



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 10, 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 7:10 p.m.

Present were the following:

Mayor Maria Puente Mitchell

Vice Mayor Jorge Santin

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Victor Vazquez. Ph.D.

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo (Absent)

City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

Police Chief Armando Guzman

Public Works Director Lazaro Garaboa

Human Resources Director Bill Collins

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Mayor Maria Mitchell

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

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

Mayor Mitchell welcomed dignitaries in the audience, she recognized Senator Bryan Avila, Commissioner Kevin Cabrera, and School Board Member Danny Espino. Mayor Mitchell expressed her gratitude for their constant presence in the community is so valuable. She further presented each of them with an official seal of the City. Senator Avila, Commissioner Cabrera, and School Board Member Espino all expressed their gratitude for the recognition.

Mayor Mitchell also recognized Jose Fuentes and Max Losner of Becker, for their lobbying efforts on behalf of the City. Both Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Losner gave an update on the current session in Tallahassee and continues to put forth items that benefit the citizens of Miami Springs.

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Yard of the Month Award for April 2023 – 1105 Bluebird Avenue – The Blanco

Family

Mayor Mitchell announced the Yard of the Month for April. The Blanco Family were not available to receive the award. City Clerk Erika Gonzalez stated that she will get the award to the family.

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

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) March 27, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023 Regular Meeting. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

7. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

A) Report by the Centennial Committee Chair Julia Arias

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez stated that Chair Arias will be attending a future meeting for an update.

8. Public Hearings: None.

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

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida Providing For The Third Amendment To The Fiscal Year 2022-23 General Fund Budget; And Providing For An Effective Date

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

10. Old Business: None at this time.

11. New Business:

A) **Ordinance – First Reading** – An Ordinance Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Comprehensively Updating And Amending Chapter 53 “Stormwater Utility Management Program” Of The City’s Code Of Ordinances, By Creating Division Ii, “Water Quality” Pertaining To Illicit Discharges And Connections, Erosion And Sediment Control, And Other Water Quality Regulations; Providing For Severability; Providing For Codification; Providing For Conflicts; And Providing For An

Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the item and provided a background on the ordinance.

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the Ordinance. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

12. Other Business:

A) Appointment of Miami-Dade County League of Cities Director and Alternate for May 2023-24 session

It was the consensus of the City Council to nominate Councilman Victor Vazquez as the representing Director and Vice Mayor Santin as the alternate member for the upcoming 2023-2024 year.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera congratulated all members on their re-election and newly elected respectively. She thanked Councilman Lob for his service to fill the vacancy and to Councilman Best for his contribution and insightful thoughts on items throughout the years.

B) City Manager

City Manager William Alonso welcomed back the Council that were re-elected and congratulated the Council on a successful election. He expressed his gratitude to Councilman Best for his years of service. He also thanked Councilman Lob for his return each time the City needs him to serve. City Manager Alonso continued to explain that the annexation issue is still ongoing. He updated the City Council stating that the County sent out an annexation survey recently. He stated that in response to that survey, Commissioner Cabrera's office set up a meeting for tomorrow night to host the businesses in the proposed annexed area along with City representatives. The City Manager stated that he and the Mayor will be present to answer any questions the business owners may have. City Manager Alonso stated he will keep the City Council updated with any nuances.

C) City Council

Councilman Vazquez stated that he delated to be back on the dais. He thanked the residents of Miami Springs for voting him back in and said he will be serving all residents. He thanked Councilman Best for his service and contribution to the City for sixteen years and all that he does for the community. He looks forward to

working on the Bed Tax issue to support our Police Department, he stated that the Task Force recommendations to follow-up on prioritizing issues brought by the board, he is excited that Centennial Committee continues to meet, he also stated that the War Memorial renovations is also a priority to continue to preserve the memorial and its value to the community.

Councilman Fajet thanked Councilman Lob for his service and stepping in once again. He recognized Ralph Wakefield and Nancy Jones for their service to the community in the theater. He also thanked Councilman Best for his years of service and served admirably. He looks forward to working with the new Council.

Vice Mayor Santin thanked all the candidates in the election. He stated that he proud to be the newbie and thanked the resident that came out to vote and support our election. He thanked Councilman Best for his service to the City. He looks forward to creating a strategic plan for the City, to develop a plan for the future of our City.

Mayor Mitchell welcomed the City Council, and looks forward to working with the new and current members. She reminded the public that the River Cities Festival is this weekend, she encouraged the community to attend the opening ceremony on Friday, April 14th at 6:00 p.m. She requested that at the next meeting the City Council discuss having a workshop to discuss current projects, and prioritizing future projects.

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 24th day of April, 2023.



Maria Puente Mitchell, Mayor

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