



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Zavier M. Garcia
- Vice Mayor George V. Lob
- Councilwoman Jennifer Ator
- Councilman Bob Best

Also Present:

- City Manager Ronald K. Gorland
- Asst. City Mgr./Finance Director William Alonso
- City Attorney Jan K. Seiden
- Chief of Police Peter G. Baan
- City Planner James H. Holland
- Building & Zoning Office Director Harold "Tex" Ziadie
- Oper. Superintendent/Arborist Thomas Nash
- City Clerk Magalí Valls
- Clerical Assistant Elora R. Sakal

2. Invocation: Councilman Best offered the invocation.

Salute to the Flag: Students from Miami Springs Elementary School will lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Garcia presented baseball caps to the students who participated.

3. Awards & Presentations:

3A) Proclamation of Recognition – Treats Café

Mayor Garcia proclaimed May 29th to be Treats Café Day. He presented a proclamation to the owners, Don and Nancy Miller, for their successful business and commitment to serving delicious quality meals at their restaurant for the last twenty-seven years.

Mayor Garcia announced that Don and Nancy are no longer the owners since the business has been sold and they are hoping that the restaurant stays the same as much as possible.

Don Miller thanked the Mayor, Council and residents of Miami Springs because they would not be here today without their loyalty and patronage.

3B) Certificate of Special Recognition – Melanie Marie Wolff

Mayor Garcia presented a Certificate of Special Recognition to Melanie Marie Wolff, student at Ronald Reagan Doral Senior High School, who received the Silver Knight Award for her outstanding achievements in English and Literature and being selected as a finalist in the prestigious Posse Program for the University of Pennsylvania.

Melanie Wolff thanked the City Council for making this possible and the residents of Miami Springs for their support throughout the past three years, especially with her mother. She said that winning the award is not the prize; it is getting out the information and publicity for Message for Marli, which helps to bring about more awareness of ovarian cancer.

Mayor Garcia stated that Melanie is a great role model for the children and adults of Miami Springs. He urged her to keep up the good work.

3C) Yard of the Month Award – June 2012 – Fernando and Migdalia Alfonso – 286 Minola Drive

Fernando and Migdalia Alfonso whose house was selected as the June 2012 “Yard of the Month” were not present to receive their award.

Mayor Garcia stated that the house is located at 286 Minola Drive for anyone who wants to drive by.

Agenda Item 10H was discussed at this time.

3D) Code Compliance Activity Presentation by Building and Zoning Office Director Tex Ziadie

Building and Zoning Office Director Tex Ziadie stated that he made a presentation to the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee at their meeting of Monday, May 21st and the City Manager felt that it was appropriate for Council to view parts of the presentation.

Mr. Ziadie explained the current staffing situation in regard to Code Compliance with one full-time, one part-time and one open part-time position. Interviews for the open part-time position will take place on Thursday, May 31st. There has been a 100% turnover of all administrative staff in the last year within the department and that involves training of new personnel by Code Compliance Officer Lourdes Taveras, which should be completed by July 1, 2012.

Mr. Ziadie informed Council that the focus of the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee is on the commercial sector, but the fact is that 96% of all new code compliance cases are in the residential zone. Since September 2011 to date, there have been 1,830 new code compliance cases and 80 were commercial.

Mr. Ziadie continued his presentation with a summary of the roof maintenance sweep that began in September 2011. The sweep was completed at the end of April 2012, and to date, 620 cases were cited and no formal Notice of Violations were issued; 518 of the 620 cases have complied; 102 cases are still open and they will be checked on June 1st.

The current focus is the hiring and training of the new part-time Code Compliance Officer, completion of the office personnel, finalizing the sweep of all commercial sectors and resuming the previous residential sweeps, according to Mr. Ziadie.

Mr. Ziadie made presentation on the overhead projector showing buildings in the business district that had been painted or refurbished in some way over the last year, including the Chiropractic Center, the Treat's Café building and the Pet Kingdom on Westward Drive. He noted other buildings that had been painted and other buildings in the Central Business District that had not yet complied with the color palette.

Mr. Ziadie explained that there are two types of violations. Tickets can be issued for civil infractions and after a ticket is issued if there is still lack of compliance a notice is issued to appear before the Code Enforcement Board. He noted some examples of civil infractions.

Beyond civil infractions, there are normal violations for which the first step is a Courtesy Notice, followed by a Notice of Violation letter and the issuance of a summons to appear before the Code Enforcement Board. Most maintenance of property violations fall into this category, according to Mr. Ziadie.

To answer the Mayor's question, Mr. Ziadie clarified that the roof sweep was completed and Code Compliance will follow-up on the 102 open cases to verify whether or not they have cleaned their roofs. A Notice of Violation letter will be issued to those property owners that have not yet complied and they will have an additional thirty days to comply.

Councilwoman Ator commented that most of the commercial violations were maintenance of property issues and when Council discussed commercial issues in the past, they talked about signage. She asked about violations for signage.

Mr. Ziadie replied that the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee asked about sign violations and he explained that the sign code needs to be revised. The most dramatic sign violation in the commercial district is the percentage of window coverage, since no more than 15% of the window can be covered with signage. There are many new types of signs and window decals that the Code does not address and it needs to be adjusted.

City Attorney Seiden stated that the City Planner is working on a revised code, including an anti-billboard provision.

Councilwoman Ator would like Council to have a discussion regarding the sign code before the revisions are drafted, in order to be able to give direction as to what they like and what they feel the issues are.

City Attorney Seiden asked Council to list items or topics they want to go over and send them to him and the City Planner in an e-mail before it comes up as an agenda item. He explained that the City's Code was adopted in the 1970's and many types of signs were not considered at that time.

Mayor Garcia commented that many times the City Attorney had asked for Council to send him e-mails and there were never any responses. He would prefer that the City Manager schedule an agenda item for discussion and in the meantime Council can e-mail their recommendations.

Councilwoman Ator added that at the advisory board level there had been conversations about sign pollution and part of the sign pollution is related to the sign code.

Mr. Ziadie agreed with Councilwoman Ator that there are many issues regarding signs, including at least eight or nine window violations that currently exist.

Mayor Garcia requested an agenda item for the first meeting in August.

4. Open Forum:

No speakers.

5. Approval of Council Minutes:

5A) 05-14-2012 – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the May 14, 2012 Regular Meeting were approved as written.

Councilman Best moved the item. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

6A) 05-10-2012 – Board of Parks and Parkways – Minutes

Minutes of the May 10, 2012 Board of Parks and Parkways meeting were received for information without comment.

6B) 05-15-2012 – Education Advisory Board – Minutes

Minutes of the May 15, 2012 Education Advisory Board meeting were received for information without comment.

6C) 05-17-2012 – Historic Preservation Board – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the May 17, 2012 Historic Preservation Board meeting was received for information without comment.

6D) 05-21-2012 – Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee – Minutes

Minutes of the May 21, 2012 Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee meeting were received for information without comment.

6E) 05-22-2012 – Ecology Board – Minutes

Minutes of the May 22, 2012 Ecology Board meeting were received for information without comment.

6F) 05-24-2012 – Code Review Board – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the May 24, 2012 Code Review Board meeting was received for information without comment.

7. Public Hearings:

None.

Mayor Garcia called for a recess at 7:33 p.m.

Council sat as the Board of Appeals at 7:38 p.m.

The Mayor reconvened the City Council meeting at 8:07 p.m.

8. Consent Agenda:

None.

9. Old Business:

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

None.

Agenda Item 9B was discussed after Agenda Item 10F.

9B) CITT Fund Analysis (Updated from the May 14, 2012 Agenda)

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that this is an update from the memo of May 23rd since this was a deferred item at the previous meeting.

City Manager Gorland noted that as of March 31, 2012, the available balance of Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) funds is \$228,645. The balance represents only the 80% transportation share that can be used for roads and sidewalks. There is also a balance of \$185,778 in the 20% transit share that is used to cover the cost of the shuttle, as well as traffic calming signage and devices.

City Manager Gorland stated that pending projects for the remainder of the current fiscal year include the following: \$30,120 for sidewalk damage by the school; \$5,435 for new sidewalk on Curtiss and Eldron Drive; \$110,000 for Westward Drive Phase I bike path/walk trail. He added that the cost for the City-wide signage project and resurfacing of city-wide streets and sidewalk replacements is unknown at this time, although the estimate could be in the millions.

Mayor Garcia would like to look into the possibility of shaving down the streets before re-paving.

City Manager Gorland commented that the total cost for three of the pending projects is \$145,555.00. Next fiscal year CITT funds are planned to be used for the Phase II Lighting of the Westward bike path in the amount of \$250,000.

City Manager Gorland advised Council that the City would be receiving another six months of CITT funding estimated to be \$200,000 of which 80% or \$160,000 could be used for transportation purposes.

Vice Mayor Lob asked if CITT funds could be used for the new signage and lighting.

City Manager Gorland responded that CITT funds could be used for street signs, although the City would lose County funding. He asked the City Planner to explain this process since he had met with the revitalization consultants in regard to this issue.

City Planner Jim Holland responded that CITT funds would not be eligible for wayfinding or directional signage; the funds can be used for street identification signs.

To answer Vice Mayor Lob's question, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso clarified that CITT funds could be used for street lighting and street signs. The CITT representatives suggested sending photographs of the proposed signage together with the cost and then they would make a decision on the funding.

Vice Mayor Lob suggested that if the signage is too expensive that perhaps CITT might pay for a percentage of the total cost and he would like an answer to this question.

Vice Mayor Lob asked if Calvin, Giordano is providing a less expensive alternative for the signage.

Councilwoman Ator responded it was not her understanding that Calvin, Giordano was going to provide a less expensive alternative and City Attorney Seiden added that there was no direction given to the consultants to charge the City for any further work.

City Manager Gorland stated that the consultants' recommendation was \$90,000 for one intersection and if the amount was reduced to \$50,000, the signage would be more like what the Architectural Review Board recommended.

Vice Mayor Lob was of the opinion that the cost would decrease if more than one intersection is done at a time. He would hope that the cost would be less than \$96,000 per intersection.

City Attorney Seiden stated that during the Staff meetings it was emphasized that the cost for bulk purchase was not available in the test market. Once the entire program is implemented for the City, the savings could be substantial. An estimate could be provided based on a certain number of signs for the entire City and the only way to save is to reduce the amount of the purchase or to change the design.

City Manager Gorland said that more specifics are needed in order to ask the question. A city-wide project would involve financing and that would have to be considered in the cost analysis.

Vice Mayor Lob commented that the bike path/walking trail for Westward Drive would cost \$300,000 and Council has been focusing on revitalization of the commercial area. He wants to see how CITT funds could be utilized and feels that they would be better spent to encourage commercial revitalization.

City Attorney Seiden stated that Council would be provided with a resolution on the next agenda that was requested by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities in regard to sub-committees and future contracts for CITT funding.

City Manager Gorland explained that there is a push among all parties to negotiate a new agreement and the City will not receive as much funding after the new contract is signed.

Councilwoman Ator understood that the position of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is for the County not to receive 20% of the funding.

City Attorney Seiden explained that there are fifteen positions that will be negotiated and only recently the three cities that were not receiving funds settled their disputes. The funds came from the County and not the municipalities' share of the funds.

City Manager Gorland noted that the problem is that there are three different contracts and it is going to be a difficult process. He assured Council that they will receive all the information as part of the agenda item when considering the resolution.

10. New Business:

10A) Discussion of the Process to Replace Former Councilman Dan Espino

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden called Council's attention to the City Charter.

Attorney Seiden said Section 3.07 (3) (a) of the City Charter states that Council, by a majority vote of the remaining members, shall choose a successor to serve until a newly elected Councilmember or Mayor is qualified. Section 3.07 (3) (b) states that Council shall fill the vacancy on an interim basis. He explained that this is an item to discuss the process that Council may choose to utilize in filling the vacant seat, since there are different ways to do it.

Mayor Garcia commented that there are plenty of opinions that had been expressed to him. Council had discussed the possibility of asking the person who fills the vacant seat not to consider running in the next election, but the City Attorney made it clear that it would not take away that person's right to run for office.

City Attorney Seiden explained that there is currently a four member Council and there might be multiple candidates; some may not choose to run in August and others will definitely run. There are many considerations including whether or not the candidates should be asked questions; the point is that there is no process provided and the only requirement is that Council must attempt to fill the vacancy.

City Attorney Seiden commented that there will be a minimum of two meetings in June, a millage rate meeting in July and one meeting in August on the day before the election for filling the seat. At the very most, the person would be filling the seat for four meetings.

Mayor Garcia said that it would only be a few meetings during which Council will be setting the millage rate and going through the budget process. He would like to take this into consideration when making recommendations and discussing who should be appointed to the vacant seat.

Councilwoman Ator said that she has her names, but she would prefer to wait to present the names until the next meeting. The deadline for filing to run in the special election is June 8th and the next City Council meeting is June 11th, so by the next meeting one of these issues will be resolved. If only one person runs for the seat then Council can appoint that person and not have the election.

Councilman Best said that he did not believe what Councilwoman Ator is suggesting will happen.

Vice Mayor Lob commented that the person who is appointed should be someone that is going to run because of the budget and other issues that affect the City. He would encourage the person that is appointed to run for the seat because they will be making important decisions and they should have a stake in those decisions.

