

MINUTES
Special Call Minutes
April 2, 2020
7:30 p.m.
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Manny Cid called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM

3. ROLL CALL:

The Town Clerk, Gina Inganzo, called the roll with the following Councilmembers being virtually present: Carlos Alvarez, Luis Collazo, Josh Dieguez, Jeffrey Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez, Marilyn Ruano and Mayor Manny Cid.

4. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Pastor Stuart Bodin from Miami Lakes United Methodist Church led the invocation.

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Dane Bodin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Order of Business. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. All were in favor.

Shortly thereafter, Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to re-open the Order of Business and it was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. All were in favor.

Councilmember Dieguez motioned to add an item under Manager's Report, Item 16B, titled Budgetary Impacts of the novel CORONAVIRUS. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez by Councilmember Collazo simultaneously. All were in favor.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to pass the new Order of Business as amended. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Cid shared that April 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day.

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

Mr. Cesar Matos expressed his concern regarding people getting sick in the Town of Miami Lakes due to the Coronavirus; he asked if possible, for Town staff to provide the ages of the individuals that are getting sick; he also asked if the Municipal Government would consider imposing some sort of curfew on our town so that individuals stay at home and create a safer environment.

Chairman Roman Garcia spoke in support of Item 14B; he provided a summary of Coach Mike Uspensky's life and accomplishment. He spoke on behalf of the Sports Hall of Fame of the Town of Miami Lakes, in his capacity as the Chair of the committee.

Mr. Jose Felix Diaz expressed his concerns with Item 14E. He stated that to shut down all rock mining industries would be an extreme measure; he stated that Item 14E could send a wrong message to the County and to the State; he asked for the Town Council to consider this item carefully and to please discuss this item later with a scalpel and not a machete.

Ms. Dolores called and thanked the Town Council for the opportunity given to the community by providing a virtual public meeting.

Ms. Diana Newman called and thanked the Town Council for the opportunity given to the community by providing a virtual public meeting.

Ms. Jennifer Vazquez called to listen to the meeting.

Mr. Raymond Garcia called and thanked the Town Council for the opportunity given to the community by providing a virtual public meeting. He added that he wanted to congratulate all the elected officials for the virtual zoom meeting.

Ms. Sophia called to listen to the meeting.

Ms. Gloria Martinez called and thanked the Town Council for the opportunity given to the community by providing a virtual public meeting.

Written Public Comments:

Ms. Esperanza Hope Reynolds sent a written public comment to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk forwarded the email to the Town Council as soon as she received it.

Ms. Vicky E. Tomas-Martinez sent a written public comment to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk forwarded the email to the Town Council as soon as she received it.

8. APPOINTMENTS:

None.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

11. ORDINANCE – FIRST READING:

None.

12. ORDINANCE – SECOND READING:

None.

13. RESOLUTIONS:

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, MODIFYING THE BUDGET APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 19-251; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (PIDERMANN)

Town Attorney read the title of the Resolution.

Ed Pidermann, the Town Manager, explained that this is an item requesting permission to transfer \$6,758 from the Contingency Reserve Line Item to the Capital Infrastructure Line Item for the purchase and installation of new gate arm pedestals. He stated that these line items are all within the Royal Oaks Section One budget. Staff is recommending approval and agrees with the Neighborhood Services District recommendation.

Councilmember Collazo made a motion to approve item 13A and it was seconded by Councilmember J. Rodriguez. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed unanimously.

14. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. To Discuss current and future COVID-19 plans for Miami Lakes (Ruano)

Councilmember Ruano asked the Town Manager to provide an update to the Town Council and residents on how we got to a virtual Town Hall, and asked questions regarding the services that Town staff is unable to provide; how will we be able to deal with increase cases in our community; what if Town staff is unable to come back to Town Hall on April 13th and the possibility of having a skeleton crew working from Town Hall.

The Town Manager stated that 6 Emergency Orders have been declared keeping the residents well aware and informed of all the actions and steps that have been taken; he explained that the idea behind transitioning to a virtual Town Hall was of his concern to not expose Town staff and visitors and residents to the virus; he stated that he sent the Town Council a compilation of all the services which Town staff is able to perform remotely and the services that can't be done remotely; he stated that the majority of the services that can't be done remotely are all from the Building Department; he explained that Building Department is working towards migrating to a more online type of services.

The Town Manager explained that if a resident has an emergency and needs to repair or replace something that requires a permit, the resident can go ahead and replace it and the mandate is that on the next business day that Town Hall is open to the public, the resident needs to come to Town Hall and apply for a permit; if a repair requires an inspection, a homeowner needs to contact and contract the services of an inspector that is certified by the industry and that will be sufficient; the Town Manager also stated that Town staff is taking calls and responding to them and to emails. Regarding the reviewing of plans remotely, it will take some additional time to provide these services electronically.

