



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 9, 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 Jacky Bravo

Councilman Jorge Santin

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

City Attorney Roger Pou (via Zoom)

City Planner Alex David

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

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

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Yard of the Month Award for October 2023 – 1110 Oriole Avenue – Yaset Fernandez

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

5. **Open Forum:** The following members of the public addressed the City Council:
Alberto Gomez, 1985 Westward Drive.

6. **Approval of Council Minutes:**

A) September 25, 2023 – Special Meeting

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the minutes of September 25, 2023 Regular

Meeting. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

7. Reports from Boards & Commissions: None at this time.

8. Public Hearings:

A) Ordinance – First Reading – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Small-Scale Amendment To The City's Comprehensive Plan, Changing The Future Land Use Map Designation From "Religious Institution" To "Single Family Residential" Of A Certain ±0.22 Acre Parcel Of Land Located At The Intersection Of Esplanade Drive And Hibiscus Drive At Hypothetical 425 Esplanade Drive (Folio No. 05-3119-020-0015); Providing For Authorization; Providing For Transmittal; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Ordinance by title. City Planner, Alex David of CGA addressed the City Council. Javier Vazquez, representing the applicant, addressed the City Council. The Mayor opened the public hearing, there were no speakers at this time. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the Ordinance on first reading. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

B) Ordinance – First Reading – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Rezoning From P-2 Church Use To R-1b Single Family Residential Of A Certain ±0.22 Acre Parcel Of Land Located At The Intersection Of Esplanade Drive And Hibiscus Drive At Hypothetical 425 Esplanade Drive (Folio No. 05-3119-020-0015); Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Ordinance by title. City Planner, Alex David of CGA addressed the City Council. Javier Vazquez, representing the applicant, addressed the City Council. 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 Ordinance on first reading. Vice Mayor Bravo seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

C) Resolution – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Tentative Plat Application By R & J Portfolio, LLC For Property Located At The Intersection Of Esplanade Drive And Hibiscus Drive At Hypothetical 425 Esplanade Drive (Folio No. 05-3119-020-0015); Providing For Conditions; Providing For Violations; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Resolution by title. City Planner, Alex David of CGA addressed the City Council. Javier Vazquez, representing the applicant, addressed the City Council. The Mayor opened the public hearing, there were no speakers at this time. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Bravo seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

D) **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

City Attorney Haydee Sera read the Ordinance by title. The Mayor opened the public hearing, the following members of the public addressed the City Council: Michael Gavila, Alina Garcia, 10165 SW 100 Avenue; Dr Hernandez, 1161 Oriole Avenue; Tomas Matz, 349 DeLeon Drive; Ernie Thomas, 29 Palmetto Drive; Frank Espinosa, 5000 SW 186 Avenue; Nicholas Camps, 246 Apache Street, Francois Zayas, 373 Westward Drive; Deme Mekras, 7480 Bird Road; Jhovan Rojas, 250 S. Royal Poinciana Blvd.; Elena Rodriguez, 229 Laurel Way; Maribel Martin, 44 Curtiss Parkway. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

Councilman Fajet moved to defer the Ordinance on second reading to a future meeting. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

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 An Agreement With Full Moon Creative LLC For Audiovisual Services Necessary For The Broadcast Of City Council Meetings, Workshops, And Related Meetings In An Amount Not To Exceed Budgeted Funds; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, 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) Vote of Confidence for the City Manager as Required by Section 4.02 (2) of the City Charter

Councilman Vazquez moved to give the City Manager a vote of confidence. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager JC Jimenez thanked the City Council for the vote of confidence and looks forward to working with the City Council. He stated that he is currently looking into the possibility of online payments for different City departments. He stated the Town Center construction is still underway. He pointed out that he will get with the Building Official and the Planning Department to make sure all areas of the project are completed and requirements are met. He assured the City Council that he will keep them in the apprised of any changes or status changes on the new construction. Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero provided a list of upcoming City events and stated more information on City events are on the City's official website.

C) City Council

Vice Mayor Bravo is looking forward to the upcoming Gateway Ordinance workshop. She requested a moment of silence for Israel. She further thanked her colleagues for a productive meeting.

Councilman Fajet attended Yvonne Schonberger's service recently. He requested if the City can look into possibly designating a portion of East Drive in Mrs. Schonberger's honor. He stated that her legacy in conserving the City's historic archives and décor is admirable and deserving.

Councilman Vazquez also attended the services of Yvonne Schonberger and supports Councilman Fajet's request for dedicating a portion of East Drive to her. Councilman Vazquez stated that he continues to promote civic service and recently was invited by Villanova University to speak on civics and history. He stated he truly enjoys what he does.

Councilman Santin confirmed that we will expedite the uses for the Gateway

Ordinance. He requested consensus from Council to direct the City Manager to speak to the Centennial Committee and Historical Society to celebrate the 100-year birthday of the Golf Course. He requested that the Golf Course's grand re-opening could coincide with the golf's 100th birthday.

Mayor Mitchell shared the same sentiment with the Vice Mayor towards Israel, as to the events that saddening and concerning, she hopes for peace soon. Mayor Mitchell attended the Florida League of Cities Legislative, Taxation and Financing Committee meeting last week to determine which bills will be supported by the League. She stated that at the meeting the State Economic and Demographic Research Department provided a presentation to create a data sharing program or application so that municipalities can access and share financial impacts in different cities.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on
This 23rd 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.