

TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

Town Council

Mayor Wayne Slaton
Vice Mayor Nancy Simon
Councilmember Roberto Alonso
Councilmember Mary Collins
Councilmember Robert Meador II
Councilmember Michael Pizzi
Councilmember Richard Pulido

MINUTES
EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING
June 10, 2008
6:31 PM
(Immediately Following the Regular Council Meeting)
Miami Lakes Middle School
6425 Miami Lakeway North
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Wayne Slaton called the meeting to order at 10:46 p.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL:** Town Clerk, Debra Eastman, called the roll with the following Councilmembers present: Robert Meador, Mary Collins, Michael Pizzi, Vice Mayor Nancy Simon and Mayor Wayne Slaton.
- 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNCIL DIRECTION OF FAIR AND EQUAL USAGE OF GOVERNMENT FACILITIES. (Pizzi)**

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to allow anyone in attendance to speak. The motion received a second from Vice Mayor Nancy Simon. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

Mirtha Mendez spoke in opposition to paying both Miami Dade County and the Town of Miami Lakes for the maintenance of the Community Center West and pointed out that the taxpayers are the true landlords of the facility.

Pedro Carballo spoke regarding the Miami Lakes Civic Association being a private entity and not a government entity.

David Bennett asked that the residents on all sides of this issue come together.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi stated that he requested that this meeting take place regarding a recent email to the Town Manager. Councilmember Michael Pizzi explained a previous vote of the Town Council instructing the Town Manager to make the northern most part of the Civic Association office space for their use and the area to be used as a conference room for Town Committee meetings.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to extend past 11 p.m. for an additional fifteen minutes. The motion received a second from Vice Mayor Nancy Simon. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi explained that an email from Angela Garrison to Town Manager, Alex Rey, threatened trespass charges for a publically funded space. Councilmember Michael Pizzi asked Town Manager, Alex Rey, if he received any email or correspondence from Ms. Garrison or the Miami Lakes Civic Association apologizing or retracting the email. Town Manager, Alex Rey, indicated that he had not.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to direct the Town Manager, Alex Rey, to use all necessary resources, and hopefully it will be completely amicable, to enforce the previous vote of the Town Council with regard to the conference room meeting space. The motion received a second from Vice Mayor Nancy Simon.

Vice Mayor Nancy Simon explained a conversation with County Commissioner, Natacha Sejas regarding a partition wall. Vice Mayor Nancy Simon reported that a County Inspector reviewed the partition wall and found no violations.

Councilmember Mary Collins requested an opportunity to speak with the Civic Association and spoke with Angela Garrison regarding County ownership of the Community Center West building.

Town Attorney, Nina Boniske explained that Miami Dade County has not come forward as a landlord and owner of the Community Center West building and that a partition does not require a permit signed by Miami Dade County.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to extend the meeting an additional ten minutes. The motion received a second from Councilmember Richard Pulido. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

Councilmember Richard Pulido asked Town Manager, Alex Rey, if he is clear on the wishes of the Town Council. Town Manager, Alex Rey, explained that what he is hearing here is more than in prior discussions. The motion being discussed includes that if there is no amicable solution, the Town Manager is empowered to seek legal assistance. Councilmember Michael Pizzi clarified by adding that Miami Dade County should be involved in resolving the matter and that the Town be able take whatever action might be necessary in court, if needed.

Councilmember Richard Pulido underscored that it was never his intention to rid the Miami Lakes Civic Association from the use of the facility and that he is troubled that the Town Council is talking about it once again. Councilmember Richard Pulido pointed out that if Miami Dade County wants to take jurisdiction of the building, they be prepared to also take responsibility for the expenses. Councilmember Richard Pulido asked Town Manager, Alex Rey, to be sure that all visitors at Town Hall sign in according to the procedure in place.

Councilmember Robert Meador asked Town Manager, Alex Rey, if the Town possesses anything written giving the Town the responsibility of running the facility. Town Manager, Alex Rey, indicated that a permit was given by the County once and then renewed for a second year. Town Manager, Alex Rey, stated that since that time the County has not taken any action.

Mayor Wayne Slaton stated he would like to see the matter corrected amicably.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to extend an additional ten minutes. The motion received a second from Councilmember Mary Collins. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

Mayor Wayne Slaton explained that the Miami Lakes Civic Association was not aware that there was going to be a meeting in the conference room space and when it was, some of their things were moved. Mayor Wayne Slaton expressed it was perplexing that the Town of Miami Lakes does not have control of all of the park facilities and that he would not support any legal action.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi spoke about the leadership of Mayor Wayne Slaton, at which time Mayor Wayne Slaton requested that Councilmember Michael Pizzi contain his statements to the subject matter and asked him not to make personal attacks. Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to override the Chair so that he could continue to speak. The motion did not receive a second. Mayor Wayne Slaton stated he would allow Councilmember Michael Pizzi to finish his statements, so long as they were not personal attacks.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi clarified that it is his intention that the Town Manager, Alex Rey, attempt to resolve the matter amicably and the use of legal assistance is only as a last resort. Councilmember Michael Pizzi clarified his motion is to resolve the matter amicably first and if he cannot, he is to do whatever is necessary to enforce the will of the Town Council.

Town Clerk, Debra Eastman, called the roll and the motion passed 4-2 with Councilmembers Richard Pulido, Robert Meador, Michael Pizzi and Vice Mayor Nancy Simon voting in favor and Councilmember Mary Collins and Mayor Wayne Slaton voting in opposition.

4. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the meeting it adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2008.

Wayne Slaton, Mayor

Attest:

Debra E. Eastman, MMC
Town Clerk