

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
October 15, 2024
6:30 p.m.
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS:

Miami Lakes Resident Susie Pacheco, the owner of Bullet Construction Supplies, was recognized for her company's effort in honoring Breast Cancer Awareness Month. She explained that she is working with Miami Lakes vendors to provide workers with pink construction vests in honor of Breast Cancer awareness month.

2. CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll at 6:45 pm. Councilmember Collazo, Councilmember Dieguez, Councilmember Garcia, Councilmember Morera, Vice Mayor Fernandez and Mayor Cid were present. Councilmember Ruano joined the meeting via zoom at 6:48 pm.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella led the prayer.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Town Attorney Raul Gastesi.

5. ORDER OF BUSINESS (DEFERRALS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS):

Councilmember Morera pulled Item 11A, to be discussed after Public Comments. Councilmember Morera pulled Item 14N, to be discussed after Item 11A. Mayor Cid moved Item 10L from the Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Collazo moved the New Order of Business, and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Morera. The motion passed 7-0.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Youtube 1:16:19)

(Phonetic spelling of each speaker's name will be used throughout the minutes unless correct spelling is known.)

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, read the instructions of proper decorum that are to be respected and followed during public meetings.

Mr. Angelo Cuadra Garcia came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that a specific homeowner's association, located on the west side of Miami Lakes has been prohibiting residents from placing campaign signs in their front yard. He stated that this issue did not occur when Mayor Cid ran for Miami Dade County Mayor. He urged the Town Council to look into this issue.

Ms. Bonnie Cintron came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She stated that she is in support of item 11A, an ordinance regarding the Neighborhood Service Districts Amendment process. She thanked Councilmember Morera for creating this ordinance and listening to the needs of the residents. She also stated that she is in support of item 10I and item 11B. She explained that she is in support of item 14K to have a Town Hall Meeting to discuss improving traffic flow within the Town.

Ms. Esperanza Reynolds came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She stated that she is in support of item 11A, an ordinance regarding the Neighborhood Service Districts Amendment process. She thanked Councilmember Morera for creating this ordinance and listening to the voices of the Miami Lakes residents. She requested that Public Comments be reopened during the deliberation of the ordinance.

Mr. Boris Foster came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He stated that he is in support of the proposed ordinance to create Chapter 38 of the Town Code. He explained that the ordinance would require the approval of the special taxing district owners before additional services are added that increase their taxes. He stated that the additional services and taxes without the owner's approval are unfair as many residents may not be able to afford these extra taxes. He thanked Councilmember Morera for creating this ordinance and listening to the needs of the residents

Mr. Dayan Jimenez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that the results of the Town's Bike Rodeo event were unsatisfactory. He urged the Town Council to reach out to their committee members to further improve and spread the word about future Town events. He stated that he will be hosting an event called "The future of South Florida" on October 23rd. He explained that the event is based on three pillars technology, sustainability, and education/development. He explained that he has invited the mayor and multiple councilmembers to take part in a panel that will occur during the event.

Mr. Justin Correa came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He stated that in late December, he received a grant from the Town of Miami Lakes for his Eagle Scout Project honoring veterans. He explained that he would like to extend an invitation to the Town Council to attend the unveiling of his Eagle Scouts Project. He further explained that he will be

honoring the life of soldier who attended Barbara Goleman Highschool. He stated that the event will take place at Barbara Goleman Highschool on Friday October 20th at 9:00 am.

Mr. Julio and Mrs. Rebecca Correa came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. They thanked the Town Council for their assistance in helping their son Justin Correa complete his Eagle Scout Project. They stated that they are in support of the approval of item 10k. They explained the importance of having beautiful and safe facilities to host Boy and Girl Scout Troop Meetings. They urged the Town Council to consider approving this item.

Mr. Alex Ariano came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that in the September Regular Council Meeting, Councilmember Garcia took a moment of personal privilege to ask his colleagues to show a little decorum and accept what is said at face value. He further explained that Councilmember Garcia selectively ignored the lack of proper decorum exhibited by other councilmembers.

Ms. Brittney Ramirez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She explained that the Town's wood powerline poles can pose a threat to the safety of the Town Residents. She urged the Town Council to look into resolving this issue

Mr. Maddox Smith came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained the importance of improving sidewalk safety throughout the community. He further explained that many of the Town's sidewalks are cracked, uneven, and poorly lit. He urged the Town Council to prioritize regular maintenance and updates to the sidewalks by fixing uneven pavement, improving lighting, and ensuring proper signage.

Ms. Susie Pacheco came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She explained that overgrown Palm Trees have become a danger to Miami Lakes residents. She further explained that the palm fronds fall on top of cars and have broken mailboxes. She urged the Town Council to look into resolving this issue.

Ms. Maria Santelices came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She explained that there has been no improvement regarding the Overgrown Palm Trees in her neighborhood. She further explained that the roots of the Palm Trees have been causing cracks in the sidewalks. She explained the lack of proper drainage as there is only one functioning drain in the whole neighborhood. She urged the Town Council to look into resolving these issues.

Mr. Gabriel Lovato came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He asked the Town Council about the specific measures the Town is currently taking to improve drainage systems and reduce flooding risk. He also asked the Town Council about their long-term strategies that are being considered to address the increased risk of flooding.

Mr. Jose Soberon came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that the NSD Advisory Boards have done a great job regarding lake maintenance. He stated that he is in support of maintaining the NSD Advisory Boards that handle lake maintenance. He further explained that the Town Council should only do away with the NSD Advisory Boards that are not functional.

There being no further public comments, public comments were closed.

7. APPOINTMENTS:

None.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Cultural Affairs Committee

Chairperson Felicia Salazar presented the committee report and went over the initiatives and events they have been working on. She thanked Councilmember Dieguez and Vice Mayor Fernandez for attending the Hispanic Heritage event. She explained that they are in the process of rescheduling the Jazz in the Park event to a later date. She stated that the committee will be hosting a holiday book reading event in December. She explained a proposed event in collaboration with the Economic Development Committee to bring musicians to Main Street. She expressed her concerns regarding committee attendance. She urged the Town Council to consider changing the committee rules regarding quorum. She then answered questions posed by the Town Council.

9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Morera moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. The motion passed 7-0.

A. Approval of Minutes

September 5, 2024 Sunshine Meeting on Short-Term Rentals
September 10, 2024 Regular Council Meeting
September 12, 2024 First Budget Hearing

These minutes were approved on Consent Calendar.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ITB 2024-08, NW 154 STREET AND PALMETTO EXPRESSWAY TURN LANES PROJECT, TO HOMESTEAD CONCRETE & DRAINAGE, INC. IN AN AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY FOUR DOLLARS AND 40/100 (\$150,464.40) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZE A PROJECT CONTINGENCY OF \$15,046.00 APPROXIMATELY TEN PERCENT (10%), FOR ANY UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO THE PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN**

MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER, PURSUANT TO CONTRACT 2021-43 FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES, WITH CALTRAN ENGINEERING GROUP, INC., FOR N.W. 154th STREET AND PALMETTO EXPRESSWAY TURN LANE PROJECT, FOR AN AMOUNT OF TWENTY NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWELVE DOLLARS AND 54/100 (\$29,912.54) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY OF TOWN OFFICIALS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF HVAC CONTROL SYSTEM TO INTEGRITY CONTROLS AND TEST & BALANCE, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ITB 2024-22, TO ATC ENGINEERING, INC (“ATC”) IN AN AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS (\$1,819,490.00) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE A PROJECT CONTINGENCY OF \$181,949.00 APPROXIMATELY TEN PERCENT (10%), FOR ANY UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO THE PROJECT; APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE CONTINGENCY RESERVE LINE-ITEM INTO 405-563805-AR13; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER, PURSUANT TO CONTRACT 2021-43

FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES, WITH CALTRAN ENGINEERING GROUP, INC, FOR ROYAL OAKS EIGHTH ADDITION DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION (CEI) SERVICES FOR AN AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED NINETY-THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THREE DOLLARS AND 64/100 (\$193,703.64) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; MODIFYING THE TOWN BUDGET APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 24-330; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY OF TOWN OFFICIALS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR ROUNDING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- G. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ITB 2024-25, TO RG UNDERGROUND, INC (“RG”) IN AN IN AN AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED TWENTY NINE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED ONE DOLLARS AND 50/100 (\$1,629,301.50) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE A PROJECT CONTINGENCY OF \$162,930.15 APPROXIMATELY TEN PERCENT (10%), FOR ANY UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO THE PROJECT; APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE CONTINGENCY RESERVE LINE-ITEM INTO 405-563805-AR14; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- H. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER, PURSUANT TO CONTRACT 2021-43 FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES, WITH WSP USA, INC, FOR FRANCESCA MARY DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION (CEI) SERVICES FOR AN AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED FORTY FIVE THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY NINE DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$245,769.00) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; MODIFYING THE TOWN BUDGET APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO.24-330; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY OF TOWN OFFICIALS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR ROUNDING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- I. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY’S OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRSERVATION’S APPLICATION FOR AN NATIONAL PARK SERVICE GRANT AIMED AT RESEARCHING AND COMPLING AN INDIGENOUS HISTORY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TOWN CLERK; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- J. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ITB 2023-18, TO KAYLEX STEEL BUILDINGS, CORP., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED FORTY TWO DOLLARS AND 50/100 (\$247,142.50), WHICH PROVIDES FOR A TWENTY TWO THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND 50/100 (\$22,467.50) CONTINGENCY; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on Consent Calendar.

