



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 14, 2021 7:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers, 201 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 7:02 p.m.

Present were the following:

Mayor Maria Puente Mitchell

Vice Mayor Bob Best

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo

Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Victor Vazquez, Ph.D.

City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria

City Attorney Haydee Sera (via Zoom)

Planning Director Chris Heid (via Zoom)

Police Chief Armando Guzman

Recreation Director Omar Luna

- 2. Invocation:** Offered by Vice Mayor Bob Best
Pledge of Allegiance: Audience led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag.
- 3. Agenda / Order of Business: None at this time.**
- 4. Awards & Presentations:**

A) Recognizing new Eagle Scouts Troop 334 members Joel Estevez, Angel Jariel Plana, Jack Ethan Fulton, Benet Sieg-Sintas, Victor Angel Vazquez-Hernandez; and Recognizing James Fulton III on receiving the Eagle Scouts District Award of Merit

Eagle Scout Troop members introduced themselves and spoke of their Eagle Scout projects to the City Council. Mr. Fulton also addressed the City Council and thanked them for their support over the years.

- 5. Open Forum:** The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Jennifer Llerena, 393 Minola Drive; Maria Perez-Castaneda, 310 Corydon Drive, and Rogelio Madan, 224 Lenape Drive.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) May 24, 2021 – Regular Meeting

Vice Mayor Best moved to approve the minutes of May 24, 2021 Regular Meeting. Councilman Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Best, Councilwoman Bravo, 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 City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving The Issuance Of A Change Order To Stonehenge Construction, LLC For The Prince Field Concrete Pad Installation Project In An Amount Not To Exceed \$28,490; Providing For A Waiver Of Competitive Bidding; And Providing For An Effective Date

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero read the Resolution by title.

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

10. Old Business: None at this time.

11. New Business:

A) **Ordinance – First Reading** – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Dissolving The Code Review Board, The Memorial Committee, And The Golf And Country Club Advisory Board By Repealing Articles III, IV, And XIV Of Chapter 32, “Boards, Commissions, Committees” Of The City’s Code Of Ordinances; Providing For Conflicts; Providing For Severability; Providing For Codification; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Manager William Alonso read the Ordinance by title.

After some discussion, Councilman Fajet moved to approve the Ordinance on first reading. Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion, which carried 3-2 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Fajet, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes; Vice Mayor Best and Councilman Vazquez voting No.

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Establishing Rates For Collection Of Garbage, Trash And Recycling For

Residential And Commercial Customers Effective October 1, 2021; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Manager William Alonso read the Resolution by title.

Vice Mayor Best moved to approve the Resolution as read. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Best, Councilwoman Bravo, 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 Second Extension Of The Lease Agreement With Westward Partners, LLC For A Police Department Substation At 274 Westward Drive; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

Assistant City Manager Tammy Romero read the Resolution by title.

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

D) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Providing For The Third Amendment To The FY 2020-21 General Fund And Stormwater Enterprise Fund Budgets To Record FEMA Funding To Pay The Costs Of The Covid-19 Vaccination Sites And To Record The Costs Of The Oakwood/Stafford Park Stormwater Project; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Manager William Alonso read the Resolution by title.

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

E) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Establishing The Business And Economic Development Task Force; Providing For Authorization; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Manager William Alonso read the Resolution by title.

Councilman Vazquez moved to approve the Resolution with the following amendments; a third member will be appointed to the task force by the Mayor (with consultation of the City Manager) first meeting will take place beginning in September 2021, task force shall exist until September 2022 or until report is delivered with their recommendations, and removing “Secretary” in Section 5(d). Councilwoman Bravo seconded the motion, which carried 4-1 on roll call vote. The

vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez, and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes; Vice Mayor Best voting No.

F) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Authorizing The Demolition Of The Structure Located At 4545 Nw 36th Street (Folio No.: 05-3120-030-0130) Consistent With The Order Of The Miami-Dade County Unsafe Structures Board; Selecting Demolition Masters, Inc. To Demolish The Structure And Secure The Property In An Amount Not To Exceed \$15,886; Authorizing The Negotiation And Execution Of A Demolition Contract; Authorizing The City Attorney To Initiate A Lawsuit To Foreclose The City’s Interests In The Property; Providing For Implementation; And Providing For An Effective Date

City Manager William Alonso read the Resolution by title.

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

G) Request by City Staff to discuss request by residents to close pedestrian sidewalks at five location on east side of the City

Assistant City Manager Read the staff memo and City Manager William Alonso read the staff recommendation for the record. The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Odalis Nunez, 633 Minola Drive; Hilda Bennett, 633 LaVilla Drive; Yury Calderon, 632 Minola Drive; Rogelio Madan, 224 Lenape Drive; Francisco Fernandez.

City Council gave general consensus to staff to continue requesting quotes for the proposed fences at five locations bordering NW 36th Street, asking staff to inquire if a taller fence may be installed at the proposed locations, and provide an informational letter to the residents in the area about the proposed fences.

12. Other Business:

A) Request by Mayor Mitchell to discuss Governor’s approval of the 2021 State appropriations for the South Royal Poinciana project, East Drive project, and Senior Meals program

Mayor Mitchell was very happy to announce that recently all three City requests for State appropriations was approved by the Governor recently. She thanked the State Legislators, Representative Bryan Avila, Senator Manny Diaz, Councilman Best, and the City Lobbyists for all their efforts and support during the legislative session.

B) Update by Mayor Mitchell and City Manager Alonso on recent meetings with FDOT regarding the NW 36 Street Corridor and Iron Triangle Projects; and encouraging residents to participate in the virtual and physical FDOT Public Workshops on June 22nd

and June 24th.

Mayor Mitchell stated that Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a NW 36th Street corridor study that will increase traffic flow and freight transport on NW 36th Street. She stated that she and the City Manager have expressed a “no build plan” to FDOT within the City. She encouraged the City Council and the residents to attend the June 22nd and June 24th FDOT public sessions and voice their opinions on the proposed projects as they will negatively impact Miami Springs.

C) Request by Councilman Fajet to discuss the proposed pedestrian bridge on North Royal (by the train tracks)

Councilman Fajet stated that he is receiving calls from concerned residents about the proposed pedestrian bridge project at North Royal Poinciana to connect to the Metrorail system. He requested from the City Council and City Staff about having a discussion on the project detailing the construction of the project. The City Council conceded to conduct an informational session for the public and to give notice to those most affected in the surrounding area.

D) Discussion on setting the date for the Millage Rate Meeting in July

Members of the City Council conceded to have the special meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 5:01 p.m.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera had no report at this time.

B) City Manager

City Manager William Alonso updated the City Council with vaccination dates. He had no further report at this time.

C) City Council

Vice Mayor Best stated that there is a new vaccine coming out in July. He thanked the staff for the set up for the Memorial Day event. On Saturday, he was able to present the proclamation the City prepared for Father Alfaro from Blessed Trinity. He recognized Jim Fulton and his time and dedication to the Boy Scouts and further requested funding for a project sponsored by the Boy Scouts. It was the general consensus of the City Council to allocate \$500.00 to the Boy Scouts. Councilman Best gave his deepest condolences to Jose Fuentes for the loss of his father.

Councilman Fajet thanked the City Manager and staff for coming up with a solution

for the homes along NW 36th Street with the hotels that abut that residential area.

Councilman Vazquez stated that he will put some thought into coming up with some formalities to stimulate the advisory boards, but have an across the board process for them. He stated that he will not be at the July 4th parade. He appreciates the City Manager's quick proposals for issues happening in the residential neighborhoods that are along NW 36th Street.

Councilwoman Bravo thanked the City Manager William Alonso for always being there and answering all of the questions. She also thanked the Assistant City Manager, Tammy Romero, the City Clerk, Erika Gonzalez, and City Attorney Haydee Sera for always being available. She thanked Councilman Fajet for bringing up the pedestrian bridge issue, and thanked Councilman Vazquez and Vice Mayor Best for their input during the meetings.

Mayor Mitchell reminded everyone to get the message out on attending the FDOT public sessions coming up in late June, the information is posted on the City webpage, she encouraged the public to attend. She thanked Vice Mayor Best for hosting the Memorial Day event.

14. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted:


Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk



*Adopted by the City Council on
This 28th day of June, 2021.*


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.