Councilman Best mentioned that he met with several people who indicated an interest and he narrowed his list to one person. However, he does not agree with Vice Mayor Lob because some of the people he spoke with have been in City government before and they feel their charge would be to step in and help the City for the short period of time.

City Attorney Seiden explained that he is not certain if Council will be able to come to a majority vote, which means that three people need to agree, but he is going to require that they discuss this topic until they make a decision.

To answer Mayor Garcia's question, Councilman Best explained that everyone who approached him and indicated that they wanted to serve, had no interest in running for election.

Mayor Garcia commented that he would like the person filling the vacant seat to run for office because they should have a stake in what happens in the future and the people he spoke with agreed.

Councilman Best said that people told him they are not interested in running for office since it would be a short qualifying period and a short time to campaign before August 14th.

Councilwoman Ator felt that Council's issues would be resolved if they wait until the next meeting so that they will know who is running. She also feels that someone should be appointed who is not running for office and two weeks from now she will know. There is no benefit to being an incumbent for eight weeks, but she did not tell the people she talked to that she was not willing to submit their name if they were going to run.

Mayor Garcia feels that Council should consider the names, discuss the pros and cons and select the best person on the list to fill the seat for eight weeks. That person can prove what they can do for the City and work through the budget process.

City Attorney Seiden agreed that Mayor Garcia had raised good points and all the issues will be collectively or personally taken into consideration. His question is what the process is going to entail and if people should be invited to make presentations or each Council member should submit a name for discussion. He is trying to narrow the process so that there is the likelihood of coming to an agreement.

Mayor Garcia would like for Council to submit their names and then take the process into consideration.

Councilman Best explained that he did not approach anyone about filling the seat; they came to him. The one person that stands out and would be most effective is former Councilman James Caudle who indicated that he would be willing to serve, but he is not interested in running for office. He said that Mr. Caudle knows the process of the government body and feels that he could do the job and serve the City.

Councilwoman Ator said that her choices consist of former Mayor Richard Wheeler, Marla Alpizar who works for the City of Hialeah and Mark Trowbridge who is a businessman and has shown his leadership on the advisory boards.

Vice Mayor Lob noted that he would like someone who the electorate already had a chance to vote for and based on the last election, Grace Bain is the person who had the next highest number of votes.

Mayor Garcia commented that he had spoken with Marla Alpizar and Mark Trowbridge who both expressed an interest. He asked Councilman Best if he had spoken with Marla Alpizar and Councilman Best replied that he did speak with her.

Mayor Garcia noted that he spoke with Mark Trowbridge, but he never followed up and the other name on his list was Grace Bain. He would like to see Jim Caudle fill the seat as well, but the running factor is what is important to him. He commented that he had the same three names, but instead of Richard Wheeler he chose Grace Bain.

Councilwoman Ator stated that she would not object to Jim Caudle.

Mayor Garcia would like to discuss whether or not Council needs the five people to present themselves to Council. He said that in knowing all five people and their background, he does not need them to present themselves.

Council agreed that there was no need for any of the candidates to present themselves to Council.

Councilman Best felt that it is very unlikely that any of the five people would run for office in the August election, with the exception of one person.

City Attorney Seiden said that Council would know who is running for office before the next meeting and they could continue their discussion at that time to see if there is a consensus on one person.

Mayor Garcia was of the opinion that Council could select the person now, as opposed to waiting until the next meeting and City Attorney Seiden advised him that the agenda for this meeting included discussion about the process and not the selection.

Mayor Garcia clarified that in his discussion with the City Attorney he advised him that each Council member was going to submit names and discuss the process. Currently there are four members who have Jim Caudle on their list and he questioned why Council has to wait until the next meeting.

City Attorney Seiden advised Council that they should wait until the next meeting because the agenda item was only for discussion of the process to fill the vacancy. He felt the more appropriate manner is to give notice of what is going to be decided during a meeting so that the citizens can participate.

Council **agreed** to schedule an agenda item for the June 11, 2012 Regular Meeting to make a selection.

10B) August 14, 2012 Special Election

City Clerk Magali Valls read a memo explaining the need to appropriate \$25,000 from the Designated Fund Balance to cover the cost of the upcoming election as follows:

“As per your request in March 2012, the Miami-Dade County Elections Department estimated the cost of piggybacking on a countywide election at approximately \$8,000, excluding the cost of printing the ballot. Special election funds had not been included in our budget since this is not a regular election year.

Our office has already incurred more than \$6,500 in legal advertising fees to comply with the requirements of Florida Statutes Section 100.141 to give notification of the vacant seat in Group II.

My estimate for complying with Florida Statutes Section 100.342, which is to advertise the Charter questions in the third and fifth weeks before the election is \$9,400.

As a result, we will need to appropriate approximately \$25,000 (round figures) from the Designated Fund Balance in the General Fund”.

Council **approved** a request to appropriate \$25,000 from the Designated Fund Balance to cover expenses for the upcoming Special Election of August 14, 2012.

10C) First Reading – Ordinance No. 1036-2012 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending Code of Ordinance Section 150-017, Recreational Vehicles, to Clarify, Correct and Remove Provisions that will Provide a Clearer, more Accurate, and up to date Code Section; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date

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

Attorney Seiden stated that this is one of the easier revisions that the Code Department Director has suggested. He said that he clarified the language for (A) (9) because the prior language was unclear. He corrected the word “corner” in (B) (4) and made two corrections in (C) under Variances because a dollar amount should be included in the “Schedule of Charges” and not referred to in the code section.

City Attorney Seiden stated that a provision discussing red stickers was taken out of the code because that procedure is no longer used.

Councilwoman Ator moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

(Mayor Garcia called for a five-minute recess)

10D) Recommendation from the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee Regarding Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc.

Nery Owens 332 Payne Drive noticed from reading the minutes that the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee has recommended that Council let Calvin, Giordano go and she agrees with them 100%. She also agrees with the City Manager's recommendation to follow through.

Ms. Owens continued to express her concerns as a citizen and taxpayer about the funds that were spent for the consultants and added that it seems that the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee members are not cognizant of the role of government in leading business and code enforcement. She noted that any study that is done by a county, state or municipality is a public record and before spending more funds for studies, the City Planner should contact the Airport Authority or Miami-Dade County to request copies.

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that continued significant revitalization expenditures by the City is a major concern to the Administration. He said that the local, regional and global economy has resulted in the lack of commercial real estate investors and developers, and coupled with the City's budget issues, he suggests reconsideration of the short-term costs/benefits of further expenditures.

City Manager Gorland said that he remains a strong supporter of revitalization in commercial areas, but the City cannot afford what is proposed, especially with the lack of available grants. The recommendation from Calvin, Giordano to spend \$90,000 for an intersection beta test, \$200,000 for matching grants and \$500,000 to \$700,000 for the City Hall façade is not feasible without significant financing. He believes that Council should reconsider the City's relationship with the consultants and although he supports the theory that the City cannot afford not to be actively pursuing redevelopment, the timing is wrong to do this.

City Manager Gorland recommended temporarily placing a hold on further expenditures until Council has had time to discuss revitalization and how to proceed in light of the upcoming budget deficit.

Mayor Garcia asked if the City received information in regard to the property tax values from the Property Appraiser's Office.

City Manager Gorland responded that the City would be notified of the assessed values on June 1st. The Miami-Dade County City Manager's Association held a meeting and there was some optimism from the Property Appraiser, but he expressed caution because his estimate was preliminary.

Mayor Garcia agreed with the City Manager's recommendation to discuss what direction to take and to put a temporary hold on expenditures. He is not prepared to end the agreement with Calvin, Giordano even though it was recommended by the Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee. He suggested putting a hold on the expenditures, because it is not feasible to take on a \$90,000 project with City funds.

City Manager Gorland added that he would not recommend spending any funds on the Airport Golf District as recommended by Calvin, Giordano. He explained that some of the unfinished items could be handled in-house.

Councilwoman Ator understands and agrees with the recommendation to sever the relationship with Calvin, Giordano, but she is concerned about the work orders that were put into play and are still pending results. She referred to the Zoning Map and the Abraham Tract regulations.

City Manager Gorland responded that the City Planner informed him that the Zoning Map is being completed.

City Attorney Seiden clarified that the City Planner would review and revise the regulations proposed by Calvin, Giordano for the Abraham Tract in a manner in which the present state of the development of the district and need to permit "branding" in the area will be paramount. It is likely that the revised regulations will eliminate the current requirement for the two types of permitted designs, in light of the already numerous hotel designs existing in the district, and the modification, if not elimination, of the multi-phase design review processes provided in the 36th Street regulations.

City Attorney Seiden explained that he and the City Planner need Council's blessing to finish the work that was proposed by Calvin, Giordano, but they want to take a different position than what the consultants presented before. He and the City Planner feel that an anti-branding approach and specific design limitations are functionally limiting to people who want to invest in the community. He is recommending a revision to the regulations that were proposed for the Abraham Tract because it is a built-out hotel district with different designs and branding.

City Attorney Seiden commented that there had been contact with a real estate developer/broker and another developer who developed property in the City before and they both have said that they were on the verge of having contracts to develop properties in the Abraham District. It is very important to finish the Abraham Tract district boundary regulations before the July break with the first reading and second readings of the ordinance in June. He suggested drafting a modified version of the regulations and keeping some of the review processes with in-house Staff.

City Attorney Seiden reiterated that Council's approval is needed in order to proceed with the Abraham Tract district boundary regulations.

Mayor Garcia asked how Council felt about the recommendation; he is in agreement with authorizing Staff to prepare the regulations.

Councilwoman Ator asked if the sign reference would be included regarding billboards and City Attorney Seiden clarified that the sign code would be separate from the Abraham Tract regulations.

Councilwoman Ator noted that the balance of the work order for the Abraham Tract is \$1,500 and Staff's recommendation sounds good, but Council would be saying that they do not want Calvin, Giordano to continue their work on the Abraham Tract regulations.

Councilwoman Ator referred to the Airport Golf District boundary regulations and the \$21,000 work order, with a balance of \$15,000. She said that last time Calvin, Giordano came before Council they spent about \$6,000, and basically said that they wanted another work order to prepare a master plan. Council indicated that they do not want the master plan, but the question is whether or not Calvin, Giordano is needed to provide any kind of structure for the Golf District.

City Attorney Seiden stated that confirmation was received from the State of Florida that the City would in fact have to prepare an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Airport Golf District. He explained that a recommendation to bring a copy of the plan description for the Golf District to the next meeting was discussed today because the amendment must be done before the preparation of the district boundary regulations since they are dependent on each other. Council is being asked to consider the Airport Golf District and to provide their thoughts on further revisions so that amendments to the Comprehensive Plan can be done at one time.

City Attorney Seiden advised Council that the Airport Golf District boundary regulations would be simpler than the other two districts because at this point it is a "dead" area, except for the hotels on the southern perimeter of Fairway Drive. The other properties are in foreclosure or disrepair and there is a need for discussion on the vision for the area in the future. He clarified that Staff feels that they are able to accommodate the Golf District boundary regulations based on the materials they have so far.

Councilwoman Ator understood that the Administration is recommending that Council stop all spending. She said that work order # 2 for the aesthetic and theme package was originally \$56,000 and there is a balance of almost \$12,000 in that work order. She asked if there is any more work that Council wants done relative to this work order and if there is a need to have more meetings with Calvin, Giordano.

City Manager Gorland responded that he does not want any more meetings with Calvin, Giordano until a decision has been made on how to proceed with revitalization. He said that decisions must be made about changes and what needs to happen to attract investors in order to simplify the process.

Councilwoman Ator asked if there were any outstanding invoices from Calvin, Giordano and City Manager Gorland responded that he could not recall anything that they are working on and the time they spent on promoting the Airport Golf District should be covered under their internal development costs.

City Attorney Seiden commented that Calvin, Giordano might charge for their appearance at the May 14th Council meeting.

Councilwoman Ator felt that stopping all spending would be the same as severing the relationship with Calvin, Giordano.

City Manager Gorland commented that it would be a temporary measure until there is a chance to have further discussions about how to proceed and what the City can afford, which will be determined during the budget process.

City Attorney Seiden said that a lot of time and funds were spent on the signage and street furnishings and there should be an answer to that proposal as part of the process.

City Manager Gorland said that the signage proposal would not be discarded; it is a matter of allocating the funds and deciding how they should be spent. Commercial revitalization is something that should constantly continue.

Mayor Garcia agreed with the City Manager's decision to put a temporary hold on spending until Council decides in what direction to head.

Councilwoman Ator mentioned that Council had discussed the use of Citizen Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) funds and how much the signage would cost for the entire City. She asked for clarification if Council still wants a response from Calvin, Giordano or not.

City Manager Gorland responded that he would rather not ask Calvin, Giordano for a response until after the budget process and a determination is made on how much funding is available for commercial revitalization and how the funds should be spent.

Councilwoman Ator was concerned that without asking the question Council would not know how much the signage is going to cost.

City Manager Gorland said that Council could determine the cost for signage.

Vice Mayor Lob explained that Council approved of the signage proposal and wanted to know the cost for implementing it in the commercial area. He understands that the cost was \$90,000 for one intersection and it may have included the cost of initial items, but once they are in place, the cost should be less. He asked if Council would be throwing out the entire idea because of the initial \$90,000 or if Council could get the cost for a larger area to base their decision on.

Vice Mayor Lob referred to the process for the renovation of the Pilot House that went smoothly. He asked if the Administration is revising the entire process.

City Attorney Seiden explained that 36th Street is a different situation; there are three sub-districts and the Abraham Tract is like an island with already developed hotels.

Vice Mayor Lob understands the need to attract developers to the area. He said that Council had been discussing revitalization for two years and now they are being told to look at the Abraham Tract in a different light. He knows that Burger King, McDonalds and other companies want to keep their branding designs, but in many places they have built according to the area regulations. He said that Council set a vision for the 36th Street District and he does not want to say it was a waste of two years of planning.

City Attorney Seiden clarified that he did not mention 36th Street and the last time Council discussed the district he informed them that there were loading and signage issues to be dealt with that the City Planner is working on. He said that there is a distinct difference between 36th Street and the Abraham Tract District.

City Attorney Seiden explained that Council is being presented with another alternative for the Abraham Tract and they could decide to stay with the formula that was created.

Vice Mayor Lob asked why the same formula would not work for the Abraham Tract.

City Attorney Seiden said that he was never in favor of negative branding and he fought against the development review process, except that Council did not accept his view. In his opinion, the process for the Abraham Tract is different because there is a limited island of hotels and one vacant restaurant with different designs. He spoke with a person who is working with the Hampton Suites, a division of Hilton, and they are suggesting their branding design.

Attorney Seiden explained that it is much easier dealing with 36th Street with the current formula as opposed to the hotel situations in the Abraham District and it would have less of an impact since it is a compact area. The point of trying to apply one or two design limitations on an area that already has multiple designs does not make sense, but it is entirely Council's decision.

In response to Vice Mayor Lob, City Attorney Seiden said that the process had not worked for 36th Street. He added that the regulations will work when one developer constructs a building that is in the Streamline Moderne style that is proposed in the ordinance. The new McDonalds restaurant is beautiful, but it required many variances, and it has been a success in regard to renovation, but a new development is needed for success.

City Attorney Seiden emphasized that the Code must be developer friendly and he understands the design features, but 36th Street was cut into three sub-districts because they are all different. The City Planner, City Manager and Staff feel that the best way to go under the current circumstances is to simplify the process for the Abraham Tract.

Councilwoman Ator reiterated that Council had requested more information on the cost for the signage program for the City.

City Manager Gorland clarified that for a short time period he would like to put the expenditures for revitalization on hold.

Councilwoman Ator said that it seems like the City Manager is ending the relationship with the consultants. She does not feel that the issue is resolved, but she will support the recommendation.

Vice Mayor Lob explained that he would approve of waiting, but at some point Council is going to need the answers about the cost of the lighting, signage and street furnishings for the entire area, not one intersection.

Councilwoman Ator clarified that Vice Mayor Lob is willing to wait, but he wants an answer about the cost of the lighting and signage. She said that when the Architectural Review Board originally proposed their recommendation for signage it was for the entire stretch of Curtiss Parkway, Westward Drive and around the Circle with sixteen defined areas. She suggested that the Administration could look at the Architectural Review Board's proposal for the various locations.

By consensus, Council approved the City Manager's recommendation to temporarily place a hold on further revitalization expenditures until after the budget process and authorized the City Attorney and City Planner to proceed with drafting the Abraham Tract district boundary regulations.

10E) Recommendation that Council Approve an Expenditure in an Amount not to Exceed \$7,250.00, on an as Needed Basis, to Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. for Billing of Monthly Meeting Attendance, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (F) (11) (c) of the City Code

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland read the title of the award. He stated that this is a housekeeping issue because costs were incurred that were not anticipated when Calvin, Giordano agreed to monthly meetings; they charged the City for Lorraine Tappen's time and not Richard Sala who volunteered his time for free.

City Manager Gorland explained that the request was for more funds than are actually needed based on what was just discussed and there will be no further meetings with Calvin, Giordano until there is something specific to talk to them about with Council's direction. He explained that expenses totaling \$3,500.00 had already been incurred and the request is amended to cover that amount.

Nery Owens of 332 Payne Drive recommended canceling the contract and severing all ties with Calvin, Giordano. She feels that when funds are available Council could continue with the Streamline Moderne and Pueblo Mission style, although she does not feel that the design regulations should be restricted to two styles.

Ms. Owens commented that \$168,000 had already been spent for the consultants and now the responsibility is being shifted to the City Planner. She would recommend spending the balance of the funds to hire a part-time architectural student for the summer to assist the City Planner.

Councilwoman Ator moved to approve the request for \$3,500.00. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion.

Councilman Best said that he had heard a lot of comments against Calvin, Giordano and the only saving grace for the firm would be if they came forward with two or three developers who are ready to spend millions of dollars for development. He expressed this to them before and he has not seen anything from them in that capacity.

The motion was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

Agenda Item 10F was discussed after the Board of Appeals Meeting.

10F) Consideration of Request from Fred Suco to Close the Southbound Lane of Flagler Drive

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that this item is regarding the closure of the southbound lane of Flagler Drive and revitalization of the west end. Mr. Gorland read the memo which explained the revitalization vision in the vicinity of Woody's West End Tavern. The activities include the approval of outdoor dining space on the public right-of-way, \$16,800 improvements in public right-of-ways and \$40,000 in drainage improvements in the immediate area.

City Manager Gorland also explained that Mr. Suco is requesting the closure of the southbound lane of Flagler Drive due to safety concerns and incidents. The memo included five incidents that occurred in that area from February 2007 to November 2011. The County will require a traffic impact study and schematic design.

Mayor Garcia appreciated Mr. Suco's proposal and he had questions as to why this proposal was being looked into for Woody's West End Tavern. The entire west end has not received the attention that other commercial areas have received. He is pleased to see that the drainage project is being proposed for that area due to the severe issues.

Mayor Garcia was disappointed to hear of all the incidents that have occurred in the west end area. He feels that something needs to be done and his concern is regarding the long streets that do not have many stop signs.

City Manager Gorland commented that the stop signs would be a separate engineering study that had been discussed with Mr. Suco. To his understanding, there would be a great reluctance at the County level to take the traffic that is southbound and route it to Ludlam Drive on the north side of Woody's West End Tavern. He noted that he spoke with Councilwoman Ator and it was to their understanding that Mr. Suco wanted the traffic study to be performed by the City.

The City Manager explained that if a person wanted a single lane then the study would typically be done by that person and in his opinion, the study should not be done by the City.

Mayor Garcia commented that the City receives many recommendations such as this one from residents and business owners all of the time. He believes that recommendations from business owners should be paid for by the business owner. Since there is a greater benefit to the area and not to just one particular business, Council should consider if it is something that the City should do.

Mayor Garcia was not pleased that the City was considering asking the business owner to incur the cost of the traffic study. He prefers that Council decide if this proposal should occur and if Council decides that it should not occur, and Mr. Suco wants to do it on his own, then that is up to him.

Councilman Best said that there are several safety related issues involved in this case and the angles of the streets do not give a clear vision of other cars. Unfortunately, measures are not taken until something happens. He noted that coming from Westward onto Bentley and making a left onto Flagler is a big concern. He understands that Doug Orr Plumbing is in agreement with this proposal.

Councilman Best stated that looking forward, there is not going to be much development in that area relative to businesses due to the lack of space. He believes that the traffic study should be entertained for the area in the propensity to close the one lane that is being requested.

City Manager Gorland clarified that the City would contact an independent group to have an engineering study done and he is not certain if the County would take on something of this nature. He said that the City Staff was sufficiently concerned with the safety when Mr. Suco came for the approval of outdoor dining next to the road and the request was granted due to the fact that the sidewalk does not serve as a sidewalk and it is used as a dining area.

City Manager Gorland explained that there are bollards being installed for safety and additional bollards will be installed after the kitchen addition is completed. He noted that letters had not yet been sent out to residents to request their feedback.

Discussion ensued regarding an old study for a stop sign on Payne Drive and Albatross Street.

City Attorney Seiden suggested that the City should ask the County what kind of study is needed.

Vice Mayor Lob was of the opinion that the cost should be investigated and the residents should be notified in order for them to provide feedback.

Fred Suco said that the cost for an engineering study would be approximately \$7,500 to \$10,000. The issue is not the number of cars that turn in that area; it is the way that the street was made to where the other streets are not visible at the stop sign.

To answer City Manager Gorland's question, Mr. Suco explained that the parallel parking would be along the southbound lane.

Discussion ensued regarding Doug Orr Plumbing previously wanting to close Flagler Drive in order to provide more parking space and safety.

Councilwoman Ator stated that she had also been aware of this issue. She reiterated that she spoke with the City Manager regarding Mr. Suco's letter and that he wanted the support from Council and was not asking for the City to pay for the study. She suggested that the City Planner could work with Mr. Suco to determine exactly what is needed from the County.

Councilwoman Ator mentioned that there is a large budget deficit this year and any discussion regarding funds would need to be discussed in that type of context. She asked if Council could receive the information before moving forward.

Mayor Garcia commented that the discussion needs to be about what the recommendations are from the City Planner. He does not want the discussion to be solely on one idea that is presented and he feels that Council should discuss what the best ways are to resolve this issue.

Councilwoman Ator explained that Council wants to solve the problem and in order to do that they must get the information from the County. She noted that traffic calming devices would solve the problem and she would recommend getting information from the County before proceeding.

Councilman Best suggested having a berm in the middle of the convergence where Bentley, Flagler and Payne Drive come together. He said that since it is a transportation related issue, he was curious if CITT funds would cover the cost.

Mayor Garcia clarified that it would be a traffic circle similar to the one that was installed on Lenape Drive.

City Manager Gorland said that he is not certain that the County would pay for the study, but they would pay for the work on the road.

Mayor Garcia stated that in reference to parking, the parking spaces that would be installed by Woody's West End Tavern would be public parking and City Manager Gorland replied in agreement.

Mr. Suco explained that there are many businesses in the area and there are no parking spaces available.

Mayor Garcia commented that Mr. Suco had been a big part in the success of that area and he appreciates everything that he has done to make improvements.

Councilman Best asked what the procedure was for the situation on Lenape Drive and Bluebird Avenue and Mayor Garcia replied that the Police Department was informed and they had a police officer create a study and speak with the residents in the area.

Mayor Garcia asked City Manager Gorland to let Council know if they needed to speak with the County Commissioner to make any requests.

Council **directed** the City Planner to work with Mr. Suco and obtain additional information from the County in regard to the requirement for a traffic impact study and schematic design before considering approval of a request to close the southbound lane of Flagler Drive.

10G) Discussion Regarding Color Palette Variance Process

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden referred to an e-mail that was received by Mayor Garcia from business owner Maximo Alvarez, President of Sunshine Gasoline Distributors, Inc. regarding the color palette compliance program that is somewhat restrictive because it does not allow for branding. There are colors that certain establishments must use as part of the requirements of their franchise.

City Attorney Seiden stated that Mr. Alvarez asked how he would go about seeking relief and he is not the first person to do so, as the City Manager received a letter from an attorney who also had a client in the City who asked for relief. He explained that there are two solutions to the problem that he would propose.

City Attorney Seiden said that normally there are variance processes in Chapter 150 in the City Code, but the color palette provision was incorporated into Chapter 93 – Maintenance of Property. The program requires compliance before December 31, 2012, and there is no facility for property owners to address the branding issues or other issues related to compliance with the color palette.

Attorney Seiden proposed an amendment to the ordinance to provide for a variance process through the Board of Adjustment or incorporating a provision that would allow an administrative review of the process to allow for relief in appropriate circumstances. The variance process through the Board of Adjustment is slightly more cumbersome and the administrative review process could also provide for an appeal to Council.

Mayor Garcia and Councilman Best responded that they would approve of the second option for the administrative review.

Councilwoman Ator and Vice Mayor Lob preferred the first option for the variance process through the Board of Adjustment.

Councilwoman Ator explained that the Board of Adjustment variance process is noticed and everyone can attend to voice their opinions.

City Attorney Seiden added that the Board of Adjustment variance process would be different from the usual variances handled by the City Planner because it is only a color issue; there would be no measurements or surveys involved and no courtesy notices would be mailed to neighbors. He felt that this option would be better than the administrative review process.

Mayor Garcia said that his concern would be placing the responsibility on the Board of Adjustment members to either approve or deny a commercial branding process.

Attorney Seiden clarified that he would be at the Board of Adjustment meetings to explain what the cases involve.

Mayor Garcia commented that it would not make sense to tell a major corporation that they cannot have their corporate branding colors because they might take their business elsewhere.

City Attorney Seiden explained that the good part of the administrative review process is that Staff would be more familiar with the issues than the Board of Adjustment.

Mayor Garcia stated that he does not want another layer of government and process because the Board of Adjustment meetings are only held once a month. He felt that businesses should not have to go through this process to get approval to put their logos on the buildings.

Councilwoman Ator suggested that some of the fears related to branding could be resolved because it is a bifurcated issue that is different from a property owner who simply does not like the color palette.

Vice Mayor Lob stated that it seems like branding is a situation that is going to happen and it would make sense to allow corporate branding within the code regulations.

City Attorney Seiden explained that branding could be allowed within the code regulations, subject to review and approval by Staff through an administrative review process in order to ensure that it is a legitimate branding issue. All other cases related to compliance with the color palette could go through the Board of Adjustment variance process.

Council authorized the City Attorney to draft an amendment to the ordinance to allow corporate branding, subject to an administrative review process; all other cases related to compliance with the color palette would go through the Board of Adjustment variance process.

Agenda Item 10H was discussed after Agenda Item 3C.

10H) Recommendation that Council Waive the Competitive Bid Process and Approve an Expenditure of \$25,000.00 to Shafer & Associates, Inc. for Employee Benefits Consulting Services, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (6) (g) of the City Code

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland read the title of the award.

City Manager Gorland stated that during past years the City had contracted with Shafer & Associates, Inc. to help develop, review and select the City's health insurance carrier. The cost for their services is \$9,500.00 annually and once the carrier was selected the company assigns an agent to service the City's account and the agent received a 4% fee of approximately \$44,000. The process resulted in a total cost to the City of \$53,500.

Shafer & Associates has proposed to perform both the consulting and agent duties for a total annual cost of \$25,000 resulting in an annual savings of \$28,500 in health care costs for the upcoming fiscal year, according to City Manager Gorland. The Administration recommends approval of the Shafer & Associates' proposal due to the long standing relationship the City has had with the firm, as well as the firm's understanding of the City's insurance needs and history.

City Manager Gorland explained that funding is available from the savings generated by the proposal and funds are budgeted in the Health Insurance line items for each department.

Councilman Best stated that he is pleased with the \$28,000 savings. He asked Mr. Shafer if \$25,000 is within his capability to perform both functions as consultant and agent.

Bob Shafer of 4206 Laguna Street, Coral Gables, stated that the combination of the two functions would be easy to handle since his firm works with several other municipalities and he has a good grasp of what is going on. He has been involved with the City of Miami Springs for many years and has a good understanding of the City's program and the Staff.

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden reminded Council that with only four members, the Code requires a 4/5 vote in waiver situations and to carry any waiver it would require a unanimous vote.

Attorney Seiden mentioned that the City Administration was very appropriate in notifying the former agent and he understood the City's position in going this direction. In the past, he had questioned why the City could not go directly to an insurance company to ask for bids and they always told him that the City had to have an agent.

City Attorney Seiden explained that this proposal would solve a problem that the City has had for a number of years; Mr. Shafer has dealt with the City as a consultant and will now be assuming additional duties, for additional funds, and at the same time he will be saving the City a number of dollars.

Councilman Best moved the item. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

10I) Appointment of Voting Delegate to the Florida League of Cities 86th Annual Conference

Mayor Garcia commented that in the past Councilman Best was the voting delegate until former Councilman Espino took over the responsibility. He asked Councilman Best if he was interested again.

Councilman Best replied that there is a commitment from August through November and he could not make this commitment at the moment.

Councilwoman Ator asked what the additional commitments were and Councilman Best replied that some conferences were two or three day sessions.

Mayor Garcia said that other Council members had attended the conference in past years and there is only one voting delegate that must be present during one weekend.

Councilman Best added that he previously served on the subcommittees and he could not make this commitment again.

Councilwoman Ator volunteered to be the delegate to the Florida League of Cities 86th Annual Conference.

Councilman Best nominated Councilwoman Ator to serve as the voting delegate. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

10J) Status of City of Miami Springs and Dade County PBA Impasse Hearing

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that the City of Miami Springs and the PBA Impasse Hearing is scheduled to be held in the Council Chambers at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 14th. While it is the policy of the administration to schedule public meetings on Mondays through Thursdays after 5:00 p.m., this is the first available date and time after May 30th that the two PBA representatives could attend.

City Manager Gorland added that it was difficult to find a date after June 14th due to vacations and business conflicts. The Administration agreed to the 8:30 a.m. time only because the hearing does not involve public comment, and Comcast is being requested to record the meeting for subsequent resident viewing through Channel 77, and the hearing will be available via webcast.

City Manager Gorland reminded Council that there can be no discussion of any matters involving the impasse issues or positions as part of the agenda item. The hearing process is outlined in attachment "B" of the support documentation.

Councilwoman Ator asked what the estimated time is for the completion of the hearing process and City Attorney Seiden responded that prior to the hearing that Council would receive material to support the position and the hearing should be finished before lunch time.

Agenda Item 10K was discussed after Agenda Item 10E.

10K) Curtiss Mansion Historic Tax Credit Transaction Update – Verbal Report from City Manager and City Attorney

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden stated that everyone is working hard to accommodate the needs of all parties. He is not foreclosing the possibility of having to hold a Special Meeting for Council to adopt a resolution approving the transaction either before June 6th or thereafter. All parties involved will try to resolve the matter as quickly as possible, but he cannot promise anything due to outside forces and an issue that came up in regard to some liens against the property, but apparently the contractor has a bond.

City Attorney Seiden said that the surveyor has to finish his work. In addition, there is an opinion that he is required to give and there still has not been clearance on all the documents from the other parties. He explained that there is nothing more to report other than everyone is working through the process and it requires a lot of work that is unfamiliar because it has not been done before.

City Attorney Seiden advised Council that it is a complicated transaction and if it is not completed within the allotted timeframe they will request an extension.

Mayor Garcia expressed his appreciation and said that he has confidence in the work that is being done, but unfortunately he is afraid of the process since it had not been done before.

City Attorney Seiden was disappointed that representation was made to the City that this type of transaction had been done in Florida municipalities before. This is not the case, and the City of Miami Springs will be the first municipality in the State of Florida to do this type of transaction.

CMI President Jo Ellen Morgan Phillips of 372 DeLeon Drive said that she appreciates all the work involved in the transaction and she hopes that it will continue since there are upcoming events at the Mansion, including Captain Barrington Irving's summer camp. She noted that Captain Irving's picture is in the National Geographic Magazine under the new Boards for the Young Explorers of the Year and he was interviewed by Channel 4 and The Miami Herald.

Mayor Garcia stated that he would like to do everything possible to expedite the process.

Ms. Morgan Phillips thanked the City Manager, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director and City Attorney for everything they are doing that will benefit the entire City.

10L) Resolution No. 2012-3545 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Authorizing the Establishment of all Required Bank Accounts for Miami Springs Properties, Inc.; Authorizing Signatories for all Miami Springs Properties, Inc. Bank Accounts; Effective Date

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

Attorney Seiden stated that this is an authorization required by the historic tax credit to open a bank account for the controlling entity that will be Miami Springs Properties, Inc. and the signatories are the same as in the other resolutions for all City bank accounts.

Councilwoman Ator moved to adopt Resolution 2012-3545. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

10M) Resolution No. 2012-3546 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Authorizing the Formation of Miami Springs Landlord, LLC and Miami Springs Master Tenant, LLC, Florida Limited Liability Companies; Authorizing the Establishment of all Required Bank Accounts for each Limited Liability Company; Authorizing Signatories for all Limited Liability Company(s) Accounts; Effective Date

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

Attorney Seiden stated that in order to save time Attorney Robert Chaves had already formed the entities but had not opened the bank accounts or established signatories for the accounts. Council is being asked to adopt this resolution to back date approval on the formation of the companies and to authorize the opening of the bank accounts and the signatories. This is required for the trail of companies down the historic tax credit chain.

Councilwoman Ator moved to adopt Resolution 2012-3546. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

10N) Recommendation that Council Award Bid # 03-11/12 to Computer Electric, Inc., the Lowest Responsible Bidder, in the Amount of \$200,000.00, on an “As Needed Basis”, for Electrical Services Citywide, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (1) of the City Code

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that Computer Electric, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$200,000.00, on an “as needed” basis, for electrical services citywide.

Request for Proposal # 03-11/12 was advertised for licensed electrical contractor services of which thirty vendors were notified of the opportunity to bid, according to Mr. Gorland. Contractors attended a mandatory pre-bid meeting on May 8th and only nine were in attendance. The City received five bids on May 22nd and all were considered responsive.

City Manager Gorland stated that a committee comprised of Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso, Operations Superintendent/Arborist Tom Nash, and Professional Services Supervisor Tammy Romero met and evaluated the bids that were received. After careful review, the Committee is recommending Computer Electric, Inc. as the lowest responsible proposer.

City Manager Gorland reviewed the previous years' total expenses and he explained that funding is available from the Citizen Independent Transportation (CITT) funds.

City Attorney Seiden noted that the award was based upon the crew rate, as shown on the chart provided in the back up documentation. He added that Computer Electric, Inc. is the City's current contractor.

City Manager Gorland stated that Computer Electric is always available 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Councilman Best moved the item. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion which was carried 4-0 on roll call vote.

11. Other Business:

None.

12. Reports & Recommendations:

12A) City Attorney

None.

12B) City Manager

Memorial Day Ceremony

City Manager Gorland complimented the Daughters of the American Revolution for a great Memorial Day ceremony that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Arbor Day Celebration

City Manager Gorland invited everyone to attend the City's Arbor Day celebration at the Curtiss Mansion on Wednesday, May 30th at 10:00 a.m.

Blessed Trinity Golf Tournament

City Manager Gorland announced that Blessed Trinity Church and School will hold its 26th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 2nd at 7:00 a.m. at the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club.

Delores Orr

City Manager Gorland reported that long-time Miami Springs Baptist School Pre-school teacher Delores Orr would be honored at a retirement party on Saturday, June 9th from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Lions Club and tickets are \$10.00 each.

Poker Tournament

City Manager Gorland said that the Lions Club would hold their charity poker tournament on Saturday, June 16th at 3:00 p.m. at 301 Swallow Drive.

12C) City Council

Thank You

Councilwoman Ator thanked the City Manager for recognizing the Daughters of the American Revolution who work hard every year to sponsor the Memorial Day ceremony. She explained that the second poem that was read during the ceremony was the American response to Flanders Field.

Trash

Councilwoman Ator reported that she had received complaints about trash on the streets around the City and she asked what the protocol is for Public Works to pick it up.

City Manager Gorland responded that the City has a street sweeping service and he will check to see if there had been any change. He offered to look into the matter.

All Angels Academy

Councilwoman Ator received notice from the County Commissioner's Office that All Angels Academy will be honored by the County Commission on Tuesday, June 5th at 9:00 a.m., which is before the students travel to the National History Competition in Maryland.

Thank You

Councilwoman Ator thanked the citizens who donated funds to the young women from All Angels who will travel to the National competition, including the Village of Virginia Gardens and the Optimist Club.

Arbor Day

Councilwoman Ator announced that the Arbor Day celebration would be held on Wednesday, May 30th at the Curtiss Mansion.

Summer Camps

Councilwoman Ator said that with school coming to an end the summer camps are filling up. She was told that Captain Barrington Irving is still enrolling people in his camp and the New Life summer camp registration begins on June 8th and it will be held at the Charter school for kids through fifth grade.

Health Survey

Councilwoman Ator recently completed a telephone health survey about smoking and encouraged the other Council members to do the same if they are contacted.

Agenda Items

Councilwoman Ator stated that there were issues at the last Council meeting and her main issue dealt with the agenda. She wanted to take the Calvin, Giordano item off the agenda and the Mayor was very adamant about not taking it off. Through her research to see what the proper procedure is she found that it is not the Mayor's job to set the agenda.

City Attorney Seiden clarified that the City Manager sets the agenda and he presents it to Council who by consensus or a majority vote can remove an item.

Recognition

Councilwoman Ator was upset that Mayor Garcia failed to recognize her at the end of the last meeting under Reports and Recommendations and she does not want it to happen again.

Fishing Tournament

Vice Mayor Lob reminded everyone to make plans for the Optimist Club Fishing Tournament that would be held on Saturday, July 14th.

Arbor Day

Vice Mayor Lob is sorry that he will be in New York and cannot attend the Arbor Day ceremony.

Summer Camps

Vice Mayor Lob announced that Holly Bain is holding a summer dance camp at the Starlight Dance Studio.

Congratulations

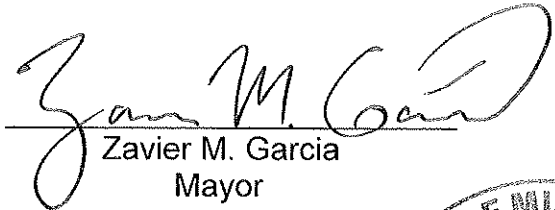
Mayor Garcia congratulated Nick Bain, the son of Grace and former Mayor Billy Bain, who will be getting married next weekend to Elizabeth Rentz.

Delores Orr

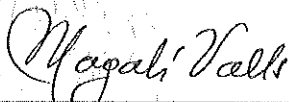
Mayor Garcia recognized Delores Orr who has been teaching at the Miami Springs Baptist Pre-school for many years and will be retiring at the end of the school year. He wishes her the very best in her retirement.

13. Adjourn.

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 1100 p.m.


Zavier M. Garcia
Mayor

ATTEST:


Magali Valls, CMC
City Clerk



Approved as written during meeting of: 6-11-2012.

Transcription assistance provided by Suzanne S. Hitaffer and Elora R. Sakal.

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