



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 27, 2023 at 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 George V. Lob

Councilman Bob Best

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

Recreation Director Omar Luna

Human Resources Director Bill Collins

Public Works Lazaro Garaboa

Planning Director Chris Heid

Golf Director Paul O'Dell

Golf Supervisor Laurie Bland

Administrative Assistant Liz Fuentes

Code Enforcement Officer Rosemary Novo

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

3. **Agenda / Order of Business: None at this time.**

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Presentation from Beverly Raposa and Mercy Ruiz, flight Attendants from the Eastern 401 Plane Crash, officially thanking City Staff and City Council for the Eastern Flight 401 Dedication efforts

This item is deferred to the March 13, 2023 Council Meeting.

B) Presentation by Caballero Fierman Llerena + Garcia, LLP on a) Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022

and b) Communications with those charged with governance report

City Manager William Alonso introduced Mr. Enrique Llerena, partner at Albemarle Caballero auditors for the City, gave a presentation on the on the City's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. Mr. Llerena reviewed the various sections of the ACFR. He noted that the Compliance Section includes the reports that are required under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, as well as the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. The Auditors are pleased to report that they did not identify any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control, nor did their tests find any instances of non-compliance. He reported that they did not encounter any difficulties in performing or completing the audit; there were no disagreements with management and there were no misstatements requiring correction as a result of the audit. He thanked City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso, and Staff for their cooperation and assistance throughout the entire process.

C) Introduction by newly elected President of the Miami Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, Raul Pestonit

Mayor Mitchell welcomed Miami Springs Mr. Raul Pestonit to the meeting. Mr. Pestonit introduced himself and Chambers he represents. He stated that he welcomes the Council to the Chambers' meeting and extended invitations to new businesses in the area or anyone wanting to participate in the Chambers.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Michael Gavila, 223 North Royal Poinciana Boulevard; Jamell Perez, 750 Shadow Way; Rosemary Novo, exempt from public record.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) February 13, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2023 Regular Meeting. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Lob, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Fajet and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

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

8. Public Hearings:

A) **Ordinance – Second Reading – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Amending Chapter 150, Zoning Code,” Article II, “Signs” Of The City’s Code Of Ordinances To Address Current Case Law Requirements And To Establish Specific Standards And Regulations Related To Signs And Renumber Other Sections; 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 second reading. City Attorney Haydee Sera stated that the amendments from first reading are included in the second reading version. Mayor Mitchell opened the public hearing and there were no speakers at this time.

After some discussion, the following amendment was offered by Mayor Mitchell: *Line 836 changing 9 sq ft to 6 sq ft; Line 845 changing sq. ft to 9.*

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

B) Ordinance – Second Reading – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Amending Section 34-16, “Leave” Of The City’s Code Of Ordinances To Update The Bereavement Leave Policy; 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 second reading. Human Resources Director Bill Collins was available to answer any of the Council’s questions. Mayor Mitchell opened the public hearing and there were no speakers at this time.

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

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

A) Resolution – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Selecting Aeration Technology, Inc. For Construction And Landscaping Services For The Miami Springs Golf & Country Club Golf Course Revitalization Project Pursuant To Invitation To Bid (ITB) No. 04-22/23; Authorizing Negotiation And Execution Of A Construction Contract In An Amount Not To Exceed \$2,635,485.50; And Providing For An Effective Date

Vice Mayor Lob moved to approve Item 9A of the Consent Agenda. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Lob, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Fajet and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

10. Old Business: None at this time.

11. New Business: None at this time.

12. Other Business:

A) Response by Councilman Walter Fajet to recent public comments from the Town Hall Meeting

Councilman Fajet wanted to take a moment to address the Town Hall Workshop public comment on parking requirements and to clarify some misinformation that continues to circulate regarding the parking requirements for the Town Center. He referenced the June 13, 2022 Council meeting that explains thoroughly the process of the parking calculations for the downtown project. He also stated that there are archived Council meetings when this was spoken about and decided on. Councilman Fajet stated that everything on the process is available to the public.

B) Announcement by City Manager William Alonso

City Manager William Alonso read a heartfelt statement highlighting all of the accomplishments throughout his career in Miami Springs. He thanked previous and current City Mayor's, previous and current City Council, City Staff and all the residents for their support over the years.

C) Discussion on City Manager's retirement and selection process for hiring a new City Manager

City Attorney Haydee Sera stated that the City Council has several options. She explained that they can appoint the current Assistant City Manager as the next City Manager, they can commence the search with in-house Human Resources support, or they can select a professional recruiting firm to conduct a City Manager search. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the City Council to have a Special Council Meeting on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to select a recruiting firm for the search.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager William Alonso deferred his time to Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero who provide an update the City Council on the parking study grant extension for an additional six months. She also updated the Council on the recent canal contamination recently that affected the canal along Okeechobee Road. She then gave a list of City events for the upcoming weeks. She stated that more information and details on the events are available on the City's official website.

C) City Council

Councilman Best announced that High School Baseball season has officially started. He also stated that he will host a seminar at Blessed Trinity for four

Tuesday's for an hour and invited the public to attend.

Councilwoman Bravo had no report at this time.

Councilman Fajet stated that he is glad to hear that the shade structures at Prince Field are scheduled to be installed. He had no further report.

Vice Mayor Lob stated that he is thrilled to hear that Pickleball will take place in the Springs and stated that "may the good news be yours."

Mayor Mitchell announced that the Woman's Club will be hosting a "Meet the Candidate" event on March 9th. She stated that it will be an opportunity for residents to meet with the candidates running in the April 4th City Election.

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 13th day of March, 2023.



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.