- K. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING LICENSE AND USE AGREEMENTS WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS; SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF TROPICAL FLORIDA, INC., AND LEGION POST #144; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A THREE YEAR LICENSE AND USE AGREEMENT WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF TROPICAL FLORIDA, INC., AND LEGION POST #144 FOR USE OF TOWN FACILITIES FOR MEETINGS AND EVENTS AT NO COST; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITION OF THE AGREEMENTS WITH THESE ORGANIZATIONS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENTS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- L. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR GRANT SUPPORT SERVICES WITH BELLTOWER CONSULTING GROUP, LLC, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was pulled by Mayor Cid. He stated that he pulled the item because he wants to vote no because he consistently votes no on piggybacks and waiver of competitive solicitations.

Councilmember Collazo moved to approve the item and Councilmember Morera seconded the item. The Town Clerk called the roll, and the motion passed 6-1; Mayor Cid voted in opposition.

11. ORDINANCE- FIRST READING:

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; CREATING CHAPTER 38, TITLED "SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS"; CREATING SECTION 38-1, TITLED "SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS"; CREATING SECTION 38-2, TITLED "AMENDMENTS"; CREATING SECTION 38-3, TITLED "IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION"; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (MORERA)

Town Attorney, Raul Gastesi read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Councilmember Morera moved the ordinance in first reading and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo.

Councilmember Morera stated that this item is about listening to our residents and trying to find the best possible solution for them. He explained that the NSD is staying and that he is just proposing to remove the middleman. He explained that by removing the middleman, the Town Council is more accountable because now the Town Council will hear from the residents.

During discussion, Mayor Cid made a motion to reinsert the NSD Advisory Boards for the Lake Maintenance. Vice Mayor Fernandez seconded the motion. The Town Clerk called the roll, and the motion failed 3-4; Councilmember Collazo, Councilmember Dieguez, Councilmember Morera and Councilmember Ruano voted in opposition.

The Town Clerk called the roll on the main motion, and the motion to pass the ordinance in reading, Item 11A, passed 4-3; Councilmember Garcia, Vice Mayor Fernandez and Mayor Cid voted in opposition.

- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; CREATING AMENDING CHAPTER 8, SECTION 8-7 OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES CODE OF ORDINANCES TITLED "RECOVERY OF UNPAID CIVIL PENALTIES; UNPAID PENALTY TO CONSTITUTE A LIEN; INTEREST TO BE PAID ON LIENS; FORECLOSURE; PROHIBITION OF THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, LICENSES, CERTIFICATES OF USE AND OCCUPANCY OR ZONING APPROVALS TO VIOLATORS WITH UNPAID CIVIL PENALTIES OR LIENS; CIVIL PENALTY REDUCTION; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Attorney, Raul Gastesi read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Councilmember Ruano made a motion to approve the changes recommended and presented by Town Staff, -the chart prepared by Town Staff, illustrating the proposed changes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the Ordinance in 1st reading passed 5-0; Vice Mayor Fernandez and Mayor Cid voted in opposition.

- C. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; APPROVING THE DEVISING OF CERTAIN LAND OWNED BY THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES IN CONSIDERATION FOR LAND OWNED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Attorney, Raul Gastesi read the title of the ordinance in first reading into the record. Councilmember Collazo motioned to approve the item, and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the ordinance in 1st reading passed 5-2; Councilmember Garcia and Mayor Cid voted in opposition.

12. ORDINANCE IN SECOND READING:

None.

