



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, April 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Billy Bain
- Councilman Bob Best
- Councilman Paul C. Dotson
- Councilman Rob Youngs

Absent: Vice Mayor Zavier Garcia

Also Present:

- City Manager James R. Borgmann
- Assistant City Manager Ronald K. Gorland
- City Attorney Jan K. Seiden
- Chief of Police H. Randall Dilling
- Finance Director Leacroft E. Robinson
- Accounting Manager Alicia E. González
- Public Works Director Robert T. Williams
- Golf Director Michael W. Aldridge
- City Planner Richard E. Ventura
- City Clerk Magalí Valls

2. Invocation: Councilman Youngs offered the invocation.

Salute to the Flag: The audience participated.

3. Awards & Presentations: (Item 3E presented first, followed by 3D and 3C)

3A) Presentation of the Golf Course Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2006/2007 by Néstor Caballero, of Alberni Caballero & Castellanos, L.L.P., the City's Auditors

Néstor Caballero, of Alberni Caballero & Castellanos, L. L. P., the City's auditors, presented the special purpose financial statements of the Golf and Country Club Fund. He recommended preparing comparative financial statements for the Golf Course in order to compare one year to the next.

Mr. Caballero stated that the Statement of Net Assets is a full accrual basis and these numbers were not shown in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report because the Golf Course became a special revenue fund and the assets were consolidated with the City's overall assets. The financial statements break out the assets and liabilities of the Golf Course itself.

The unrestricted loss for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 totaled \$15,000, according to Mr. Caballero. He explained that the Statement of Activities shows the revenues and expenses on a full accrual basis, the same as a for-profit business, including depreciation that is not shown in the governmental financial statements. Mr. Caballero noted that there is a loss of \$219,158 for the change in net assets and a large portion of this amount is the depreciation expense totaling \$308,837. He said that removing the depreciation expenses and the transfers totaling \$127,000 equals \$15,000, which ties to the fund financial statements.

Mr. Caballero stated that the fund financial statements on page four and five of the report are shown in the C.A.F.R. as a special revenue fund. There is reconciliation between page four and page two, which are mainly the assets and liabilities. The fund financial statements are on a modified accrual accounting basis, as required under governmental accounting and it reconciles to the full accrual financial statements.

Mr. Caballero referred to the Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities as shown on page six explaining that expenditures for capital outlays and debt payments, including principal and interest are shown under the modified accrual. The issuance of debt is shown as revenue.

Mr. Caballero commented that the statements on page sixteen, seventeen and eighteen are tied together in the format previously presented by former Finance Director William Alonso. The financial statements tie in with the C.A.F.R. and the full accrual basis. The assets of the Golf Course are now shown separately and they can be tracked on a yearly basis when presenting the comparative financial statements next year.

To answer Councilman Dotson's question regarding capital assets, Mr. Caballero stated that the land is valued at \$1,300,000 and the building plus improvements is \$2,965,944. He said that the land would be worth more than the building based on the current appraised value, but the figures are based on the actual value when it was purchased in 1996. Mr. Caballero confirmed that accumulated depreciation since the Golf Course was acquired totals -\$2,013,373.

Councilman Dotson asked what administrative expenses are included in the total \$68,840. He said that some expenses are debatable as to whether or not they should be included under the auspices of the Golf Course Manager.

Mr. Caballero referred to the Schedule of Administrative Expenditures on page sixteen, including capital outlay. He explained that risk management insurance is the largest expense.

To answer Councilman Dotson's question, Mr. Caballero said that the small amount for Workers Compensation was most likely a reconciled difference from one year to the next that should not appear next year.

Some accruals occurred at the end of the year and the statements will not match what was presented as of September 30, 2007, according to Mr. Caballero. He said that some costs are still being transitioned from last year.

City Manager Borgmann stated that the City is responsible for insuring the building, even though Mr. Santana has a lease arrangement.

Councilman Dotson was concerned that the Golf Course Manager has no control over the administrative expenses because he only has control over the small Pro Shop area. He asked what responsibility center the expenses should fall under.

Mr. Caballero responded that the distribution of expenses would be management's decision and that now is the time to let the auditors know if there is more information needed so they can be prepared next year.

Councilman Dotson reiterated that some expenses do not fall under the auspices of the Golf Course Manager in his judgment.

Mayor Bain suggested that the cost of insurance for all City buildings could be shown in a separate non-departmental account. He recalled that the City was responsible for the expense before Mr. Santana occupied the building.

City Manager Borgmann commented that the City immediately insured the building the day it was purchased from the City of Miami.

To answer Councilman Dotson's question, Mr. Borgmann responded that all the electrical meters were changed in an effort to segregate the Golf Course and Mr. Santana's operation. The Golf Manager has control over the lights in the Pro Shop and his office.

Councilman Dotson stated that he would like assurance that the utility expenses are under someone's responsibility and control.

Mr. Caballero recommended that the expenses should remain in the fund financial statement because the goal is for the Golf and Country Club to become a self-sustaining fund where the fees cover the expenses. The insurance expenses are included as a part of doing business.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, Mr. Caballero responded that page five reflects a \$15,000 loss for the year, which includes a \$127,000 transfer from the General Fund. There is a total shortfall of \$142,000 that must be made up to have a break even operation. Issuance of debt totaling \$91,000 is for capital leases; the debt is recorded as revenue and the actual equipment is recorded as an expense, which is a "wash".

Mr. Caballero stated that Fiscal Year 2007-2008 will be a good basis for comparison because it is the first complete year under the new management plan as a City department.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, City Manager Borgmann stated that there was a distorted picture of revenue when the greens were closed and this was one problem with comparing the figures with last year. He explained that the current operation is the benchmark for the future in order to be able to make comparisons on a regular basis.

Councilman Youngs explained that he wanted to compare the budget for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2007.

Mr. Caballero responded that the Budgetary Comparison Schedule is shown on page thirteen of the report. He explained that the deficiency of revenues over expenditures does not take into account other financing sources. An operating deficit of \$89,000 was budgeted not taking into account transfers in or transfers out. The ending fund balance is a surplus of \$17,143 and the actual result was a negative \$15,000. The audit disclosed \$36,000 more than the budgeted amount was spent and revenues were budgeted at \$1.4 million, while actual revenues were \$1.3 million or a shortfall of \$87,000 for the year.

