



City of Miami Springs, Florida

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 13, 2022 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 7:18 p.m.

Present were the following:

Mayor Maria Puente Mitchell

Vice Mayor Walter Fajet, Ph.D.

Councilman Bob Best

Councilwoman Jacky Bravo (via Zoom)

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

City Attorney Eduardo Martos (via Zoom)

Police Chief Armando Guzman

Planning Director Chris Heid (via Zoom)

2. **Invocation:** Offered by Vice Mayor Walter Fajet
Pledge of Allegiance: The audience participated in leading the pledge.

3. **Agenda / Order of Business**

4. **Awards & Presentations:**

A) Recognition of the MSSH men's baseball team and women's softball team for their accomplishments this year

Mayor Mitchell requested that Councilman Best introduce the honorary gentleman being recognized. Councilman Best introduced, Athletic Director Craig Jay for Boys Varsity; Coach David Fanshawe was not able to attend, but Constantino Hernandez, Athletic Vice Principal accepted the award on his behalf, and Girls Varsity Coach Charlie Green were all present to accept their awards. They thanked the players for their hard work and further thanked the City Council for the recognition.

B) Recognizing the City Hall Lobby Artist of the Month for June 2022 – Miami Springs Senior High School Students Mixed Media Composition Exhibition

Mayor Mitchell recognized students from the Miami Springs Senior High School on Mixed Media in the City Lobby. Ms. Beth Goldstein, the Miami Springs High School Art Department Chair, introduced herself and provided some background information on the exhibition and students presenting their artwork in the lobby. She thanked the City Council and City Administration for hosting the Art in City Hall program that provides artists in our community the opportunity to display their artwork while beautifying City Hall.

5. Open Forum: The following members of the public addressed the City Council: Nestor Suarez and Kevin Cabrera.

6. Approval of Council Minutes:

A) May 23, 2022 – Regular Meeting

Councilman Best moved to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2022 Regular Meeting. Vice Mayor Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

7. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

A) Request by Councilwoman Bravo for an update from the Parks and Parkways Advisory Board on City entrance signs

Chairman Eric Richey addressed the City Council on the Board's current progress concerning the City's entrance signs. He explained the Board's role is to select a number of key locations of where the entrance signs may be placed. He also stated that the Historic Preservation Board will be proposing the design of the entrance signs in conjunction with Parks and Parkways Board proposed locations. He also provided an update on the landscaping beautification of the south end of Curtiss Parkway across from Golf Course Driving Range, which the Board is working on as well.

8. Public Hearings:

A) **Ordinance – Second Reading** – An Ordinance Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Amending Chapter 150, "Zoning Code," Article XIV, "Additional Regulations" Of The City's Code Of Ordinances By Creating Section 150-46, "Murals," To Define And Prohibit "Murals," And Provide For Amortization Regulations For Existing Mural(S) In The City; Providing For Conflicts; Providing For Severability; Providing For Codification; And Providing For An Effective Date

Mayor Mitchell opened the public hearing and the following members of the public spoke; Karla Mats, 5553 NW 36th Street. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

After further discussion, Vice Mayor Fajet moved to approve the Ordinance on second reading with the following amendments: *extending the amortization period of any existing murals to June 30, 2027; removing “public enemy” from Section B (2)(c); removing entire Section B (2)(e).* Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 4-1 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes; Councilman Best voting No.

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

A) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The Mayor And City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Selecting A-1 Property Services Group, Inc. For The Miami Springs Golf And Country Club Roof Repairs Project Pursuant To Request For Proposals No. 03-21/22; Authorizing The Execution Of A Construction Contract In An Amount Not To Exceed \$79,028.52; And Providing For An Effective Date

B) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida, Approving A Third 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

C) **Resolution** – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Miami Springs, Florida Providing For The Third Amendment To The Fiscal Year 2021-22 General Fund, Special Revenue Funds And Capital Projects Fund Budgets; And Providing For An Effective Date

Councilman Best moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Mayor Fajet seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, 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) Report on state appropriations approved for Miami Springs for FY22-23

City Manager William Alonso stated that the City was appropriated with \$3.5 million, \$2 million will go the South Drive road and stormwater project, \$750,000 to replace the Hook Square water pump, and \$750,000 towards Senior Meals and programs. He wanted to thank Representative Avila and Senator Diaz, along with Jose Fuentes, City Lobbyist, and his team, for all their help this year.

B) Update on Miami Dade County's Rapid Transit Zone (RTZ) Ordinance

Mayor Mitchell stated that attached to this meeting's agenda package is the updated version of the County's Rapid Transit Zone (RTZ) ordinance that was submitted for first reading on June 1 by Vice Chairman Gilbert to the County Commissioners. Mayor Mitchell said that this version is a very different ordinance than what was being floated around last summer by Vice Chair Gilbert through the Miami-Dade League of Cities. This new version specifically states that areas with single family homes will not be included in the RTZ. Mayor Mitchell stated that we still have several concerns regarding the Abraham Tract and some other components of the ordinance as it applies to Miami Springs. She said that our City Manager and City Attorneys have been discussing these concerns at the County level and we will be submitting our city's written position on the RTZ ordinance to the County.

C) Update on Four-City Annexation Agreement Application

City Attorney Haydee Sera provided a historical dialogue on the annexation issue, finally, she stated, that the County's Chairman's Policy Council was set to hear the Annexation item right before the Board lost quorum. She said the good news is that Chairman Jose Diaz waived the City's application out of that Committee process, therefore, the annexation application will be heard by the Miami-Dade County Commissioners on July 7th. She disclosed that the expected action at this meeting on July 7th will be to direct the County Attorney to draft an interlocal agreement between the City and County. She stated that individual City Council meetings along with staff to discuss the interlocal agreement will take place before the July 7th meeting.

D) Update by City Manager William Alonso on Status from FDOT on Iron Triangle project

City Manager William Alonso updated the City Council on the FDOT Iron Triangle project, He referenced an email from Florida Department of Transportation, in which they will be inviting the public to a series of public hearings that will take place in May 2023. Currently, there are hearings taking place for the City to submit comments on the proposed project. The City Manager stated that he will keep the City Council and residents apprised of any upcoming updates.

E) Request by Councilman Vazquez to discuss Golf Carts in the City

Councilman Vazquez introduced the item to the City Council. He stated that several residents approached him to allow registration of golf carts within the City instead of having the golf carts registered with the State. Resident Thad Ovcovich addressed the City Council and provided a handout with information supporting City registration of golf carts. Police Chief Armando Guzman addressed the City Council and answered their questions.

It was the general consensus of the City Council to direct staff to look into the

cost of allowing registration of golf carts within the City, the City Attorney stated that she will discuss specific parameters with Council individually and move forward from there.

- F) Request by Vice Mayor Fajet to discuss parking fees

Vice Mayor Fajet provided a brief statement on the parking fee establishment. He wanted to set the record straight on some misinformation. He stated that some media outlets have indicated false information on fees not being assessed. He explained that with discussions with staff and clarification on many of his questions, he now understands the process of assessing parking requirements for new developments. He clarified that the parking fee assessment was not applied, not because there was no fee established, but because a credit was applied at the time to incentivize the developer, after listening to the discussions among the 2019 sitting Council at the time.

City Manager William Alonso provided a statement for the record clarifying certain issues related to the parking fee assessment to Town Center, the Gateway Overlay Ordinance, and disparaging statements made toward City Staff.

- G) Discussion by Museum President Jaime Petralanda on using concession stand at Stafford Park for fundraising

This item was heard earlier in the meeting. Former Councilman and Current Miami Springs Historical Museum President Jaime Petralanda addressed the City Council for his request to fundraise at the Stafford Park concession stand.

After some discussion, Councilman Best moved to direct staff to draft an agreement with the Miami Springs Historical Museum to allow the use of the limited use of the concession stand. Councilman Vazquez seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Vice Mayor Fajet, Councilman Best, Councilwoman Bravo, Councilman Vazquez and Mayor Mitchell voting Yes.

13. Reports & Recommendations:

- A) City Attorney

City Attorney Haydee Sera wished everyone a Happy Father's Day.

- B) City Manager

City Manager William Alonso stated that the group placing the flags along Curtiss Parkway will reoccur for July 4th celebrations. He stated that summer camp at the Recreation center started today, and said that they have added a police officer at the center during camp hours and during field trips as well. City Manager William

Alonso provided a verbal list of upcoming City meetings and events, which may also be found on the City's website.

C) City Council

Vice Mayor Fajet had no report at this time.

Councilman Best had no report at this time.

Councilman Vazquez made a statement on the Flags along Curtiss Parkway, and reminded the organizers on how the flags should be lit if flown at night.

Mayor Mitchell stated that July 4th events start Saturday night with the annual Car Show starting at 6:00 p.m. and the fourth of July Parade on the fourth in the morning and with fireworks in the evening. She wished everyone a Happy and safe Father's Day.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, MMC
City Clerk



Adopted by the City Council on
This 27th day of June, 2022.


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.