



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 11, 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 (left the physical meeting at 8:45pm and joined via Zoom)

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Victor Vazquez, Ph.D. (via Zoom)

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 Jimmy Deal

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

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

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Honoring Police Sgt. Gary Fetters for his retirement after 25 years and 8 months of dedicated service to the City of Miami Springs

Mayor Mitchell, the City Council and Chief Deal recognized and thanked former Police Sergeant Fetters for his years of service to Miami Springs. The Mayor presented him with a plaque and wishing him a well-deserved retirement. Sgt. Fetters thanked his family, the City Council, City Administration, the Police Department and the residents of Miami Springs for the recognition.

B) Promotion Ceremony by Chief Deal - Police Officer Brian Nickerson to Police Sergeant

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

servicing the community.

C) Promotion Ceremony by Chief Deal - Police Lieutenant Frank Perez to Police Captain

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

D) Proclaiming the month of March as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month"

Mayor Mitchell stated that there is a rise in gambling because of the access to online gambling. She read the proclamation for the record, and proclaimed the month of March as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month."

E) Yard of the Month Award for March 2024 – 289 Shadow Way – Theo and Diana Karantsalis

Mayor Mitchell and City Council recognized Mr. Theo Karantsalis for Yard of the Month. Mr. Karantsalis was present to receive his award and expressed his gratitude for the recognition.

F) Announcing City Hall Lobby Artist of the Month for March 2024 - Shannen Jasser, Public Information Officer, International Women's Day Art at City Hall Project

This item was deferred to the March 25, 2024 Council Meeting.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Steven Owens, 525 Cardinal Street; Manny Fabian, 266 Minola Drive; Tom Webb, 961 Ibis Avenue; Roland Rivero, 581 DeSoto Drive; Trina Aguila, 901 Oriole Avenue; Shand Booher, 1170 Quail Avenue; Karson Booher, 1170 Quail Avenue.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) February 26, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2024 Regular Meeting. 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.

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

8. Public Hearings: None at this time.

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, Ratifying A Professional Services Agreement With Golfnow, LLC, For Golf Card Marketing Program Services; 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 Issuance Of A Purchase Order To Dobbs Equipment, LLC For The Purchase Of A Replacement Tractor Engine And Related Installation Services In An Amount Not To Exceed \$25,791.57; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

Councilman Fajet moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Santin 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 Clerk as Required by Section 8.01 (1) of the City Charter

Vice Mayor Bravo moved to offer a vote of confidence for the City Clerk. 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.

B) Vote of Confidence for the City Attorney as Required by Section 8.01 (1) of the City Charter

Councilman Vazquez moved to offer a vote of confidence for the City Attorney. 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.

C) Following related items are requested:

1) Vice Mayor Bravo – 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) (*Item was deferred at the 2/26/2024 Council Meeting Agenda*)

Vice Mayor Bravo introduced her item expressing her concern with the multi-family parking including swale parking in the City. Discussion ensued among the Council, it was general consensus to direct staff to explore and recommend on the following 1) Parking overall in all districts Multi-family, Single-family, and commercial areas; 2) Existing Parking Requirements and use of parking; 3) Swale Parking.

2) Councilman Santin – Request to consider drafting an ordinance to either add no overnight parking or overnight parking with time restrictions; additionally, two-hour parking in the Gateway Overlay and CBD

Councilman Santin introduced his item stating that the City Council was given recommendations from the Parking Study that the City can actively start immediately such as clear signage and enforcement of the two-hour parking in the Gateway and CBD Districts. City Manager Jimenez stated that he has planned to receive quotes for restriping, milling and paving and signage in specific areas such as Canal Street.

D) Request by Councilman Santin to discuss the consideration of renaming Prince Field in honor of Douglas Orr, Prince Field at Douglas Orr Park

Councilman Santin spoke on the item and the expressed all the contributions of Mr. Douglas Orr over the years to the community. Discussion ensued, Councilman Santin moved to rename Prince Field, “Prince Field at Douglas Orr Park” pending legal review. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 3-2 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Bravo, Councilman Santin, Councilman Fajet voting Yes; Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting No.

E) Request by Councilman Santin to discuss pedestrian safety at the Circle; directing the City Manager and City staff to help draft recommendations and possible solutions to help increase pedestrian safe mobility to the circle

Councilman Santin introduced the item and stated that the Circle should have safe access for pedestrians to enjoy without the risk of being hit by a vehicle. After some discussion, it was the general consensus of the City Council to direct staff to having open discussions with Miami-Dade County on improving the pedestrian safety at the Circle.

F) Request by Staff to discuss HRS MGMT LLC, Food and Beverage Vendor at the Country Club

This item was deferred to the March 25, 2024 Council meeting.

G) Appointment of Miami-Dade County League of Cities Director and Alternate for May 2024-25 session

Councilman Vazquez made a motion to nominate Councilman Santin as the Director and Councilman Fajet as the Alternate for the MDCLC 24-25 Session. 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 thanked the City Council for the vote of confidence and had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager JC Jimenez stated the Golf Course potentially has an opening date, which is forthcoming. He announced that Golf Director Paul O'Dell will be retiring April 24th. He updated the Council on the Memorial renovations bid, he is currently exploring his options since one bid came in at a higher amount than expected. He also provided dates of upcoming City events.

C) City Council

Councilman Fajet thanked the City Clerk and City Attorney for their hard work and well-deserving of the vote of confidence. He also thanked the City Council for continued collaborations on a variety of issues.

Councilman Vazquez stated that he is in recovery after his wrist surgery. He thanked staff and the Council always working together to find a common ground on a variety of subject matters.

Councilman Santin echoed the Council's comments and sentiments. He stated that it was a great "rookie" year so far.

Vice Mayor Bravo thanked the staff and the City Council. She also thanked the community for always taking an active role in the meetings. She thanked Sgt. Fetters for his years of service to the community and hope he enjoys his retirement.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on
This 25th day of March, 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.