In closing, Mr. Caballero said that Council should let Finance Director Robinson know if there is anything additional they would like added to the financial statements that could be incorporated into next year's audit. He added that a comparative financial statement for the Golf Course would be presented at the same time the C.A.F.R. is presented next year.

3B) Presentation of the First Quarter Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2007/2008

Finance Director Robinson presented the first quarter financial report for Fiscal Year 2007/2008 in the same format as last year. He felt that it was important for Council to be familiar with the report and since time was of the essence he did not make any changes to the format. He hopes to make the process more efficient in order to eliminate room for error and present an analysis as opposed to just numbers.

Finance Director Robinson projected a \$4 million reserve fund balance representing an increase of \$364,000, which is conservative. Last year's first quarter projection was approximately \$200,000 and the increase turned out to be \$1.3 million. He explained that based on current spending patterns he is projecting the General Fund expenditures to be approximately \$644,093 less than the amended budget.

Finance Director Robinson said that he is working on the numbers for the second quarter that would be more relevant; they are several months behind and he hopes to have the report ready by the second meeting in May.

Revenues collected represent 48% of the total budgeted revenues in the General Fund, according to Mr. Robinson. The total budgeted revenue is \$12,750,269 and \$6,179,136 was collected as of the first quarter compared to 50% for the same time period last year. There is a slight drop in ad valorem tax revenue.

Finance Director Robinson stated that total general government expenditures are \$587,371 as of December 31, 2007 compared to the amended budget for the full year of \$3.2 million, or 18% compared with 28% for the same time last year. Public Safety expenditures total \$1.2 million versus the annual budget of \$5.9 million or 20%. Public Works expenditures total \$375,790 for the first quarter compared to \$2.1 million for the entire year or 18%. First quarter expenditures for Parks and Recreation totals \$417,000 versus an annual budget of \$1,667,207 or 25%.

Finance Director Robinson said that the bottom line reflects that total expenditures are \$2.58 million versus the annual budget of \$12,750,269 or 20% versus 25% for the same time period last year. Overall, most departments are below 25% of budgeted expenditures for the first quarter and the General Fund is at 21% of the full budget.

Finance Director Robinson stated that total operating revenues for the Water and Sewer fund total \$1,363,218 for the first quarter versus a full year budget of \$6,176,100, which is 22% compared to 23% for the same period last year. Total operating expenses are \$1,190,450 versus a full year budget of \$5,023,082, which is slightly below the 25% threshold.

City Manager Borgmann said that revenues were expected to drop due to increase awareness of water conservation and the water restrictions, as well as the current economy because people are looking for ways to save.

Finance Director Robinson explained that total Water and Sewer income before transfers is \$192,000 or 23% of budget as compared to \$500,000 last year or 29%.

The Sanitation Fund is important because the most recent audit mentioned the fact that the fund had experienced deficits for several years, according to Mr. Robinson. He said that the management's response was that the City had approved a significant rate increase in Fiscal Year 2007/2008 that would ensure the operation of the Sanitation Fund would be profitable in Fiscal Year 2008, which seems to be the case. The first quarter as of December 31, 2007, shows a profit of \$65,284 as compared to a \$20,000 loss for Fiscal Year 2006/2007.

Finance Director Robinson reported that the Stormwater Fund operating income is a little below the overall budget, although he does not have an explanation at this point.

Finance Director Robinson commented that the report also includes a copy of the investments as of December 31, 2007, as well as the Building, Zoning and Code Enforcement revenues that were booked.

Councilman Dotson requested detail showing the items that increased the original budget of \$12,366,667 to the amended budget of \$12,881,858.

Finance Director Robinson presented the key financial indicators for the Golf Course for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2007/2008. Total revenues were \$332,004 as compared to the first quarter last year of \$315,008, which is a 5.4% increase. The operating profit is \$42,485 versus \$24,674 for the first quarter last year or a 72.7% increase.

The bottom line profit and loss including non-golf is a loss of \$19,188 versus a loss of \$52,198 for the first quarter last year, which is 63.2% better overall, according to Mr. Robinson. Pro Shop costs total \$115,462 versus \$137,708 last year, a reduction of 16.2%. Maintenance costs total \$174,057, which is a slight increase over last year of 14%. Total rounds played total 9,968, which is a modest increase over last year's 9,712, or 2.6% increase. Greens revenues total \$263,851 versus \$255,764 for the previous fiscal year or a 3.2% increase. The average revenue per round is \$26.47 versus \$26.33 last year or .5% higher. Memberships sold increased by 36% for the first quarter totaling \$104,270 versus \$76,677 over last year. Driving range revenues total \$28,367 versus \$28,101 from the first quarter last year.

Finance Director Robinson stated that he would like to improve the presentation to make it easier to see the numbers. The operating profit is \$42,485 for this fiscal year versus \$24,674 or a 72.2% increase over last year. The bottom line is a loss of \$19,188 versus a loss of \$52,198 last year and a \$252,000 loss for Fiscal Year 2006. He explained the trends are very positive and it seems that everything is being done to fix the problem.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, Golf Director Mike Aldridge explained that \$104,270 for membership revenue is averaged over twelve months.

Finance Director Robinson clarified that \$21,441 is shown as membership revenue for the first quarter as shown on page A-2 of the report.

Finance Director Robinson noted that administrative expenses for the first quarter totaled \$13,116 versus \$19,862 last year.

Finance Director Robinson stated that page B-2 provides the details for the actual versus budget for the first quarter. Pro Shop revenues total \$332,004 versus \$356,038 or a negative variance of \$24,034. Personnel services total \$55,115 versus \$66,883 budgeted, which is under budget by \$11,768. Total Pro Shop operating expenditures are \$234,404 versus the budget of \$276,834, which is below budget by \$42,430. The total bottom line operating profit for the Pro Shop is \$42,485 versus a budget of \$12,321, or a positive variance of \$30,164 overall.

Golf Director Aldridge explained that there were additional expenses last year related to the golf carts and \$12,000 was paid in the first quarter which would not occur this year.

3C) Presentation Regarding Media Center Construction at Springview Elementary

Victor Alonso, Construction Officer, Miami-Dade County Public Schools presented a brief overview of the status of the new media center construction at Springview Elementary. He introduced Springview Principal Mayte Dovale, Architect Isis Hunt and Project Manager George Rodriguez.

Mr. Alonso stated that the construction cost totals \$2 million for a new 4,000 square foot library/media center. The bid is scheduled to be awarded July 2008, with a six-month construction schedule.

Architect Isis Hunt explained that there are two existing portables sitting at the footprint of the building that will be removed. The media center will be connected to the existing building with an addition of thirteen spaces utilizing the existing driveway into the facility. The proposed media center is a one-story 3,850 square foot building. She presented elevation drawings showing the existing conditions and the proposed stand alone building.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, Ms. Hunt explained that the building would be constructed of tilt-up concrete. She added that the six-month construction schedule is realistic based upon the history of the construction of 34 buildings of this type during the last two years.

Councilman Best commented that the access to the media center is off Partridge Avenue. He asked if the construction trucks would enter off the same street.

Ms. Hunt responded that she was not sure about the location of the staging area.

Councilman Best felt it would be appropriate to inform the residents living on Partridge about the construction project and what to expect during the duration of the project.

To answer Councilman Dotson's question, Mr. Alonso stated that the media center would have one room for closed circuit television that is used by the students for morning announcements. The proposed facility would have state of the art technology with approximately 30 computer stations, interactive white boards, and an overhead projector.

Councilman Youngs asked for clarification of the project funding.

Mr. Alonso responded that the project is fully funded and even though there were many budget issues the project bid is expected to be awarded in July. The design work and plan review is finished and the contractor is lined up and ready to go.

City Attorney Seiden stated that the theory of government is interchangeability, cooperation and notice to all parties and this is outlined in an Interlocal Agreement between the City and the School Board and that it would be appropriate for Council to make a motion to approve the project in concept.

Education Advisory Board Chair Mindy McNichols of 1471 Hammond Drive stated that the media center is sorely needed. Parents and students have been begging for a media center since her older son was in kindergarten at Springview Elementary and he now attends the Middle School. Miami Springs Elementary has a state of the art media center and the media center for Springview has been one of the Education Advisory Board's priorities since 2001.

Ms. McNichols emphasized that it had been a long struggle to place the media center in the School Board's Five Year Capital Plan. The current facility is not adequate and the new facility would help to provide additional space in order for the school to comply with the class size amendment.

Councilman Youngs moved to approve in concept the proposed media center for Springview Elementary. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

3D) Presentation from the Easter Seal Society

Angela Aracena, Director Adult Day Services, Easter Seals South Florida, Inc. of 1475 N. W. 14th Avenue, Miami, stated that many individuals think that Easter Seals only provides services for children, yet they also provide services to the elderly who are in need of supervision.

Ms. Aracena explained that adult day care services are provided for those individuals who choose not to place their loved one in a nursing home. Services are available in Downtown Miami on 14th Avenue and 14th Street and in Hialeah on Hialeah Drive and 5th Avenue, Palm Avenue and 9th Street and two additional facilities in West Hialeah.

Ms. Aracena stated that 15% of the population in Miami Springs is over the age of 65 and 10% of those people have Alzheimer's disease. She added that 50% of people over the age of 85 have Alzheimer's disease and need supervision, while 32% of the care givers are employed full-time and they must choose between quitting their job or placing their loved one in a nursing home.

Ms. Aracena explained that adult day care services provide a location where people can bring their loved one early in the morning and pick them up in the afternoon or there is a transportation service. The center is open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday beginning July 1st.

Ms. Aracena clarified that adult day care services provide care, supervision and socialization for those people who cannot go to the Senior Center or drive a car. Nursing assistance is available for hands on care, as well as social workers that connect seniors with needed services. Therapists are also available for those that need help.

Ms. Aracena stated that many people are not aware of the services that are available for the elderly and disabled and this is the reason for this presentation. She said that it would be helpful if people tell their neighbors about the program. For additional information call 305.547.4721 or 305.887.7320.

3E) Proclamation – Hialeah-Miami Springs Rotary Club Day

Mayor Bain proclaimed April 28, 2008 as Hialeah-Miami Springs Rotary Club Day.

Hialeah-Miami Springs Rotary Club President Edgar Campos stated that the program for the senior citizens is fantastic. They meet on the third Monday of the month and volunteers are welcome.

Mayor Bain acknowledged incoming President Margie Palmer. He announced that all clubs in the City need the involvement of the younger generation. He said that it is nice to help somebody and watch their life change and this is the main objective of the Rotary Club and other civic organizations.

4. Open Forum:

Rain Barrels

Dr. Mel Johnson of 109 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard stated that he is glad that Council voted to look into the grant for the rain barrel water conservation project and that Mayor Bain recognized the benefits to the City, although he did not vote in favor of the project, and offered to sell 100 plastic rain barrels to interested individuals. He said that as long as the barrels are food grade, water tight and in good shape he has a sponsor for them.

Gymnasium

Dr. Johnson stated that the City Manager thought that a steel gymnasium could be built for \$1.6 million and now the estimates are \$6 million. He would like to know what is the actual cost, what the City will get for \$6 million and where are the architectural specifications essential to the usual and customary bidding process.

Park Restrooms

Dr. Johnson said that he measured the park restrooms and his calculations are 31' x 18' or 558 square feet, which would translate to a cost of more than \$250.00 per square foot. He can build a new house for \$125.00 per square foot and would like clarification as to why the City cannot build a structure for the same price.

Dr. Johnson asked why the restrooms were built without electric, water and sewer connections included. It was originally thought that the work could be done in-house, which is not the case and now there is an additional \$70,000 expense.

Country Club Utilities

Dr. Johnson asked if the City is paying for any of Mr. Santana's utilities at the Country Club, and if so, he would like to know how much the City is paying and if the provision is included in the contract and also the name of the electrician that did the electrical work and justification that the service was separated.

Park Restrooms

Dr. Johnson asked if it was known that the ground conditions were too low to support the restroom construction prior to building and why this was not originally disclosed. He said that a friend of his is a local contractor who could bring both bathrooms up to flood plain for less than \$5,000, while the City paid \$38,500.

Mayor Bain stated that he would try to have a report answering all the questions before the next meeting.

Springs River Festival

Helen Lawrence of 641 Nightingale Avenue stated that she could hear loud music coming from the Springs River Festival at the Circle on Saturday night when she was trying to sleep. She suggested that the music should stop at 11:00 p.m. Ms. Lawrence complained that there were cigarette butts in front of the Miami Springs Pharmacy on Sunday morning and that there should be containers with sand and a sign that reads "Park your Butts" or a \$50.00 fine for littering.

Library Renovations

Helen Lawrence asked for help to expedite the Library renovation because it was supposed to be finished in eighteen months and now it seems it will be another year before it is finished.

Park Restrooms

Robert Schultz of 100 Sunset Way referred to the previous speaker's comments and stated that his family is involved in the construction business and there is a substantial price difference between commercial and residential construction due to commercial grade equipment, code and ADA compliance.

Community Center Bids

Robert Schultz stated that the four bids received for the Community Center were close in price. He said that \$1.6 million was mentioned this evening and during the last election the figures he heard ranged from \$20 million to \$26 million, which were inflated. He is sure that Council will carefully consider the proposals to make sure every contractor is legitimate and everything is appropriate for this generation and future generations. The Community Center is a big issue that should be carefully reviewed.

Skateboard Park

Robert Schultz commended the skateboarders for their show of support for the skateboard park. He urged them to continue to be involved in City government.

Library Renovation

Martin Crossland of 900 Plover Avenue spoke with a library official who told him that the renovation work had not yet commenced after at least one year in the temporary location. He called the Miami-Dade County Library and was told that the work was put out to bid, the last contract fell through and the work should commence by July 1st with a completion date of May 2009. Mr. Crossland asked if there is anything the City could do to help.

5. Approval of Council Minutes:

5A) 03/31/2008 – Special Meeting

Councilman Best moved to **approve** the minutes as written. Councilman Youngs seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

6A) 02/07/2008 – General Employees' Retirement System – Minutes

Minutes of the February 7, 2008 General Employees' Retirement System were received for information without comment.

6B) 02/07/2008 – Police Officers and Firefighters' Retirement System – Minutes

Minutes of the February 7, 2008 Police Officers and Firefighters' Retirement System were received for information without comment.

6C) 04/10/2008 – Board of Parks and Parkways – Minutes

Minutes of the April 10, 2008 Board of Parks and Parkways were received for information without comment.

6D) 04/16/2008 – Golf and Country Club Advisory Board – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the April 16, 2008 Golf and Country Club Advisory Board was received for information without comment.

6E) 04/17/2008 – Historic Preservation Board – Minutes

Minutes of the April 17, 2008 Historic Preservation Board were received for information.

The item referred by the Board for Council consideration will be scheduled as an agenda item for the next regular meeting schedule on May 12, 2008.

7. Public Hearings:

None.

8. Consent Agenda:

None.

9. Old Business:

9A) Consideration of a Merit Increase for the City Clerk

Council **tabled** this item since Vice Mayor Garcia was not present.

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

None.

9C) Inventory of Areas in the City that are Available for Park Space

City Manager Borgmann stated that Item 9C would tie in with Item 9D.

9D) Discussion Regarding Creation of a Skateboard Park and Recreation Department Research to Include this in Next Year's Budget

Luke Llaneras of 711 Oriole Avenue was concerned that there are fields for football, baseball and soccer, but not a skate park. He researched the internet to find the best equipment for a skate park that could be in the City's budget. He was stopped by the Police Department for skating on the sidewalk and at the Recreation Center.

Mayor Bain commended Luke for providing information about skate park equipment from Play Systems.

Carlos Navarro of 140 Morningside Drive stated that there are "No Skateboarding" signs at the Recreation Center and the Police were giving warnings to skate boarders during the Springs River Festival.

Ian Lonsbury of 1169 Heron Avenue stated that a petition was circulated at the Springs River Festival and five hundred signatures were gathered from people who would be directly affected by the skate park. He said that a skate park would increase commercial activity by attracting people to Miami Springs, it would be a safe environment and a great place for kids to build friendships. He presented recommendations for a daily fee, a list of rules and regulations, liability information and a sketch of the park layout.

Ian Lonsbury read a letter from Carlos Danaan of 365 Palmetto Drive expressing his support for a skate boarding/in-line skating park.

Christopher Keener of 170 Morningside Drive said that over the past several years he noticed an increased aggression toward skate boarders. He was stopped by the Police for skating in a commercial district even though it was on Navarre Drive behind City Hall by Miami Springs Elementary School. He said that skate boarders should not be labeled as “punks”. He is an advanced placement and honor student and he uses his skateboard for transportation to travel from his house to Milam’s Market or the 7/11 convenience store.

Mayor Bain suggested that the City could provide a list of rules and regulations for skateboarders so they understand where they are allowed to skate.

Ian Lonsbury presented fund raising ideas for selling sponsorships plaques and approaching local businesses for financial assistance.

Mayor Bain explained that Council would first consider the proposed site for the park and how it should be budgeted. He said that Luke Llaneras came up with an idea for a portable situation until a permanent location for the park is established.

Anthony (?) of Virginia Gardens, stated that he had been skateboarding for five years and is dying for a skate park to be built in Miami Springs. He and his friends called the River Cities Gazette to request an article about their desire for a skate park, but they were ignored. He said that it would be a place for kids to have fun while their parents patronize local businesses and it would be a positive thing for Miami Springs.

Councilman Best commented that the young people deserve a lot of credit for researching and presenting their ideas. He assured them that Council would be discussing the proposed skateboard park.

Assistant City Manager Gorland stated that the process of planning a skate park began after the budget was adopted last year. He spoke with group of kids ranging from seven to sixteen years old who skateboard on Pinecrest Drive.

Assistant City Manager Gorland added that there had been problems at the Recreation Center with skateboarders using the ramps and railings, which is a dangerous situation and there is no other place to skate. A Recreation Staff member was given an assignment to collect information on skate parks and some of the material is included in the agenda packet. Information was gathered from other cities, including the rules and code regulations. He said that the parks generally cost \$200,000 for 10,000 square feet without cement pads.

Mr. Gorland stated that one idea that was considered was placing equipment along the cement paths throughout the City, but the recommendation is for a single park. There are several sites to consider, including a small area on the east side of the pool deck in the grass where the children play. The area could be video monitored inside the Recreation Center and the hours of operation would be limited to coincide with the hours of operation for the pool and Recreation Center. This area would be okay for beginners, but accomplished riders would require a larger area with more challenges.

There is another area on Dove west of the clay pit that is controlled by Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department, according to Mr. Gorland. The area is away from the homes on the north and south side, although lighting might be an issue. He said that there are alternative locations throughout the City, including one on Albatross by the Saratoga Apartments.

Mayor Bain recommended scheduling an agenda item for the next meeting. He requested more information about the square footage and equipment that is required for the park so that it could be put out to bid. He would like to consider the kids' ideas for raising funds to help support the park.

Assistant City Manager Gorland said that the size of the park is a key point and he would be open to discussing the kids' ideas.

Councilman Dotson suggested that it might be better to have a space that allows expansion or improvements. He would like to have a preliminary design.

City Manager Borgmann stated that 10,000 square feet is approximately ¼ acre and additional space is required surrounding the park.

To answer the Mayor's question, City Manager Borgmann responded that the area on North Royal Poinciana is approximately 25,000 square feet.

Councilman Dotson asked if lighting would be considered.

City Manager Borgmann stated that lighting is another issue. He explained there is new lighting that is environmentally friendly and would not spill over into the surrounding neighborhood.

Mayor Bain said that the kids promoting the skate park are motivated and educated and he would like to consider their plan.

Councilman Youngs stated that he supports the idea, but like any other project the cost must be considered. He said that it is encouraging that the Florida League of Cities has insurance programs, other cities have paved the way for the design of skateboard parks and he would like to determine the feasibility.

Councilman Youngs explained that the City is in a budget challenged situation and if there are enough people to support the skate park project they can make it happen with minimal cost to the City just like the Dog Park.

Councilman Best commented that there are grant opportunities for skate parks.

Council **directed** the Administration to present a report showing costs and a plan for a skateboard park to be located close to the Dog Park on North Royal Poinciana Boulevard.

Vince Beltran of 974 Meadowlark Avenue took his son to a skate park in Cocoa Beach, he spoke with their Assistant City Manager and there is a website with all the information about their skate park.

(Mayor Bain called for a five-minute recess)

Agenda Item 10C considered at this time.

9E) Discussion Regarding Water Conservation Grant Currently Filed

City Manager Borgmann stated that Councilman Dotson initiated a discussion at the last meeting regarding water conservation, specifically the use of rain barrels. It is agreed that the City should do more in the area of conserving the most precious resource.

City Manager Borgmann said that a grant application was submitted to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to install rain sensors on the current irrigation system at the Golf Course. It is a 50/50 matching grant for \$2,200 with \$1,100 from the City and \$1,100 from SFWMD that will potentially affect a savings of 2.45 million gallons of potential drinking water every year. He explained that groundwater is pumped from the aquifer below the City from the same source that the County taps to get raw water that is used everyday. The action is especially important because the City and other jurisdictions are mandated to reduce the water consumption by 45% for large intensive open spaces.

City Manager Borgmann stated that he asked Grant Writer Carol Foster to look into any additional grants that the City might qualify for that will assist with the rain barrel project.

Dr. Mel Johnson of 109 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard stated that water conservation is very important and the rain barrel project is great to help conserve water on a lower scale.

9F) Verbal Update Regarding Fair Havens Chiller Noise

City Manager Borgmann stated that he and Assistant City Manager Gorland met with Trane representatives David Fernandez and Alvaro Hernandez and Neil Kjos from Fair Havens. He felt that the meeting went well and Trane will try to help resolve the problem. Mr. Fernandez has personal ties with Fair Havens because his grandmother had been a resident and he appreciated the care that she was provided.

City Manager Borgmann stated that Mr. Fernandez mentioned that BRD Noise Consultants, Inc. is owned by a former Trane employee and they have worked on similar sound issues. He further noted that Trane holds approximately 65% of the market share for air conditioning units at public schools throughout Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, which are located in residential neighborhoods thereby requiring similar activities and sound deadening.

Mr. Dwight Landry will be in town on Thursday, May 1st to speak with the Administration and perform a site inspection at City Hall and Fair Havens, according to Mr. Borgmann. He said that the evaluation is being provided by Trane at no cost to the City, which points out the fact that the City and Fair Havens' installation was not the first that created a problem for Trane.

City Manager Borgmann stated that he would provide an update after his meeting with Mr. Landry.

Councilman Youngs asked the City Manager if he was encouraged that some technical or financial resolution would be found.

The City Manager responded that financially Trane is covering the cost of bringing Mr. Landry from North Carolina. He explained that there were inflated estimates to do both chillers for \$34,000 or \$17,000 each. He hopes to get an idea or proposal of what is required to muffle the chiller noise to the satisfaction of nearby residents.

9G) Update on Bids Submitted for the New Community Center

City Manager Borgmann stated that in conversations with providers of steel buildings one person he spoke with gave a very low quote and another person gave him a more legitimate price per square foot to construct a structure similar to the existing gymnasium of \$1.8 million, including floors, lighting, plumbing, etc. They both wanted exact plans, but none submitted pricing.

City Manager Borgmann explained that four bids were received, including one for a steel building, one for tilt-up concrete, and the other two bids indicated some type of concrete. The prices range from \$5.3 million to \$6.7 million. He stated that he did not include equipment, because it can be obtained at far lower prices than the contractor can provide them for. This includes bleachers, basketball hoops/backboards and the score boards, which could be an additional \$200,000.

At the Mayor's request, City Manager Borgmann read the following memorandum into the record:

“Attached are copies of the RFP's that were submitted from four (4) vendors on April 11, 2008. Please feel free to review them and call me if you have any comments or questions.

I am attaching another copy of the spreadsheet that broke out the prices.

Also attached is a new spreadsheet we are developing to compare all the vendors on a variety of items such as design, type of construction, references, price, required documents (licenses, insurance, etc.), is their proposal “green”, what is the timeline for their proposal, etc.

For the record, there will be additional costs that are not included in the pricing provided in the RFP's. We know from certain past experience, specifically the pool remodeling about 10 years ago, that if the contractor buys the equipment, they normally mark it up at least 50%. In that job, we saved a significant amount by purchasing the bulkhead, stainless steel gutters and the filtration system from other vendors. Therefore we are looking at purchasing the scoreboards, basketball hoops/backboards, and bleachers ourselves. The contractors knew this and understood it would be their job to install these items.

I will be meeting with my committee on or before May 2 to review these so that you will have their recommendation (a ranking of the four proposals). I recommend that we schedule a workshop meeting prior to your next regular meeting (May 12) to allow the four companies an opportunity to discuss their proposals with you. Normally what happens in these meetings is that each company is given 15-20 minutes to present, followed by questions from Council. I would expect this meeting would last at least 2-3 hours, depending on the question and answer sessions.

At your May 12 meeting we could then discuss what you would like to do next."

Councilman Youngs stated that he would be very much in favor of a Special meeting. He asked if the select group of architects and engineers would be making a separate presentation.

City Manager Borgmann responded that the architects and engineers would not make a separate presentation. The Administration would present their opinions and how they felt about the four companies.

Martin Marquez of 401 Hunting Lodge Drive said that he was allowed to field survey the existing gymnasium and report that it was restorable. The City has since spent thousands of tax dollars for an official engineering report which confirmed that the existing gymnasium could be restored to a first class recreation center for about \$2 million. On the other hand, the four bids that the City Manager discussed for the new gym confirm that the initial cost, excluding any change orders and items not included in the bid, are about triple what it would cost to refurbish the existing gym.

Mr. Marquez stated that the new gym would not be designed as a hurricane shelter; instead, the existing concrete annex building, which could be retrofitted as a hurricane shelter is now scheduled for demolition to make room for the parking. The City is built out with little room for growth and the existing gym meets the recreational needs of the community and can be refurbished without going into debt.

Mr. Marquez asked how Council could justify building a bigger, much more expensive facility based on a non-documented sample recreation survey. The new gym bid packet lacks specifics sufficient enough to establish a true construction cost as there are many exclusions listed in the bids and unanswered performance questions.

Mr. Marquez said that the existing gym is built on expensive concrete piles, yet none of the new bids included a concrete piling foundation. They were based on shallow foundations, as recommended by the City's soil boring engineer report, which also contained a disclaimer about their own findings. Should there be unforeseen soil conditions, this would add tremendously to the overall cost of the gymnasium project.

Like many other design/build projects the City has undertaken in the past, the lack of specifics and performance specifications in the new gym bid package will only serve to elicit countless change orders, according to Mr. Marquez. He added that the thought that the new gym bid is based on a guaranteed maximum contract is misleading at best. There are enough loopholes in the bid package to far exceed the initial contract amount via change orders and for these reasons he is asking the City Council to consider refurbishing the existing facility.

Councilman Dotson commented that he would like to review the history of how Council reached this point, going back to August 2007 when Mr. Pistorino's report was submitted. The report established that the gym could be refurbished or renovated because the steel and the foundation were structurally sound. At that point, the City Manager stated that he had received information that a three-story steel version could be built for \$1.8 million, which seemed incredible to him, but he decided to go along to at least get the quotes and it took nine months to get them.

Councilman Dotson stated that at a subsequent meeting he asked the City Manager if he still thought the new complex could be obtained for \$1.8 million and he responded "yes". Now there are four proposals to build a three-story complex ranging from \$5.3 to \$6.7 million and if one company is selected the final figure would probably be much higher. A three-story complex will be expensive to build and expensive to maintain and operate. Council had asked that any brand new facility include the capacity to serve as a hurricane shelter and this requirement was evidently dropped from the request.

There is cash on hand to rebuild and make the present gym into a like-new facility, according to Councilman Dotson. He said that anything more would require the City to go into debt and require Council to raise taxes to pay the debt. Last year the State Legislature mandated a property tax reduction and on January 29, 2008, 72% of Miami Springs' voters approved a \$25,000 homestead exemption increase that will further reduce tax collections by an estimated \$500,000.

Councilman Dotson stated that the present financial limitations of the City do not make a grand project advisable or affordable. He felt that a lot of time had been wasted on a quixotic quest to acquire something beyond reach. The present gym is larger than one might expect for a City the size of Miami Springs. There are other major capital projects to consider, including Downtown parking, a Golf Course irrigation system, a new Police Station, senior building improvements, a skateboard park, capital expenditures for Public Works, etc.

Councilman Dotson felt that it is time to set a plan in motion to rebuild the present gym and move on to equally important issues. He believes that the financial impact to the City would be very severe if this kind of construction is undertaken under the present circumstances.

Mayor Bain stated that he would like to receive the report and evaluate the bids at a Special Meeting before the City Council Regular meeting of May 12, 2008.

Councilman Youngs explained that Council had not taken any action to eliminate the option of refurbishing the existing gym. He would be in favor of moving forward with the Special meeting to review the options for a new gym to determine if it makes sense. He said that this would include all the factors that Councilman Dotson mentioned such as cost, alternative comparison, uses and operating expenses, how the facility would adapt and be used for a hurricane shelter and other priorities.

Councilman Youngs commented that there was a ground swell of people who wanted a new gym, but no one would want the “pie in the sky” if something is not realistic or doable. He finds it encouraging that the four bids came in under the \$20 million range, which behooves Council to review the bids in more detail at the Special meeting. He reiterated that refurbishing the old gym is not “off the table” in his mind, but he has not closed his mind about a new gym.

Councilman Best agreed with Councilman Youngs that his mind is not closed to reviewing the bids for the new gym. He is also encouraged by the pricing of the four bids and read through all the material. He stated that the budget process will begin in a few months, there are many issues to consider and Council can see if the proposal fits.

Mayor Bain stated that the City Manager selected the committee to review the companies and their bids and he also has an independent person who offered to carefully review the companies and their reputations in order to make a proper decision for the community. He felt that it is an exploratory process and hopefully with motivation and an open mind it might be possible to do something special.

Councilman Youngs asked if there is a reason for calling a Special Meeting versus a Workshop Meeting.

City Manager Borgmann said that a Special Meeting gives Council the ability to take action.

Councilman Youngs commented that there might not be any specific proposals to take action on.

City Attorney Seiden stated that there is really not a difference except that it could save four or five days because Council could not give direction at a Workshop Meeting.

Mayor Bain explained that a Special Meeting would allow Council the opportunity to make a decision.

Councilman Youngs stated that the only reason not to make it a Special Meeting is to assure the community that Council is looking at the proposals in a diligent way.

Mayor Bain said that Council is always diligent and there was a recent issue that called for a Special Meeting in order not to delay a decision. He felt that Council could make the proper decision if there is something that needs to be resolved before the next Regular Meeting.

Councilman Youngs stated that from a perception standpoint, if Council is not authorized to take action at a Workshop it could put some peoples' minds at ease so that they could come and talk freely, especially if they are afraid that a decision could be made in a hasty manner. He trusts that Council would not do this. If Council is not worried about that sensitivity and wants to schedule a Special Meeting, it is fine.

Mayor Bain explained that everyone would be welcome to participate at a Special Meeting. Nothing would be done behind closed doors and Council is open to all suggestions. His thought is to hold a Special meeting that would serve as a Town Hall meeting when everyone can speak their mind about both sides of the issue. He would not make any decision that would jeopardize what is best for the community.

Council **agreed** to schedule a Special Meeting for Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Youngs suggested making copies of the four proposals in advance for anyone who would like to review the entire package.

City Manager Borgmann stated that the five copies that were made for Council cost more than \$300.00 because the work was very labor intensive due to the different size maps and diagrams.

Councilman Youngs recommended taking a copy of the proposals to a local copy service so that they would be available for interested parties to copy for a certain price.

Councilman Dotson said that people had complained that Council is not accomplishing anything because the issue had been ongoing for a long time. He would like due diligence to see that the issue is brought to a conclusion as soon as possible in order to be able to move on with other decisions.

Mayor Bain asked Council to give direction to the City Manager regarding Councilman Youngs' suggestion to provide a copy to a copier service for reproduction upon request.

Mayor Bain and Councilman Best agreed to provide their personal copies for the public when they were finished with their review.

Martin Marquez of 401 Hunting Lodge Drive suggested that a PDF file could be placed on the City's website.

Dr. Mel Johnson of 109 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard suggested that Mr. Pistorino should also make a presentation at the May 7, 2008 Special meeting in order to cover all the options.

Councilman Youngs stated that Council would be looking at the viability of the four bids at the Special meeting and refurbishing the existing gym is another topic in his mind.

Councilman Dotson said that eventually Council would make the decision as to whether they want to refurbish the gym or consider using one of the four companies. In that case, it might be wise to bring back Mr. Pistorino for the meeting when Council would make that decision.

City Manager Borgmann recommended scheduling a discussion item for the May 12, 2008 Regular meeting when Council could make a recommendation as to how they want to proceed.

10. New Business:

10A) Report from the Public Works Director Regarding a Change in Recycling Methods

City Manager Borgmann stated that Public Works Director Robert Williams attended a meeting with all other municipalities in Miami-Dade County regarding the recycling program. The County is proposing to change the method of collecting by dividing the County into three or four sections with different vendors. The City would have the opportunity to take advantage of the County contract or begin its own recycling program, which is not recommended.

Public Works Director Robert Williams offered to entertain questions regarding the new recycling program, as outlined in his memorandum.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, City Manager Borgmann explained that no action is required at this time, but it might require Council action in the future. The County is going from dual stream to single stream, which means all recyclable materials would be placed in a 65 gallon roll out container similar to the one that is provided for household garbage; collection will be every two weeks instead of once a week.

Public Works Director Williams explained that the County is preparing a new Interlocal Agreement. They indicated that the cost would be slightly lower, they are in the process of finalizing the details, and more information would be available after he attends a subsequent meeting with the County.

10B) Resolution – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending the Schedule of Charges and Fees for the Operation of the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club; Effective Date

City Attorney Seiden read the resolution by title.

Attorney Seiden explained that this is the standard resolution with the new fee schedule attached that would be effective on May 3, 2008.

Golf Director Mike Aldridge explained that there were only a few minor rate changes. Attachment “C” lists other golf courses showing the drop in summer rates. The weekend morning rate remains unchanged because it is \$49.00 including tax.

Councilman Best moved to approve and Councilman Youngs seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote (Resolution No. 2008-3395).

10C) Sign Plan Review – Case No. 01-ZP-08 – Federico Fernández – 901 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard – Zoning: Airport, Highway, Marine Business District – Lot Size: 52,390 sq. ft. – Code Section 150-061 – Signs (E) – Placement of two high non-projecting wall signs and one ground sign at a business

City Planner Richard E. Ventura stated that the applicant, Federico Fernández, is requesting approval for the placement of two high non-projecting walls signs and one ground sign for the Aladdin Hotel located at 901 South Royal Poinciana.

City Planner Ventura explained the plan shows the three proposed signs labeled as wall sign “C”, wall sign “A” and ground sign “B”. Wall sign “C” proposed for the upper west façade measures 29.34 square feet in area; wall sign “A” consists of a logo and the title Aladdin proposed for the upper east façade. The two signs combined total 50.51 square feet in area. Ground sign “B” proposed for the south side yard measures 20 square feet in area, plus 3.5 square feet for a portion with a circular logo for a total of 23.5 square feet. Wall sign “C” is a logo by itself.

Code Section 150-061 – Signs (E) states that *“any sign allowed in this district, by this or any other ordinance, shall be required to have the approval of the City Zoning and Planning Board and the City Council before a sign permit is issued.”*

Code Section 150-061 (A) allows a business to have one sign structure along the principal street frontage on which there is an entrance to the development. The sign cannot exceed 30 feet in height and 30 square feet in area. Subsection (B) allows identification signs, but they cannot exceed 10% of the wall surface area.

City Planner Ventura stated that Ground sign “B” meets the requirements of Section 150-161 (A). Wall sign “C” proposed for the upper west façade meets the requirements of Section 150-161 (B) as does wall sign “A” at 7.2% of the signable area.

City Planner Ventura explained that he reviewed the applicant’s petition and visited the site numerous times. Photographs were taken from different points of view along the main right-of-way and the only minor issue is that wall sign “C” is visible from a portion of the multi-family property to the northwest, but it does not face the residential district. The proposal received unanimous approval of the Zoning and Planning Board and Staff recommends approval of the request.

Councilman Best mentioned that a statement was made at the Zoning and Planning Board meeting indicating that the existing signs would be removed once the proposed signs are approved.

City Planner Ventura confirmed that the statement was true and the applicant agreed.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, City Planner Ventura clarified that the signs would be flat against the building with the exception of the monument/ground sign.

Councilman Best moved to approve. Councilman Youngs seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

10D) Ordinance – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending Code of Ordinance Section 150-041, R-1A District, By Expanding the Definition of “Total Rear Yard Area” for Use in Computing “Building Occupancy” of Rear Yard Areas of Residential Properties; Repealing all Ordinance of Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date

City Attorney Seiden read the ordinance by title.

Attorney Seiden explained that approximately one month ago the ordinance was amended for the front yard definition and the Building Official brought it to his attention that the same situation applies to the rear yard because many rear yard properties have patios or Florida rooms. The rear yard measurement is from the vertical line of the extension to the rear yard and the area to the side of the extension is not presently included in the 15% calculation.

Attorney Seiden stated that there had been a number of Board of Adjustment cases about percentage of occupancy for rear yards and the ordinance would expand the total area of rear yard available for calculation of the 15%.

Attorney Seiden explained that the proposed ordinance would provide a more fair calculation of the rear yard area.

Councilman Dotson moved to approve. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

10E) Resolution – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs, Florida to Enter Into an Urban and Community Forestry Grant Memorandum of Agreement with the State of Florida, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry; Effective Date

City Attorney Seiden read the resolution by title.

City Manager Borgmann stated that the City had been very successful with obtaining this grant on an annual basis and it requires a resolution showing Council support.

Councilman Best moved to adopt the resolution. Councilman Dotson seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote (Resolution No. 2008-3396).

11. Other Business:

11A) Consideration of Rescheduling the May 26, 2008 Council Meeting to Tuesday, May 27, 2008 due to the Memorial Day Holiday

Council **rescheduled** the May 26, 2008 Council meeting to Wednesday, May 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

12. Reports & Recommendations:

12A) City Attorney

No report.

12B) City Manager

Water and Sewer Transfer

City Manager Borgmann reported that a package of documents was received from Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department (WASA) regarding the potential transfer of the water and sewer system. He and the City Attorney will review the documents and a meeting is scheduled with WASA at their office on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, at 3:30 p.m. Council will receive a report of the findings and the status of the final resolution.

F.E.M.A. Reimbursement

City Manager Borgmann stated that the City received a check from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (F.E.M.A.) in the amount of \$83,496.00. He explained that the combination of the checks received totaled over \$400,000.

Legislative Requests

City Manager Borgmann reported that the City's legislative items are moving through the Senate and House budgets and hopefully they will stand up to the Governor's approval so the City will receive additional dollars from the State.

Shuttle Bus

City Manager Borgmann announced that the Shuttle Bus service would begin on Thursday, May 1st and the information would be posted on the City's website with a brochure for distribution. He explained that the route takes approximately one hour from start to finish.

In response to Councilman Dotson's question, City Manager Borgmann stated that there are County requirements for funding and it must be an established route for the purpose of moving people from the neighborhoods to the bus stops. He said that people would be able to flag down the driver to catch a ride along the established route.

Councilman Dotson stated that it would be advantageous to have a system that could notify the driver of where riders are and to inform them when they can expect the bus to come.

City Manager Borgmann explained that the transit service is based on the recommendation made by the consultant approximately five years ago and it can be changed if it does not work.

Councilman Dotson asked if reports would be received from the company as to how many people are utilizing the service.

City Manager Borgmann responded that reports would be made hourly.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, Mr. Borgmann stated that a brochure would be posted on the City's website and copies would be distributed with the utility bills.

City Manager Borgmann stated that the hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in response to a question by Councilman Dotson.

Annexation

City Manager Borgmann referred to a proposed County ordinance requiring mediation when there are two municipalities who cannot agree on a piece of land to be annexed. He spoke with the County and they informed him that the ordinance would only apply to all future cases.

City Manager Borgmann stated that many comments had been circulating about the Florida East Coast (F.E.C.) property. F.E.C. recently purchased the Codina Group, including three or four parcels and none were near the F.E.C. yard. The F.E.C. Railroad was purchased by Rail American and the Administration is still researching the time table for the plans for development. The F.E.C. Rail yard was excluded from the City's annexation application and there are concerns about the Terminal ordinance.

State Farm Grant Application

City Manager Borgmann stated that a grant application was filed with State Farm for the traffic calming project on Curtiss Parkway from the incoming bridge.

Arbor Day

City Manager Borgmann reported that the Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2008.

Springs River Festival

City Manager Borgmann congratulated all workers and volunteers who donated their time to make the Springs River Festival a great success.

Orange Bowl Committee

City Manager Borgmann announced that he was inducted into the membership of the Orange Bowl Committee, which is a privilege of becoming the Junior Orange Bowl President.

12C) City Council

F.E.C. Property

Councilman Best stated that when he was in Tallahassee he heard that the sale of the Florida East Coast (F.E.C) property had not come to fruition. He had the opportunity to visit the rail yard with a friend of his whose father worked for F.E.C. for 47 years who wanted to see the 253 locomotive that is being renovated but it was gone. He spoke with the Yard Master who supported the information that the property was sold.

Skateboard Park Supporters

Councilman Best was very impressed with the kids who attended the meeting to make their point about the skateboard park.

Gymnasium Proposal

Councilman Best asked the City Manager to find out if the Lemartec proposal includes solar panels on the roof.

Police Benevolent Association Agreement

Councilman Dotson requested a copy of the agreement with the Police Benevolent Association (P.B.A.).

Memorial Dedication

Mayor Bain thanked everyone who participated in the dedication of the memorial monument during the Springs River Festival and City Manager Borgmann for the information he presented at the ceremony. The Mayor said that it is nice to recognize people who make contributions to the community.

Pelican Playhouse

Mayor Bain attended the Pelican Playhouse production of the “Princess Plays” and he laughed all night. He commented that it is nice to see the kids participating.

Food Program

Mayor Bain stated that Max Milam of Milam’s Market is proposing to implement a program for helping those in need.

City Manager Borgmann said that Mr. Milam asked if there is an organization that operates a food bank that he could donate food to and he asked Elderly Services Director Karen Rosson to research the matter. Mr. Milam also suggested that he could implement a program for customers to make donations with the cashiers once or twice year to help groups that provide food for those in need.

Congratulations

Mayor Bain congratulated Finance Director Leacroft Robinson on his first presentation of the financial statements.

Arbor Day

Mayor Bain said that he received a request from Susan Baan for a donation of two trees in recognition of Arbor Day.

Virginia Gardens Police Appreciation Banquet

Mayor Bain attended the Police Appreciation Banquet in Virginia Gardens. He spoke with the Miami Springs Optimist Club about holding the Respect for Law Dinner at the Country Club and he is looking for Council support for assistance in funding the event. Virginia Gardens raised funds through the community businesses and the Optimist Club made a substantial donation. He clarified for the record that Virginia Gardens has a full-time Police Department and they also hire part-timers.

Springs River Festival

Mayor Bain stated that he enjoyed the Springs River Festival event.

13. Adjourn.

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Billy Bain
Mayor

ATTEST:

Magalí Valls, CMC
City Clerk

Approved as written during meeting of: May 28, 2008.

Transcription assistance provided by S. Hitaffer

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