



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 21, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

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

In-Person/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 6:00 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.

City Manager/Finance Director William Chiocca

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera

Human Resource Director Bill Collins

Golf Director Paul O'Dell

Golf Superintendent Laurie Bland

Public Works Director Lazaro Garaboa

Public Works Assistant Director Lizette Fuentes

Building Official Ulises Fernandez

Code Compliance Officer Rosemary Novo

City Planner Silvia Vargas (via Zoom)

- 2. Invocation:** Offered by Vice Mayor Santin
Salute to the Flag: The audience participated.

- 3. Workshop on Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget**

- I. Opening Remarks by City Finance Director Chris Chiocca

Mr. Chiocca updated the City Council with changes made during the first budget workshop. He stated that millage still maintained at 6.9900 with a surplus of \$170,258.00. He listed several items that the Council set aside from the prior workshop, such as cutting the City Events line item, increasing the City's donation to the River Cities Festival, increasing the subsidy for the Historic Society, and a new phone app communications system for City-wide use. He then introduced the Human Resources Director, Bill Collins.

I. Human Resources

Interim City Manager Tammy Romero introduced Bill Collins, the Human Resources Director. The budget an increase in health and COLA for employees. The budget \$14,310 higher than the FY22/23.

Mr. Collins was available to answer any of the Council's questions. There were no further changes to this portion of the budget.

II. Golf

Finance Director Chris Chiocca stated that the Golf Department budget is \$448,162 higher than last year. He stated that the Golf Course will be closed for renovations from April to October.

Golf Director Paul O'Dell answered the Council's questions. Golf Course Maintenance Superintendent Laurie Bland were present to answer questions regarding the golf maintenance budget; no further changes were made.

III. City Attorney

Mr. Chiocca explained that the proposed budget includes a \$12,000 increase to the monthly retainer as well as \$30,000 for Code revisions. There were no changes to the City Attorney's budget.

There were no further changes in this portion of the budget.

IV. Public Services Department

i. Administration

Mr. Chiocca stated that the Administration budget is approximately \$59,285 higher due to COLA. He also stated that the entire Public Works budget for the upcoming fiscal year is \$2,249,881 lower than FY2021-2022. There were no changes in this portion of the budget.

ii. Streets/Streetlights Division

Finance Director Chris Chiocca explained the budget is \$13,446 higher or 3.6% than the current year. There was no further discussion on this section.

iii. Public Properties

Finance Director Chris Chiocca stated that the Public Properties budget is about \$288,728 higher than the current year due to increase in property insurance. Budget includes \$100,000 for tree trimming city-wide.

iv. Building Maintenance

Finance Director Chris Chiocca said the department is \$44,692 lower than the current year. There were no further questions for this section of the budget.

v. Fleet Maintenance

Mr. Chiocca explained that the Fleet Maintenance budget is \$7,000 higher than the current year.

vi. Road and Transportation

Finance Director Chris Chiocca stated that the Road and Transportation, Sanitation and Stormwater funds do not impact the General Fund. The proposed budget is \$27,314 higher than FY2022-2023. The Road and Transportation fund includes funds from the Citizens Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) and the projected revenue for next year is approximately \$928,196. This budget includes funding for alley maintenance new sidewalks city-wide, milling and paving various roads City-wide, and also includes the City's shuttle bus service.

vii. Sanitation

The Sanitation fund is self-sufficient as it is funded through the sanitation fees that are collected on an annual basis, according to Mr. Chiocca. The proposed budget is \$149,222 higher than this year.

viii. Stormwater

Mr. Chiocca explained that the Stormwater fund includes fees collected through the water bill. The budget is \$131,184 is less than the previous year. Total revenues totaled \$427,000.

V. Building Department

Mr. Chiocca stated that the Building Department is \$30,527 lower than the current year. The Building Department budget is a separate Special Revenue fund.

Building and Code Compliance Director Ulises Fernandez answered questions from Council. There was no further discussion on this budget.

VI. Code Compliance

Mr. Chiocca commented that the Code Compliance Department is a separate department from Building. He stated that the budget is \$46,680 higher than last year due to an

additional part-time Code Enforcement Officer. The budget also includes \$15,000 for Special Magistrate services.

There were no further changes to this section.

VII. Planning Department

Mr. Chiocca stated that the proposed budget is \$22,288 higher than the current year. Zoning and Planning Director Silvia Vargas of CGA addressed the Council's questions. There was no further discussion on this portion of the budget.

VIII. Debt Service

Mr. Chiocca explained that the budget shows an increase of \$133,059. There were no further questions on this section of the budget.

4. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on
This 11th day of August, 2023.*

Maria Puente Mitchell, Mayor

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