

TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

Town Council

Mayor Wayne Slaton

Vice Mayor Nancy Simon

Councilmember Roberto Alonso

Councilmember Mary Collins

Councilmember Robert Meador II

Councilmember Michael Pizzi

Councilmember Richard Pulido

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 15, 2008

6:30 PM

Miami Lakes Middle School

6425 Miami Lakeway North

Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

**Special Presentations: The Mayor and Town Council issued the following special presentations: Miami Lakes Chapter of National Junior Honor Society
Cub Scout Troop 660
Town Commander, Frank Bocanegra**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Slaton called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL:** Town Clerk, Debra Eastman called the roll with the following Councilmembers in attendance: Robert Meador, Roberto Alonso, Richard Pulido, Mary Collins, Michael Pizzi, Vice Mayor Nancy Simon and Mayor Wayne Slaton.
- 3. INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Mayor Slaton called for a moment of silence.
- 4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Cub Scout Pack 566 presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 5. ORDER OF BUSINESS (DEFERRALS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS):**
Councilmember Robert Meador asked to withdraw item 13A. Councilmember Mary Collins asked to pull item 7E from the consent agenda. Town Attorney, Nina Boniske, asked that a request for an Executive Session be added as Item 12C.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso made a motion to accept the agenda as amended and adoption of the remaining items on the consent agenda. The motion received a second from Councilmember Michael Pizzi. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Pedro Carballo spoke in favor of the green space and protection act.
Beatriz Perez spoke in favor of the green space and protection act.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO JOINT-USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES REGARDING THE USE OF BARBARA GOLEMAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL. (Rey) Approved on consent.

B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL CREATING A HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP; PROVIDING FOR DUTIES; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING BY CREATING A 501 (C)(3) NON-PROFIT CULTURAL ORGANIZATION. (Simon) Approved on consent.

C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE SELECTION OF KILOWATTS ELECTRIC & LIGHTING SUPPLY AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR PROVISION OF SIX (6) DECORATIVE STREET LIGHTS FOR NW 82ND AVENUE . (Rey) Approved on consent.

D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE PURCHASE ORDER WITH PLAYMORE RECREATIONAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR POCKET PARKS P17, P18, P22, L22, P32, L41, P23, AND P78. (Rey) Approved on consent.

E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL URGING MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES DURING THE 2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. (Slaton)

Councilmember Mary Collins asked if Council will be given an opportunity to create a wish list of legislation at some point. She suggested expanding the LPA. Councilmember Mary Collins made a motion to adopt the resolution. It received a second from Councilmember Michael Pizzi. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL PROVIDING FOR ACCEPTANCE OF AN EASEMENT FOR A BUS SHELTER FROM THE GRAHAM COMPANIES. (Rey) Approved on consent.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cultural Affairs Committee

Committee Chair, Felicia Salazar, delivered a report on the activities of the Cultural Affairs Committee. Councilmember Richard Pulido suggested that in an effort to promote committees an advertisement be done.

9. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 05-66 AND 05-76; ADOPTING A REVISED BUILDING PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE. (Rey)

Town Attorney, Nina Boniske, read the title of the ordinance.

Councilmember Robert Meador made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The motion received a second from Vice Mayor Nancy Simon. Town Clerk, Debra Eastman called the roll and all were in favor.

10. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING (PUBLIC HEARING):

11. RESOLUTIONS:

12. REPORTS:

A. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

1. Appointments-

Mayor Slaton nominated Allen Cueli to the Beautification Committee and Lynette Matos to the Youth Activities Task Force. Councilmember Mary Collins made a motion to confirm the nominations. There was a second by Councilmember Roberto Alonso. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

2. FPL Service – Town of Miami Lakes (Pulido)

Councilmember Richard Pulido spoke about the recent increase in power surges and power interruptions.

Eloy Villasusu of FPL delivered a report addressing the concerns. FPL will complete an assessment in two to three weeks and will provide a report to the Town Manager.

3. SHARP Program in Miami Lakes (Pizzi)

Councilmember Michael Pizzi delivered a report on the Miami Dade County Mayor's initiative on aging. The County identifies individuals in need through Team Metro. The SHARP program assists elderly senior

citizens whose homes have sustained damage from hurricanes and lack the resources to make repairs.

Funding is secured from private partners. Volunteer organizations provide the manpower for the repairs. Councilmember Michael Pizzi stated he has spoken with the County and suggested to them that a similar program be considered for municipalities.

4. Youth Center (Pizzi)

Councilmember Michael Pizzi delivered an update on the program at Miami Lakes Community Center East. Forty people are enrolled in the program. Twenty people attend on a daily basis and receive tutoring, snacks and participate in field trips.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi asked Town Manager, Alex Rey if the programs are growing, if a larger facility would be necessary and if there was a plan that would address these concerns. Town Manager, Alex Rey informed the Council that the current facility is too small.

The Parks and Recreation Department is currently working on the Parks Master Plan that will address where the different services are to be provided. Councilmember Michael Pizzi asked if the Community Center West is used for youth groups. Town Manager, Alex Rey, detailed the classes offered at the Community Center West.

B. MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Early Voting Site –

Town Manager, Alex Rey, reported that the Elections Department verified with the Miami Lakes Public Library that renovations will not be taking place as soon as expected. Councilmember Richard Pulido asked if it would be possible to obtain an extension on the lease of the retail space on Main Street. Town Manager, Alex Rey, clarified that the lease has been terminated.

2. NW 170th Street Linear Park Concept –

Town Manager, Alex Rey, gave a report on available grant opportunities. A concept will be required for the grants. Director of Parks and Recreation, Tony Lopez, explained the conceptual plan. The planned park will include a multipurpose trail, boardwalk, decorative fence, signage along the trail detailing distances, mile markers, benches and rest areas. Funding will be sought through grants.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso noted that the area west of 87th Ave. was not included in the concept. Director of Parks and Recreation, Tony Lopez

replied that the area is currently being looked at and could be added to the trail. Councilmember Roberto Alonso would like the area to be included. Town Manager, Alex Rey, concurred.

Councilmember Mary Collins asked if the park would be lighted. The Town Manager replied that there are no current plans for lighting.

Councilmember Richard Pulido asked if a community outreach meeting, for the residents in the area surrounding the park, has been considered. Town Manager, Alex Rey explained that the people in the area are not residents of the Town of Miami Lakes and reported that a meeting will take place with the Royal Oaks HOA.

C. ATTORNEY’S REPORTS:

Town Attorney, Nina Boniske, requested to schedule an Executive Session, if necessary, for the City of Doral, Village of Palmetto Bay and Town of Miami Lakes legal matter.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Naming of Baseball Park (Meador) Withdrawn

B. Town of Miami Lakes – US Service Members Appreciation Program (Pulido)

Councilmember Richard Pulido suggested that a US Service Members Appreciation program should be established.

Councilmember Richard Pulido made a motion directing the Town Manager, Alex Rey, to assist in coordinating an appropriate plan, to identify funding to solicit participation from the business community, to solicit any government funding, to work with anyone wishing to participate in the program and to bring the plan back to the Council for approval. There was a second by Vice Mayor Nancy Simon. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

& Veteran’s Projects (Collins)

Councilmember Mary Collins suggested that an area of the Royal Oaks Community Center be dedicated as permanent memorial to honor veterans. The designers should be informed that the entry will be dedicated to veterans. Councilmember Mary Collins will collect information on this and will report back.

Councilmember Mary Collins explained that the veteran’s office that was in the Boy Scouts hut has been closed. She suggested that a volunteer at Town Hall be made available to help veterans and their families fill out paperwork. She suggested that the office of Councilmember Richard Pulido and Councilmember Mary Collins could be utilized for this purpose.

Councilmember Robert Meador expressed concern that Town Hall lacks sufficient parking facilities for the project. He suggested the Community Center West could be used. Town Manager, Alex Rey stated that the Town Hall parking lot is busy in the morning hours. Councilmember Mary Collins asked the Town Manager, Alex Rey, to work out the details.

C. Green Space and Quality of Life Protection Act (Pizzi)

Robin Beamon expressed concern about the apartment complex near Villa Viscaya.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi expressed concern that Miami Lakes incorporated to take control of planning and growth. There were projects approved by the County in the early 1990's where concurrency was reserved. When new units are being built, the Council has no ability for input. The impacts of the projects on the Town have not been reviewed. Staff has indicated that under the current law, these issues will not come before the Council.

Town Manager, Alex Rey, explained that, in terms of policy, he understands the concerns. The items did not come before the Council for concurrency. Approval of concurrency was obtained in 1991.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion that any project preapproved by the County comes before the Council for mitigation on the concurrency impact. The motion did not receive a second.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi stated that the building should be done in a way that does not harm the quality of life of the residents. Mitigation of the impact to the Town is necessary.

Vice Mayor Nancy Simon added to the record that prior to the meeting she had met with the Town attorney on this issue.

Councilmember Richard Pulido asked if dialogue is permissible if a motion is made and does not receive a second. Town Attorney, Nina Boniske, replied that the presiding officer has the right to allow dialogue.

D. Hurricane Public Safety (Pizzi)

Councilmember Michael Pizzi stated that residents have the right to protect themselves from hurricanes and asked if there had been any change in The Miami Lakes Building Code that would permit tenants to put up hurricane shutters.

Building Official, Eliezer Palacio, explained the current code. Councilmember Michael Pizzi asked if the law addressed older, multiple story buildings and

rental properties. Building Official, Eliezer Palacio, replied that this issue has not been addressed.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi asked if the Town or County could pass legislation that would inhibit the ability of homeowners to protect themselves. Town Attorney, Nina Boniske, replied that she does not believe a municipality has that authority.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to adopt a resolution to be sent to the State and the County, recommending that they enact provisions to allow tenants to put up hurricane shutters. There was a second by Vice Mayor Nancy Simon.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso spoke about enforcement of the code at the time of a hurricane. Councilmember Roberto Alonso expressed concern about multiple renters having different types of shutters.

Vice Mayor Nancy Simon stated that she only wants the Florida Legislature to look at the problem. Vice Mayor Nancy Simon supported the motion to make a recommendation to the State.

Mayor Slaton clarified that there are two issues being addressed. First, the Council is asking the Florida Legislature and/or the County to make the current law retroactive, requiring apartment building owners to put up hurricane shutters. Second, there is a separate issue with the concern over the liability of recommending that tenants be allowed to put up shutters on their own.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi clarified that the motion is to recommend to the Florida Legislature and the County that they consider implementing guidelines and regulations that allow tenants to put up shutters and that they do so in a way that does not impose undo hardship on the landlord.

Town Manager, Alex Rey, suggested setting up threshold parameters to come into compliance with the law.

Mayor Slaton stated that he does not support getting between the owner and tenant.

Vice Mayor Nancy Simon stated that she would support the Town Manager, Alex Rey's idea. She asked Councilmember Michael Pizzi to accept the Town Manager, Alex Rey's suggestion as an amendment.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi explained that the goal of the motion is to afford the same amount of protection to tenants in older buildings as provided

to those in newer buildings. Councilmember Michael Pizzi withdrew his motion.

E. Council Meeting Rules (Pizzi)

Councilmember Michael Pizzi stated that he will not ask for a waiver.

14. FUTURE MEETINGS:

January 17, 2008 Council Workshop, 15700 NW 67th Ave, Town Hall, Miami Lakes, 5 PM

January 22, 2008 Zoning Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway N, Miami Lakes 6 PM

February 12, 2008 Regular Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway N, Miami Lakes 6:30 PM

15. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the meeting, it adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2008.

Wayne Slaton, Mayor

Attest:

Debra E. Eastman, MMC
Town Clerk