



## **City of Miami Springs, Florida**

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 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

Vice Mayor Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Jorge Santin

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo

Councilman Victor Vazquez. Ph.D.

City Manager JC Jimenez

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez

City Attorney Haydee Sera

City Attorney Susan Trevarthen

City Planner Silvia Vargas

- 2. Invocation:** Offered by Councilman Victor Vazquez  
**Pledge of Allegiance:** The audience led in the pledge.

- 3. Agenda / Order of Business:**

- 4. Awards & Presentations:**

A) Introduction by candidate for Miami-Dade County Sheriff, Joe Sanchez

**Mr. Sanchez introduced himself and also addressed the City Council to provide an overview of what to expect during the transition from Police Director to Sheriff of Miami-Dade County.**

B) Recognition of Roman's Pizza for 40 Years as Miami Springs restaurant

**Mayor Mitchell took a moment to recognize Vice Mayor Edgar Ayala and Councilperson Lizelh Rodriguez who assisted in recognizing Jesus Roman owner of Roman's Pizzeria. Mr. Roman was present to accept his award in recognition of being in business in the City for forty years. He thanked the Mayor, City Council and his family for the support over the years.**

C) Yard of the Month Award for April 2024 – 1005 Ludlum Drive – Renee and Teresa Cheng

**Mayor Mitchell announced the yard of the month for April. Mr. and Mrs. Cheng were present to receive their award, then thanked the Mayor and City Council for the recognition.**

D) Presentation by Susan Trevarthen from Weiss Serota on the Live Local Act

**City Attorney Susan Trevarthen gave a visual and oral presentation on the Live Local Act. She explained that the Act is designed to increase availability of affordable housing opportunities to Florida’s workforce. The City Attorney was available to address the City Council’s questions.**

E) Proclaiming April 26, 2024 as National Arbor Day; Encouraging all Citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and taking steps to protect our trees and woodlands

**Mayor Mitchell read the proclamation for Arbor Day, she proclaimed April 26, 2024 as National Arbor Day. A date for a tree planting is to be determined.**

**5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Matthew Gonzalez, 1101 Swan Avenue; Noel Gonzalez, 1101 Swan Avenue.**

**6. Approval of Council Minutes:**

A) March 25, 2024 – Regular Meeting

**Vice Mayor Fajet moved to approve the minutes of March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting. Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Santin, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

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

**8. Public Hearings:**

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, [Approving/Approving With Conditions/Denying] An Application By Guillermo Porras For Property Located At 341 De Leon Drive, Miami Springs, Florida, For A Variance To Provide An 18 Foot-5 Inch Rear Yard Setback Where Section 150-142(F) Of The Miami Springs Code Requires A Minimum Of 25 Feet; Providing Findings; Providing For Conditions; And Providing For An Effective Date

**Vice Mayor Fajet moved to approve the Resolution as recommended. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 4-1 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Santin, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes; Councilwoman Bravo voting No.**

**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 First Amendment To The Municipal Transit Services Agreement With Limousines Of South Florida, Inc. D/B/A LSF Shuttle; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A First Amendment To The Professional Services Agreement With Ceres Environmental Services, Inc.; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

C) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Accepting A State Appropriations Grant In The Amount Of \$500,000; Approving A Grant Agreement With The Florida Department Of Environmental Protection (FDEP) For Water Quality Improvements Relating To The C-6 Miami Canal East Drive And Oakwood Drive Drainage Improvements Project; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

D) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving An Easement And Hold Harmless Agreement With 1800 Oakwood, LLC; Providing For Authorization; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

**Vice Mayor Fajet 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 Fajet, Councilman Santin, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.**

**10. Old Business: None at this time.**

**11. New Business:**

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Establishing An Auditor Selection Committee To Assist In The Procurement Of A Certified Public Accounting Firm Pursuant To Section 218.391, Florida Statutes; Appointing Committee Members; And Providing For An Effective Date

**City Clerk Erika Gonzalez read the item by title.**

**City Manager JC Jimenez explained the purpose of the selection committee and currently there are two appointments already, Alfredo Riverol, Finance Director for South Miami and Jennifer Moon, Miami-Dade County Budget Director; the request is to have a member of Council be appointed to the Committee.**

**Councilman Fajet moved to appoint Councilman Santin to the Committee and to**

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

**12. Other Business:**

A) Request by Vice Mayor Fajet and Councilman Santin to provide direction to City Planner regarding employer provided accommodations as a conditional use in the Gateway District

Vice Mayor Fajet stated that as a follow-up to the recent workshop he requested that the City Council consider directing staff to look into conditional use for an employer provided accommodations in the Gateway Overlay District. Cesarina Beauchamp and Alex Estrella, 30 Canal Street, addressed the City Council. After extensive discussion, Vice Mayor Fajet moved to direct staff to start creating a process for conditional uses and to add potential uses to the recommendations. Councilman Santin seconded the motion, which carried 3-2 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Santin, and Councilman Vazquez voting Yes; Mayor Mitchell and Councilwoman Bravo, voting No.

B) Request by Staff to discuss Phase I of the parking initiative

City Manager JC Jimenez stated that he has prepared phase one of the parking initiative. His recommendations include the following: designation of areas for three-hour parking, fifteen-minute curbside, and no limit parking within the Gateway Overlay District and Central Business District. After discussion, there was general consensus to move forward with the proposed initiative.

**13. Reports & Recommendations:**

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager JC Jimenez updated the City Council on the trash pick-up issue. He also updated the Council on recently rejecting the War Memorial bid and reissuing the request for proposal soon. He explained that the Centennial Committee has drafted letters for Sponsorships and donations, which are available for Council review. The City Council provided some updates for the letter, and the City Manager said the updated letters will be ready for the River Cities Festival. He stated that in light of Paul O'Dell's retirement, that he has arranged for interviews for the upcoming week for Golf Director. He also updated the Council on a recent issue with FPL, regarding franchise fees payment on the proposed annexed area which needs to be addressed in the upcoming weeks or during the budget process. Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero provided dates of upcoming City events.

C) City Council

**Vice Mayor Fajet requested an update on Factory Town. He stated that he attended the Taste of the Springs over the weekend and was happy to see this event is up and running again; and that it was a fantastic event.**

**Councilman Vazquez stated that his son will be graduating at the end of April and said he was very proud of him.**

**Councilwoman Bravo stated that it was a good meeting, and congratulated Councilman Vazquez's son for a wonderful accomplishment.**

**Councilman Santin also congratulated Councilman Vazquez on his son's graduation. He stated that he looks forward to seeing everyone at the River Cities Festival over the weekend.**

**Mayor Mitchell reminded the City Council of the Opening Ceremony for the River Cities Festival on Friday. She announced that on April 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a chemical disposal event at the community center courtesy of Commissioner Cabrera's efforts to joining with the City on an important event.**

**14. Adjourn**

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:*

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*Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC  
City Clerk*

*Adopted by the City Council on  
This 22nd day of April, 2024.*

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*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.