



**City of Miami Springs, Florida**  
City Council Meeting

Workshop Meeting Minutes  
Monday, August 29, 2016 6:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers at City Hall  
201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, Florida

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 6:04 p.m.

Present were the following:

Mayor Xavier M. Garcia  
Vice Mayor Roslyn Buckner  
Councilman Bob Best  
Councilman Billy Bain  
Councilman Jaime A. Petralanda

Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso  
Assistant to City Manager Tammy Romero  
City Attorney Jan K. Seiden  
City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria  
Public Works Director Tom Nash  
Chief Armando Guzman  
IT Director Jorge Fonseca  
Elderly Services Director Karen Rosson  
Human Resources Director William Collins  
Parks and Recreation Events/Program Supervisor  
Aquatic Supervisor Caitlin Smith  
Building Official and Code Compliance Director Ulises Fernandez

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Councilman Best

**Salute to the Flag:** Members of the audience led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag

3. **FY2016-2017 Budget Meeting Update/Budget Finalization**

City Manager Alonso read the updated staff memo for the record.

City Manager Alonso stated that after completing the second budget workshop the updated budget shows a surplus of \$166,775 at the current millage rate of 7.5. The following items contributed to the increase of approximately \$15,500 to the reported surplus of \$150,775 after the first workshop.

City Manager Alonso said that the Recreation pool electricity budget was reduced from \$47,000 to \$25,000. The City Council promotions budget was increased by \$6,500 in order to bring the total River Cities Festival contribution to \$14,000. In the packet are attachments of a list of items that Council wishes to consider reducing as they work on setting the millage rate and a departmental wish list. The intent of this meeting is to try and set a tentative millage so he can prepare the tentative budget for the first meeting in September.

Councilman Best said that he realized that the City has some surplus and he certainly does not want to faint it away irresponsibly. One thing he would like this Council to consider is the Public Works staff on the clock. It has been many years since they have received a raise of any significance. He would like to see some kind of increase given to the Public Works employees. It is long overdue and he would like for Council to seriously consider it.

Mayor Garcia commended Public Works Director Nash for his work and said that it has never been done better. He asked if City Manager Alonso and Public Works Director Nash can determine what the savings were for bringing those services in-house. He commented that nobody else in the City has gotten a salary increase when you look at it across the board. The City has been great in making sure that when it is given to one department; it is given to all departments. He wants to make sure that if it is deserved that it is given that way.

Mayor Garcia asked City Manager Alonso what the dollar impact would be if Council were to consider a pay increase for the non-Management Public Works employee's salary budget and City Manager Alonso replied that the dollar impact would be \$12,000 for every 1%.

City Manager Alonso commented that he wants Council to keep in mind that there are also other departments that have hard working employees and they need to be considered also.

Councilman Bain would like to request that they first discuss the elimination of all capital expenditures in attachment A. He would like to know what the ice machine and the standup commercial freezer are for and City Manager Alonso replied those items are for the Senior Center. He would like to know what the cost would be to rent an ice machine instead of purchasing one.

Councilman Bain inquired about the four laptop computer software and accessories for the detectives.

Mayor Garcia asked if that could be taken out of the Law Enforcement Trust Fund and City Manager Alonso replied that it cannot.

Councilman Bain inquired about the speed detection device radars and the stationery portable two-camera automated license plate reader system Chief of Police Guzman commented that this equipment will help in record data so that based on what is recorded, the Department can take enforcement in those particular areas.

Councilman Bain asked if the Fire Department was going to contribute to the expense of the ductless split A/C system for Fire Department and Public Works Director Nash replied that he has spoken to that Department in the past referencing the A/C and for the most part it is our building and our responsibility. They only maintain and repair what is physically theirs inside the building.

Councilman Bain questioned how large the Fire Department was that was going to have the A/C system and Public Works Director Nash responded that it is approximate twice the size of the Council Chambers.

Councilman Bain wondered if a 5 ton A/C unit or a stand-alone central A/C system would cost much less than what is being proposed and Public Works Director Nash said that he would look into those options.

Councilman Bain is not certain that the City needs to have the speed detection radars at this time.

Chief of Police Guzman stated that the item for cubicles for the Detective Bureau has already been acquired and can be eliminated which would create a savings of \$12,000.

By consensus, Council agreed not to eliminate the speed detection radars.

Councilman Petralanda asked if one of the four requested police vehicles can be cut from the proposal.

Public Works Director Nash commented that it is not feasible because they are hybrid vehicles and have the battery packs in them. The batteries at this time will probably cost more than the cars worth to replace.

