



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 25, 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.

City Manager JC Jimenez

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera (via Zoom)

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:**

City Attorney Roger Pou stated that the Item 8C – Ordinance on the Gateway revisions will be deferred to the next meeting.

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

- A) Drawing by Mayor Mitchell for Rotary Club Dining Out for a Year Fundraiser

Mayor Mitchell along with the City Council and members of the Rotary gathered to draw a name for the fundraiser. Mayor Mitchell announced that the winner was Dennis Doyle.

- B) Recognizing the Miami Springs Basketball Team presented by Recreation Director Omar Luna and Athletic Supervisor Marcus Martin

Mayor Mitchell recognized Recreation Director Omar Luna and Athletic Supervisor

Marcus Martin to the meeting. Recreation Director Omar Luna took a moment to recognize the Basketball Coach Jesus, former Recreation staff member, who then proceeded to recognize the basketball champions.

C) Presentation by Nicholas Acosta of the Miami Springs High School Aerospace Program

Mayor Mitchell recognized Mr. Acosta, and Vice Mayor Santin wanted to thank Mr Acosta for his continued efforts on bringing innovative programs to the high school. Mr. Acosta proceeded to provide an oral and visual presentation. Mr. Acosta also introduced Miami Springs Senior High School Principal Nelson Gonzalez and Gustavo Junco of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University who works closely with the program at MSSH. Mr. Acosta thanked the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Council for their time and continued support.

D) 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 advised that he was not able to attend the meeting.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Dan Wells, 1020 Quail Drive; and James Fulton, 406 Forrest Drive.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

- A) August 23, 2023 – Budget Workshop**
- B) September 11, 2023 – Special Meeting**
- C) September 11, 2023 – Regular Meeting**

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the minutes of August 23, 2023 Budget Workshop, September 11, 2023 Special Meeting and September 11, 2023 Regular 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:

- A) Ecology Advisory Board Update by Board Member Katie Rammen-Ortiz**

Board Member Rammen-Ortiz provided some background information on the Eco Restaurant of the Quarter for the Awareness Campaign under the Environmental Impact Resolution. She explained the program and ways restaurants can participate and apply. She stated that the recognition is recommended to occur every quarter once the program is established. Member Rammen-Ortiz said that she will work closely with the Clerk's department to get the program's information out through social media and website. She thanked the Mayor and City Council for their time and support.

8. Public Hearings:

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Adopting The Final Millage Rate For The Fiscal Year Commencing October 1, 2023 And Ending September 30, 2024 In The Amount Of 6.9900 Mills, Which Is 12.07 % Higher Than The Roll-Back Rate Of 6.2370 Mills; Announcing The Percentage Increase In Property Taxes; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Resolution by title; announcing the millage rate and percentage over the rolled back rate. The Mayor opened the public hearing, there were no speakers at this time. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the Resolution at 6.9100 millage rate. Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion. City Attorney Haydee Sera stated for the record that the new millage rate of 6.9100 is 10.79% over the rollback rate of 6.2370. The motion 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 Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Adopting A Final Budget For The Fiscal Year Commencing October 1, 2023, And Ending September 30, 2024; Providing For Expenditure Of Budgeted Funds; Providing For Budgetary Controls; Providing For Grants And Gifts; Providing For Budget Amendments; Providing For Encumbrances; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Resolution by title. The Mayor opened the public hearing; there were no speakers at this time. The Mayor closed the public hearing. Mayor Mitchell indicated that since there is consensus on adding an addition police officer to the Police budget that administration not expend funds until later in the fiscal year until there is better understanding on the upcoming future budget, 2024-2025.

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the Resolution as read. 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.

C) **Ordinance – Second Reading** – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Amending Section 150-070.1, “Miami Springs Gateway Overlay District” Within Article VII, “Business District” Of Chapter 150, “Zoning Code,” Of The City’s Code Of Ordinances To Amend The List Of Uses Permitted On First Floor Levels Along Road Rights-Of-Way; Providing For Conflicts; Providing For Severability; Providing For Codification; And Providing For An Effective Date

This item was deferred to the next meeting; announced earlier in the agenda.

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 Additional Citywide Asphalt Patching Services On An As-Needed Basis From Ovas & Co, LLC For Fiscal Year 2022-23 In An Amount Not To Exceed \$11,756.56; Providing For Authorization; 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 Additional Golf Products From Acushnet Holdings Corp. For The City’s Golf Club Pro Shop For Fiscal Year 2022-23 In An Amount Not To Exceed \$4,941.50; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

C) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Authorizing The City Manager To Approve Mutual Aid Agreements With Other Agency Police Departments; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

D) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Consent Order With The Florida Department Of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Relating To National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Permit No. FLS000003; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

E) Resolution – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Selecting Brown & Brown Of Florida, Inc. For The City’s General, Property, Auto, Workers' Compensation, Cyber, And Other Liability Insurance Coverage; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the Consent Agenda. 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.

10. Old Business: None at this time.

11. New Business: None at this time.

12. Other Business:

A) Approving the Centennial Committee’s recommendation of the Miami Springs Centennial Logo

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the logo as recommended by the Centennial Committee and amended by staff. 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.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Roger Pou had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager JC Jimenez stated he will be out of town from Saturday through Wednesday at an ICMA Conference. Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero stated that the Parking Study survey is still up and encouraged the public to participate. She then provided City events for the upcoming week and following month. More information is available on the City's website.

C) City Council

Councilman Vazquez said the War Memorial renovation committee will meet with the City Manager and staff to clarify the procedures for the state appropriated funds.

Councilman Fajet thanked the Council for their continued efforts on the budget. He is excited to see where we go from here.

Councilwoman Bravo thankful for the members of Council for making progress and starting fresh in the next meeting.

Vice Mayor Santin stated that the parking study is very important and requested that the information on the parking study be provided to the Gazette for publication. He stated that he's thankful that the budget process is over and happy he was able to work with the rest of City Council through it.

Mayor Mitchell stated that she and the City Manager will be meeting with the new Director of Emergency Management Department tomorrow. She stated that next week she will be attending the Florida League of Cities Taxation and Finance Committee meeting in Orlando. She stated her focus will be the Bed Tax and looking for a way to attain the City's fair share. Mayor Mitchell stated that recently the Town of Miami Lakes recently had an event called a "Culinary Bike Tour" where participating restaurants opened in town to introduce visitors to the eateries and promote economic growth. She stated she will give it more thought and work with the City Manager on a possible event. She thanked the City Council for being professional and responsible during the budget process, she knows it was a difficult task but it was in the best interest of the City.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on
This 9th day of October, 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.