

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**December 10, 2019**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Government Center**  
**6601 Main Street**  
**Miami Lakes, Florida 33014**

**1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

Special Presentations took place prior to the commencement of the Regular Council Meeting.

Mayor Cid asked Mr. Eddie Blanco, the Chair of the Economic Development Committee to call up the winners of the Best of Miami Lakes 2019. Best in Shopping to FH Fashion House, Best Café to NQC, Best Lunch Spot to NQC, Best Dinner Spot to Dr. Limon, Best in Beauty to The Spa at Shula's, Best Health Provider to Lakes Family Eye Care and Best Professional Service Provider to First Origin Mortgage Lenders. The entire Town Council recognized all the winners.

Mayor Cid asked Chair Eddie Blanco to recognize Jerry Menendez, for his leading role in the first focus session of Leadership Miami in the Town of Miami Lakes.

Mayor Cid also thanked Jersey Mike Subs for investing in our town. Mr. Juan Carlos Zandoval from Jersey Mike's gave a check of \$1,874 to the Town of Miami Lakes, proceeds of a fundraiser held in the town for the youth center and their educational programs.

Mayor Cid recognized that it was Human Rights Day and he asked the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes to come up to the podium. Mayor Cid read the proclamation to be given to the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes and thanked them for their great service in fighting against sex trafficking in women.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Manny Cid called the meeting to order at 6:47 pm.

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

**3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Rabbi Mendi Weiss led the invocation.

Ariel Fernandez was present via video and presented his meditation video from "Better You Minute".

#### **4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Town Manager, Ed Pidermann led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Vice Mayor Rodriguez pulled item 9b from the Consent Calendar. He stated that he will not be voting on item 9b, just to err in the side of cautious, because of a possible conflict with the code of silence and the issuance of a contract. Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez asked for the Committee Reports, item 8A, to be heard before the Public Comments section of the Agenda. Mayor Cid requested item 12A to be heard before the Public Comments section of the Agenda, and he also pulled item 9C.

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez moved to approve the new order of business and it was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez. All were in favor.

Mayor Cid announced that he would be leaving the Council Meeting around 8 pm to attend another event and that he would come back to the Council Meeting around 9 pm.

#### **6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The Town Clerk, Gina Inguanzo, read the instructions of proper decorum that are to be respected and followed in the Council Chambers of the Town of Miami Lakes.

Angelo Garcia came before the Town Council to speak about issues at the canal. He stated that the canal bordering 170<sup>th</sup> continues to be broken and that the job repaired was not done to standard. He also spoke about the broken light underneath the 154 underpass.

Motion to grant 30 additional seconds to Mr. Angelo Garcia was done by Councilmember Ruano and seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. All were in favor.

Once Mr. Angelo Garcia finished his public comment, Mayor Cid asked the Town Clerk to please grant 4 minutes to everyone else because Mr. Garcia spoke for 4 minutes. All were in favor.

Hope Reynolds came before the Town Council to speak in support of the item 13a, to improve communication in the Town of Miami Lakes. She also stated that she sent an email to Councilmember Dieguez regarding the agenda revision of special rules of order, to consider asking the Town Manager and staff to analyze public comments to create objectives that address any and all public input, to be incorporated to the Master Plan; to incorporate complaints to be addressed by each respective department; ideas to be considered as new business items, objections addressed during the next council meeting, so people begin so realize that they are being heard. She asked for the next Agenda to include all

the Q&A that were asked in the previous meetings so that residents feel that their input is being heard. Ms. Reynolds also asked why the Town continues to spend tax collars on fighting NW 170 bridge from opening.

Hector Aleman came before the Town Council to speak about item 12e. He asked when will the implementation of the LPR cameras begin, about being part of the Royal Oaks East & West Special Taxing District – if it gets created; about the guards in the Royal Oaks West side and that he is looking forward to the LPR cameras.

Alex Ariano came before the Town Council to speak about the Town Manager's memo for item 12e; about the Mayor's meeting with the Royal Oaks HOA not being posted; about the Resolution merging Royal Oaks East and West side; about the document that will be sent in full support of Senator Manny Diaz Jr., and Bryan Avila regarding the bills to close the Palmetto Express lanes; and expressed his full support of the Senior Village to be finally completed

Susana Herrera came before the Town Council to speak about the good faith decisions made regarding the MDX projects and the DOT project extensions thinking that they were going to happen and now we realize that those projects have dismantled; she asked the Town Council to please work with reality because wishful thinking does not get the job done; she asked them to make decisions based on facts.

Claudia Luces came before the Town Council to thank town staff for pressure cleaning the Growing Beautifully logo underneath the Palmetto; about the Special Call Meeting on the Lucida Project and the lack of supporting documents in the Agenda; she stated she does not like the Lucida project due to traffic and safety reasons but that Legal had explained the ramifications if the owner of the land was not granted those rights; she said this is an emotional issue that we all want our children to be protected but that she doesn't want another lawsuit; about how the media outlet covered the story and the misconception that it created to some residents; that clarification should be given to the public; about the synchronization of lights in our town and she thanked the Police Officers for their great work.

Councilmember Ruano motioned to extend the time of Ms. Luces and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. All were in favor.

Mirtha Mendez came before the Town Council to speak on item 12a; she said that the quasi-judicial instructions were not included in the item; she stated that there might be a conflict of interest between some councilmembers and the proposers of item 12a, due to campaign contributions.

#### Written Public Comments:

Felicia Salazar sent a written Public Comment in support of the Cultural Center Facility in Miami Lakes.

Mayor Cid took a point of personal privilege and spoke in regards to Royal Oaks HOA; he stated that the HOA has been doing everything fine, that the HOA members are people of high

character and moral compass; that the Town Attorney told him that the meeting did not have to be posted.

Live Remote Public Comments:

Abel Fernandez spoke about item 12a. His public comment is found under the discussion of item 12a.

## **7. APPOINTMENTS:**

Magaly Rubio to the Blasting Advisory Board by Councilmember Collazo

Esther Colon to the Blasting Advisory Board by Vice Mayor Rodriguez.

Romy Portuondo Remoir to the Economic Development Committee by Councilmember Alvarez.

Emily Garcia to the Education Advisory Board by Councilmember Alvarez.

Councilmember Collazo made a motion to approve the Committee Appointments. Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Neighborhood Improvement Committee Report**

The Chairman of the Neighborhood Improvement Committee, Mr. Rudy Lloredo, presented to the Town Council the December NIC Report. He spoke about the future projects to be done in 2020, about the proposed designs for the “Traffic Lights Beautification Project” and the “Miami Lakes Residents Only Signs” located through the Town of Miami Lakes. The Chair stated that the NIC unanimously voted to have all “residents only signs” to be removed because they are not neighbor friendly and they are not promoting the Mission of the Town of Miami Lakes. The signs are found in Picnic Park West.

Mayor Cid made a motion to accept the report given by the Chair and to move forward both of the projects presented in the report. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

## **9. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Councilmember Dieguez moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez seconded the motion. All were in favor.

## A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 24, 2019 Special Call Meeting
- November 12, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

Approved on Consent.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR ITB 2019-32, REFUSE AND RECYCLING SERVICES TO GREAT WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES, LLC FOR TOWN FACILITIES 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. (Pidermann)

Vice Mayor Rodriguez pulled this item only because he wants to excuse himself. Under the purview of the Town Attorney, he handed the gavel to Councilmember Collazo, so that he could preside the meeting.

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion to approve the resolution and it was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. The motion passed 5-0, with Mayor Cid being absent and Vice Mayor Rodriguez being recused.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR ITB 2020-04, MISCELLANEOUS DRAINAGE AND ROADWAY SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS TO NATIONAL CONCRETE AND PAVING LLC AS THE PRIMARY CONTRACTOR AND GPE ENGINEERING AND GENERAL CONTRACTOR CORP AS THE SECONDARY CONTRACTOR 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. (Pidermann)

Councilmember Collazo made a motion to table this item until Mayor Cid joins the council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez all were in favor. Mayor Cid was absent.

Once Mayor Cid returned to the Council Meeting, Mayor Cid made a motion to approve item 9c. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez and the motion passed unanimously.

- D. 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. (Dieguez)

Approved on Consent.

#### **10. ORDINANCE – FIRST READING:**

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 12, LAW ENFORCEMENT, CREATING ARTICLE IV, TITLED “SALE OF NICOTINE VAPORIZERS (E-CIGARETTES), LIQUID NICOTINE TO MINORS AND POSSESSION BY MINORS PROHIBITED, PROVIDING FOR SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS”; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (N. Rodriguez)

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

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Ordinance in 1<sup>st</sup> reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed 5-0, with Councilmember Ruano and Mayor Cid being absent.

- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO MOBILITY FEES; AMENDING CHAPTER 13, “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE”, AT ARTICLE X, “CONCURRENCY REGULATIONS AND MITIGATION OF DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS”, DIVISION 2, “MOBILITY FEE”; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to approve the ordinance in first reading and Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez seconded the motion. The Town Clerk called the roll and ordinance in first reading passed, 4-1, with Councilmember Collazo voting in opposition and Councilmember Ruano and Mayor Cid being absent.

#### **11. ORDINANCE – SECOND READING:**

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO PERMITTED FENCE HEIGHTS FOR SINGLE-FAMILY AND TWO-FAMILY BUILDINGS; AMENDING CHAPTER 13, “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE”, AT ARTICLE V, “ALLOWABLE ENCROACHMENTS INTO THE REQUIRED YARDS AND EXCEPTIONS TO THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED HEIGHTS”, AT SECTION 13-1509, “FENCES, WALLS AND GATES,”; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR

SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Cid)

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion to table this item until Mayor Cid joins the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez and the motion passed 5-0; with Councilmember Ruano and Mayor Cid being absent.

Once Mayor Cid returned to the council meeting, the Town Attorney read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Susana Alonso, Town Principal Planner, asked questions posed by the Town Council.

Mayor Cid made a motion to extend the meeting 'til midnight. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez and all were in favor.

Mayor Cid made a motion to approve the Ordinance as proposed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez.

Mayor Cid then made a motion to amend the main motion, for staff to add text allowing 2 additional feet for hedges over 6-foot fences, on interior and rear property lines. Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mayor Cid opened the public hearing. There being no one wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the main motion passed 6-0, with Councilmember Ruano being absent.

## **12. RESOLUTIONS:**

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO A REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 13-304 OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO A SITE PLAN APPROVAL AS PROVIDED AT EXHIBIT "A"; FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF COMMERCE WAY AND N.W. 146<sup>TH</sup> STREET, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AT EXHIBIT "B", BEARING FOLIO NO. 32-2022-008-0010; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS, PROVIDING FOR APPEAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

The Town Attorney read the title of the Resolution and the quasi-judicial instructions.

The Town Clerk, Gina Inguanzo, sworn in everyone who wants to speak, including all individuals participating via live remote public comments.

Councilmember Dieguez disclosed his ex-parte communication;

Councilmember J. Rodriguez disclosed his ex-parte communication;

Councilmember Ruano disclosed his ex-parte communication;

Councilmember Collazo disclosed his ex-parte communication;

Vice Mayor Rodriguez disclosed his ex-parte communication;

Mayor Cid disclosed his ex-parte communication;

Once the ex-parte communications were disclosed, Mayor Cid asked for a 5-minute recess.

Mayor Cid called the meeting back to order and all councilmembers were present.

The Town Attorney, Raul Gastesi, stated that they were able to get an opinion from the Ethics Commission, on the phone, and they also concurred that Vice Mayor Rodriguez does not have to recuse himself from voting on item 12a.

Luis Martinez, spoke on behalf of the Applicant. He also answered questions posed by the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Susana Alonso, Principal Town Planner, answered questions posed by the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Lorenzo Cobiella, Deputy Town Attorney, presented the Declaration of Restrictive Covenants and answered questions posed by the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Public Comments:

Abel Fernandez, via Live Remote Public Comments, spoke about age requirements, about senior housing and 1995 HUD legislation and he explained why he is not supporting the change proposed in item 12A; he spoke about the verbal agreements with Lucida and the promises made -that if there was a change in ownership, it would come before the Town Council; however, he stated that no written agreements were made; he also spoke about the promises pertaining to roadways being built to facilitate travel within the town and the uncertainty about the Palmetto expansion; he stated that the bridges will bring cars into our community; he also spoke about the comment made by the Town Attorney regarding the Ethics Commission opinion on contributions.

Mayor Cid excused himself from the meeting to attend another event but stated that he would return to the Council Meeting as soon as possible. Let the record reflect that Vice Mayor Rodriguez presided the public hearing from this moment on.

Mirtha Mendez came to the Town Council to speak about the Senior Village proposal; she stated that the Town Council should table the issue and think about it during the Holiday season; she stated that Agenda item 12a was missing exhibits mentioned in the resolution; she also spoke about the improvements of the Palmetto expressway that are not coming to fruition and the traffic congestion in our town.

Esperanza Hope Reynolds came to the Town Council to speak in support of the Senior Village.

Lazaro Herrera came to the Town Council to speak about the huge concerns over traffic and about the many things that residents have been promised that are not coming to fruition; he stated that he is not against an adult living facility but he has huge concerns for the traffic congestion; he asked the Town Council to consider the traffic congestion.

Susana Herrera came to the Town Council to speak about the project and that she has been tracking it on Planning and Zoning meetings and in the Council meetings and she stated that we did not need another residential but that an age in place was the vision and that the aging place was needed; she stated that when the project was approved two years ago, Miami Jewish could not built the nursing facility without the senior component and the



residential part could not be built without the nursing facility; she stated that the vision explained and brought back in 2017, can't be violated;

Julio Briceno came to the Town Council to speak about the industrial and office designation of the property and that it is not residential; he stated that traffic congestion is great in multi-family homes; he asked the Town Council to look for what is the best for the residents of the Town of Miami Lakes and not other entities; he stated that the project discussed will impact traffic more.

Maria Briceno came to the Town Council to speak about item 12a and the way the project was approved two years ago and to approve the item with the same conditions from two years ago; she also stated that traffic is a problem and that if they don't approve the project with the same conditions as before, to leave it for commercial use.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez closed the public hearing.

After discussion, Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to table this item until Mayor Cid's return to the council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez. All were in favor. Mayor Cid was absent.

Upon Mayor Cid's return to the council meeting, Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion to start again the discussion on 12A. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez and all were in favor; Vice Mayor Rodriguez was absent.

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion to approve the applicant's request to remove Miami Jewish Health Systems as the operator of the ALF, as well as to remove the requirement that both projects be developed simultaneously, conditioned upon the approval and execution of the declaration of restriction of covenants, in substantially the same form as presented to the Town Council today, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Then, Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made an amendment to that main motion, to make specific revisions to the declaration of restrictive covenants, which are as follows:

In Section 2a, for it to say "The Senior Use Property shall, instead of may"; in Section 2a(iii), for it to say, "amenities and improvements for the provisions of any medical care and/or healthcare related services, including, without limitation, diagnostic services, medical treatments and/or adult day care; in Section 2b, to remove section (ii); In Section 6, to remove Town Manager and replace with 2/3 of the vote of the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. The amendment to the main motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a second amendment to the main motion, as proffered and agreed by the applicant, to state that "if the ALF portion of the Senior use property does not have ALF component on it by the time they complete their senior housing project, that the Graham Companies will agree to improve and make certain improvement to that land to make it a transient park with trees and pathways for use by the residents". Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion. The second amendment to the main motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion to amend the main motion for the 3rd time, to include that The Graham Companies have proffered and we will hold them to it, that the interior build out will be done by their contractors on site at our cost, with no added cost for construction management and that the town will always have the option to

bid on our own and if we get a better deal, so be it. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Town Clerk called the roll on the main motion as amended three times, and the motion passed 5-2, with Councilmember Collazo and Councilmember Ruano voting on opposition.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE RATE PER DAILY TRIP UNDER THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES MOBILITY FEE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilmember Alvarez made a motion to move the resolution and it was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez.

The Town Manager, Ed Pidermann explained that this is a companion item of Item 10B.

Susana Alonso, Principal Town Planner, answered questions posed by the Town Council.

After some discussion, Councilmember Collazo made an amendment to the main motion, to state that if there are any significant changes that come up to our Strategic Plan, then we must re-analyze the mobility fee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruano.

Shortly thereafter, Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion amending the amendment, to state that 10% any difference, up or down, more than 10% of our current strategic plan figure would be deemed to be a substantial change. Councilmember Dieguez seconded the amendment. The amendment to the amendment passed 6-0, with Vice Mayor Rodriguez being absent.

The amendment made by Councilmember Collazo, as amended, passed 6-0, with Vice Mayor Rodriguez being absent.

Then, the main motion, as amended twice, passed 6-0, with Vice Mayor Rodriguez being absent.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT WITH VALLEY VIEW CONSULTING, LLC AS INVESTMENT ADVISOR 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.

The Town Manager, Ed Pidermann, presented the item.

Councilmember Alvarez made a motion to approve and Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed 6-0, with Councilmember Ruano being absent.

D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE 2020 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY NEAT STREETS TREE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE 2020 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY NEAT STREETS TREE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Town Manager, Ed Piderman, presented the item.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Alvarez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, MERGING ROYAL OAKS SECTION 1 AND ROYAL OAKS EAST SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE; CREATING THE ROYAL OAKS COMBINED SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR TERMS AND COMPOSITION; PROVIDING FOR DUTIES; PROVIDING FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Deputy Town Manager, Tony Lopez, presented the item.

Mayor Cid made a motion to approve item 12e. Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion.

Homero Cruz addressed the Town Council regarding item 12e.

The Deputy Town Clerk, Ashley Shepple, called the roll and the motion passed 6-1, with Councilmember Ruano voting in opposition.

### **13. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **A. Enhancement of Communication Methods between Town and Residents (Ruano)**

Councilmember Ruano made a motion to make it a town policy, to advertise all of the regular council meetings, special call meetings and workshops, on all social media platforms, in addition to the other means of advertising with it currently gets posted, such as The Laker and in the Town Website. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor. The Town Manager explained that the town policy is already in place and that town staff will make sure that it gets done 100% of the time.

#### **B. Strategic Plan Review (Cid)**

Mayor Cid made a motion directing town staff to share the strategic plan with all committee members and for staff to gather and compile their feedback and submit it to the Town Council, before the strategic plan retreat. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo.

Councilmember Collazo added to the original motion, that he would like for the strategic plan to be shared with all the 33,000 residents, not only the committee members, via the Strategic Plan portal and solicit feedback from all our residents. Mayor Cid accepted the amendment from Councilmember Collazo and all were in favor of incorporating the language to the original motion.

Councilwoman Ruano also requested for there to be a scoring mechanism for the Councilmembers to be able to “X” out a project or score a zero to a project, so that you can choose to omit the projects that you don’t want to include. All were in favor.

**C. Priority to Add increased Town Wide Lighting for Visibility and Resident Safety to Strategic Master Plan (Alvarez)**

Councilmember Alvarez made a motion for the Town Council to consider being more flexible and considerate and for the Town Council to be able to pull a specific item that is within the scope of the project within our strategic plan to be addressed and mitigated immediately and not wait and delay to identify full funding for the project. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez, for discussion.

After some discussion, it was expressed that the Town Council would identify high priority areas that need lighting for public safety purposes and accordingly, to pursue not so much additional general fund money for it, but to search the federal government databases and to identify and eventually apply for grant opportunities to satisfy those urgent identified requests.

The motion passed and all were in favor.

**D. Vox Populi Facebook Addition (Cid)**

Mayor Cid made a motion to have the portable TV screen in Town Hall and for it to showcase the live comments of the Town’s Facebook feed for it to be incorporated during the Public Comments of the Agenda, in order for people that do not want to speak but rather write their comments, will be able to do so. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez.

Mayor Cid made a motion to extend the meeting to midnight. All were in favor.

**E. Resolution in Support of Our State Legislators Bill to Remove the Express Lanes along 826 (N. Rodriguez, the entire Town Council co-sponsored)**

Mayor Cid made a motion to waive the rules of Section 7.2. Councilmember Josh Dieguez seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to support the State Legislators Bills, which is to remove the express lanes until the expansion of the Palmetto happens and we get the project back as promised. The motion was seconded by Councilmember J. Rodriguez.

Mayor Cid made an amendment to the original motion, asking for the Resolution to be a hybrid, where they leave one lane from I-75, one lane in the Palmetto, feeding people coming off the express lane off I-75. Vice Mayor was in favor of the amendment and stated that he would be in support of keeping one lane only of express lane and that he was looking forward to talking to our Legislators. All were in favor of the amendment.

#### **14. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:**

##### **Report on Twitter Live Feed during Council Meetings (Cid)**

Mayor Cid explained that Miami Dade County provides twitter live feed and that he is doing research on this subject matter, so that the Town of Miami Lakes can also provide this service.

#### **15. MANAGER'S REPORTS**

##### **A. Town Mediation**

The Town Manager, Ed Pidermann explained that back in September 2016, the Town Council provided direction to Town Staff to look into the possibility of establishing a mediation process and work as the facilitator by which residents who had issues with other neighbors, would be able to resolve their disputes through an informal process. The Town Manager explained that Town Staff was able to put together a dispute resolution program, which would be setting up the platform for the mediation to take place. The program was included in the Agenda packet, for the review of the Town Council. The cost would be borne by the parties involved and the Town of Miami Lakes would have no exposure.

Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion asking to remove #3, of the types of disputes, from the attached and proposed dispute resolution program and also to remove the section called When The Town is Involved and ask that we consider alternative dispute resolutions for issues regarding residents versus the Town. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-1, with Councilmember Ruano voting in opposition.

##### **B. Discussion of Scheduling of Workshops**

The Town Manager stated that due to the fact that regular council meetings were moved to the third Tuesday of the month, the workshops need to be moved to a different date. After some discussion, the Town Council decided that workshops will be scheduled on the second Tuesday of the month. All were in favor.

The Town Manager reminded the Town Council the regular council meeting in March was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. However, the Town Manager explained that he will be out of town on March 10<sup>th</sup> and respectfully requested for the regular council meeting to be moved to March 9<sup>th</sup>. Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez made a motion to have the Regular Council Meeting on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and Councilmember Ruano seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### C. Town Manager Monthly Police Report

Town Major, Javier Ruiz, provided the monthly crime report to the Town Council. He stated that the Police team has been providing extra protection to the shopping centers and he reminded the residents that during the holiday season, to pay extra attention to the surrounding areas, keep packages in the trunk and to lock it or lose it.

### 16. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

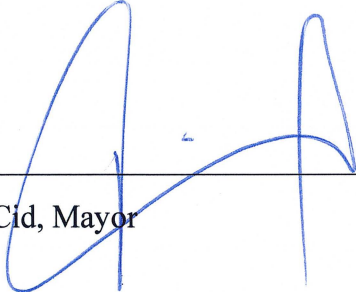
The Town Attorney, Raul Gastesi, stated that they will start having meetings with the Lucida team at the end of the week. He stated that the Developers of Lucida team want to meet with the elected officials individually. He also stated the Pizzi case and the Dawn Jenkins case are both proceeding. Pertaining to the case on the bridges, the Town Attorney stated that two judges have recused themselves.

The Town Attorney stated that he wants to have an Executive Session on the Pizzi matter and also an Attorney- Client Executive Session on the bridges matter. The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella stated that regarding the line of credit, it is necessary to retain bond counsel. The attorney that will be retained to do that work is Albert del Castillo.

### 18. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 12:38 am.

Approved this 21st day of January 2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk

Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk