



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 26, 2024 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

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Victor Vazquez, Ph.D.

Vice Mayor Jacky Bravo

Councilman Jorge Santin

City Manager JC Jimenez

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez

City Attorney Haydee Sera

Chief of Police Armando Guzman

Captain Jimmy Deal

Human Resources Director Bill Collins

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Mayor Maria Mitchell
Pledge of Allegiance: The audience led in the pledge.
3. **Agenda / Order of Business:**
4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Swearing-in Ceremony of Police Officer Kevin Frias by Chief Guzman

Mayor Mitchell welcomed Chief Guzman to the meeting. Chief Guzman proceeded to swear-in Officer Frias. Officer Frias thanked the Chief and Administration for the support and looks forward to serving the community.

B) Promotion Ceremony by Chief Guzman - Police Officer Ronny Gonzalez to Police Sergeant

Chief Guzman took a moment to share some background information on Officer Gonzalez; he proceeded to swear-in Officer Rodriguez as Sergeant. Sergeant Rodriguez thanked the Chief and Administration for the support and looks forward to serving the community.

C) Swearing-in Ceremony of new Police Chief, Captain Jimmy Deal by former Police Chief Armando Guzman

Chief Guzman spoke on Captain Deal's tenure and rising through the ranks in Miami Springs. Chief Guzman proceeded to swear-in Captain Deal as the new Chief of Police for the City of Miami Springs. Chief Deal thanked his friends and family, City Council and the Administration for the support over the years.

D) Recognizing Chief Guzman's retirement and years of service as Miami Springs Chief of Police; recognizing nine years and one month of service (2015 to 2024)

Mayor Mitchell and City Council recognized and thanked former Police Chief Guzman for his unwavering years of service to Miami Springs. She presented him with a plaque and read a letter sent by the State Attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle wishing him a well-deserved retirement. Former Chief Guzman thanked the City Council, City Administration, the Police Department and the residents of Miami Springs for the great years.

E) Mayor and City Council Recognizing Nicolas Acosta as being selected as Miami-Dade County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Finalist; School Board Member Danny Espino; and Principal Nelson Gonzalez Present

Mayor Mitchell and City Council recognized Mr. Nicolas Acosta for achieving the nomination of Teacher of the Year 2024. School Board Member Espino also expressed words of appreciation for a major accomplishment for local school and Mr. Acosta. Mr. Nelson expressed his gratitude for the achievement and stated that there is always next year.

F) Mayor and City Council recognition of the Miami Springs Woman's Club for hosting the annual Health and Wellness Fair for the betterment of the community

Mayor Mitchell and City Council recognized the Woman's Club for their continued efforts of providing community events and services that benefit local families. Members of the Woman's Club were available to accept the plaque.

G) Mayor and City Council Recognizing STEAM students from Miami Springs Elementary Allison Diaz, Giovanni Tapanes, Natalie Perez, and Benjamin Owens who participated in the Mouse Trap Competition; Matias Cardenas, Joanna Abreu-Martinez, and Benjamin Owens who participated in the Robotics Competition; Averie Pearson who earned a Silver Medal for her Science fair Project and Marley Gonzalez who earned a Bronze Medal for her Science Fair Project, Ethan Gonzalez - participant in the Science Fair Project; Aria Pirrongelli, Jonathan Leyva, and Benjamin Owens who created, painted and presented the SECME banner; In addition, Miami Springs Elementary earned a Sliver in the school designation program for Miami Dade County Public Schools

Mayor Mitchell and City Council recognized the students from Miami Springs Elementary STEAM program. School Board Member Espino stated that he was proud of all of them and looks forward to seeing the innovations next year. The students were available to receive their certificates.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Michael Gavila, Morningside Drive; Steven Owens, 525 Cardinal Street; Bob Best, 1216 Ibis Avenue; Matthew Gonzalez, 1101 Swan Avenue.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) February 12, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the minutes of February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting. Councilman 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.

7. Reports from Boards & Commissions: None.

8. Public Hearings:

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Adopting The City’s Vulnerability Assessment And Adaptation Action Plan Report; And Providing For An Effective Date (Presentation by Jose Lopez, of B&A, on the Resiliency Assessment and Action Plan)

Mr. Jose Lopez, Engineer for Bermello Ajamil, presented an oral and visual presentation. He answered the Councils questions.

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the Resolution. 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.

9. Consent Agenda: (Funded and/or Budgeted):

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Contract And Contract Addendum With Fireworks Displays Unlimited, LLC D/B/A Firepower Fireworks Displays For The City’s 2024 Fourth Of July Fireworks Display In An Amount Not To Exceed \$22,000.00; Waiving Competitive Bidding Procedures; 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 One 2024 Ford Maverick Pickup 4x2 From Duval Ford, LLC In An Amount Not To Exceed \$26,313.28 Utilizing The Terms And Conditions Of The Florida Sheriffs Association Contract No. Fsa23-Vel 31.0 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

Vice Mayor Bravo moved 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 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) Request by James Fulton 1) for annual donation to the Boy Scouts Summer Camp; 2) Optimist Club request for BBQ event on March 9th, circle closure and donation

Troop Master Vincent Vigna and James Fulton requested a donation to the Boy Scouts annual summer camp. Councilman Vazquez moved to approve an allocation of \$500.00 towards the Boy Scouts summer camp. Vice Mayor Bravo 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.

B) Mayor Mitchell announcing City of Miami Springs has been nominated for the "2024 Safe Streets Summit Complete Streets Community Award" for the South Royal Poinciana (between East Drive and LeJune Road) Roadway Improvements Project

Mayor Mitchell stated that recently the City of Miami Springs was nominated for the 2024 Safe Street Summit Complete Streets Community Award for the first time. She was thrilled that the South Royal Poinciana Boulevard Project was a successful project with safety at the forefront. She looks forward to the possibility of winning the award, but acknowledges the competition is fierce.

C) Request by Mayor Mitchell to discuss the FDOT Iron Triangle public meeting held at Miami Springs Community Center on February 21st

Mayor Mitchell updated the City Council on the project and the recent kick off public meeting they held on February 21st at the Community Center. She stressed the negative impact that this project will have on the City. She encourages everyone to keep informed of future meetings that are forthcoming.

D) Request by Councilman Santin to:

1) Discuss and possibly take action on the 2023 Centennial Committee Report and proposal of events;

The City Council gave general consensus to the Centennial Committee's proposed events in concept for the celebration as stated in the report. The City Manager will meet with Chair Arias and follow up with City Staff on certain details of the events.

2) Direct staff to allocate funding for the "From Country Club Estates to Miami Springs: The Centennial History of an Incredible City" by Seth Bramson;

The City Council gave general consensus to the Centennial Committee's request for funding to initiate the authoring of the book; City Manager and City Attorney will coordinate with the author on negotiating the terms of an agreement for the development of the proposed book.

3) Direct staff to draft a Resolution approving the donation and acceptance of the JN-4 "Jenny" and NC-4 Airplane Sculpture and Glenn Curtiss Statue

The City Council gave direction to staff to develop a Resolution for the donation. The City Manager stated that City Staff will be gathering information on the specification and details on the statutes and the Building Code requirements for installation.

4) Direct staff to draft an agreement between Magic 13 Brewing Co. for a limited-edition beer for the Centennial Celebration

The City Council directed staff to coordinate with the vendor on the terms of an agreement between the City in order to begin production of the limited edition of the beer.

E) Request by Vice Mayor Bravo to discuss the following:

1) Request consensus from City Council to amend the current Code Sec.150-017 Recreational Vehicles

Vice Mayor Bravo spoke on the concern of the increased number of recreational vehicles parked on private property in the City. It was general consensus of the City Council the Vice Mayor work with the City Attorney to develop a proposed Ordinance with the revisions discussed.

2) Public Right of Way parking regulations referring to Single Family, Duplex, Multifamily/attached housing (Refer to Sec. 150-016. - Off-street parking facilities; paving and drainage; lighting; landscaping; and minimum number of off-street parking spaces; off-street parking requirements for single-family residential and duplex zoning districts)

This item was deferred to the next Council meeting.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager JC Jimenez stated the War Memorial renovations bids are under review and being evaluated. He informed that one of the VAC trucks for stormwater are out of service due to repairs and staffing issues. The East Drive and Oakwood Drive roadway improvements recently started construction and a groundbreaking will take place March 11th with Senator Avila present. Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero provided upcoming City events.

C) City Council

Vice Mayor thanked the Boy Scouts for attending the meeting. She thanked former Chief Guzman for his service to the City; she congratulated Chief Deal for being appointed as Police Chief. Vice Mayor Bravo stated that the City Staff should look into review the Code Enforcement Citation Fees which seem a bit antiquated; and requested review of the current zoning map, as it may be out of date.

Councilman Santin thanked former Police Chief Guzman for his service and congratulated the new Chief, Chief Deal.

Councilman Fajet thanked the Vice Mayor for thoroughly looking into the RV Ordinance and bringing it forward. He also thanked the City Council for moving things along with the Centennial Committee events.

Councilman Vazquez thanked the former Chief of Police, Armando Guzman and congratulated Chief Deal on a well-deserved appointment.

Mayor Mitchell encouraged the public to attend the Parking Study Workshop on Wednesday, February 28th. She thanked everyone and all the staff.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on
This 26th day of February, 2024.*

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.