

**MINUTES**  
**Special Call Meeting**  
**January 29, 2019**  
**8:30 A.M.**  
**Council Chambers**  
**6601 Main Street**  
**Miami Lakes, Florida 33014**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Manny Cid called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

The Town Clerk, Gina Inguanzo, called the roll with the following Councilmembers present: Carlos Alvarez, Luis Collazo, Joshua Dieguez, Jeffrey Rodriguez, Marilyn Ruano, and Mayor Manny Cid. Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez was absent.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Councilmember Carlos Alvarez led the Pledge of Allegiance

**4. MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Councilmember Marilyn Ruano led the invocation.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mirtha Mendez came before the Town Council to speak against item 6B.

Abel Fernandez came before the Town Council to speak on item 6B.

Raul De la Sierra came before the Town Council to speak in favor of item 6B.

Ida McArthy came before the Town Council to speak in favor if item 6B.

Maria Kramer came before the Town Council to speak on item 6B.

Phill Rerick came before the Town Council to speak in favor of item 6B.

Vivian Levy came before the Town Council to speak in favor of item 6B.

Maurice Costa came before the Town Council to speak in favor of item 6B.

Jose Llano came before the Town Council to speak in favor of Lorenzo Cobiella nominated as a full-time in-house attorney.

Manuel Perez came before the Town Council to speak in support of Lorenzo Cobiella as a full-time in-house attorney.

Claudia Lucas came before the Town Council to speak against the creation of the position of an in-house attorney.

Frank Bolanos came before the Town Council to speak in favor of item 6B.

Juan-Carlos Valiente came before the Town Council to speak against the process of item 6B.

Tony Fernandez, via live remote public comments, spoke before the Town Council on item 6C, regarding the opening of the 154<sup>th</sup> street bridge.

Susana Herrera, via live remote public comments, spoke before the Town Council against item 6B, recruiting a full-time in-house attorney.

**6. Items for Discussion and Action:**

**A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPOINTING TONY LOPEZ TO SERVE AS INTERIM TOWN MANAGER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Mayor Cid motioned to appoint Tony Lopez as the Interim Manager and the motioned was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed, 5-0, with Councilmember Collazo recused and Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez absent.

**B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE RETAINER AGREEMENT BETWEEN GASTESI AND ASSOCIATES, P.A. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Mayor Cid motioned to approve the resolution and Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion for discussion. Mayor Cid then amended his motion to include having a retainer of \$175,000 for full-time Town Attorney services to then be revisited after the first six months. Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion; the Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed, 6-0, with Vice Mayor Rodriguez absent.

Councilmember Collazo motioned to re-open Public Comments. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion and all present were in favor.

Juan-Carlos Valiente came before the Town Council to speak on his concerns regarding the Town Attorney.

**C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES AUTHORIZING THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO TAKE ANY AND ALL REASONABLE MEASURE TO DEFEND, ADVOCATE AND LITIGATE AGAINST ANY ENTITY, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, THAT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ADVOCATES FOR A CONNECTION OF N.W. 154th STREET OVER INTERSTATE 75, PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Mayor Cid motioned to approve the resolution under item 6C and Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed, 6-0, with Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez absent.

**D. APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Cid read into the record the following appointments for the Special Taxing District committees: Alejandra Diaz to Royal Oaks Section I, Adam Suarez, Arlene Soto, Daisy Estrada, Javier Prellezo, and Ansen Christianson to Royal Oaks East.

Councilmember Collazo motioned to approve the appointments for the Special Taxing District committees. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion, and all present were in favor.

**ADJOURMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Approved this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.

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Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:

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Gina Inguanzo, Town Clerk