



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs City Council held a **SPECIAL MEETING** in the Rebeca Sosa Theater at the Community Center on Monday, April 11, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Billy Bain
- Vice Mayor Bob Best
- Councilwoman Jennifer Ator
- Councilman Dan Espino
- 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
- Public Works Director Robert T. Williams
- Recreation Director Omar L. Luna
- City Clerk Magalí Valls

2. Invocation: Councilman Lob offered the invocation.

Salute to the Flag: The audience participated.

3. Resolution No. 2011-3509 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Canvassing Returns of the Miami Springs General Election of April 5, 2011 and Declaring Results Thereof

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden read the resolution in its entirety. He also read the official election results for the record.

Vice Mayor Best moved to adopt the resolution. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Vice Mayor Best thanked everyone for attending the swearing-in ceremony, the end of Mayor Bain's administration and the beginning of Mayor Garcia's administration. It has been an interesting time serving with Mayor Bain for the last three terms and he feels that a lot was accomplished.

Vice Mayor Best credited Mayor Bain for his zeal, love for the town and his record that will go unblemished and untouched in the history books of the City of Miami Springs. He has gotten to know Billy better than he did before. Their love of baseball and the ability to get together for informal chats is something that he can now look forward to outside of the Sunshine.

Vice Mayor Best commented that many issues that Mayor Bain tackled were handled with such flair and so easily. It was easy for people to conduct business with him and they knew they would get results. He will miss his time with Mayor Bain and he hopes that the new Mayor will fill the shoes of a great man.

Councilman Espino stated that it has been a pleasure to serve for the past two years with Council and Mayor Bain. He has known Billy Bain since he was eleven years old when he coached his brother. He is a man of integrity and he knows that every vote he took and every statement he made came from his heart.

Councilman Espino explained that he looks forward to being able to engage Mayor Bain on issues that were otherwise precluded by the Sunshine Law. Even though Mayor Bain steps off the dais this evening, he certainly will not step out of service to the City of Miami Springs or out of our hearts.

Councilman Lob has known Mayor Bain for awhile and they have not been able to discuss City business during their fishing and hunting outings for the last two years. He explained that it was hard in the beginning and they wondered how it could be done, but they got through it.

Councilman Lob said that it has been his privilege to serve with Mayor Bain and he cannot think of anybody in Miami Springs that loves the City more than he does. He knew that when he was elected that he would do anything and everything for the City and he has. He will miss Billy, but he will enjoy talking to him when they are fishing and hunting.

Councilwoman Ator stated that she has been on Council for two years and she has enjoyed the time with Mayor Bain. He is a man of integrity and everyone knows how he stands on the issues and why he believes in what he believes; she will miss him very much. Councilwoman Ator thanked Mayor Bain for his service to the City.

Mayor Bain added he never thought that he would remain in office for eight years. He thanked Council and said that he appreciates them following his lead. He also had to follow their lead, which was sometimes hard for him and he appreciates the respect and what was accomplished.

Mayor Bain recognized Public Works Director Robert Williams who was not at the last meeting when he said goodbye to Staff. When he was first elected he received a lot of calls about Public Works and since Robert took over the job he stopped getting calls about the Department.

Mayor Bain said that he always forgets to thank the people who are closest to him, especially his family. Since this is his last meeting he wants to be sure to thank his brothers Larry, Glenn, and Mark and his sisters-in-law Vivette and Karen Bain. The children supported him in all the elections and his nephew said that it would seem funny not to have his uncle as the Mayor any longer. He also thanked his wife Grace who is the most important person and has always been there for him.

Mayor Bain said that holding office was a positive experience in his life, like a college education. This is because the residents elected him for four terms; they gave him the opportunity to serve and when he took the job he learned to love and respect the City and the people in the town. The job is about people and making it as easy for them as possible so that they can enjoy the City. He thanked everyone.

4. Administration of Oath of Office to City Officials

City Clerk Magali Valls **administered** the Oath of Office to Vice Mayor Bob Best.

The Honorable Judge Robert F. Diaz **administered** the Oath of Office to Councilman Dan Espino.

Judge Diaz said that he has known Councilman Espino for about four years and when he first met him he noticed that he had a lot of energy, he was polite and he gets things done. The most important thing is that he wants to help people and accomplish things. He was glad to drive in traffic to be here and see his family again. The Judge said that with Dan Espino as Councilman, he would want to live in Miami Springs again.

City Clerk Magali Valls **administered** the Oath of Office to Councilman George V. Lob.

The Honorable Judge Rubenstein stated that judges are very protective of where they live and she wants to let everyone know that she has lived in Miami Springs since 1989 and the commitment that Council makes to the City is what makes it a pleasure. She thanked Councilwoman Ator for her commitment to the City and for giving so unselfishly of her time. Jennifer has a full-time job as an attorney in addition to a full-time job taking care of her sons and her husband. The community has acknowledged its appreciation for Councilwoman Ator's hard work by re-electing her to office.

The Honorable Judge Judith Rubenstein **administered** the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Ator.

Mayor Bain recognized County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa who was present in the audience. He apologized for not recognizing her earlier.

City Clerk Magali Valls **administered** the Oath of Office to Mayor Xavier Garcia.

Mayor Bain stated that anytime there is an exchange, win, lose or draw, no matter who the opponent is, a person has to be able to learn to win and lose. He passed the gavel to Mayor Xavier Garcia who took his seat at the dais.

Mayor Garcia stated that he would like to give Council the opportunity to speak before closing the meeting.

Vice Mayor Best welcomed Mayor Garcia back to the dais. He said that he is looking forward to working with him for the next two years and will certainly welcome his input. He wished him well in his tenure.

Councilman Espino stated that he was privileged to serve for the last two years and also to be here tonight to receive the sacred charge of serving the community. He thanked everyone for sharing the evening with him and for their faith that was shown on Election Day. The results were overwhelming and he cannot express the humility and sense of reward.

Councilman Espino commented that it is one thing to elect someone for promises made and it is altogether different after they keep their promises. He thanked the community for acknowledging his record of promises kept and more importantly for the support during his first term in office and the help, advice and opinions during the campaign. The vote of confidence he received has refueled his fighting spirit and given him energy to continue to work to enhance the quality of life.

Councilman Espino explained that he does not take the election to be a popularity contest and the residents spoke clearly that they were looking for individuals who can provide solutions and they rewarded those candidates that they thought could deliver. He believes the votes he received were a reward for him being at the forefront of trying to deliver proactive solutions for the community and he appreciates this wholeheartedly. He will remain eager and willing to tackle the problems in the community despite their complexity.

Councilman Espino said that he will go forward focusing on the opportunities and challenges, instead of choosing to focus on simply the challenges that each opportunity to act brings. He knows that by moving forward in a proactive manner the options for the community are much better than waiting until the actions and decisions are made. Nothing is lost by striving toward perfection for Miami Springs, but everything is at risk if the focus is on the perfection of doing nothing. He looks forward to the community coming together.

Councilman Espino said that across generations, gender and ethnic gaps in Miami Springs, the things that tie the community together far exceed those that divide it, and he knows that Council will capitalize on those things in order to continue to improve Miami Springs and make it one of the best places to live in the entire United States.

Councilman Lob thanked everyone for the chance to represent them for another two years. He said that he takes his job very seriously and looks forward to tackling the challenges head on. Council wants to do what is right for the people in an effective and expedited manner without waiting for problems to happen. He said that they must work for the future of the City and he intends to do this.

Councilman Lob said that it had been a long campaign. He thanked his wife for her support and he looks forward to working and listening to the people's ideas.

Councilwoman Ator said that all the good comments had already been made and she would echo some of the things that had already been said. She thanked the community, although she has not lived here for thirty or forty years. She chose to move her family here 8-1/2 years ago and has never regretted that choice. She recognized her husband, children, mother and grandfather who were present.

Councilwoman Ator encouraged more people to watch the live web casting of the Council meetings, which is important. She said that she is looking forward to taking care of business as Council has a lot of substance on their plate. The former Mayor and Council have worked very hard, they accomplished a lot and are moving forward quickly. She thanked everyone very much.

Mayor Garcia thanked God for his grace and will that allows him to be present at this moment. He also thanked his wife Ileana who is very busy with the kids, a superstar registered nurse and a phenomenal wife.

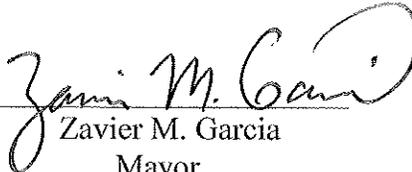
Mayor Garcia never thought he would be the Mayor of Miami Springs or involved in politics. He realizes there are not many people with tough skin who are willing to represent the people. He is one person that has tough skin and he is happy to see the diversity on City Council. He said that Mayor Bain has left very big shoes for him to fill.

Mayor Garcia said that Billy Bain will continue to be "Uncle Billy" to his kids. Mayor Bain opened his eyes to things he never thought he would experience and has led him to see a different part of the community. He plans on living in Miami Springs for the rest of his life and thanked Mayor Bain for keeping Miami Springs as beautiful as it was in the past and will be in the future.

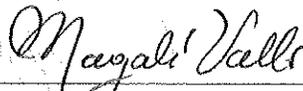
Mayor Garcia thanked his mom, stepfather, grandmother and family members who were present. He said that they are very proud of him and he promises not to disappoint or let anyone down. He will take care of the town and plans to live here for the rest of his life. He learned not to sign any pledges for anyone except for signing a generational contract to work as hard as possible to maintain and improve the quality of life for our children. He thanked everyone for coming.

5. Adjourn.

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.


Zavier M. Garcia
Mayor

ATTEST:


Magali Valls, CMC
City Clerk



Approved during meeting of: 4/25/2011.

Transcription assistance provided by Suzanne S. Hitaffer.