



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers, 201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, Florida

In-Person/Virtual Council Meeting

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 Jorge Santin

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Victor Vazquez. Ph.D.

Interim City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Roger Pou

Police Chief Armando Guzman

Public Works Director Lazaro Garaboa

Assistant Public Works Director Lizette Fuentes

Human Resources Director Bill Collins

Finance Director Chris Chiocca

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Mayor Mitchell
Pledge of Allegiance: The Girl Scouts Troop 2564 led in the pledge.

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

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Visit from the Honorable Senator Bryan Avila and Honorable Representative Alex Rizo

Senator Avila and Representative Rizo provided an update on recent legislative session accomplishments that were beneficial to the residents of the City such as one of the largest tax relief packages, increase in educational funding, funding for affordable housing, environmental funding including state-wide and local funding and economic packages to move Florida forward; Senator Avila stated that locally the City received around \$9.5 million in State funding over a nine-year span. The City Council thanked the Senator and Representative for their update.

B) Recognizing the Miami Springs Little League 8U Miami Springs Coach Pitch All-Star team that won the 2023 Little League Florida District 8 Coach Pitch Championship

Mayor Mitchell welcomed all the players, coaches and parents to the meeting. League President Fred Gonzalez stated a few words and thanked the City Council and the community for their continued support. Mayor Mitchell and City Council presented certificates to all the players and coaches for their successful season.

C) Brief introduction by the new Miami Springs Middle School Principal Chris Saavedra

Councilman Vazquez took a moment to introduce Principal Saavedra. Principal Saavedra thanked the Councilman for the kind words. He stated that he is thrilled to be a part of the community and serving the children of the City. He looks forward to working with Council, and the residents and students of the City.

D) Yard of the Month Award for June 2023 – 189 Palmetto Drive – Dsouza Family

The Dsouza Family was not available to receive their award. The City Clerk stated that the award will be delivered to the family.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Kahnee Rodriguez, 649 Eastward Drive; Yohanna Hernandez, 1161 Oriole Avenue; Maribel Martin, 44 Curtiss Parkway; Dr. Francois Zayas, 373 Westward Drive; Laura Cabrera, 587 Minola Drive.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) June 12, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the minutes of June 12, 2023 Regular Meeting. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Santin, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez 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 The Purchase Of Radar Speed Signs From Traffic Logix Corporation In An Amount Not To Exceed \$64,950.00 Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of Sourcewell Contract No. 070821-Lgx Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Providing For Implementation; 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 Marsden South, L.L.C. For Janitorial Services For The City’s Municipal Facilities Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of The

Cooperative Council Of Governments, Inc. Group Purchasing Agreement Awarded Pursuant To Request For Proposals No. 2014.04.01 Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Providing For Authorization; 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 An Agreement With Thermal Concepts, LLC For HVAC Repair Services Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of The City Of Palm Beach Gardens Contract No. Rfq2022-019cs(F) Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Authorizing The City Manager To Issue A Purchase Order For Repair And Maintenance Of City Air Conditioning Units In An Amount Not To Exceed \$70,000.00; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

D) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Accepting A Local Government Cybersecurity Grant; Approving A Grant Agreement With The Florida Department Of Management Services Relating To The Grant; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

E) **Recommendation** - Recommendation by City Clerk's Office that Council waive the competitive bid process and approve an expenditure to Full Moon in the amount of \$4,000.00, for A/V services for Council meetings, special meetings, workshops etc., as funds were approved in the FY 22/23 Budget, pursuant to Section §31.11 (E)(6)(g) of the City Code. Requires 4/5 vote by Council.

Councilman Fajet made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Santin, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

10. Old Business: None.

11. New Business:

A) Brief public interviews with City Manager Candidates

Each candidate spoke on their desire and interest in serving the City in the capacity of City Manager. The following was the order of candidates: Tammy Romero; Juan Jimenez; Dale Martin; and Christopher Russo addressed the City Council and the public. There were no further questions or action on this item.

12. Other Business:

A) Request by Councilman Vazquez to discuss consideration of having a facilitator assisting in specific future Council workshops

Councilman Vazquez stated that he feels that during certain workshops that it would be more expedient and more productive to have a facilitator guide the Council to keep moving forward and assist with the flow of the workshop. After some discussion, the

City Council concluded that they will decide prior to a workshop whether to hire a facilitator. It was the general consensus of the City Council to discuss hiring a facilitator on a case by case.

B) Request by Mayor Mitchell to discuss exploring options on new Police Headquarters and Parking

Mayor Mitchell stated that we have outgrown City Hall and space is very limited. She wanted to gather consensus from the City Council to give direction to staff to work with the City Engineers and Architect to explore construction of a new Police Station and Administrative Offices at the current Police parking lot as the most viable location.

C) Request by Vice Mayor Santin to discuss creating a process for development agreements on new commercial construction projects and reviewing the policies for road closures

Vice Mayor Santin stated that the City Council consider providing direction to the City Attorney to revise language in Chapter 114 of the Code, in order to update roadway closure language. City Attorney Pou stated that he would be able to present the Council with options and updated language for their consideration. The City Council gave general consensus to direct the City Attorney to explore development agreements used by other municipalities and come back with options available.

D) Request by Suzanne Wolar regarding Miami Springs Woman's Club event to be held in October

This item was heard earlier in the evening. Ms. Milly Perez-Crespo, of the Woman's Club, provided an oral presentation along with a hand out requesting closure of the circle in October for a witch themed bike ride. After some discussion, the City Council requested Ms. Perez-Crespo to coordinate with City Administration and Police Department to coordinate the proper logistics and safety measures for the event.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Roger Pou had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

Interim City Manager Tammy Romero provided a list of City events. More information is available on the City's Official Website.

C) City Council

Vice Mayor Santin thanked all the City Manager candidates for attending the meeting and is confident that the City Council will make the best decision for the City.

Councilwoman Bravo stated that she met with Commissioner Cabrera on a variety of items that include capital improvements on County properties specially NW 36th Street; and graffiti at the bus stops. She discussed the business uses allowed in the Gateway Overlay and is open for further discussion at a future meeting.

Councilman Fajet asked if the City has put any information on the City Manager candidates is on the City website. He then inquired if the City Council will be considering the Girl Scout request for a contribution to their summer trip, request was for \$250.00. There was unanimous consensus by the City Council to donate \$250.00 to Girl Scout Troop 2564.

Councilman Vazquez thanked the Public Works Department for housing the bricks for the War Memorial dedication program. He stated that he is excited that the State appropriated funds for the War Memorial remodel and looks forward to setting a timeline and seeing the project take off.

Mayor Mitchell congratulated Councilman Vazquez and former Councilman Bob Best on their recent State appropriation for the War Memorial improvements. She thanked them for their endless hard work and effort in the endeavor. She stated that the only appropriation the City did not receive this year is canal embankment reinforcement. The Mayor thanked everyone on the Council for their hard work with the City Manager selection process. She extended warm wishes to Yvonne Shonnberger, of the Historic Preservation Board and the Historical Society, for a quick recovery. Also, the Mayor wished best wishes to Merle Klien of the Woman's Club for a speedy recovery as well. Mayor Mitchell wished everyone a happy and safe fourth of July.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on
This 14th day of August, 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.