

MINUTES
Sunshine Meeting
August 22, 2024
3:30 PM
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 3:53 p.m.

The following Councilmembers were present: Josh Dieguez, Bryan Morera, Marilyn Ruano, and Vice Mayor Tony Fernandez. Councilmember-Elect JC Fernandez and Councilmember-Elect Steven Herzberg were also present.

The following Town Staff members were present: Principal Town Planner Susana Alonso, Public Works Director Omar Santos, Transportation Planner Olivia Shock, Building Director Daniel Angel, Deputy Town Clerk Victoria Martinez, and Deputy Town Attorney Lorenzo Cobiella.

The following were also present: Mr. Raul De La Sierra and Mr. Angelo Cuadra Garcia.

2. Items Discussed:

Councilmember Collazo opened the meeting and explained how this is a meeting of the minds to see where the town is at, what they can do, and what they cannot do regarding artificial turf. Councilmember Dieguez explained that aesthetically it can be done nicely however the problem is doing it properly and the enforcement. Public Works Director Omar Santos stated that a Public Works concern would be if what is installed has the same or better permeability as grass.

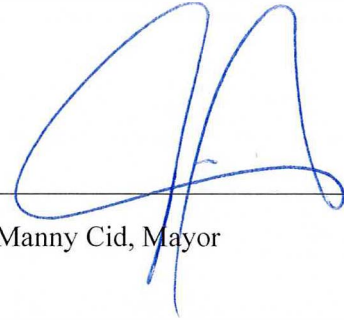
Town Staff answered questions posed by the Elected Officials regarding permitting, inspections, permeability, and landscaping. After discussion, Vice Mayor Fernandez added that he believes some artificial turf is aesthetically nicer than rocks or mulch. Building Director Daniel Angel clarified and stated that 10% of landscape is allowed to be rocks, pebbles, mulch, etc.

After discussion amongst all parties, Mr. De La Sierra explained and provided documents stating that allowing this throughout the town will create heat issues and change the climate. All parties then further discussed the legal issues, permeability, uniformity, quality, and installation as it relates to artificial turf. After further discussion and questions, it was agreed that the Elected Officials would like alternatives and educational tools for residents.

3. Adjournment:

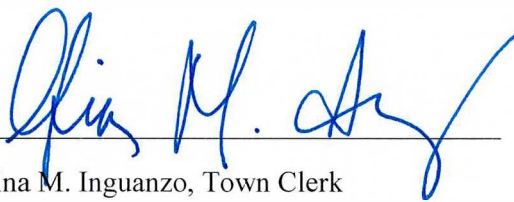
This meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Approved this 10th day of September 2024.



Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk