



## **City of Miami Springs, Florida**

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 28, 2022 7:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers, 201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, Florida  
Virtual Council Meeting using Communications Media Technology Pursuant to  
Governor's Executive Order 20-69

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 7:00 p.m.

Present were the following:

Mayor Maria Puente Mitchell

Vice Mayor Jacky Bravo

Councilman Bob Best

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Victor Vazquez, Ph.D.

City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Mayor Maria Mitchell  
**Pledge of Allegiance:** Audience participated in leading the pledge.

3. **Agenda / Order of Business:**

**Mayor Mitchell requested that Items 12A, 12B and 11A be moved up in the agenda, after Item 7A for consideration, the City Council gave general consensus to consider the items as requested.**

4. **Awards & Presentations:** None at this time.

5. **Open Forum:** The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Jorge Santin, 1249 Heron Avenue; Nihal Perera, 217 Duval Drive.

6. **Approval of Council Minutes:**

A) February 14, 2022 – Regular Meeting

**Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes of February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Best, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

**7. Reports from Boards & Commissions:**

- A) Business and Economic Task Force Recommendations

**Mayor Mitchell explained that the Task Force has met six times since starting up in September 2021. She noted that tonight they have a few interim recommendations from the Task Force to review. Mayor Mitchell went through each recommendation and expressed her gratitude to the Task Force for their time and stated that she and the City Council members look forward to the final report.**

**8. Public Hearings:**

- A) **Ordinance – Second Reading** – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Amending Chapter 35, “Retirement Systems,” Article II, “Police And Fireman Pension Plan” Of The City’s Code Of Ordinances By Amending Section 35-51, “Definitions” Pertaining To “Average Monthly Earnings”; Amending Section 35-53 “Benefit Amounts And Eligibility” To Exclude Members In The Rank Of Lieutenant And Below Retiring Or Entering The Drop After December 14, 2021 From The Provisions Relating To Frozen Accrued Benefits; Providing For Conflicts; Providing For Severability; Providing For Codification; And Providing For An Effective Date

**City Manager William Alonso read the Ordinance by title.**

**Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the Ordinance on second reading. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Best, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

**9. Consent Agenda: (Funded and/or Budgeted):**

- A) Recommendation by Golf that Council approve an expenditure and increase of \$15,000 to the current open PO# 220179 with Acushnet Company, as a sole source provider, in an amount not to exceed \$59,400 (of which \$44,400 was previously approved by Council on October 11, 2021), for purchasing Titleist and Foot Joy golf products and equipment to be re-sold in the golf pro shop as there is only one source (proof attached) for the required merchandise and as funds were budgeted in the FY20/21 Budget pursuant to Section §31.11 (E)(6)(c) of the City Code

- B) Recommendation by Golf that Council waive the competitive bid process in the best interest of the City and approve an increase (of \$10,000.00) to the City’s current open purchase order # 220199 with Tropic Oil, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 (of which \$25,000 was previously approved by Council on October 11, 2021), for supply services of diesel and regular fuel for the golf carts and maintenance fleet at the Miami Springs Golf & Country Club as funds were budgeted in the FY21/22 Budget pursuant to Section §31.11 (E)(6)(g) of the City Code. **Requires 4/5 vote by Council**

**Councilman Best moved to approve the Consent Agenda as recommended by staff.**

**Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Best, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

**10. Old Business: None at this time.**

**11. New Business:**

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Memorandum Of Understanding Between The City Of Doral Police Department And The Real-Time Operations Center/Multi-Agency Intelligence Network (M.A.I.N); Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

**This item was heard earlier in the meeting. City Manager William Alonso read the Resolution by title.**

**Vice Mayor Bravo moved to approve the Resolution as read. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Best, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Accepting A 2022 NEAT Streets Miami Street Tree Matching Grant Program Award; Approving A Tree Planting Agreement With Miami-Dade County; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

**City Manager William Alonso read the Resolution by title.**

**Vice Mayor Bravo moved to approve the Resolution as read. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Best, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

**12. Other Business:**

A) Request by Councilman Vazquez to discuss the Business and Economic Development Task Force’s Recommendation to provide for wider sidewalks and median parking along Westward Drive

**This item was heard earlier in the meeting. Mayor Mitchell requested the Councilman Vazquez share his thoughts on this item. Councilman Vazquez stated that he would like to think broadly about enhancing Westward Drive between the Circle and the Baptist Church; he stated that Westward Drive gives the City the quaintest feeling of a “small-town” city. He explained that a study would be a great tool to determine what the vision is for Westward Drive; using resources from local colleges and/or students, etc. City Attorney Sera stated that a local City just went through this similar process, she confirmed that an visioning process should be in**

place first with the guidance of a consultant. Mayor Mitchell and City Council agreed that they should wait until the final recommendations from the Task Force.

**Nihal Perera, 217 Duval Drive, addressed the City Council.**

B) Request by Mayor Mitchell to discuss the Council workshop on the Gateway Overlay District held on February 22, 2022

**This item was heard earlier in the meeting. Mayor Mitchell requested that City Attorney Sera provide a brief summary on the take away from the workshop. City Attorney Sera stated the following:**

- **Resolution for establishing the cost for on street parking spaces that are counted towards the satisfaction of a properties parking requirement**
- **Comprehensive Ordinance that includes cost recovery on technical items such as parking, traffic, landscape, review etc. by consultants depending on the development; notice requirements for site plan review; consolidation of the Board of Adjustment/Zoning and Planning Board to one board**
- **Ordinance providing for Gateway amendments such as clear regulations that can be seen from the right-of-way screening of mechanical equipment, etc.; clarification on achieving the FAR bonuses; clarifying how parking spaces for off street parking are counted and what the meaning of available parking is; and clarification that the “City Planner” along with City staff provides the recommendation to the City Council.**

**Vice Mayor Bravo suggested exploring regulating overnight parking. Mayor Mitchell stated that the City should wait for the parking study to have a better idea what to regulate.**

### **13. Reports & Recommendations:**

A) City Attorney

**City Attorney Haydee Sera updated the City Council with the FactoryTown Holdings litigation.**

B) City Manager

**City Manager William Alonso had no report at this time. Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero provided a verbal list of upcoming City meetings and events, which may also be found on the City’s website.**

C) City Council

**Councilman Vazquez requested that the City Council start thinking about a centennial celebration and perhaps coordinating a committee that can come up with ideas for the celebration, he stated that he will bring this item to a future Council meeting. He also stated that the two properties at Hook Square have been sold, he**

looks forward to what the future holds for those properties. He said that the Lions Club is organizing a food drive for Ukraine, which will head to Poland to serve the needs of displaced Ukrainians. He thanked the Lions Clubs for their service to the community and service to the world.

Councilman Fajet shared that he attended the Miami Springs Historical Society Museum event that took place on Saturday, where he met the new museum director. He inquired about the City of having an arborist, and finally, posting the traffic citations on social media and on the City's website.

Vice Mayor Bravo apologized that she was not able to attend the Miami Springs Historical Society Museum event on Saturday, she heard great things about the event. She stated that she will attend the River Cities Festival Opening Ceremony and hopes to see everyone there.

Councilman Best stated opening day for baseball is tomorrow afternoon, with three days of games throughout the week. He looked forward to seeing everyone at the River Cities Festival. He reminded the City Council that Little League Opening Ceremony will be Saturday morning at 10am.

Mayor Mitchell also attended the Miami Springs Historical Museum event on Saturday night. She stated that the Museum is selling bricks for fundraising. She thanked City Attorney Haydee Sera and Weiss Serota for the FactoryTown efforts and for the Gateway Ordinance workshop. She looks forward to attending the Little League Opening Ceremony on Saturday at 10am. She expressed how happy to see the City newsletter circulating, and she hopes it reaches the residents as another resource for information. Mayor Mitchell stated that she will see everyone at the River Cities Festival Opening Ceremony on Friday at 5:45pm.

#### **14. Adjourn**

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC  
City Clerk



Adopted by the City Council on  
This 14th day of March, 2022.

  
Maria Puente Mitchell, Mayor

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 286.0105, THE CITY HEREBY ADVISES THE PUBLIC THAT IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THIS COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT ITS MEETING OR HEARING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND THAT FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THE AFFECTED PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE CONSENT BY THE CITY FOR THE INTRODUCTION OR ADMISSION OF OTHERWISE INADMISSIBLE OR IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE, NOR DOES IT AUTHORIZE CHALLENGES OR APPEALS NOT OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY LAW.