



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 14, 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

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Councilman Victor Vazquez
Pledge of Allegiance: The audience led in the pledge.

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

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Presentation by Mr. Rob Gordon awarding the City of Miami Springs the STEM City of the Year Award for the City's consistent support of STEM activities at the Recreation Center over the last 10 years

Mr. Gordon was not able to attend the meeting and is scheduled for a future meeting date.

B) Lt. Vince Gonzalez of Miami-Dade Fire Rescue presenting the HELP Initiative, an outreach program that teaches civilians of all ages how to be a "first responder" through classes on how to perform CPR, apply tourniquets to stop the bleed, signs to look for in a person having a stroke, and how to help someone who is choking

Mayor Mitchell welcomed Lt. Gonzalez to the meeting. Lt. Gonzalez explained the benefits of the outreach program. Mayor Mitchell and City Council requested that City Staff coordinate the dates and times in order to offer this training opportunities to

residents.

C) Pastor Dan Gossett of City Rev Church introducing his new church campus at the Miami Springs Baptist Church

Deacon Chris of the Miami Springs Baptist Church was present and introduced Pastor Gossett and Pastor Robi Barnes explained how City Rev will soon begin their integration in the City by way of the Miami Springs Baptist Church. Pastor Barnes stated he is excited to start working in the City and help with the future vision of the community. The Mayor welcomed them and thanked the Pastors for attending the meeting.

D) Yard of the Month Award for July 2023 – 1160 Heron Avenue – The Sandoval Family

The Mayor recognized the Sandoval Family for their Yard of the Month Award for July. The Sandoval Family was present to receive their award. They thanked the City Council for the recognition.

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 15, 2023 – Workshop
- B) June 29, 2023 – Regular Meeting
- C) July 20, 2023 – Special Council Meeting

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the minutes of May 15, 2023 Workshop, June 29, 2023 Regular Meeting, and July 20, 2023 Special Council Meeting. 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.

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, Ratifying A Local Services Program Contract With The Alliance For Aging, Inc. Relating To The City’s Congregate And Home Delivered Meals Program For The City’s Elderly Community; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving An Increase Of \$116,765.86 For The Purchase Of Two Sanitation Trucks From Nextran Corporation D/B/A Nextran Truck Center; Providing For

Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

C) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Rescinding And Repealing Resolution No. 2022-4034 That Approved The Purchase Of Three 2022 Ford Police Interceptor AWD Utility Vehicles From Duval Ford, LLC; Approving The Purchase Of Three Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD V8 Vehicles From Garber Chrysler-Dodge Truck, Inc. In An Amount Not To Exceed \$129,066.00 Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of The Florida Sheriffs Association Contract No. Fsa22-Vel 30.0 Pursuant To Section 31-11(E)(5) Of The City Code; Declaring Certain Vehicles As Surplus Property; Authorizing The Sale Or Disposition Of Surplus Property; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

Councilwoman Bravo made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. 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.

10. Old Business: None.

11. New Business:

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Appointing Juan Carlos “J.C.” Jimenez As City Manager; Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Employment Agreement On Behalf Of The City Related To The City Manager; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

Interim City Manager Tammy read the Resolution by title.

Councilman Vazquez made a motion to approve the Resolution as amended. Vice Mayor Santin 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.

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Providing For The Collection Of Garbage, Trash And Recycling Service Fees Using The Uniform Method Of Collection Of Non-Ad Valorem Revenues; Providing For Maximum Fees For Garbage, Trash And Recycling Services; Directing The Preparation Of A Preliminary Assessment Roll; Establishing A Public Hearing To Consider The Imposition Of Garbage, Trash And Recycling Service Fees For Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023 And The Maximum Fees; Directing The Provision Of Notice Thereof; Providing For Severability; And An Effective Date

Interim City Manager Tammy read the Resolution by title.

Councilman Fajet made a motion to approve the Resolution as read. Councilwoman Bravo 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.

C) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A First Amendment To A Continuing Professional Services Agreement With Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. For General Planning And Zoning Services To Increase Compensation By \$11,000 For Fiscal Year 2022-23; Providing For Authorization; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date (Requires a 4/5 vote)

Interim City Manager Tammy read the Resolution by title.

Councilwoman Bravo made a motion to approve the Resolution as read. 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.

D) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving An Amended And Restated Interlocal Agreement With Miami-Dade County Relating To The Reestablishment And Distribution Of The Six-Cent Local Option Gas Tax; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

Interim City Manager Tammy read the Resolution by title.

Councilwoman Bravo made a motion to approve the Resolution as read. 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.

12. Other Business:

A) Request by Councilman Fajet to discuss permitted uses in the Gateway Overlay District

Councilman Fajet stated that the current Gateway Overlay District is limited to certain permitted uses. He stated recently, there have been several businesses that have interested in leasing space in the 1 Town Center building which are not currently permitted. He requested for the City Council to consider a revision to the Gateway Overlay District ordinance in order to accommodate a more inclusive allowed uses list. The City Council gave consensus to direct the City Attorney and Planning Firm to draft an ordinance revising the Gateway Overlay District with additional permitted uses.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Dr. Zayas; Maribel Martin; Leah Camps; Michel Gutierrez; Nicholas Rodriguez; Yohanna Hernandez; Jovan Rojas; and Frank Espinosa.

B) Request by staff to discuss Calvin Giordano and Associates proposed Special Projects estimate

Silvia Vargas of CGA was available and provided an overview on the proposed special projects that include, NW 36th Street Corridor, Gateway Overlay amendment, Zoning Clean up and update, GIS and Comprehensive Plan EAR amendments. Ms. Vargas answered the Council's questions. The City Council stated that they will consider the projects at the budget workshop.

C) Request by Vice Mayor Santin to discuss the request made by the Centennial Committee at the Budget Workshop on August 7, 2023 i.e. Centennial Logo (develop in-house/outsource), Fundraising/Sponsorships, etc.

Vice Mayor Santin requested that the City Council allow the development of a Centennial Seal in order to draft letters for fundraisers/sponsorships; they conceded to have the seal be developed in-house. Interim City Manager also clarified that any letter should be drafted from the City not the Centennial Committee, she also requested that the Glenn Curtiss trademark be granted to the City and not to the Committee; Finance Director Chris Chiocca stated the funding raised by the Committee would be a separate accounting fund as a revenue/expense fund. City Attorney Roger Pou reminded the Council that the Centennial Committee is an advisory board and designed to make recommendation to the City Council; any matters relating to funding, correspondence, sponsors etc. should be in conjunction with the City Administration. City Council gave general consensus to draft a memo on how the Centennial Committee should proceed with the items discussed tonight.

D) Request by Vice Mayor Santin to have Bermello Ajamil, City Engineers/Architects, to assess the possibility of adding pickleball courts to current tennis court/racquetball center

Vice Mayor Santin requested that the City acquire an estimate on assessing the possibility of replacing the racquetball courts at the current tennis center with pickleball courts. Interim City Manager Tammy Romero there is no cost on attaining an estimate via a task order. Mayor Mitchell stated that she has an additional space as a possible location for pickleball courts, such as the Curtiss Parkway parking area, right after the end of the bike path and Stafford Park. The City Council gave consensus to City staff to request an estimate from B&A to assess the possible three locations for pickleball courts. Councilwoman Bravo updated the City Council that she has been meeting with the City Attorney in reference to updating the Country Club and bringing all the sports together as a sports center with amenities. She stated that this will be brought forward at a future Council meeting with more details and funding sources for the Council's consideration.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Roger Pou had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

Interim City Manager Tammy Romero had no report at this time.

C) City Council

Vice Mayor Santin stated that as the Council goes through the funding sources and wishlist items in the budget process, that the community has patience in the decision making process and understands that decisions are not short-term solutions, but long term.

Councilwoman Bravo thanked everyone for a productive meeting and had no further report.

Councilman Fajet stated the palm trees on South Royal Poinciana Blvd. look beautiful; and asked if the City would look into doing the same at the City's entrance on East Drive and South Royal Poinciana. He also inquired with Staff on the opening of Canal Street.

Councilman Vazquez welcomed the Pastors from City Rev to the City of Miami Springs. He also stated that there are speeders in town, and the possibility of putting out a social media awareness campaign on preventing speeding.

Mayor Mitchell wished former Councilman Bob Best a speedy recovery. She encouraged residents and visitors to visit local restaurants, since Miami Spice has kicked off recently. She stated last week she attended the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference. The Mayor stated it was extremely informative and networking with elected officials and city leaders of other municipalities with similar concerns, one hot topic was the increases in insurance. Mayor Mitchell mentioned that it has come to her attention that the Town of Medley is looking into annexing the area that Miami Springs has been trying to annex for twenty years. She reached out to the Mayor of Medley and confirmed that it was true he was looking into it. Mayor Mitchell said that the City of Miami Springs is continuing to pursue annexation, and expects the support for our annexation pursuit as we have supported Medley's. She stated that the City has a commitment from Commissioner Cabrera that no other city will be allowed to annex the proposed Miami Springs annexation area while he is in office.

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 28th 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.