Mayor Garcia asked Council if there were any items in the list that they received that they are willing to eliminate. He asked City Manager Alonso if the list of items to eliminate on the capital expenditures were already budgeted and City Manager Alonso replied in agreement.

City Manager Alonso advised Council that Chief of Police Guzman removed \$12,000 which leaves the total to \$250,000 in capital improvements.

Councilman Petralanda would like to request to include funds for a vehicle for Golf Course staff as requested from their wish list. He also would like to provide the Golf Course with \$10,000 for the new golf clubs and once the old ones are sold, he wants to see those funds be returned to the general fund.

Councilman Petralanda would like to request to include funds for the Historical Society storage facility rental costs as requested in their wish list.

Councilwoman Buckner would like an explanation on what the shade structure is and Programs Supervisor Patti Bradley responded that it is to provide shade and cover the Tot Lot at Stafford Park.

To answer Councilwoman Buckner's question, Programs Supervisor Bradley commented that they requested an SUV for administrative use because they are currently using their personal vehicles. The pick-up trucks are used for the field maintenance department.

Councilwoman Buckner would like to request to include the shade structure at Stafford Park.

Councilman Bain would like to know if Chief of Police Guzman can request three vehicles this budget and request the other three for FY17-18 budget and Chief of Police Guzman responded that he will look at his vehicles to see if they can continue to be used for an additional year.

Councilman Best reiterated what Councilman Bain stated earlier about the ductless A/C system and said he has an issue with that item and its cost.

Councilman Bain stated that Public Works Director Nash said that he would look into different options.

Councilman Bain would like to request to remove the funding for the speed detection radar.

Councilman Bain commented that if Chief of Police Guzman is able to request only three vehicles he will be in support of adding the vehicle for the Golf Course staff.

City Manager Alonso suggested that Council not consider the golf clubs. In speaking with Golf Course Director Paul O'Dell, he believes he can sell the old clubs for approximately \$67,000 which would like a \$3,000 difference.

Council agreed to eliminate the golf clubs.

Councilman Best stated that he wanted to eliminate the artificial turf for the new Tot Lot playground.

Mayor Garcia asked how much had to be budgeted for the consultant and City Manager Alonso replied that approximately \$125,000 to \$150,000 has to be budgeted.

Discussion ensued regarding the Senior Center renovation Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

Mayor Garcia commented without yet knowing the responses from Public Works Director Nash about the A/C or Chief of Police Guzman about the vehicles, in order to be able to include everything that has been requested by each Council member, they would need to eliminate \$58,000 from the existing budget to put additional funds into surplus.

Mayor Garcia would like to request to include laser grading and re-sodding Prince Field which would bring the amount up to \$118,000 needed to be put into surplus.

Lily Martinez, Treasurer for the Historical Society commented that the Historical Society is requesting the funding because the building is not occupiable and therefore needs a lot of repairs.

After some discussion, Councilman Bain suggested taking out a short term loan of \$200,000 to cover the cost of the startup of the Senior Center and when the project has begun and the reimbursement has been given to the City, the loan can be paid.

City Manager Alonso explained that he believes it will be difficult for a bank to loan \$200,000 on something that is not an overall project. In his opinion, he would take the necessary funds out of reserves knowing that it is going to be replenished within two or three months instead of borrowing funds from a bank.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of funds from the general fund to support the startup cost of the Senior Center.

Mayor Garcia asked what the cost for a 1% pay increase to every City of Miami Springs employee that is not management and City Manager Alonso replied that the across the board 3% COLA with the exception of the City Manager costs \$34,165 per 1%.

City Manager Alonso explained that all of the additions and reductions that Council has discussed tonight including the \$150,000 for the Senior Center totals \$281,000. If the Senior Center was removed, the total would be \$131,000 which leaves a surplus of approximately \$47,000.

Mayor Garcia asked that City Manager Alonso configure what the amount would be if a 2% increase, not including the 3% COLA, was given to every City employee except the City Manager and City Manager Alonso replied that it would leave a deficit of approximately \$5,000.

Mayor Garcia clarified that the cost should also include the \$3,600 for the speed detection radar since the majority of Council wishes to keep that.

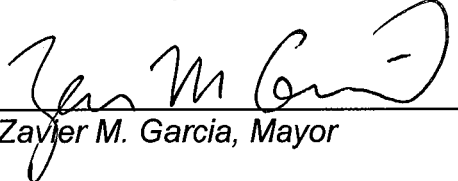
#### **4. Adjourn**

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC  
City Clerk

Adopted by the City Council on  
This 26th day of September, 2016.

  
Xavier M. Garcia, Mayor



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