13. RESOLUTIONS:

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA AMENDING THE SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES F/K/A THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING RULES AND PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilmember Dieguez presented the item and stated that he wants to ensure that the Council Rules are amended so that the Charter Officers are seated together. He stated that the Town Attorneys also added additional items to explicitly spell out things that were not always so clear in the rules. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Morera.

Mayor Cid stated that in some cities, the elected officials are the only ones that sit on the dais and he stated that he would prefer for Town Staff to sit with Town Staff, so he motioned a friendly amendment, for the Town Manager, Town Clerk and Town Attorney to sit with the other members of the Town Staff and for elected officials to be the only ones to sit on the dais. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garcia. After some discussion, the Town Clerk called the roll and the motion failed 1-6; Councilmember Collazo, Dieguez, Garcia, Morera, Ruano voted in opposition.

Vice Mayor Fernandez stated that in the last few months, the dynamics has changed and the amount of banter that happens between the elected officials has increased during items and in between items, something becoming perhaps sunshine violations. He then stated that he would like to edit the section that says, "Councilmembers shall not engage in cross conversations with other members of the public". He then motioned to amend that line, Section 4.1 and to also include, "councilmembers when they are not dully recognized". Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion for discussion.

During discussion of the amendment, Councilmember Dieguez made a friendly amendment, by prohibiting the use of phones by any member of the Town Council, throughout the entire meeting, so that we are consistent by not having sidebar conversations and not having conversations using the phones, or any electronic device. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. After further discussion, Councilmember Dieguez withdrew his amendment and then made a new amendment, for the elected officials to provide the Town Clerk, who messaged them or who called them thru the council meeting, across any media; for elected officials to provide the Town Clerk a list of all the calls and texts messages that they received – not the content but only providing who messaged who.

Town Attorney Gastesi stated that these motions require a 2/3 votes. After some brief explanation from the Town Attorney, Councilmember Dieguez withdrew his amended motion.

After further discussion amongst the elected officials, the Town Clerk called the roll on the amendment from Vice Mayor Fernandez and the motion failed, 3-4; Councilmember Collazo, Councilmember Dieguez, Councilmember Morera and Councilmember Ruano voted in opposition.

Then, the Town Clerk called the roll on the main motion and the motion failed, 4-3; Councilmember Garcia, Vice Mayor Fernandez and Mayor Cid voted in opposition. The Town Clerk stated into the record, that the Town Attorneys had explained that in order for the Special Rules of Order to be amended, supermajority is required, so 5 votes are needed for the motion to pass.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025; AUTHORIZING TOWN MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PURSUE FUNDING FOR LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY AGREEMENT IN FURTHERANCE OF ADVANCING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING TOWN CLERK TO REMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO TOWN LOBBYIST, THE SOUTHERN GROUP AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item.

Councilmember Morera motioned to adopt the TOML's Legislative Priorities for Fiscal year 2024-2025. Vice Mayor Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0; Councilmember Collazo was absent.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR THE PROVISION OF LOCAL POLICE SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY OF TOWN OFFICIALS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item. He explained that Town Staff put a change to the agreement, making it 36 months, instead of 12 months and since that time, Miami Dade Police Department has gone through some command staff changes and with the advent

of the Sheriff coming up, Miami Dade Police Department approached us and asked if we can leave it “as if” – the same way the agreement has been in the last 25 years. Town Manager Pidermann explained that it is still a 5-year extension, with the change now to revert it back to a 12-month notice, either side. The contract expired on September 30th.

Mayor Cid made a motion to hold this item off until the new Town Council gets sworn into office and for them to negotiate with the new Police Sheriff and negotiate, specifically, the administrative fee. He motioned to table this item until the next meeting -after the new Sheriff gets elected- and give the new Town Council an opportunity to meet with the new Police Sheriff, specifically on the fluctuating percentage of the management fee. He explained that he wanted the management fee to go down to a flat fee instead. Vice Mayor Fernandez seconded the motion.

During discussion, Councilmember Collazo asked the Deputy Town Attorney if there is any language that we can insert in the agreement, that would leave the administrative fee open to negotiation and ratify the current contract, as is? Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated that the Town Staff/Town Attorneys have been negotiating back and forth with the Police Department since last summer. He stated that in the original contract, the parties had to give each other 3 years notice if they were going to break away from the agreement. Now, in this agreement, the parties have reduced it to 12 months, and he stated that it would give Town Staff less time to look at alternatives.

Mayor Cid then agreed with the question that Councilmember Collazo posed, and he asked the Deputy Town Attorney if the proposed language by Councilmember Collazo could be added into the agreement as an option and to present it to the Police Department. The Deputy Town Attorney responded in the affirmative and then Mayor Cid stated that he would get involved, that he would present the added language to the Police Department and to bring it back at the next council meeting.

After further discussion, Mayor Cid withdrew his original motion and made a new motion, to add the proposed language into the agreement and to bring it back to the Town Council in two weeks, at the October 29th council meeting. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez and the motion passed 6-0; Councilmember Morera was absent.

14. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Amendment to Section 13-1506 of the Town Code (Morera)

Councilmember Morera presented the item and motioned to direct Town Staff to work on amendments to Section 13-1506 of the Town Code, to make it more fair to our residents with smaller backyards. Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion.

Councilmember Morera stated that he wants to work with the Building Department Director, Mr. Danny Angel and try to come up with a more equitable rule that allows the residents to use their limited backyard space better, to impose proportion limits based on the proportion of the required year yard, but to make sure the people are able to use their backyard. Councilmember Morera mentioned that the genesis of this item was applicants asking for variances to install a decent pergola in their backyards.

Vice Mayor Fernandez asked the Town Manager how many applications for similar structures have been reviewed for variances by the P&Z Board, how many applicants for these variances have come before the P&Z. Vice Mayor Fernandez also asked that he would want Town Staff to review all those variances that have been submitted under the lens of whatever change we make now, just to make sure that the change we now make to the Ordinance would eliminate the need for those variances. The Deputy Town Attorney informed that several variances regarding pergolas have been presented to the P&Z Board. Principal Town Planner Alonso explained that most of the variance requests are for existing structures built without permits.

After some discussion, the Town Manager mentioned that Councilmember Morera, Director Danny Angel, Principal Town Planner Susana Alonso and Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella, should meet and discuss this item further. All the Town Council was in favor.

B. Vendor Employment Opportunities (Cid)

Mayor Cid presented the item. He explained that many residents ask him about employment opportunities within the Town, especially in the guard gates. He made a motion to see vendors, like SFM and others, to add their links on our Town Website. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Fernandez. Vice Fernandez added that as disclaimer should be added stating that these positions do not constitute employment with the TOML directly.

Town Manager Pidermann stated that it will be added in the TOML employment section but separated from our jobs so that there is a clear distinction -maybe some kind of a bulletin board where they can post their jobs themselves, perhaps give access to the vendors to post themselves. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Ruth C. Schobel Co-Designation (Dieguez, Collazo)

Councilmember Dieguez presented the item reference co-designating Fairway Drive as Ruth C. Schobel Way or Dr. to honor her longtime commitment to our community and Councilmember Collazo then added that he is co-sponsoring the item.

Councilmember Dieguez motioned to adopt the item, and the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Fernandez. The motion passed unanimously by the Town Council.

D. Robert's Rules of Order Training (Fernandez)

Vice Mayor Fernandez presented the item on adding a training on Robert's Rules of Order and the constraints that go with it for elected and incoming Councilmembers. After further explanation by Vice Mayor Fernandez, Councilmember Morera seconded the motion. Councilmember Morera then recommended a timeline for December to implement the training once the newly elected members settle into their seats. The motion was approved unanimously by the Town Council.

E. Amendment 4 (Garcia)

Councilmember Garcia presented the item reference Amendment 4, where the states were allowed to make these decisions as far as the termination of pregnancies and he encouraged his colleagues to not support the amendment. Councilman Dieguez seconded the item for discussion and supported the motion. Councilman Morera asked if taking a position on a political position is allowed. Deputy Town Attorney Lorenzo Cobiella confirmed as a body you are allowed to take a position. The motion was approved 6-0; Vice Mayor Fernandez was absent.

F. American Museum of the Cuban Diaspora (Cid)

Mayor Cid presented the item to pass a resolution in support of the efforts of the American Museum of the Cuban Diaspora to petition directly the federal government to intervene and bring in a witness in the Brothers to the Rescue trail against the Castro regime, specifically against Raul Castro and seeking out those communist individuals that are here in Miami Dade County. Councilman Dieguez stated he would reach out to board members of the museum and get additional input on how else we can help as a community in support of those efforts. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Lake Quality (Dieguez)

Councilmember Dieguez presented item in reference to Lake Quality and that our lakes live up to the recreational nature they are supposed to exhibit. He then motioned directing Town Staff to reach out to all the voluntary HOA's and ask them if they want to hold NSD elections so that they can become a Neighborhood Service District and make sure lake maintenance is never neglected. Secondly, I would also like for Town Staff come back to Town Council with minimum standards for lake maintenance, so we can formally adopt those standards if we don't have them already and provide for regular testing, to make sure the lakes meet minimum standards. Vice Mayor Fernandez seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-2; Councilmember Garcia and Mayor Cid voted in opposition.

H. FY 2024-2025 Budget (Fernandez)

Vice Mayor Fernandez presented item referring to staff time regarding NSD committees or lack thereof and reducing the administrative costs to the NSD's, stating that now that we are no longer hosting these committee meetings, that there is a savings we should be providing these NSD's. Secondly, Councilmember Fernandez addressed his concern of the growth over time of certain departments, specifically department that are ancillary and provide support to that things that are not necessarily core essential municipal services, particularly concerned with the Communication and Community Affairs. No motion was stated or voted only Councilmember Fernandez wanting to put those thoughts on the record.

I. Pressure Washing Sidewalks (Garcia)

Councilmember Garcia presented the item regarding a specific sidewalk area that was pressure washed and brought up by someone on Facebook stating that we had pressure washed the sidewalk and an hour later it rained and got muddy. Councilmember Garcia confirmed that Town Staff had done their job and since this continues to happen, he asked Town Staff if there is any way to mitigate that by lowering the soil because it in a slope, the soil will not run off and secondly, if you see these situations or Town Staff sees these situations to bring it to Council's attention. For Town Staff to look into this and to mitigate it.

The Parks & Recreation Director, Mr. Jeremy Bajdaun, explained his assessment, stating these are all low points within these pocket parks, both the soil and sidewalks are taking a dip. Director Bajdaun explained the essential way is to add groundwork to remove sidewalk and lift those areas with ground cover soil and then redo the sidewalk. After further discussion, Councilmember Collazo brought up a solution that was used in a prior pocket park using barriers to divert the water and he stated that it's been a cost saving.

J. Imagine Miami Lakes 2025 (Cid)

Mayor Cid presented the item and to motioned for Town Staff to begin the process of outlining what the schedule will look like for the next strategic plan; to look at the survey company, who the facilitator will be and have it ready in the January or February Regular Council Meeting. Councilmember Morera seconded the motion.

Councilman Garcia added an amendment to make sure we do everything possible to educate our residents that this is for them, look at how the participation was last time and see how we can improve on more participation.

Councilman Dieguez asked if funds have been set aside for this facilitator or if we anticipate funds from the carry forward amendment. Town Manager Pidermann stated that this is a full strategic plan version, and that Town Staff anticipated \$100,000 as an budget request, and it is not funded at this point. He explained that it will be funded in the FY25-26 or thru the carryforward amendment in the Spring. Mayor Cid stated that the Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, Mr. German Cure, is talented and capable of facilitate on this. The motion was approved unanimously.

K. Traffic Town Hall Meeting (Dieguez)

Councilman Dieguez presented the item and stated that residents are asking about traffic mitigation and jurisdictions over our roads. Councilmember Dieguez then explained that the idea is to have a Town Hall Forum in-person, streamed live that would have departments involved, such as the Town Attorney, that can explain the jurisdictional issues and the Town Manager that can explain what we're doing in terms of traffic mitigation and traffic synchronization. After this forum, he explained that there would be a Q&A, as well as questions that would be submitted. He emphasized that he wants this to be recorded so in the future, we can just refer to this video, utilizing technology to have a better product

and get more input to send to residents to explain to them how this all functions and urge for its adoption. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Morera.

Councilmember Morera wants to see a map like our zoning map that tells you whether the county owns the road, the Town owns the road, whether the Town owns it, or county runs it. Councilmember Dieguez asked Town Staff to work on the renderings and he did not put a certain time for this to get done but he asked Town Staff to work on this and to have ample and adequate time to advertise this. After further discussion, Mayor Cid added to look at the transportation plan 2004. Motion passed 5-0; Councilmember Colazo and Councilmember Morera were absent.

L. Committee Social Media Strategy (Fernandez)

Vice Mayor Fernandez presented item to direct Town Staff, to have someone from the Communications Department to sit down with the Town Committees, at the beginning of the year, to talk about the Town's social media and marketing capabilities, to work with the Town Committees to come up with a plan that best meets the needs of the committee and their events. He mentioned that some time events may garner more attention, some need the help of more time and resources than others. He spoke about having the Communications Department have a discussion individually with each Town Committee and crafting a plan together -highlighting events and discussion their successes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garcia.

Councilmember Collazo provided further discussion on the proposed item expressing that perhaps the community is not interested in certain types of events, and he mentioned that that does not fall on Town Staff. He emphasized that the Town Council approves these events and that the responsibility falls on the Town Council. He emphasized that is an event is not well attended, it's not because it was not well promoted, but because it might be that the community is not interested in the event we are putting forth, perhaps the Town Council needs to look at the events that they are approving, perhaps the Town Council is funding events that are not working and he suggested that the Town Council needs to take some ownership on this. He stated that he agrees with the item but would like for the item to come back in a different way. Mayor Cid added that he would like for Town Committees to boost every post on social media for 7 days. The motion was approved unanimously.

M. Crooked Palm -Enforce new extended school zone area (Garcia)

Councilmember Garcia presented the item regarding the Crooked Palm School Zone going southbound on 67th and although it was done; however, some residents either don't see it or they think the school zone is over. Councilmember Garcia stated to continue to make sure this is a success, he wants Town Staff to do a detail there to make sure we are enforcing this and push the County to paint the line where school zone ends, to make it is more visible for residents. Councilmember Garcia motioned for Town Staff to work with the County and have that short-term solution of having some details there to remind residents the school zone has been extended to keep the area 15 miles per hour. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo and the motion passed unanimously.

N. Support for 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (Morera)

Councilmember Morera motioned to waive Section 7.2 of the Special Rules of Order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruano, and all were in favor.

Councilmember Morera explained the genesis of this item and stated that Miami Lakes celebrated the 40th anniversary of Miami Lakes Chapter of Zonta International by issuing a proclamation in their honor and some of the Zonta members spoke to him about the “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence”. Councilmember Morera motioned for the Town of Miami Lakes to join other government bodies in lighting Town Hall building up orange from November 25th to December 10th during the 16 Days of Activism. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Fernandez and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Morera then motioned for Town Staff to place an orange pop-up banner on the Town Website indicating that the TOML supports efforts to eradicate gender-based violence and welcoming anyone interested in taking action to join our local ML Zonta Club. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garcia, and it was approved unanimously.

Councilmember Morera then made a third motion, directing Town Staff, specifically Director Bajdaun, to work with Zonta regarding the proposed mural. Councilmember Morera then asked Director Bajdaun to approach the Dais, and he asked him questions regarding the mural. Director Bajdaun spoke about the mural, which started in Europe, and he explained that the mural speaks against violence based on gender based. Director Bajdaun stated that Town Staff is looking at options to where this mural should be located. He stated that the Neighborhood Improvement Committee will be having conversations with Zonta Organization regarding the location of this mural as well. Director Bajdaun stated that location is still pending. No motion was made at this time.

O. Miami Association of Realtors Entrance Feature Donation (Cid)

Vice Mayor Fernandez motioned to waive the Special Rules of Order Section 7.2 and Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Cid presented the item. Mayor Cid motioned, and Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion to receive the entrance feature donation from the Miami Association of Realtors, and then determine where to place entrance feature. Town Manager Pidermann explained that it should be a public site.

Councilmember Collazo motioned to choose option 1 and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the location for this feature to be placed, they asked Town Staff for locations and Town Staff will bring back options at the next regular council meeting.

15. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

None.

16. MANAGER'S REPORTS (Pending)

A. Police Report (Major Gonzalez)

Major Gonzalez presented the monthly police report and answered questions posed by Town Council.

B. Public Works Infrastructure Report (Santos)

Public Works Director, Omar Santos, presented the monthly infrastructure report and answered questions posed by the Town Council. He presented the monthly infrastructure reports on the following: 154th Street & Palmetto Expressway Turn Lane, 59th Ave Extension, Loch Lomond Drainage Improvements, ARPA Projects, Sevilla Phase 1, Royal Oaks D, 2nd & 5th, Railroad 8th edition, Roberto Alonso HVAC and answered questions posed by the Councilmembers.

17. ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella presented the Attorney's Report regarding lake access and short-term rentals.

18. ADJOURNMENT:


There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Approved this 21st of January 2025.



Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk