have the discipline to manage both activities. It is important for Council to be in unison on the direction that is given to the City Manager.

Mayor Bain explained his thought was that there would be one firm with all the tools to handle both the Downtown and N. W. 36th Street, including the district boundary regulations, which would be part of the RFP. He agrees with Councilwoman Ator that some of the functions listed by the City Manager could be addressed by the Chamber of Commerce. He clarified that he does not want a new study; he wants the RFP to address the existing studies.

Vice Mayor Espino agreed with Mayor Bain. He explained that from his experience he has found that an administrator could touch on all items; however, that person would unlikely be the individual or company that would put together a design or engineering concept for the capital improvements.

Mayor Bain stated that the professionals would make recommendations on how to proceed based on Council's list of priorities and they will create a vision. He added that once the RFP is issued, Council would then have an idea of the cost involved.

City Attorney Seiden said that there could be a possibility of losing candidates that do not have all the disciplines. Council might want the RFP to include an alternative for firms that provide all services; however, they should not eliminate the possibility of finding candidates for separate functions if they are skilled in those areas.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that his impression from the City Planner was that he would bring

forth a recommendation to acquire a consultant who would be dedicated to only the district boundary regulations. If there is one company who can provide all services, including administration, design and engineering, it would be great, but seeing what other municipalities have done, it does not usually work that way.

Vice Mayor Espino said that a commercial development director would be an administrator who would oversee all the tasks that are too much for the City Manager or City Planner to handle. The district boundary regulations and the design are typically not done by the same individuals.

Mayor Bain reiterated that one firm might be able to handle everything that is required.

Councilwoman Ator said that the RFP should make it clear what is required and she is not sure it should include the design for Westward Drive. The City is looking to hire a downtown development director who has the tools to outline the steps going forward and oversee the progress.

Mayor Bain emphasized that the cost for the services of a Downtown administrator must be fair because Miami Springs is a small area. The last time the City hired a consultant the price was not right. He is inclined to handle both the Downtown and 36th Street at once.

City Manager Borgmann clarified that the document that Vice Mayor Espino had referred to listing permanent organization options for Downtown was prepared by the Planning Department and cited Richard Bradley, former President of the International Downtown.

Mayor Bain asked Council to move forward with instructions to the City Manager for the RFP.

Attorney Seiden stated that Council indicated that they do not want another plan and someone would be hired to coordinate the implementation of the existing plans. There are many firms that are qualified to handle all the tasks. He recommended putting out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

Attorney Seiden explained that money is an important factor, but it is not the most important right now. It is important to get a person or group who can show their qualifications. Council has the option to bypass the committee process and come directly to them.

Councilman Lob was posed a question as to who the changes in the Downtown would benefit and how many storefronts are open. He surveyed the Downtown and saw at least forty-four open storefronts out of approximately 110 stores. A large percentage of stores are vacant and that is the reason for making the improvements. He wants people to be able to utilize the businesses Downtown.

Vice Mayor Espino stated that infrastructure had been requested by the residents, businesses and the property owners. The property owners must do their part with their buildings and the business owners must do their part by adjusting their hours, proper advertising and improving their storefronts. It is a concerted effort with the catalyst of someone like Carlos Santana and the other businesses that are doing well in combination with the infrastructure improvements that will

ultimately bring about the type of change that people want.

Councilwoman Ator said that Vice Mayor Espino's proposal provided food for thought and it is very ambitious. She felt that there are creative ideas like re-striping Westward Drive and installing protective barriers, similar to the landscape barriers at Harvest Moon that are short-term solutions that could be done in the next six months. She knows that everyone would like bigger, wider sidewalks.

Mayor Bain suggested obtaining prices for new signage, re-striping the parking lots and Westward Drive and other improvements that are possible to achieve. He said that someone suggested taking down all the signs on Curtiss Parkway.

City Manager Borgmann agreed with the Mayor that better maintenance and lighting, etc. is possible to do.

Councilman Lob suggested pressure cleaning the sidewalks and re-sodding the median.

Mayor Bain felt that the property or business owners should take some responsibility for cleaning the sidewalks and maintaining the storefronts.

Councilwoman Ator suggested that without physically moving the sidewalks, one lane could be blocked off with large barriers, planters, etc. She explained that Westward Drive could be reduced to one lane with parallel parking.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that Delray Beach took the same temporary measures, as suggested by Councilwoman Ator, to acclimate the public until the infrastructure changes were made.

Councilman Lob agreed that temporary changes would determine if the idea would work without spending a lot of money on construction. It is also a quick way to make a change.

Aldo Bartolone of 325 North Royal Poinciana Boulevard, President of the Miami Springs Airport Chamber of Commerce, felt that this is an extremely momentous occasion, since discussions have been ongoing for years with a great deal of contribution by many people. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their efforts. He recommended staying on target by issuing the RFQ and getting the process moving. He added that the Chamber is extremely knowledgeable and the members will be able to contribute heavily to the efforts, as they are the same people who participated in the creation of the Dover Kohl report.

Mr. Bartolone agreed with Councilman Lob that there are many vacant storefronts and bringing in professionals who have the disciplines will be able to subcontract to others that have different specialties. The Chamber will be there and the improvements are being done for the community. He said that 36th Street is the synergy and it is very important to have the same firm address that

area. There will be a flow incoming from 36th Street to the Eldron Drive corridor that needs to be addressed with mixed-use. The community desperately wants to be able to come to more restaurants and shops Downtown. He applauded Council and offered the Chamber's support.

Councilwoman Ator reminded Mr. Bartolone that she offered to do a mail merge when the Vice President of the Chamber is ready with the solicitation letter.

City Manager Borgmann clarified for Councilman Lob that once the City receives final approval on the Comprehensive Plan amendment for 36th Street and the district boundary regulations are in place, the development of hotels and office buildings will be key to the success of Downtown because those people will be expected to come in for lunch and patronize the shops. He said that there definitely has to be a synergy between the two areas.

Mayor Bain summarized Council's direction for new signage and re-striping the roads and parking lots.

Vice Mayor Espino interjected by saying that there are enforcement issues with the municipal lots because the lots are full of cars that belong to residential tenants, which is not the purpose for municipal parking. The tenants should have assigned parking outside of the municipal lot.

Mayor Bain reiterated Councilwoman Ator's idea for the placement of planters or barriers that would extend the sidewalk three or four feet. He suggested blocking off one lane of traffic during the weekend and moving the parking out on a trial basis.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that re-striping is required in order to implement the plan.

By consensus Council directed the Administration to put out a Request for Qualifications and bring it back to Council for approval before it goes out.

~~City Manager Borgmann stated that the Administration would work expeditiously on the RFQ and send a copy to Council before it goes out in case they would like to add something.~~

9D) Skate Park Site – Wachovia Bank Building Back Parking Lot (Section Bordering Oakwood Drive)

Robert Schultz of 100 Sunset Way said that one site under consideration is across from the High School and the Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department (WASA) is not in favor for some reason. There is another site under consideration on the east side of town with prohibited financial arrangements. He understands that the Administration is trying to move forward, which is appreciated, but hopefully other sites in the City will be considered.

Carlos Navarro of 620 Quail Avenue thanked Council for considering the skate park because the sport is becoming as popular as football and baseball. He said that the police prohibit skate boarding in the parking lot behind the Recreation Center even though nobody parks there.

Assistant City Manager Gorland stated that the City Manager's request to locate the skate park at Peavy-Dove was denied by the County with their comment that even if fully indemnified by the City there was too much risk.

Assistant City Manager Gorland stated that at Mayor Bain's request, he and the City Manager met with Robert Ader, the attorney and property owner of the Wachovia Bank building site, regarding the area as a possible skate park. Mr. Ader is open to almost any use of the site, however he needs to be compensated in line with his current fee arrangement, which is approximately \$4,500 per month or \$54,000 annually. While retail/lease arrangements were discussed, Mr. Ader is not opposed to a sale arrangement if the City would like to consider that option. The property is on the tax rolls for almost \$1MM.

In addition to the skate park construction requirements discussed in previous meetings, site requirements may include: restroom facilities, water fountain, shade, lighting, accessibility and site soil preparation.

Councilwoman Ator and Vice Mayor Espino expressed their disapproval of the proposed site.

Mayor Bain explained that he was trying to find a site, the Administration did the research and he wanted the report to be presented for the public even though it will cost too much.

Vice Mayor Espino stated that WASA would be fully indemnified and he would like to understand why they refused.

City Attorney Seiden felt that WASA does not want a skate board park associated with their property and they found a reason to say no. There are Florida Statutes that exculpate governmental and private owners from the ownership and operation of such parks. The County Attorney may well agree with that, although they still might not be interested and say no because it is their park. There are substantial statutory provisions that protect the City and the only way an owner or operator of a park is liable is if it is designed in a way to be a dangerous condition, or if it is not maintained.

City Attorney Seiden reiterated that it is not the City's property and the County is more concerned even though the City would indemnify them. They would only be liable up to the extent of the sovereign immunity caps provided in the Florida Statutes, but there is always a chance of getting a judgment and going to litigation if a serious injury were to happen.

Vice Mayor Espino would like to pursue the Peavy-Dove site further because it is the number one choice for a skate board site and second is the Rio Vista Drive site. He would like a detailed response from the County since the Peavy-Dove site has community support.

Councilwoman Ator said that she had always preferred the site at Rio Vista Drive. The Peavy-Dove site is owned by the County and the City would be investing funds for the park with the chance that it could be taken away.

Mayor Bain stated that the Rio Vista Drive site would require a barrier wall between the park and the residences. He emphasized that the residents should be notified before selecting the location.

Councilwoman Ator agreed that it would be helpful to approach the surrounding residents and have everyone come together for a discussion.

Mayor Bain stated that specifications for a wall are needed in order to provide a buffer, as well as an elevation survey and estimate of what it would cost to raise the site to the proper elevation.

Councilman Lob mentioned that there is an area at the end of Ludlam at North Royal Poinciana Drive that could be considered.

Mayor Bain asked the Administration to check into the site suggested by Councilman Lob. He asked for more information on the two sites before the next meeting.

By consensus, Council directed the Administration to obtain information about Rio Vista and an area at the end of Ludlam Drive as possible sites and report back to them.

(Mayor Bain called for a five-minute recess)

9E) Reconsideration of Resolution Placing the Miami Springs Utility Bills on the County Tax Bills

City Manager Borgmann stated that Mayor Bain requested that this item be placed on the agenda to reconsider the passage of a resolution to the County to include the City's utility bill on the County tax bill. The total amount for one year would be \$662.00 at the current monthly rate of \$55.17 per month and the 4% discount would reduce it to \$635.00.

City Manager Borgmann referred to a Miami Herald article regarding the Village of Miami Shores' recent decision to do the same thing and a report from Finance Director William Alonso. He asked the Finance Director to produce a table showing the delinquency rates of the utility bills over the past five years and this past year is more than double the average of the preceding four years. An additional delinquent notice report was produced showing at least forty-seven properties with a balance due of more than \$700.00. A random check of fifteen of the properties revealed that eleven of them are current with their property taxes. Nine of the eleven are paid through a mortgage escrow. Four of the fifteen homes had not paid taxes yet.

City Manager Borgmann stated that the data indicates that people pay their taxes and most take advantage of the 4% discount.

Mayor Bain thanked Staff for doing what they could to acquire the information for him. He would personally have liked to have had the time to get more information. He still is of the opinion that a

utility bill should not hold the same weight as a tax bill. He spoke with many people and he received approximately five e-mails regarding the subject.

The Mayor said that the people would still be paying monthly through their mortgage escrow accounts to cover the tax bill. In reality, some people are on a budget and have no mortgage accounts. He felt that people should not be forced to pay the entire amount at the end of the year and residents should have the option to contract a private hauler to pick up their garbage and trash.

Mayor Bain added that he knows of vacant homes and the property owners are still charged \$55.00 a month for garbage and trash. He would like to know how many vacant properties that the City has made a profit from. Since he is the Mayor he has to look out for the residents and he knows in the end that the City will still be paid for the utility bills when homes are sold. He suggested waiting one year to see if the delinquencies remain the same in 2010.

Councilman Lob asked why there is such a big difference in receivables for 2008 and 2009.

City Manager Borgmann explained that when the City turned over the Water and Sewer Department to the County it lost the ability to turn off the water in order to collect the bill. The City cannot deny garbage or trash collection because it is a health issue.

Finance Director Alonso stated that there are a number of property owners who have not paid their bill in two years and the problem will get worse before it gets better.

Mayor Bain felt that there should be some provisions for homes that have been vacant for three or four years.

City Attorney Seiden explained that there is a minimum utility charge, which is the special benefit to the property.

Vice Mayor Espino said that it would be dangerous for Council to make exceptions for a small group of individuals. This is a measure that the City must take in order to protect the community as a whole and the majority of people who actively pay their bill every month.

City Manager Borgmann explained that the charge for vacant properties is for the availability of service to the property. Many elderly people who never put out trash pay the same amount as a household with several family members, because the cost of providing the service is still the same. The delinquencies will force Council to raise the rates for everyone in order to balance the sanitation fund.

Councilwoman Ator said that some cities charge by volume or per bag. She understands that this process could actually be more expensive. She suggested that the Administration could call other cities to find out how the process works.

Mayor Bain understood that Finance Director Alonso is doing his job based on his accounting

knowledge, while he is looking at the situation based on the financial concerns of the residents who are struggling. He feels that the number of foreclosures in the City also has a lot to do with the number of delinquencies.

Mayor Bain reiterated his opposition, explaining that he was fighting for what the people want. He knows that the Finance Director is fighting for what he feels is right for the City and the City Manager is following his recommendation.

Vice Mayor Espino said that Council is advocating for the rest of the community that is paying and that is the dividing line. He agrees that at some point, the failure of some individuals to pay will be borne by the individuals that are paying their bills.

Mayor Bain again stated that he would like to know how many vacant property owners are paying for garbage and trash service.

Councilwoman Ator said that there had been multiple situations in the past that caused the City to lose money, including the Country Club operation and it has taken a concerted effort to move away from subsidizing the enterprise funds. Positive steps have been taken and that is why the City is in a favorable financial condition. She felt that placing the utility bill on the tax bill would be another positive step.

City Manager Borgmann added that the credit rating agencies do not like to see the sanitation fund in a deficit mode every year. The situation was corrected by increasing the rates and the fund became solvent.

Finance Director Alonso explained that in order to compromise with the Mayor's position and mitigate the situation, Council could take appropriate action to say that no property owner would lose their house due to not paying the sanitation bill. He spoke with the City Attorney about this idea.

Councilman Best stated that when he saw the agenda item he began thinking about the issue and he appreciates the Mayor's concern. He wonders if the concern is significant enough based on the numbers. He felt that most residents would pay the bills from their mortgage escrow accounts and not have to worry about it on a monthly basis.

Council made no changes to the resolution and no action was taken.

Agenda Item 10B was discussed at this time.

10. New Business:

10A) Update to Proposed Fund Balance Designations

Finance Director Alonso stated that the fund balance designations are brought forward annually after

the auditors are finished with the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (C.A.F.R.). Council has to opportunity to make any changes or additions. He explained that there is an additional \$91,936 that can be allocated, as well as previous allocations that Council might want to move, like the \$100,000 for the Linear Park.

Councilman Best asked Council to consider if they wanted to move the \$100,000 that was allocated for the Linear Park toward the Downtown area improvements.

Mayor Bain recommended no changes. Vice Mayor Espino and Councilwoman Ator agreed.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that \$200,000 was set aside for commercial area improvements. He thought it would be fine to allocate all or part of the \$91,000 toward that purpose.

Finance Director Alonso confirmed that if the \$91,000 is not designated it would go into the unrestricted, undesignated fund balance.

Councilman Lob felt that a portion of the funding that is set aside for improvements could go toward the expense of hiring a company or consultant. He said that the \$91,000 could be left in the undesignated fund balance and allocated later if needed.

City Manager Borgmann stated that this is an annual discussion that takes place after the C.A.F.R. is presented. He said that it is good to point out to the residents that there is \$8.3MM available in the fund balance, although 25% is set aside for protecting the General Fund budget.

Finance Director Alonso clarified that 25% is \$3.539MM and of the \$8.3MM there is \$2.4MM that was appropriated in this year's budget.

Vice Mayor Espino said that he would agree to add \$91,000 toward the \$200,000 already allocated for commercial area improvements.

Councilman Lob moved to designate \$91,000 for downtown revitalization. Councilman Best seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Ator asked for clarification of the motion.

Finance Director Alonso explained that the funds are designated for downtown revitalization and before the funds are spent, the request will come back to Council for approval.

The motion was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Agenda Item 10B was discussed before 10A.

10B) Approval of Payment to Curtis Publishing Company in the Amount of \$5,000 for Publication of the 2010-2011 Miami Springs Area Directory

City Manager Borgmann stated that Council had approved funds for the Miami Springs Area Directory for several years. Curtis Publishing is requesting \$5,000 and he recommends approval.

Councilwoman Ator stated that since this is a reoccurring expense every two years that funds should be included in the budget.

Mayor Bain added that a photograph of the new Community Center will be on the front cover of the directory.

Vice Mayor Espino moved the item. Councilwoman Ator seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

10C) Site Plan Review – Case # 01-ZP-10 – 4299 Miami Springs LLC – 4299 N. W. 36th Street – Zoning: AHMBD; Airport, Highway, Marine Business District – Lot size: Approx. 272 ft. x 474 ft. – Phase II for an ongoing renovation of an existing bank building to a hotel.

City Planner Richard Ventura stated that the applicant is 4299 Miami Springs LLC and the location of the building site is 4299 N. W. 36th Street. The applicants are requesting approval of the proposed site plan for phase II for an ongoing renovation of an existing bank building to a hotel. The proposed site plan was approved by the Zoning and Planning Board on January 4, 2010 by a unanimous vote, with Chairman Manuel Perez-Vichot abstaining.

City Planner Ventura explained that the location at 4299 N. W. 36th Street is the Wachovia Bank building that is being converted to a Eurobuilding Hotel and Suites. The conversion involves extensive interior remodeling, a redesign of the second through sixth floors to accommodate 127 guest rooms, conference rooms, and gym facilities. Also included, are the addition of a reception and lobby area, offices and bathroom facilities on the ground floor and the addition of a porte-cochere and re-striping of the existing parking area. The ground floor addition is proposed to be built out to the east property line along Coolidge Avenue and the Wachovia Bank will remain on the ground floor as it currently exists.

City Planner Ventura stated that 249 parking spaces would be required and the proposal calls for 305 parking spaces. The reviews for civil engineering by the consulting engineers Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan are included in the case packet indicating that recommended changes had been made. He explained that Council reviewed and approved Phase I for this proposal at the August 24, 2009 Council meeting and Staff recommends approval of this proposed site plan for the ongoing renovation project.

Councilman Best moved the item. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried

5-0 on roll call vote.

10D) Discussion of a Request from Mr. Robert B. Barrow to Open a Restaurant and Arcade at 195 Westward Drive in the Central Business District

City Manager Borgmann stated that Mr. Robert B. Barrow is requesting to open a restaurant and arcade at 195 Westward in the Central Business District.

City Planner Richard Ventura explained that this is a proposal to bring a new business to an empty business space on Westward Drive. Mr. Barrow has been in the food and arcade business for the past twenty-seven years and has taught and coached at Miami Springs Elementary for the past five years. The hours of operation for the proposed restaurant and video arcade would be Monday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The latest proposal is the restaurant on one side with an adjacent arcade with some point of access through a doorway.

City Planner Ventura stated that the district boundary regulations for the Central Business District specifically allows a restaurant, lounge, café, cafeteria, bar and grill, but arcades, billiard and pool parlors are prohibited. Mr. Barrow is proposing a combination of the two uses.

City Planner Ventura has had discussions with Mr. Barrow who indicates that the arcade site of the proposal would be supervised, it will be a family oriented business and Staff recommends approval since this would be a new business coming into an empty business space.

City Attorney Seiden explained that when adding another use, it can be done if they are similarly situated type uses. In those cases, the use is generally not a prohibited use, and in this case it is a prohibited use. He advised Council that if they were inclined to approve the request, the ordinance would have to be amended. If arcades are to be kept a prohibited use, Council must determine how they would approve a restaurant/arcade as a permitted use. It could be qualified by the number of use, the percentage of sales or revenue, times for usage, the types of machines, or some other method of demarcation between a “restaurant/arcade” and an “arcade”.

Vice Mayor Espino asked if a “restaurant/arcade” would be a sufficient distinction, whereas an arcade alone would be prohibited.

City Attorney Seiden felt that the biggest problem would be establishing a definition for the permitted use.

Councilwoman Ator suggested leaving an arcade as a prohibited use and creating an allowed use with a specific definition.

Robert Barrow of 2115 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach, explained that he owns a franchise

company and he would be responsible for supervision of the restaurant/arcade. He opened forty-seven restaurants in five states from 1984 to 1990. He teaches school at Miami Springs Elementary and supervises more than 250 kids before school begins in the morning.

Mr. Barrow proposed having ten to fifteen machines in the 500 square foot arcade room. The machines would be similar to those machines in the movie theatres and malls and the profit is split 50/50 between the house and the machine provider. He said that he has no personal debts and that all the equipment for the restaurant and arcade would be paid for.

Mr. Barrow felt that the proposed business would benefit the kids and the community. He explained his plans for supervision of the restaurant and arcade.

To answer Councilwoman Ator's question, Mr. Barrow stated that he is proposing a 1,200 square foot restaurant and 500 square foot arcade. He has no plan to acquire a liquor license. He explained that he has the first option on the rental space and has been dealing with local realtor Bob Schwinger.

Vice Mayor Espino thanked Mr. Barrow for his interest in the City and for wanting to establish a new family-oriented business.

Mayor Bain explained that Council must determine how the Code can be revised to allow a "restaurant/arcade" in the Central Business District.

Mayor Bain added that Laundromats were not a prohibited use, but they are limited to a certain number within the Zoning District. He is of the opinion that an arcade should be removed as a prohibited use and restricted by a certain number.

Councilman Best felt that there should be a combination of restrictions, keeping liquor as an exception to the use.

Councilwoman Ator was of the opinion that limiting the size of the establishment might be a good way to regulate the use.

City Attorney Seiden explained that because all spaces are different it would be hard to regulate the size. He suggested that there could be a percentage or a certain number of square feet for a certain number of machines.

Councilwoman Ator said that a "restaurant/arcade" could be regulated by a percentage of square feet.

City Attorney Seiden asked if Council would be inclined to approve a restriction of two-thirds for the restaurant and one-third for the arcade.

Vice Mayor Espino stated that he would like to allow growth of both components of the business at the same size.

City Attorney Seiden felt that a percentage of the use for the location would allow the business to grow.

Mayor Bain suggested that the allowed use could be a “restaurant/game room”, without involving an arcade, which would remain a prohibited use.

City Attorney Seiden said that part of the process would involve a diagram of the establishment that would become part of the file and the application. He clarified that the Code would have to be amended in any case, whether it is a restaurant/game room or restaurant/arcade.

Councilwoman Ator stated that going forward there could be an issue for an adult oriented version of this type of business and she would like to be able to prohibit the sale of liquor.

Mr. Barrow explained that from experience, he has learned to stay away from pool tables and poker machines, which is what separates a family oriented and adult business environment.

City Attorney Seiden clarified that he would come back with a draft ordinance allowing a family restaurant/game room based on a 60/40 percentage of use, no alcoholic sales, no gambling machines and a restriction on the number of pool tables.

To answer Councilman Best’s question, Mr. Barrow anticipated that he could be ready to open the business at the end of February. He said that the space is already established as a restaurant and the arcade could be added in time.

By consensus, Council directed the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to change the Code for a restaurant and game room as an allowed use in the Central Business District, with certain conditions.

11. Other Business:

11A) Fiscal Year 2009-2010 First Quarter Budget Status Report (Unaudited)

Finance Director William Alonso stated that there is no information from the first quarter report to make an accurate projection of what the fund balance will look like at the end of the Fiscal Year.

Finance Director Alonso explained that the revenue collection rate for this year is at 44% compared to 48% last year. The reason for the 4% variance is because the percentage of tax collections as of December 31st was 68% compared to 71% for the previous year. Expenditures are running at the same rate.

The Golf Course Fund had a loss of almost \$115,000 for the first quarter, compared to \$67,000 for

the same period last year. The main reason is that revenues were \$60,000 lower and 1,400 less rounds were played, which is a sign of the economic times. He provided a detailed report on all the funds.

Councilwoman Ator commented that the Golf Course losses for the first quarter were staggering.

11B) Notification of Emergency Pool Repair in the Amount of \$17,630, to be Paid out of the General Fund

City Manager Borgmann clarified that the actual cost of the expenditure to McGrath was \$12,080 for the repair of the lighting in the amount of \$4,480.00 and the replacement of the caulking in the expansion joints for \$7,200.

The City Manager explained that McGrath was selected to do the work due to the 30-day time frame to complete the job. Had the work been put out to bid, the process could have taken six weeks to two months. The good news is that there is no structural damage.

To answer Councilman Lob's question, City Manager Borgmann responded that the City of Hialeah extended the use of their pool facility to the City.

City Attorney Seiden stated that this is notification to Council that an emergency procurement was made, utilizing Section 31.11 (E) (6) (e) of the City Code.

12. Reports & Recommendations:

12A) City Attorney

Sexual Predator Ordinance

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden stated that the County adopted a sexual predator ordinance, repealing all municipal ordinances, which had questionable provisions of enforcement because they exceeded the State Statute and effectively legislated, out of existence, a place for any predator to live in the County. In effect, the County ordinance is the only one that can be enforced and the cities are exempted from liability. The City will be enforcing the County provision.

Attorney Seiden said that the County ordinance is more liberal. He asked the City Clerk to provide a copy of the final draft.

12B) City Manager

Federal Stimulus Grant

City Manager Borgmann reported that the City has the opportunity to apply for a Federal Grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Acts for the replacement of the old lighting at the parks. The grant application will involve a lot of work and reporting features; the deadline for applying is February 12, 2010. The City is planning to work with the Village of Virginia Gardens who has a similar need for lighting. The grant application will require submittal of a cost estimate and fortunately the Recreation Master Plan includes changing out the lights at Stafford Park and Prince Field.

Emergency Notification

City Manager Borgmann announced that there will be another emergency purchase notification for a change order for the Senior Center roof that is estimated to cost \$3,700.00.

Legislative Report

City Manager Borgmann referred to a legislative report from The Wren Group that was e-mailed to Council. He offered to provide a copy if necessary.

DERM Violations

City Manager Borgmann reported that notification was received from the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) that the City of Miami Springs does not have any violations.

Basin 35 Drainage Project

City Manager Borgmann stated that Post Buckley Schuh & Jernigan was not able to provide sufficient documentation to present to Council for this meeting as promised. He will meet with them on Wednesday, January 27th and a presentation on the Basin 35 Drainage Project will be scheduled for the February 8th Council Meeting.

Florida League of Cities Legislative Report

City Manager Borgmann reported that the Florida League of Cities provides a legislative report based on what they feel is in the best interest of the cities. He urged Council to keep an eye open for any proposed laws that might be onerous or more restrictive for the City.

Haitian Relief and Recovery Effort

City Manager Borgmann received a request from the Miami-Dade County League of Cities requesting donations for the Haitian relief and recovery effort. Checks can be made payable to Miami-Dade County League of Cities with a notation that it is for the Haitian recovery effort.

Community Center

City Manager Borgmann announced a slight delay in the Community Center construction due to the relocation of a power pole that was too close to the overhang. The new pole will be installed on Thursday, January 28th with new wiring. The building cannot be hooked up to full power until this work is complete and since power for the air conditioning is needed for conditioning the wood for the gym floors, it could be the middle of February before the floor can be installed. The grand opening will be pushed up to March.

Lions Club Night Golf

City Manager Borgmann reported that he and Assistant City Manager Gorland had a great time at the Lions Club night golf fundraising event for the Cancer Relay for Life.

Mayor Bain recognized the City Manager for winning the 50/50 raffle and donating \$190.00 to the American Cancer Society.

12C) City Council

Park Lighting Replacement

Councilwoman Ator mentioned that the Recreation Commission had discussed the green component in regard to the installation of new park lighting.

Tree Pruning

Councilwoman Ator asked if the County had been contacted about the tree pruning on Royal Poinciana Boulevard.

The City Manager confirmed that Public Works Director Williams contacted the County after the last meeting and they said that the tree trimming is their responsibility.

Councilwoman Ator asked the City Manager to follow-up with the County or to see if the City tree trimming crew could do the work if necessary.

Tot-lot Shade Systems

Councilwoman Ator stated that the Tot-lot shade systems look great.

Movie Night

Councilwoman Ator reported that approximately three-hundred people attended the All Angels Movie Night at the Circle.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Councilwoman Ator asked the City Manager to coordinate with the University of Florida on rescheduling the rain barrel workshop.

Street Lighting

Councilman Lob asked the Administration to pursue the possibility of applying for a Federal grant for street lighting, in addition to the recreation fields lighting.

Community Center

Vice Mayor Espino reported that he attended a walk-through of the Community Center, which is amazing and the progress is unbelievable.

Chamber of Commerce

Vice Mayor Espino announced that the next Chamber of Commerce meeting is scheduled for 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 4th at Burritoville.

Curtiss Mansion

Vice Mayor Espino stated that the restoration of the Curtiss Mansion is progressing well with the installation of the exterior stucco. Curtiss Mansion, Inc. (CMI) is working diligently to acquire the remainder of the funding and they received an extension of the construction contract until April for the original price for the alternative addition, which covers the interior and furnishings.

Tax Dollars at Work Signs

Vice Mayor Espino asked the City Manager the status of the installation of the “Tax Dollars at Work” signs for the Curtiss Parkway Lighting Project. The City Manager reported that the signs are in progress.

Cancer Relay for Life

Vice Mayor Espino reminded everyone of the American Cancer Relay for Life event on Saturday, February 27th.

Commercial Area Improvements

Vice Mayor Espino thanked Council for their work on commercial area improvements for Downtown. He felt that substantial progress is being made and more people are getting involved.

Hunting Lodge Drive Signs

Councilwoman Ator noticed the sign on Hunting Lodge Drive, which is very unappealing. She does not want to see any more signs like that.

Federal Grant

Councilman Best thanked the City Manager for his attention to the Federal grant that is available for the field lighting.

Lions Club Night Golf

Councilman Best said that the Lions Club Night Golf event and spaghetti dinner benefiting the American Cancer Relay for Life was very well attended. He acknowledged the City Manager who won the 50/50 raffle and donated the funds to the Cancer Society.

“Taste of the Springs”

Councilman Best reminded everyone to attend the “Taste of the Springs” event on Sunday, January 31st from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club.

Compliment

Councilman Best complimented the Mayor for running a good meeting.

Optimist Club Poker Tournament

Mayor Bain announced that the Optimist Club Poker Tournament will take place at the Club on Saturday, January 30th at 3:00 p.m.

13. Adjourn.

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

Billy Bain
Mayor

ATTEST:

Magalí Valls, CMC
City Clerk

Approved as amended during meeting of: 2/8/2010 (Page 15, last two paragraphs)

Transcribed by S. Hitaffer.

Words ~~stricken through~~ have been deleted. Underscored words represent changes. All other words remain unchanged.