



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, February 11, 2013, 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 Jennifer Ator
- Councilwoman Grace Bain
- Councilman Bob Best
- Councilman George Lob

Also Present:

- City Manager Ronald K. Gorland
- Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso
- City Attorney Jan K. Seiden
- Chief of Police Peter G. Baan
- Planning and Zoning Director James H. Holland
- City Clerk Magali Valls
- Deputy City Clerk Suzanne S. Hitaffer

2. **Invocation:** Mayor Garcia offered the invocation.

Salute to the Flag: Students from Miami Springs Middle School led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Garcia presented Certificates of Recognition to the students who participated.

3. **Awards & Presentations:**

3A) **Presentation of the Yard of the Month Award for February 2013 to Anna Margarita Bello of 900 Quail Avenue**

Mayor Garcia presented a Certificate of Recognition to the Bello-González Family of 900 Quail Avenue for their home being designated as the Yard of the Month for February 2013.

3B) Government Finance Officers Association – Presentation of Distinguished Budget Award to Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso

Mayor Garcia presented the Distinguished Budget Award to Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso.

Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Alonso explained that the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is the organization that oversees the profession. There are three awards; one is for the budget, the second is for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the third is for the Popular Annual Financial Report. The City receives all three awards every year.

This particular award is for the budget document that was completed for Fiscal Year 2012-2013, according to Mr. Alonso. The review is conducted by peers, based on set guidelines, and they decide if the award should be granted or not. In some cases, there have been deficiencies and the award is not made. The City has received this award for the past twenty years and all three awards for the past ten years.

Mr. Alonso gave credit to the entire Finance Department Staff for achieving the award, they are devoted to their work and this award would not be possible without their help.

4. Open Forum:

No speakers.

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland explained that Miami Springs Senior High School student Arlene Arrechea had requested to speak on behalf of the cheerleaders who are going to competition and she intended to request a contribution toward their trip expenses.

5. Approval of Council Minutes:

5A) 01-28-2013 – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the January 28, 2013 Regular Meeting were approved as written.

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

6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

6A) 02-04-2013 – Zoning and Planning Board – Minutes

Minutes of the February 4, 2013 Zoning and Planning Board meeting were received for information without comment.

6B) 02-05-2013 – Code Enforcement Board – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the February 5, 2013 Code Enforcement Board meeting was received for information without comment.

6C) 02-06-2013 – Architectural Review Board – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the February 6, 2013 Architectural Review Board meeting was received for information without comment.

6D) 02-12-2013 – Recreation Commission – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the February 12, 2013 Recreation Commission meeting was received for information without comment.

7. Public Hearings:

None.

8. Consent Agenda: (approved with one motion)

8A) Approval of City Attorney's Invoice for January 2013 in the Amount of \$12,980.25

There was no discussion regarding this item.

Vice Mayor Ator moved the consent agenda. Councilman Lob seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried on roll call vote.

8B) Recommendation that Council Waive the Competitive Bid Process and Approve an Expenditure of \$84,236.88 to Diamond Contract Services for Janitorial Services, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (6) (g) of the City Code, and Pursuant to the Contract Renewal Option Provided by the City's Existing Contract/Contract Vendor for an Additional One Year Period

The City Manager read the title of the consent agenda items.

Mayor Garcia commented that the bid is very impressive since it is the same price and the minimum wage had increased since the bid was awarded.

Vice Mayor Ator moved the consent agenda. Councilman Lob seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried on roll call vote.

8C) Recommendation that Council Award a Bid to Hector Turf Utilizing Florida State Contract Bid # 760-000-10-1, in the Amount of \$16,525.89, for Toro Sand Pro 3040 with Attachments Listed, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (5) of the City Code

There was no discussion regarding this item.

Vice Mayor Ator moved the consent agenda. Councilman Lob seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried on roll call vote.

9. Old Business:

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

There were no advisory board appointments.

Vice Mayor Ator referred to the notice that was received today from Mary Ann Goodlett-Taylor announcing her resignation from the Historic Preservation Board.

Vice Mayor Ator pointed out that the Recreation Commission still needs to appoint a Chair so that person can also serve on the Memorial Committee.

City Manager Gorland said that the Recreation Commission is still missing a member and they wanted to wait to select a Chair until there is a full board.

Vice Mayor Ator stated that she would appoint someone to the Historic Preservation Board this week so that they can attend the next meeting on Thursday, February 21st.

Adjourn to Local Planning Agency Meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Reconvene City Council Meeting at 7:35 p.m.

10. New Business:

10A) First Reading – Ordinance No. 1050-2013 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending Chapter 150, “Zoning Code” of the Code of Ordinances, by Amending Section 150-165 “Abraham Tract District” to Provide for Zoning Regulations of Adult-Related Businesses; Establishing Intent and Purpose Related Thereto; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Providing for Severability, Codification, and an Effective Date

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

Susan L. Trevarthen, AICP, Attorney at Law, with the firm of Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske, P.L. said that it is appropriate for the City Council to visit the studies at this time, as summarized in the memo she provided and by access to the studies on the City’s website. The cases require that each Council member be asked individually what they have reviewed and what motivates their vote.

Attorney Trevarthen asked the Mayor and each Council member if they had reviewed the studies, the back-up and their findings and if they are motivated by the desire to control the adverse secondary impacts of these uses in voting on these ordinances.

Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bain, Mayor Garcia, Councilman Lob and Vice Mayor Ator individually responded that they had reviewed the studies, the back-up and their findings and they are motivated by the desire to control the adverse secondary impacts of these uses in voting on these ordinances.

Attorney Seiden stated that Council should acknowledge for the record that they, sitting as the Local Planning Agency, recommended approval of this ordinance to the City Council and it would be appropriate at this time for a motion.

Councilman Lob moved to approve Ordinance No. 1050-2013 on first reading. Vice Mayor Ator seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

10B) First Reading – Ordinance No. 1051-2013 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending the Code of Ordinances by Providing for Creation of Chapter 119 “Adult-Related Businesses Code”, to Provide for Licensing Requirements and Business Regulations for Adult-Related Businesses; Providing for Repeal of Article II of “Sex Related Business Activities” of Chapter 132 “Sex Offenses”; Establishing Intent and Purpose Related Thereto; Providing for Severability; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Providing for Codification; Effective Date

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

Councilman Lob moved to approve Ordinance No. 1051-2013 on first reading. Councilwoman Bain seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

To answer Vice Mayor Ator’s question, City Attorney Seiden stated that the effective date is immediately upon adoption. The second reading of the ordinance will be scheduled for the second meeting in February.

The Mayor and Council thanked Attorney Trevarthen for her excellent work.

10C) Approval of Audit Firm Selection Committee

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that the City’s three-year contract with the external auditors Alberni, Caballero and Company, LLP had expired with the conclusion of the Fiscal Year 2012 audit. The City is currently in the process of preparing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the upcoming Fiscal Years 2013, 2014 and 2015 financial statement audits.

In accordance with State of Florida Statutes, an audit firm selection committee must be appointed to go through the firm selection process and present Council with a recommendation, according to Mr. Gorland. During the last process in 2009, the Committee members were Assistant City Manager Ron Gorland, City Attorney Jan Seiden and Police Chief Pete Baan. He asked Council to approve the three appointments to make up the selection committee for 2013 as follows: City Manager Ron Gorland, City Attorney Jan Seiden and Police Chief Pete Baan. They are experienced in the selection process and provide both financial and legal expertise to the process.

Vice Mayor Ator moved to approve the recommendation of the Administration. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

10D) Resolution No. 2013-3570 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs, Florida; Relating to Earth Hour Participation on March 23, 2013; Urging Other Municipalities to Register and Participate in Earth Hour; Effective Date

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

Vice Mayor Ator recalled that there were some lights that were not turned off in the past due to safety issues and she wanted the City to be prepared to decide what lights will be turned off.

City Manager Gorland assured Council that preparations would be made to turn the lights off. The High School Anchor Club approached the City in the past and conducted the ceremony, which the City supported. He will contact them to see if they are interested again and the City will sponsor the event.

Councilman Best moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-3570 with the understanding that the safety considerations will be upheld. Vice Mayor Ator seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

10E) Recommendation that Council Approve a Site Plan for the Hyatt Place Hotel at 3549 Le Jeune Road

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that this is a recommendation for site plan approval for the Hyatt Place Hotel to be located at 3549 Le Jeune Road. The developer, Travelers Hotel Group, LLC is proposing the construction of a 135-room, six-story hotel on the site of the former Shoney's Restaurant. The ground floor level consists of a service core, motor lobby, and parking under the upper floors. The second level consists of guest amenities, registration, business functions and seven guest rooms. Among the amenities are an open pool and deck, a fitness center, a lounge and dining facilities. Floors three through six are devoted to 32 guestrooms per floor. LEED (Silver) certification will be sought. This will be the City's first green building and no variances to the Code are required.

City Manager Gorland referred to the Zoning Analysis, including parking landscaping, utilities and the unanimous recommendation of the Zoning and Planning Board, as outlined in the memorandum from Planning and Zoning Director Holland. Approval of the site plan is subject to the approval of the Miami-Dade Aviation Department, RER and other appropriate County agencies prior to building permit issuance. A further condition will be the proffering of a recorded covenant restricting the use of the hotel amenities to hotel employees and guests.

Planning and Zoning Director James Holland said that the Zoning and Planning Board unanimously recommended Council approval and everyone is very enthused about the project that has been in the works since last year.

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden stated that the project is consistent with the goals and intent for the Abraham District, which is to encourage large scale development on a wide range of compatible and complimentary uses that are not necessarily permitted in other parts of the City. There is a sliding scale between 1.0 and 3.0 for the floor area ratio (FAR) in this district and the allowable FAR for this site is 2.35, while they are proposing 1.78.

City Attorney Seiden explained that 78 parking spaces were required and will be provided. There are some additional spaces that will not be designated for handicap parking, but sufficient handicap parking is required by law and will be provided. The City Arborist reviewed the site plan for landscaping and he noted that the transplanting of three live oak trees is proposed. Under City policy, if the transplanting is unsuccessful, mitigation of the loss through replacement will be required.

City Attorney Seiden added that the Planning and Zoning Director has requested a Covenant Running with the Land in order to ensure that the hotel amenities will not be open to the public. There will be limited restaurant and food service availability and they will only be capable of dealing with in-house customers. If the amenities were open to the public, then more parking would be required. There are no problems seen with the proposed project and it solves the problem with one of the two parcels in the district that are unoccupied.

Mayor Garcia commented that some attendees at the Zoning and Planning Board meeting thought the "in-house" meant the hotel staff, but that is not the case and City Attorney Seiden clarified that hotel guests could invite relatives over to have a meal and it would not violate the Covenant. It means that the restaurant facility will not be open all the time to the general public.

Steven Marin with Travelers Hotel Group introduced Architect Israel Bigelman who presented a PowerPoint presentation describing the proposed project for a six-story, 135-room Hyatt Place Hotel to be located in the Abraham Tract.

Mr. Bigelman explained that they are seeking a Silver LEED certification for this project that will be the first of this kind in the City of Miami Springs. The hotel is under the required FAR and the number of floors allowed. There is a motor lobby on the ground floor and the main lobby is on the second floor with registration and public areas, including a breakfast area and kitchen, a pool with a nice deck and a covered patio. There is also a small meeting room and some guest rooms on that level. The remaining floors will have typical guest rooms and suites that are consistent with the Hyatt Place prototypes.

Mr. Marin commented that the lobby has different lounge style areas to encourage guests to come out of their rooms and congregate downstairs to work on their computers, meet new people or eat at the restaurant. In this case, the public space is very nice with greenery and water features in the pool, which the guests really enjoy. The bar area is meant to promote socializing and the front desk clerk is able to service the guests when they want food or beverage service. Renderings were displayed of the guest rooms that have a modern look.

To answer Vice Mayor Ator's question, Mr. Bigelman replied that the pool is on the second floor and there is parking underneath with enough headroom for the cars, while the garage has a higher headroom.

Mr. Marin pointed out a monumental staircase that will give guests the option of taking the stairs up to the second floor into the main lobby. He said that the view looking out to the pool will be covered with glass and there is a wide extensive view looking out past the green area and covered terrace out to the pool.

City Attorney Seiden stated that these types of hotels are entertained with commuter buses, which means that a lot of the parking will not be needed because guests are picked up at the airport and delivered back.

Mr. Marin said that the 24-hour shuttle would depart every hour and picks up throughout the hour. There is no schedule for pick-up; there is only drop-off from the hotel to the airport. He estimated that approximately 70% of the guests would come directly from the Airport.

The Mayor asked if the shuttle would provide guests with transportation to the inside of the City if they wanted to go to the market and Mr. Marin replied that there are exceptions and this practice is done at their current properties, but it is not a practice that they promote.

Mr. Marin mentioned that he opened the Comfort Suites on Minola Drive approximately fourteen months ago and it is a great plus for the City of Miami Springs. The hotel was rated number seven out of the top ten airport hotels in the United States by Trip Advisor, which is the voice of the consumer.

Councilman Lob moved to approve the site plan for the Hyatt Place Hotel at 3549 LeJeune Road. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Vice Mayor Ator asked what the timeline is after the site plan approval.

Mr. Holland explained that the next step is the development of the construction drawings in order to obtain a building permit that involves on-site engineering and the structural, electrical and mechanical drawings. The working drawings are underway and pending approvals from the County Fire Department, the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER), the Water and Sewer Department (WASA) and the Aviation Department.

Mr. Marin added that all the approvals mentioned by Mr. Holland were already in the process, including the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The completion target date is June 2014.

10F) Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Miami-Dade County for Shuttle Bus Service

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland stated that the Administration recommends approval of the Interlocal agreement between Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami Springs for the provision of public Transportation services since the shuttle bus has been a good service for the City of Miami Springs. The service is used by senior citizens and students, as well as guests from the local hotels and it is working very well.

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden added that without this agreement the City would not be able to qualify for Citizens Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) funds.

Councilman Best commented that when the shuttle service was first implemented it seemed that not many people were using the bus, but in the last few months he sees that the bus is almost full and the ridership has increased.

Vice Mayor Ator said that there was some discussion about changing the route or the hours of the shuttle bus and she asked for an update.

City Manager Gorland responded that the route had been altered a couple of times and it is pending another adjustment to include the Curtiss Mansion parking lot. There has not been a problem with the bus company making an exception to the route for people with special needs and the hotels have been working with the City to advertise the service that is working very well.

Mayor Garcia asked if once the route is altered to include the Curtiss Mansion if there could be a new map circulated in the form of a flyer or if there could be signage at the bus stop locations and the City Manager agreed.

Councilman Best mentioned that in the past there was some discussion about the shuttle service to the Metrorail station in Hialeah, but there were problems with the liability insurance. He asked if this is something that could be considered going forward.

Mayor Garcia asked the Administration to look into going outside of the city to the Metrorail stations.

City Attorney Seiden clarified that the purpose of the Interlocal agreement and the shuttle bus agreement is to provide transportation to other means of transportation.

The City Manager agreed to look into the possibility of using the shuttle bus outside of the city to connect with the Metrorail stations. The problem with changing the route is that the bus circulates for only one hour and it must go to Virginia Gardens. A test was done in the past by extending the service to the Abraham Tract and it was a problem because it extended the one hour time period.

Councilman Lob recalled that one of the issues was that the shuttle was not allowed to overlap an existing Miami-Dade County bus route for a certain amount of distance.

City Attorney Seiden mentioned that the shuttle bus might get stopped at a railroad crossing and that might be the problem.

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

10G) Recommendation that Council Waive the Competitive Bid Process and Approve an Expenditure in an Amount not to Exceed \$8,000.00 to NGF Consulting, Inc., for Professional Consulting Services Related to the Continued Operation of the Golf and Country Club, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (6) (g) of the City Code

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

The City Manager explained that NGF Consulting, Inc. is highly recommended by John Foy who is the USGA Southeastern Regional turf consultant, to provide professional golf course management expertise. The firm will assist the City in identifying ways to improve the operating structure, recommend additional marketing strategies and provide insight regarding what profit/loss is really possible for the Golf Course. The price quotation is very fair based on what they are proposing to do.

City Manager Gorland recommended moving as quickly as possible due to the current situation at the Golf Course. He trusts NGF Consulting, Inc. based on previous contacts with the firm over the years. The cost is \$7,500, plus \$500.00 maximum travel cost as outlined in the contract and funding would come from the designated fund balance for pool improvements.

City Manager Gorland explained that the current situation at the Golf Course must be dealt with and he would welcome alternatives from people who are well respected in the golf community. The expectation for the Golf Course over the last nine years was for it to break even and that might have been too ambitious even though the community was aware of this when they voted for the City to acquire the property. The Golf Course has cost the City a great deal of money over the years and the current configuration is different than previous configurations. Before the downturn in the economy the loss was \$125,000 and since that time there has been less play, which is not the fault of the Golf Course.

City Manager Gorland explained that the City should know what the alternatives are and what the expectations should be for the Golf Course, keeping in mind that it is 217 acres while the typical municipal course is only 100 acres with a driving range of 20 acres. The competing golf courses that have less operating costs are also losing money. The results of the study will also dictate the type of management configuration that is needed.

Councilman Best stated that the cost of operating the Golf Course has been a problem over the years and the return on the investment does not seem to be there. He said that the 217 acres is twice the size of most PGA courses that are about 135 or 140 acres. The increasing cost of fertilizer, fuel and labor causes the City to have to finance the operation more every year. The residents in the City are not supporting the membership and the way to fix the problem would be to obtain a large hotel that would offer a golf course package, redesign the course and turn the remaining land into a park and recreation use.

Councilman Lob commented that he spoke with the City Manager today about the same idea that Councilman Best mentioned.

City Manager Gorland said that several management models had been considered over the years and the current loss is approximately \$300,000, which might not be the entire problem, but it is consistent. Currently, less than 5% of the play is from local residents and the fee is only \$5.00 per round. An RFP was conducted years ago and the only bidder for taking over the Golf Course operation was Sunburst Hotels and it was subject to the condition that they would not accept any risk of loss.

Councilman Best reiterated his idea for the Golf Course operation and asked the Administration to look into the possibility.

Councilman Lob asked what the approximate cost would be to redesign the Golf Course in order to reduce it to 120 acres.

City Manager Gorland replied that the rough estimate was \$7MM to redesign an 18-hole golf course on 110 acres, plus another \$3MM for parks, walking paths and sports fields with parking and landscaping. He said that when properties are placed for sale in the Airport Golf District there is an idea to vacate part of Eldron Drive and allow a hotel to be built in that area that could operate the Golf Course.

Mayor Garcia said that he appreciated the ideas brought forward but Council must decide if they are willing to approve the recommendation to let the professionals determine how the operation can be improved. The Golf Course is losing approximately \$300,000 on a yearly basis and \$8,000 would be money well spent in order to get ideas from the professionals.

Councilman Best moved the item. Councilwoman Bain seconded the motion.

Vice Mayor Ator asked how the historic designation of the Golf Course would impact the plan suggested by Councilman Best.

City Attorney Seiden explained that there is a specific historic designation that was designed for the Golf Course that requires no approvals. The bigger problem is the Charter Amendment that restricts the use of the Golf Course property.

Councilman Best assumed that if half of the 217 acres were delegated to recreation and park use it would be in accordance with the Charter amendment.

Attorney Seiden said that no hotel would be willing to take on the Golf Course operation and it would have to be sold, which is against the Charter amendment.

City Manager Gorland commented that there was some hope that arrangements could be made with a hotel whereby they would operate the Golf Course under an arrangement similar to the one with Carlos Santana for the Food and Beverage operation. The current bond issue could be redone to allow for more flexibility but the land could only be used for recreational facilities.

Councilman Best said that the main idea of the Charter amendment was to protect the Golf Course property from being developed and the City Attorney agreed that the Charter prohibits any sale of the property.

Councilman Lob mentioned that funds were set aside for the pool renovations that will eventually have to be done. He asked if there were funds available from somewhere else in the budget to pay for NGF since there is a savings for the Golf Professional's salary.

City Manager Gorland replied that there might be some savings from the Golf Professional's salary, but funds are being used for the services of Jim Caudle who is teaching customer service to the Staff and it is beginning to pay off. This should be finished by August at the latest. Staff was brought in to fill vacant positions and there probably will not be any excess funds.

Vice Mayor Ator said that there is a designated fund balance for the pool renovations and the work could not be done this year because more funds were necessary. The work will have to be done soon.

The City Manager explained that the pool could not be resurfaced and engineers were brought in to prepare a report for the pool that has structural problems. The City will then put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the renovation work and the cost could easily be \$350,000.

Councilman Lob expressed his concern with using funds designated for the pool renovation.

The motion was carried 4-1 on roll call vote, with Vice Mayor Ator casting the dissenting vote.

City Attorney Seiden read the Charter provision that states that no portion of the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club shall be leased for any single period in excess of five years, rezoned, sold, otherwise conveyed without first being approved and authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting in an election to consider such actions.

Attorney Seiden said that making a deal with a major player to operate the Golf Course for the City at their cost, on a lease basis, would never happen.

10H) Resolution No. 2013-3571 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs; Requesting the Withdrawal of the City’s Indefinite Deferral of the County’s Consideration of the City’s Pending Annexation Application; Authorizing the County’s Immediate Review and Consideration of the City’s Pending Annexation Application; Effective Date

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

Councilman Lob moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-3571. Councilwoman Bain seconded the motion.

Mayor Garcia clarified that the resolution will appeal the last resolution that was sent to the County and City Attorney Seiden said that it would remove it from the table.

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

City Attorney Seiden said that the County requested adoption of this resolution and the City Clerk would send a certified copy with a cover letter from the Mayor or the City Manager to either the County Attorney or the Commission Chairwoman.

11. Other Business:

None.

12. Reports & Recommendations:

12A) City Attorney

None.

12B) City Manager

Jet Fuel Pipeline

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland referred to a News Release from Everglades Pipe Line Company, L.P. regarding the jet fuel pipeline that is proposed to be under Ludlam Road. He explained that City Staff has been in contact with Buckeye Partners who contacted the City for a permit.

Mr. Gorland read the following statement from David Boone, Right of Way Department, for Buckeye Partners, L.P.:

"A news article posted in the online version of the Miami Herald (www.miamiherald.com/RiverCitiesGazette/section) on February 5, 2013 stated: 'A proposed pipeline underneath Miami Springs would serve as the sole source of jet fuel to Miami International Airport.'

Everglades Pipe Line Company, L.P., an operating subsidiary of Buckeye Partners, L.P., wishes to clarify that the Everglades Pipe Line Company L.P. is conducting a feasibility assessment of potential options to improve service delivery to the Miami International Airport by way of relocating a small section of the existing pipeline and no decision has been made to alter the current pipeline or construct any new pipelines at this location. Should Everglades Pipe Line Company L.P. reach the conclusion that a pipeline relocation would be desirable, Everglades will work with the appropriate governmental officials and regulatory agencies to understand the best path forward.

As part of continuous improvement efforts, Buckeye's affiliates frequently identify and evaluate options to improve the safe, reliable and low cost delivery of energy transportation services to our customers. The Everglades pipeline study is one example among many of Buckeye's efforts to examine opportunities for continuous improvement in the delivery of energy services."

Mr. Gorland said that this is a step in the right direction, but it does not mean that they have dropped the idea for the pipeline because they asked the City for a permit and that is different from a feasibility study. This is not definitive from the City's standpoint and the Administration is going to stay on top of the matter and adamantly oppose the jet fuel line down Ludlam Drive. He will keep Council posted as there are more developments and he appreciates the efforts by everyone to bring this matter to the attention of the County Commissioners, especially Commissioner Sosa who has been very responsive.

City Attorney Seiden spoke with Planning and Zoning Director Holland in an effort to reach the right person to speak with DERM. Mr. Holland contacted Attorney Howard Nelson who provided the appropriate contact person so that a meeting can be arranged to discuss the matter.

City Manager Gorland said that the current pipeline is on the other side of the retaining wall on the FEC property and they want to move it to the street on Ludlam. Originally it was thought that this was a County issue, but they made it very clear that it is a City street.

In response to Councilman Best's question about the jet fuel services to the Fort Lauderdale Airport, Mayor Garcia clarified that Everglades Pipe Line is the same company that provides services to Fort Lauderdale.

Mayor Garcia added that the City reached out to Commissioner Sosa and there was a 2-1/2 hour meeting in her office. She contacted the Airport who knew nothing about this proposal and this is not a County driven issue to increase the flow of jet fuel. A call was received from Daniel Mangum who wanted to make sure that the letter was received and he asked him to contact the City Attorney. Mr. Mangum assured him that there is no set project and this type of feasibility study is conducted in all areas that they service. He said that they do not have a plan at this time. The City has his contact information since he has been communicating with Planning and Zoning Director Jim Holland.

Councilman Best commented that the County's position about not being involved is in contradiction to their position in the past for previous projects on Ludlam Drive.

Mayor Garcia reiterated that the County officials, including the Aviation Department are not aware of this proposal. He asked the Administration to follow up with Mr. Mangum.

Events

City Manager Gorland urged everyone to check the City's website for a list of events that are going on in Miami Springs and to provide their e-mails in order to be on the new e-mail contact list.

12C) City Council

Silver Ball

Vice Mayor Ator reported that she attended the All Angels Silver Ball at the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club that was very successful. She thanked Carlos Santana for hosting the event.

"Taste of the Springs"

Vice Mayor Ator mentioned that many tickets were sold for the "Taste of the Springs" event that was held at the Optimist Club on Sunday, February 10th. There were not as many vendors as in the past, but everyone had a good time.

Yoga at the Curtiss Mansion

Vice Mayor Ator went to the Yoga class at the Curtiss Mansion. Participants can pay as they go or they can pay for a certain number of classes. The class is held in a lovely location in the Curtiss Mansion.

Farmers Market

Vice Mayor Ator reminded everyone that the Farmers Market is still going on at All Angels. She heard from vendors that it has not been as busy the last few weeks and she encourages people to attend.

Movie Night

Vice Mayor Ator reported that All Angels Movie Night is Friday, February 15th, and since her husband Bill's birthday is on Monday, February 18th he selected the movies "Lion King" and "The Replacements" and they will have birthday cake.

Valentine's Event

Vice Mayor Ator announced that everyone is welcome to attend the All Angels Valentine's event on Sunday, February 16th with a blessing of all couples, including a Mass and a brunch.

Pelican Playhouse

Vice Mayor Ator reported that Pelican Playhouse would be holding a Murder Mystery Dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 23rd at the Rebeca Sosa Theatre. The tickets for the event are \$35.00 and the proceeds will benefit the Pelican Playhouse and the Mu Alpha Theta Math Club.

Pastor Schmidt

Vice Mayor Ator could not attend Pastor Schmidt's funeral as she was out of town. She understands that it was a very nice service that was well attended and he will be missed.

New Hotel

Councilwoman Bain said that she is very excited about the new hotel that is wonderful and hopefully one of many to come in the future.

Police Department

Councilwoman Bain noticed the Police presence by the schools and at the Circle to enforce speeding over the bridge and around the Circle.

Crime Prevention Presentation

Councilwoman Bain urged residents to attend the Miami Springs Police Department's Residential Crime Prevention and Public Safety Presentation on Tuesday, February 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Miami Springs Community Center.

Thank You

Councilwoman Bain thanked and congratulated Assistant City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso and his Staff for their services.

Thank You

Councilman Best thanked Council for a delightful discussion over very interesting issues.

Good Night

Councilman Lob wished everyone a good night.

Daddy/Daughter Date Night

Mayor Garcia reminded everyone of the Daddy/Daughter Date Night, which his daughter looks forward to every year on Saturday, February 16th. Tickets are sold out and there is a waiting list.

Crime Prevention Presentation

Mayor Garcia reiterated that the Miami Springs Police Department is hosting a Residential Crime Prevention and Public Safety Presentation on Tuesday, February 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Senior Exemption

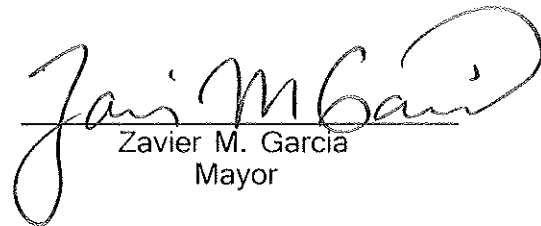
Mayor Garcia reported that he, County Commission Chair Rebeca Sosa and Property Appraiser Carlos López-Cantera would be hosting a Senior Homestead Exemption town hall meeting on Thursday, February 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the Rebeca Sosa Theater at the Community Center. Participants will learn new information that will help qualified seniors lower their property taxes, which is good for the County and the City.

Police Department

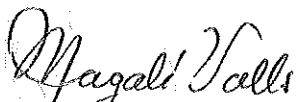
Mayor Garcia said that residents are happy to see the Police motorcycle officers back on the streets and they are the "welcoming committee" who remind motorists who cut through the City that they should not be speeding. He thanked the Police Department.

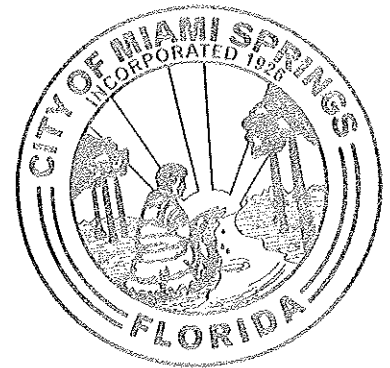
13. Adjourn.

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.


Zavier M. Garcia
Mayor

ATTEST:


Magali Valls, CMC
City Clerk



Approved as written during meeting of: 02-25-2013

Transcription assistance provided by Suzanne S. Hitaffer.