Regarding the opening of Town Hall, the Town Manager stated that he does not dictate the timeline, that the virus threat dictates the timeline. That he will continue to follow the guidelines dictated by the County and state health departments. He stated that no guidance from the Governor has been given regarding municipal functions. Regarding a full shut down, he doesn't foresee this happening but it depends on what the County and State health departments dictate.

B. Coach Mike Uspensky (Cid)

Mayor Cid made a motion to recognize and induct Coach Mike Uspensky into the Miami Lakes Sports Hall of Fame, as recommended by the Sports Hall of Fame Committee. Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion and all were in favor.

C. Relaxing Code Enforcement During COVID-19 pandemic (Cid)

Mayor Cid made a motion to direct the Town Manager to come back with recommendations to discuss at the April 21st Regular Council Meeting on relaxing code enforcement. The

motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. It was emphasized to have a fair process and help out the residents on these hard times but to maintain the high standards and nice aesthetics of the Town of Miami Lakes. All were in favor.

D. Building Department (Cid)

Mayor Cid made a motion directing the Town Manager to have our IT Department work specifically with our Building Department to ensure remote plan reviews and remote inspections so that our residents and businesses plan/permits are not stalled long term. Councilmember J. Rodriguez and Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion simultaneously. All were in favor.

E Resolution in Support of Blasting Moratorium (N. Rodriguez)

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion for the Mayor of Miami Dade County, Carlos Gimenez and the Governor of the State of Florida, Ron De Santis, place a temporary blasting moratorium in NW Dade, in areas that are 3 miles radius or less from residents, from residential neighborhoods; to have the blasting levels reduced to more than half of what they are today and that this resolution would start a conversation with our blasting partners. The motion was seconded by Mayor Cid for discussion.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez explained that he does not want to stop blasting statewide, only in the northwest Miami Dade County and in the Town of Miami Lakes area because they are affecting homes and that his intention is for it to be temporary moratorium on blasting.

Councilmember Dieguez made an amendment to the motion, stating that the Town Attorneys need to specify in the Resolution, that we are referring to mining activities within 3 miles of the Town of Miami Lakes and in the alternative, if not, having a temporary cessation of blasting activities for them to reduce the frequency or the blasting level. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the amendment. All were in favor of the friendly amendment.

The main motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

F. Health Requirements for Miami Lakes (Dieguez)

Mayor Cid recused himself from this item because he is a part owner and operator of a restaurant in the town. Councilmember J. Rodriguez recused himself from this item because he is a part owner of a restaurant in the town.

Councilmember Dieguez motioned to adopt rules that would require pharmacies and restaurants of all kinds must wear protective coverings and gloves as part of their operations; for this to be a requirement not a suggestion; and for it to be enforced by our Police officers; that Police officers will first educate them and if they are not in compliance the second time around, then impose some sort of fines. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo.

After some discussion, Councilmember Dieguez made an amendment to his main motion, stating that it would only require some protective covering for the face, and to direct the Town Manager to work with the local restaurant community on best practices with respect to the handling of gloves; adding an educational component on how to properly use other

face masks and coverings and giving our Police officers the authority to enforce the mandatory requirement. Councilmember Ruano seconded the motion.

Councilmember Dieguez also added for this to become effective on Tuesday April 7 for purposes of the educational component and after that, to work with the businesses restaurant community on the best practices with respect to the handling of the items. It was also emphasized that it is not only to apply for restaurants and eateries, but also bakeries, ice cream shops, pharmacies, grocery stores and gas stations; and not include delivery individuals and for this to be in effect during the duration of the emergency. Police officer would first give a courtesy notice for those not adhering to the requirement before moving to imposing any penalty.

The amendment to the main motion passed 5-0, with Mayor Cid and Councilmember J. Rodriguez being recused.

The main motion as amended passed 5-0, with Mayor Cid and Councilmember J. Rodriguez being recused.

15. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

A. Groceries4Seniors (Cid)

Mayor Cid combined item 15A and 15B. He thanked the volunteers for delivering weekly groceries that are being delivered.

B. Meals4HeroKids (Cid)

Mayor Cid combined this item with 15A.

C. Transitioning into Virtual Learning and Educational Outcomes (Alvarez)

Councilmember Alvarez stated that it is very important for parents to support their children while transitioning into virtual learning. Distance learning is the new norm.

D. Senior Wellness Checks (Collazo)

Councilmember Collazo thanked the volunteers and the Elderly Affairs Committee for their great job and for helping out the seniors in the community.

16. MANAGER'S REPORTS

A. Review and Amend Special Rules for Virtual Meetings (Pidermann)

The Town Manager spoke about the Rules for Virtual Meetings that the Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella drafted. Councilmember Collazo motioned to accept the Special Rules for Virtual Meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. All were in favor.

B. Budgetary Impacts of CORONAVIRUS (Dieguez)

The Town Manager, Ed Pidermann, stated that there will be minimal impact to the budget. New construction and a full year of franchise fees will help for the next fiscal year.

17. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

None.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 pm.

Approved this 21st day of April 2020

Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:

Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk