



City of Miami Springs, Florida

Special Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 20, 2023 5:01 p.m.

Rebeca Sosa Theater, 1401 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, Florida

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 5:02 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. (via Zoom)

Interim City Manager Tammy Romero

Finance Director Chirs Chiocca

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Roger Pou

- 2. Invocation:** Offered by Vice Mayor Jorge Santin
Pledge of Allegiance/Salute to the Flag: The audience participated
- 4. Public Comment:** The following members of the public addressed the City Council: No speakers at this time.
- 5. New Business:**

A) Resolution - A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Declaring, As Required By Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, The City's Proposed Millage Rate, Rolled-Back Rate Computed Pursuant To Section 200.065(1), Florida Statutes, And The Date, Time And Place At Which The First And Second Public Budget Hearings Will Be Held To Consider The Proposed Millage Rate And The Tentative Budget For Fiscal Year 2023-2024; Directing The City Clerk And Interim City Manager To File This Resolution With The Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser; Authorizing The Interim City Manager To Change Budget Hearing Dates, If Needed; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Attorney Roger Pou read the Resolution by title. Finance Director Chris Chiocca read the staff memo for the record. He provided an overview of the upcoming budget process and gave his recommendation on the millage cap.

After brief discussion, Councilman Fajet moved to approve the millage cap at 6.9900. 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.

B) Resolution - A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Authorizing The Mayor, With The Assistance Of The City Attorney, To Negotiate An Employment Agreement On Behalf Of The City With Juan Carlos Jimenez As The Top-Ranked Candidate For City Manager; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria passed out ranking sheets for the selection of the City Manager. After the voting sheets were collected by the City Clerk, the following announcement was made after completion of the tally:

**First Choice: JC Jimenez, 2 votes; Chris Russo, 2 votes; Tammy Romero, 1 vote.
Second Choice: JC Jimenez, 3 votes; Chris Russo, 2 votes.**

After brief discussion, Councilwoman Bravo made a motion to appoint Chris Russo as City Manager. Vice Mayor Santin seconded the motion, which failed 2-3 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Santin and Councilwoman Bravo, voting Yes; Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting No.

After further discussion. Councilman Fajet made a motion to appoint JC Jimenez as City Manager. 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.

City Attorney Roger Pou read the Resolution with Mr. JC Jimenez's name inserted in the title. Councilman Vazquez made a motion to approve the Resolution as stated. 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.

4. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 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.