

Item 8a, from the April 21st, Regular Council Meeting Draft Minutes

Chair Eddie Blanco presented the following 8 recommendations to the Town Council. He explained that these 8 recommendations had been approved by the Economic Development Committee (EDC) during their April 21st Special Call Meeting, held at 4 pm.

1. **Local Community Inter Governmental Outreach-**To reach out to the our local, state and federal representatives asking for their support and requesting for more Testing Sites; to reach out to the state and ask them to suspend the collection of sales taxes [through June 30](#);
2. **Business Chambers and trade Organizations-** To reach out to the business leaders, in particularly to local groups such as the Business Chambers and trade associations, for them to suspend the collection of dues; to allow free memberships and to extend or offer free memberships to new businesses through the end of the year). Chair Blanco also requested for the TOML to send out a letter on this regard (it could be a letter on behalf of the EDC). Mr. Blanco also added that he would like them to interact with the EDC, so they can keep the EDC informed of what their business needs are and we can better keep them informed of what the state, federal and local government is doing to support local businesses.
3. **Town of Miami Lakes Business Practices-** For the Town of Miami Lakes procure products that are made within the town's limits and made in the USA. He stated that the Town Attorney recommended to maybe expand the local preference language that exists in the TOML Code.
4. **Business Support** -To immediately suspend the collection of BTR (Business Tax Receipts) through the end of the year 2020 and for new or pending application for change of use, for the Town Council to approve and allow new business owners to pay mobility fees on a payment schedule rather than a lumpsum upfront.
5. **Weekly Information Calls-** For the Town of Miami Lakes to support a weekly zoom meeting hosted by a local business community or trade organizations. These meetings can facilitate the dissemination of business information relative to the needs of our local community business owners.
6. **Budget-** Provide a \$5000 emergency budget to the Town of Miami Lakes EDC to be able to educate the businesses on how to be more online friendly and provide a #shoplocal campaign.
7. **Certificate of Use and BTR's for new businesses to be allowed-** To be re-implemented and allowing new businesses to apply, to get them registered, and to get the CU process re-implemented.
8. **Cautious and careful re-opening for businesses-** For small business, small retail shops, to be able to re-open, with parameters; for them to re-open with no more than 6 people in each establishment (including employees); for all employees and occupants to be wearing masks,

to remain 6 ft apart; for salons, barbers, one-on-one training to be done by appointment only; to remain closed: bars, churches, libraries, large gyms indoor amusements parks, malls, social clubs, tennis clubs, golf courses fishing charters to remain closed

Mayor Cid made a motion to approve the recommendations from the Economic Development Committee, as presented by Chairman Eddie Blanco. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez.

After discussion, Councilmember Dieguez proposed a strike all amendment, which deletes the language of the main motion, and instead made a motion to take the recommendations from the Economic Development Committee and for them to be presented to the Town Council in a Special Call Meeting, to be scheduled by the Town Clerk, and for this meeting to be held during the next two week. By then, he added, that Town Staff would have had a chance to analyze all the recommendations and will be able to provide feedback about their recommendations to the Town Council. Councilmember Collazo seconded this amendment to the main motion.

After additional discussion, Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a friendly amendment to Councilmember Dieguez' motion. Councilmember Rodriguez stated that his motion would be to outline the specific issues that the Town Council should specify as issues of importance that Town Council wants them to be discussed on their behalf at the County meeting; to adopt the following list and for the Chair to discuss them at the County meeting. It was emphasized that this is an issue list to be discussed with local, municipal, county and statewide. Councilmember Rodriguez then outlined the following items to be presented by Chair Blanco, at the County meeting:

1. To reach out to the our local, state and federal representatives asking them for their support and requesting for more Testing Sites;
2. To reach out to the state and ask them to suspend the collection of sales taxes [through June 30](#);
3. Local Groups such as the Chamber and all voluntary associations to allow free memberships;
4. For the Town of Miami Lakes to procure items that are made in the USA;
5. Suspending the collection of BTR's;
6. New and pending application for changes in use; the payment of mobility fees in a payment scheduled and not lumpsum;
7. Certificate of Use and BTR's, if on hold, they should be restarted;
8. Cautious and careful re-opening for small retail businesses;

These items were not included in the list to be presented to the County:

9. Weekly information calls should not be in the list; This is (town specific)
10. For the EDC to receive \$500 emergency budget should not be in the list; (This is town specific)

Mayor Cid seconded this motion. The Town Clerk called the roll and Councilmember Rodriguez' amendment to the amendment passed unanimously.

Then, the amendment by Councilmember Dieguez to have a special call meeting in the next 2 weeks to discuss all the 10 items presented by the EDC was discussed further. This amendment had been seconded by Councilmember Collazo. The Town Clerk called the roll and the amendment to the main motion passed 6-0, with Councilmember Alvarez being absent.

After additional discussion, the Town Clerk called the roll on the main motion made by Mayor Cid, as amended twice, and the motion passed 6-0, with Councilmember Alvarez being absent.