



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 23, 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 Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Bob Best

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo

Councilman Victor Vazquez, Ph.D. (Absent)

City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera

Police Captain Jimmy Deal

Recreation Director Omar Luna

Planning Director Chris Heid (via Zoom)

Public Works Director Lazaro Garaboa

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Vice Mayor Walter Fajet
Pledge of Allegiance: The audience participated in leading the pledge.

3. **Agenda / Order of Business**

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Recognizing Optimist Club Essay Contest winner, Janessa Montilla; introduction by Jim Fulton

Mayor Mitchell welcomed Ms. Janessa Montilla to the meeting, the Mayor recognized Mr. James Fulton President of the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Optimist Club, who then provided an introduction of sixteen-year-old contest winner Ms. Montilla. Ms. Montilla read her winning essay on "How does an optimistic mindset change my tomorrow?" for the City Council. She also thanked the Mayor and City Council for recognizing her this evening.

B) Presentation of the Unit Citation Award to the Miami Springs Detective Bureau and Crime Suppression Team for the month of April 2022

Captain Jimmy Deal introduced the Lt. Frank Perez who then read the Staff Memo for the record indicating the successful achievements of the Detective Bureau and Crime Suppression Team. Officers of both units were present to receive their awards and recognition. Officers Barrios, Hall, Pacheco, Dweck, Quiroga, and Iribar thanked the Mayor and City Council for their continued support.

C) Presentation by National Fitness Campaign on the \$30,000 grant for developing and implementing a Fitness Court in the City

Mr. Mike Cole of National Fitness Campaign attended via Zoom. He congratulated the City for being awarded \$30,000 for a fitness court. He provided a PowerPoint and video presentation of other similar fitness court projects in other locations in the State of Florida. Also in attendance, Omar Luna the Recreation Director stated that one location for consideration is near the Golf Course by the walking path. Mr. Cole further answered the City Council's questions. The City Council gave general consensus for Staff to work with National Fitness Campaign on renderings of the proposed fitness court with the City Seal and estimated construction costs.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: No speakers at this time.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) May 9, 2022 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2022 Regular Meeting. Vice Mayor Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

7. Reports from Boards & Commissions: None at this time.

8. Public Hearings: None at this time.

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

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving Fire Alarm And Sprinkler System Inspection, Maintenance, And Repair Services From Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP In An Amount Not To Exceed \$17,000 For Fiscal Year 2021-22; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving An Agreement With Playcore Wisconsin, Inc. D/B/A Gametime C/O Dominica Recreation Products, Inc. In An Amount Not To Exceed \$97,397.27 For The Purchase And Installation Of A New Playground Play Structure At Ragan Park Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of The City Of Charlotte, North

Carolina, Contract No. 2017001134 Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

C) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving The Issuance Of A Purchase Order To Metro Express, Inc. For Concrete Curbside/Sidewalk Repair Services On An As-Needed Basis In An Amount Not To Exceed \$50,000; And Providing For An Effective Date

D) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving An Agreement With Chebere Appetite, Inc. D/B/A Sergio's Catering For The Provision Of Congregate And Home Delivered Meals For The City's Elderly Community In The Event Of An Emergency; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date.

E) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A First Amendment To A Pool Maintenance Services Agreement With Supreme Chemical And Pool Supply, Inc. In An Amount Not To Exceed \$25,427.70; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

F) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving The Issuance Of A Purchase Order To Distreebutors, Inc. For Planting Of Native And/Or Florida-Friendly Trees In An Amount Not To Exceed \$55,490; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

Councilman Best moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

10. Old Business: None at this time.

11. New Business:

A) **Ordinance – First Reading** – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Amending Chapter 150, "Zoning Code," Article XIV, "Additional Regulations" Of The City's Code Of Ordinances By Creating Section 150-46, "Murals," To Define And Prohibit "Murals," And Provide For Amortization Regulations For Existing Mural(S) In The City; Providing For Conflicts; Providing For Severability; Providing For Codification; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Ordinance by title on first reading. Mayor Mitchell opened the public hearing, there were no speakers at this time.

Vice Mayor Fajet moved to approve the Ordinance on first reading. Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion which carried 3-1 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilwoman Bravo, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes;

Councilman Best voting No.

City Attorney Haydee Sera announced that this item will be included as an item on the Local Planning Agency (LPA) agenda, where the City Council sits as the LPA for this item since it is a change to the City's current Zoning Code. She stated that this item will also be on second reading on June 13, 2022 on the regular City Council agenda at 7:00 p.m.

B) Resolution – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Extending Zoning In Progress For Preparation And Evaluation Of Amendments To Chapter 150, "Zoning Code" For Murals; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Resolution by title for the record.

Vice Mayor Fajet moved to approve the Resolution as read. Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion which carried 3-1 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilwoman Bravo, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes; Councilman Best voting No.

12. Other Business:

A) Vice Mayor Fajet's request for consideration to discuss a Special Election Relating to an Amendment to City Charter Section 3.06(7) Regarding Terms of Office

Vice Mayor Fajet opened the discussion expressing how the City Council will be filling the vacancy that just occurred recently for Group IV, and is reminded on how he filled the vacancy that occurred in 2020 due to Councilwoman Mara Zapata resigning. He stated that the City called a Special Election in August 2020 for Group III, and he was duly elected to office. He also stated that according to the City's Charter, the seven months served before the next City General Election in April 2021, serves a full two-year term regardless of the previous election. He wanted to bring forward the consideration of amending the City's Charter to allow for a full term. The City Attorney stated that she will do some research on how other cities handle council vacancies; once that information is gathered the City Attorney will present the information for City Council direction.

B) Update from Miami Dade County League of Cities on proposed County Rapid Transit Zone ordinance (RTZ)

Mayor Mitchell provided an update stated that in May, the Miami-Dade League of Cities had provided municipalities with a revised version of County Vice Chairman Oliver Gilbert's Rapid Transit Zone (RTZ) ordinance and advised that he was going to submit to the County Commission on June 1st. She stated that the County Commissioner Sponsor is Commissioner Oliver Gilbert, sent it to the Miami-Dade League of Cities organization so that member municipalities have an opportunity to review and offer recommendations on improving the proposed ordinance. The League had one meeting in May with the cities and will be scheduling another

meeting to further discuss the new version of the RTZ. Mayor Mitchell stated Commissioner Gilbert had attended our August 9, 2021 Council meeting to answer questions and concerns from the community and at the meeting Commissioner Gilbert had stated that the RTZ would not apply to Miami Springs. Mayor Mitchell, stated that overall, the revised proposed ordinance currently is much better, but still needs clarification on various matters pertaining to Miami Springs. She stated that she and City Manager William Alonso and our City Attorneys are addressing those matters with the County and will keep the City Council and residents updated as this item progresses through the Miami-Dade County level.

C) Update on Annexation item scheduled to be on County calendar for June 8th

Mayor Mitchell explained that recently the City received notice by County Commissioner Sosa on the annexation process being released for consideration to the Commission Chairman's Policy Council on June 8th, where a resolution may be passed directing the County Attorney to develop an ordinance and interlocal agreement for the 4 Cities (Miami Springs, Virginia Gardens, Doral & Medley) Annexation Agreement application. The City Manager explained the process further, beyond the June 8th meeting, and that second reading on the item is expected in October. Mayor Mitchell encouraged members of City Council to attend the June 8 th meeting to represent the City's support on the Miami Springs annexation application.

D) Request by Mayor Mitchell to discuss Hurricane Preparedness

Mayor Mitchell reminded the Staff, Council and Community that hurricane season commences June 1st. Recently, the City updated the Hurricane Preparedness Manual and she encouraged the Council to obtain a hardcopy in the event that there is no power to access the manual electronically. She encouraged everyone to stock up for the upcoming season due to supply chain limitations, as it may be difficult to acquire certain supplies. City Manager Alonso stated that the Senior Center phone is important to have or to give to an elderly neighbor or friend in the community just in case for assistance.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager William Alonso stated that on Saturday, June 4th there will be a Celebration of Life to honor former Councilwoman Jennifer Ator. 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

Vice Mayor Fajet spoke on the Business and Economic Development Task Force membership and timeframe for reporting their recommendations in September.

Councilwoman Bravo will be looking at the RTZ Ordinance to become updated on the recent changes. She requested that the hurricane preparedness booklet be posted on the City's social media along with the Senior Center phone number

Councilman Best stated that the Miami Springs High School Boys Baseball and Girls Softball teams at the Regionals tournaments. He would like to have the teams come to the next Council Meeting for recognition and will coordinate with the City Clerk's Office on doing that. He then performed a short theatrical dialogue piece from Hamlet that he was a part of recently at the Pelican Playhouse, called "I Hate Shakespeare," by Steph DeFerie.

Mayor Mitchell stated that she and the City Manager hosted a breakfast last week, for potential sponsors for a variety of City outdoor activities such as pickle ball, racquetball courts and the fitness courts in order to promote healthy outdoor activities in the City. She stated that on Saturday the City held a food distribution event that was facilitated by Representative Avila's and Farm Share; she thanked Representative Avila for the continued dedication to the Miami Springs community. She stated that on also on Saturday, the Historical Museum celebrated the 144th Birthday of the City's founder, Glenn Curtiss.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk



Adopted by the City Council on
This 13th day of June, 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.