



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 13, 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 (via Zoom)

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

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Vice Mayor George Lob.

Pledge of Allegiance: The audience participated in leading the pledge.

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

Councilman Fajet requested to add under New Business a discussion on the support of the five referenda on the City's April 4, 2023 Election related to Charter amendments. By consensus the Council chose to add Councilman Fajet's request as Agenda Item 11A.

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 for a future Council Meeting.

B) Presentation of the Yard of the Month Award for March 2023 – 350 Reinette Drive – Hans and Claire Baumann

Mayor Mitchell announced Yard of the Month for March 2023. The residents were not available to receive the award; Mayor Mitchell stated that the award

will be sent to the homeowner by Councilman Best.

C) Recognizing the City Hall Artist of the Month for March 2023 – Students of AIE

Mayor Mitchell welcomed the Students of the AIE. Councilman Fajet welcomed the AIE High School Art Teacher Mrs. Rodriguez. She stated that the students have been working on portraits celebrities, a polaroid project of places the students would like to travel in the future and artwork for Black History Month.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Melida Perez, 509 Pinecrest Drive.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) February 27, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes of February 27, 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: None.

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 The Issuance Of A Work Order To Bermello, Ajamil & Partners, Inc. For Phase 4 Of The Oakwood And East Drive Stormwater And Roadway Improvements Project Consisting Of Bidding, Construction Management, And Related Support Services, In An Amount Not To Exceed \$87,200; And Providing For An Effective Date

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving The Purchase Of Greens Mix Soil, Sand, And Stone For The Miami Springs Golf & Country Club Golf Course Revitalization Project From Florida Superior Sand, Inc. In An Amount Not To Exceed \$462,112 Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of Miami-Dade County Rtq-01039 Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Providing For Implementation; 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 Purchase Of Toro Golf Course Irrigation Supplies For The Miami Springs Golf & Country Club Golf Course Revitalization Project From Wesco Turf, Inc. (Formerly Hector Turf) In An Amount Not To Exceed \$118,544 Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of City Of Mesa, Az, Contract No. 2017025 Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Providing For Implementation; 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:

A) Discussion on the support of the five Referenda on the City's April 4, 2023 Election related to Charter amendments

Councilman Fajet explained that he wanted to take a closer look at the five proposed Charter Amendment Referenda to explain what they are. He added that all five proposed amendments are to clean up or update outdated procedures in the Charter. The following members of the public addressed the City Council regarding this agenda item: Nery Owens, 169 Corydon Drive.

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the proposed resolution to support of the five Referenda on the City's April 4, 2023 Election related to Charter amendments by title. After further discussion, Councilman Best moved to approved the resolution for item 11A. 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, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

12. Other Business:

A) Vote of Confidence for the City Clerk as Required by Section 8.01 (1) of the City Charter; Request for City Council to consider a merit increase

Councilwoman Bravo moved to give City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria a vote of confidence and a 5% merit increase. 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, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

B) Vote of Confidence for the City Clerk as Required by Section 8.01 (1) of the City Charter

Councilman Best moved to give City Attorney Haydee Sera a vote of confidence. Vice Mayor Lob seconded the motion, which carried 4-1 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Lob, Councilman Best and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes; Councilwoman Bravo voting No.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera thanked the Council for their continued support for her and the entire Weiss Serota firm with their Vote of Confidence. She had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager William Alonso provide an update the City Council on the search for the Finance Director position. He stated that he will be interviewing two candidates in the upcoming weeks and will provide the City Council with an update by Friday with his recommendation.

C) City Council

Councilman Best announced that he had been monitoring very closely the failures of the Silicon Valley Bank fallout and hopes that our local banks don't make similar mistakes. He also stated that High School Baseball has a big game coming up with another very talented team in the state in Westminster Christian. Councilman Best also thanked the Historical Society for their wonderful gala that took place at the Curtiss Mansion.

Councilwoman Bravo thank the entire community of Miami Springs for their condolences for the loss in her family. She had no further report.

Councilman Fajet thanked City Manager William Alonso for his work on the search for the Finance Director. He also gave his condolences to Councilwoman Bravo for the loss of her grandfather. He had no further report.

Vice Mayor Lob confirmed with City Manager William Alonso that they will be seeing a revised pay scale for the new Finance Director Position at the next Council Meeting and stated that "may the good news be yours."

Mayor Mitchell gave her condolences as well to Councilwoman Bravo on the loss of her grandfather. She also thanked the Woman's Club for putting together the candidate forum that it gave 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 8:15 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 .