



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs **City Council** met in special session, Wednesday, March 30, 2022 and during the meeting sat as the **Board of Appeals**. The meetings were held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, beginning at 7:00 p.m. On **ROLL CALL** the following were present:

1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Maria Puente Mitchell
- Vice Mayor Jacky Bravo
- Councilman Bob Best
- Councilman Walter Fajet, Ph.D.
- Councilman Victor Vazquez, Ph.D.

Also Present:

- City Manager/Finance Director William Alonso
- City Clerk Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria
- City Attorney Haydee Sera
- City Attorney Jose Arango
- City Attorney Alex Uribe

Sitting as the **Board of Appeals**, Council took the following actions:

2) SWEARING IN OF WITNESSES

City Clerk Erika Gonzalez swore-in members of the audience providing testimony on the case.

3) NEW BUSINESS

A) CASE # 01-V-22
PETITIONER: UTD (UNITED TEACHERS OF DADE) BUILDING CORPORATION
ADDRESS: 5553 NW 36 STREET
ZONING: NW 36 STREET
LOT SIZE: 13,500 SQ. FT

THE PETITIONER IS APPEALING AN ADMINISTRATIVE DETERMINATION THAT THE BUILDING AT 5553 NW 36TH STREET IS IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 93-51(C)(4) OF

THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES.

City Attorney Haydee Sera explained the process to the City Council and Petitioner.

Mr. Javier Fernandez, of Sanchez-Medina, Gonzalez, Quesada, Lage, Gomez & Machado LLP representing the petitioner, presented his case to Council. Former Councilwoman Mara Zapata addressed the City Council as part of their testimony.

City Attorney Alex Uribe and Jose Arango later presented the case to the City Council.

City Attorney Haydee Sera addressed the Council the options on the table for consideration, she stated the City Council may affirm the City Planner’s interpretation of the Code that states that murals are not allowed and uphold the City Planner’s denial, the Council may disaffirm the interpretation and recommendation, or to continue the hearing and work with the Petitioner on a mutual compromise or settlement on the mural.

Discussion ensued among the City Council, Councilman Best made a motion to continue the hearing and work with the UTD for a solution. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, discussion continued and Councilman Best withdrew his motion.

Councilman Best made a motion to not affirm (disaffirm) the decision made by the City Planner. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion which was carried 3-2 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Councilman Best, Councilman Fajet, Councilman Vazquez voting Yes; Mayor Mitchell and Vice Mayor Bravo voting no.

4) OTHER BUSINESS

None.

5) ADJOURNMENT

There was no additional business to be considered by the Council sitting as the Board of Appeals and the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, CMC
City Clerk

Approved as _____ during meeting of: _____