

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
June 16, 2020
6:30 p.m.
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None

2. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Manny Cid called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll with the following Councilmembers being present: Josh Dieguez, Jeffrey Rodriguez, Marilyn Ruano, Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez and Mayor Manny Cid. Councilmember Luis Collazo joined the meeting at approximately 6:55 pm and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

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

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pledge of the Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Raul Companioni, Troop 584.

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

Mayor Cid moved item 15B, to be discussed after Public Comments and item 11B, after Committee Reports. Vice Mayor Rodriguez moved up 13J to be discussed after 11B. Mayor Cid moved to accept the new order of business and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. All were in favor.

During Public Comments, Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to re-open the Order of Business and it was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez. All were in favor. Then, Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to move up and discuss item 13A after Public Comments. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruano and all were in favor.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

Marcos Gutierrez spoke in support of the Miami Lakes Police Department, and specially of Officer Rodriguez and Officer Hackett; he stated that they were unfairly characterized and treated in the Miami Herald article; he stated that these two officers have always treated residents with respect and professionalism; he asked the Town Council to pass a motion or a resolution, in support of these two officers and in support of the entire Miami Lakes Police Department; that the Town Council should limit their role and stay away from social non-governmental issues, and that our town cannot continue to be divided; he said we should all come together to run a safe town.

Helen Roldan spoke about several different items; she first stated that she is disappointed in several residents portraying the Town of Miami Lakes and its residents as racists and ignorant people; she asked the Town Council to denounce racism, discrimination and that the town should welcome everyone; she stated that she has a friend who moved out of the town because of racial discrimination; she said she was in support of the Cultural Affairs Committee Report regarding the peaceful public expression and support for social and racial justice in a community gathering; she also stated she is in support of Item 13J and in support of the great work the Miami Lakes Police Department does; she suggested a component be added to this item, which was for the Public Safety Committee or the Neighborhood Services Committee also be part of the evaluation process so that there is unity as well.

Suzanne Choopani thanked Mayor Cid and Town Council for placing the Cultural Affairs Committee motion to discuss the possibility of having a peaceful vigil or demonstration to show support for the law enforcement, first responders, and for the families that have been affected from the wrongful death of so many African Americans; she stated that when we see an injustice, we need to speak up and unite our community; that we need to send a message that Miami Lakes supports peaceful protests and fairness to all -regardless of race and that as a community, we are calling to an end to the injustice.

Homero Cruz urged the Town Council to pass a resolution in support of police officers Juan Rodriguez and Steve Hackett and in support of the entire police department of Miami Lakes; he stated that the community is pleased with their work; he stated that the Miami Herald picture taken during the Sunday June 14th protest, did not demonstrate the reality and he stated that the protest was peaceful for the most part; he asked the Town Council to keep government small; that you can disagree with a neighbor and still be friends; he stated that the items proposed in the Cultural Affairs Committee Report are divisive and that the Town Council should concentrate in town issues and keep growing beautifully.

Edward Paez expressed his support for item 13J, and of police officers' evaluations; that in the fiscal budget for Y2019-2020, the Police consumed 51% of our total budget; he added that it is not only our right but duty to make sure this money is spent appropriately and securely; that the

Town Council has a right to make sure that the Vice Mayor's request is answered; to require for public servants that serve Miami Lakes to live in the town of Miami Lakes because this would make the outstanding police force even better; he thanked the Town Council for their leadership and transparency thru the Covid-19 times.

John Lee's granddaughter Cristina, spoke on behalf of her grandfather and thanked the entire Town Council for the motion to co-designate Miami Lakeway South as Reta Lee Way;

Maria Martinez spoke in favor of Officer Juan Rodriguez and Officer Steve Hackett; she stated that her husband and her organized the past Sunday rally (peaceful celebration) to show appreciation for men and women in blue, for our county, our president and our police; she stated that she was aware that these two officer are going to be reprimanded for taking pictures with some participants in the rally and that she was disturbed with the hypocrisy because both officers also took pictures with participants of the BLM protest that took place on June 7 and that they were not reprimanded then; she asked why is it ok for officers to take the knee all of over the country and not ok for them to take pictures during a rally that is supporting our country; she emphasized that these two officers only kept the peace during the rally and should not be reprimanded.

Lynn Matos spoke in support of Mayor Cid's item, the Police Explorer Program; she also came to speak in regards to item 13J; she stated that as a former Chair of the YATF and PSC, former member of the CAC, member of the Veterans Day Parade, former appointee to the Main Street Task Force, member of the first Optimist Club for the Special Needs, current Vice Mayor of the P&Z Board and founder and organizer of the Miami Lakes Food and Wine Festival, she had worked with the ML Police Department and that they are an amazing group of people that serve our town with passion, dedication and professionalism; she spoke highly of Officer Juan Rodriguez and Officer Steve Hackett; she said that instead of having an oversight of their department, she suggested that the town should commend them all for jobs well done.

Ariel Martinez spoke in support of the Miami Lakes Police Department; he stated that he and his wife organized the rally held on Sunday, June 14th; he stated that the Miami Lakes Police Department takes 51% of our budget and is why Miami Lakes keeps the town safe and in order; that instead of scrutinizing the ML Police Department we should commend them for their great work; he thanked Officer Rodriguez and Officer Hackett and denounced the professional political hit job that the Miami Herald did on these town officers; he also mentioned that by making police officers take the knee, degrades their authority; he urges and supports that Town Council passing a resolution that no action be taken against these two officers.

Brandon Thomas called and stated that he is one of the few black residents of the town; he stated that he is disappointed with the lack of response from the Town Council regarding the nation's current climate; he stated that he has been a resident since 2006, he attended Bob Graham Education Center and that he contributes to our thriving businesses; he expressed that he is highly educated because of this town yet he feels that he does not matter to this town; that his community has taken a backseat and therefore, he believes that the Town Council needs to be proactive; he is in favor of passing 13J and that the Town Council address the human issue that will portray a sense of solidarity about residents like him; and he asked the Town Council to remember that your town black lives matter.

Susana Garcia called to speak in support of item 13J; she stated that she has respect for law enforcement but has concern over the social backlash in our town; she feels that item 13J has to do with police oversight but that it does not go far enough; she mentioned that the town does not have much recourse over the department's disciplinary matters for the collective bargaining agreement and that they need to be held accountable for their actions; she also mentioned that when residents congregated to exercise their 1st Amendment rights, they were seen as a threat to the community; she also asked the Town Council to review the Town budget and ask why 51% of the budget is designated to the police; that Miami Lakes needs to revisit their agreement with the Miami Dade County and ensure that they bring transparency and accountability.

Jim Powell, son-in-law of the late Reta Lee, called to speak in support of the item of 13A, co-designating Miami Lakeway South as Reta Lee Way. He was very appreciative for this item.

Anisbel Vilorio called to speak in opposition to the request for the resolution in favor of the police officers; she stated that police officers are supposed to protect and serve the community in general and not behave in a partisan and divisive manner during the rally that was supposed to be about a flag day or police force; she stated that they were unprofessional and that the June 14th rally was not a peaceful demonstration because journalists were harassed by Miami Lakes residents; that people were holding microphones and calling them communists and delivering homophobic messages and attempting to discredit the Black Lives Matter movement; that the Black Lives Movement seeks to end racism and police brutality; that if the June 14th rally was about celebrating the police force -why did the majority of the people have Trump flags and shirts?; she stated that she went to high school in in Miami Lakes and that she still lives in Miami Lakes; that she knows many families in Miami Lakes that make racist and homophobic and bigoted comments; that everyone needs to reflect on this in order to move forward and improve the town and make it more inclusive.

Ivette A. Paganis called and stated that people can agree and agree to disagree; that people have their own ideals and that in this country, we are free to have our own opinions and we are free to protest; whether it turned to be a Trump rally or not is regardless because everybody has a right to protest; its in the US Constitution; everyone is entitled to have their own opinion.

Mayor Cid stated that every speaker would have 30 extra seconds to speak; Mayor Cid clarified that because one speaker was given the chance to speak a few seconds beyond the three minutes, everyone was going to have 30 additional seconds to speak.

Alex Melo called and spoke about his concerns regarding the 1st Amendment rights for photographing officers; he explained that filming police officers while performing their police duties is protected under the 1st Amendment; that he is a former police officer and that he is in support of a motion to commend the great police officers that we have in the Town of Miami Lakes; he also mentioned that we have to go back to the PBA when it comes to these issues and reach out to the PBA union.

Claudia Luces called and spoke about the Miami Herald article; she stated that she was disturbed to find out that the article had portrayed these two fine officers as Trump supporters – when that information was never confirmed - it was just an assumption; she stated these two officers have worked for our community for a long time, that our kids and residents know them well and to take a picture with them is no big deal; that this was being blown out of proportion; that this is

a divisive time and it saddens her to know that this is being brought into our town and that this is playing partisan politics; she emphasized that she will do whatever it takes to defend both officers; that they go above and beyond; that they do our traffic detail work and that we should not forget the many abuses that police officers are putting up with; both of these two officers – Juan Rodriguez and Steve Hackett – should be commended and not reprimanded; she said that what was written about them was unfair and that the Town Council should recognize them for their above and beyond work.

Ariel Martinez reaffirmed and restated that the gathering on Sunday, June 14th was not a protest, that it was a rally to thank the police officers and to honor the US Flag – because it was Flag Day; that it coincidentally was also the President Trump’s birthday and also the 240th anniversary of the United States of America; that the Town Council works for the legal residents of the Town of Miami Lakes.

Maria Martinez restated that the Sunday, June 14th rally was to say loud and clear that all lives matter; that if it’s ok to take pictures with BLM groups, it’s also ok to take pictures with other groups that love America; that it’s not a crime to celebrate the American flag, nor the birthday of our president; that it was a peaceful rally to celebrate our country and our officers.

Anisbel Vilorio stated that there is a difference between taking pictures with signs in support of our president vs. kneeling in solidarity with a movement that seeks to end racism and police brutality are very different things; she also mentioned that there is an investigation going on as to whether these two officers violated departmental policy.

Homero Cruz pointed out that during the rally, some individuals carrying BLM signs were not residents of the town of Miami Lakes but residents of the county; he stated that people were alleging they are residents of the Town of Miami Lakes but they are not.

Roberto Alonso, Jr., via pre-recorded public comment, thanked public servants for working hard during the COVID19 pandemic and most recently, during the riots; he stated that as former Chair of the Public Safety Committee, he understood it was important for him to opine on item 13J. He stated that in social media it had been posted that these two officers were going to be disciplined and that he was concerned with the item 13J and the treatment that our police officers are going to start receiving; he emphasized that these are times to create unity and not division; he also mentioned that police officers go thru a very thorough background check, yearly reviews in county level and he explained the power the town has to remove any police officer that is not doing the right things for our town; he stated that we have one of the best police departments in the state and that what happened to George Floyd is horrific but that we need to recognize the work our officers do and educate our community with what they do; if you find bad apples – lets get rid of them and God bless our officers, our town and the USA.

Yessenia Leyva called and stated that as the liaison of the Special Needs Advisory Board and a person with a disability, she advocates for inclusion and diversity and stated that we need work together; that disability does not discriminate and that we need to be united.

Mayor Cid said that we need justice for George Floyd, for his family and his memory and that we need to practice empathy; that we need to put ourselves in other people’s shoes and see with

their eyes; and that we need to sit down with people that we specifically disagree with and walk in their shoes; that empathy has the power to change the world.

7. APPOINTMENTS:

Dr. Juan Berek for the Blasting Advisory Board by Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez

Mr. Marcos Gutierrez to the Sports Hall of Fame by Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez

Mr. Stanley Lichaj to the Public Safety Committee by Mayor Manny Cid

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to approve the appointments and it was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. All were in favor. Councilmember Alvarez and Councilwoman Ruano were absent.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Special Needs Advisory Board

The Chair of the SNAB, Ms. Vivian Levy presented the Committee's report.

2. Cultural Affairs Committee

The Chair of the CAC, Mr. Neil Robinson, presented the Committee's report. He explained that at the last CAC meeting, the committee passed two motions to be recommended to the Town Council. Chairman Robinson explained that the committee would like a peaceful public expression in support for social and racial justice (a gathering-vigil, march or a plaque) and asked the Town Council to support Gay Pride Month by allowing the Gay flag to be flown at Town Hall. These two motions were presented to the Town Council.

After much discussion, Councilmember Dieguez asked Chairman Robinson to go back to the Committee and ask Committee Members to figure out what the vigil would look like and to come back to the Town Council with a report on how they feel about it and how they want to proceed on this matter, to start figuring out what that programming would look like, so we can have a more informed discussion about what the CAC has in mind; to see something more in detail. Chairman Robinson thanked the Town Council for their input, their sensitivity and receptivity and for sharing options that he will discuss with the CAC.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- May 19, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

Approved on Consent.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO UTILIZE THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES CONTRACT IFB 2019-031 WITH E-SCRAP, INC FOR ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING SERVICES, PURSUANT TO SECTION 7 OF ORDINANCE 17-203 (THE TOWN'S PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE); AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Pidermann)

Approved on Consent

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF MANAGED PRINT SOLUTIONS AND ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY RELATED PRODUCTS ON AS NEEDED BASIS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO UTILIZE REGION 4 EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER ("ESC") CONTRACT R171405 WITH TOSHIBA AMERICAN SOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 7 OF ORDINANCE 17-203 (THE TOWN'S PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE); 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)

Approved on Consent

- 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 UNITED STATES, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, REBUILD FLORIDA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-MITIGATION CRITICAL FACILITY HARDENING PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE REBUILD FLORIDA CDBG-MIT CRITICAL FACILITY HARDENING PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Pidermann)

Approved on Consent.

E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER PURSUANT TO CONTRACT 2017-32(M) FOR MISCELLANEOUS ENGINEERING SERVICES, WITH MARLIN ENGINEERING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND AND 24/100 TO COMPLETE STREET IMPROVEMENTS ALONG NW 15d and NW 153 STREET; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE WORK ORDER; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Pidermann)

Approved on Consent

F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MAYOR CARLOS A. GIMENEZ AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA TO TRANSFER CORONAVIRUS AIR, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT "CARES" ACT DIRECT FEDERAL FUNDS RECEIVED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES AND TO OTHER UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TOWN CLERK; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE(Pidermann)

Approved on Consent

G. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH THE PROPERTY APPRAISER FOR ACCESS TO EXEMPT INFORMATION MAINTAINED BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.(Pidermann)

Approved on Consent.

10. ORDINANCE – FIRST READING:

None.

11. ORDINANCE – SECOND READING:

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 3, RU-TH TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT, SEC. 13-444, DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Cid)

The Town Attorney read the title of the ordinance into the record.

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

The Town Manager presented the item and explained that this ordinance allows the use of synthetic roofing materials for use in single and two-family residences, providing the synthetic materials resemble the neighboring tiles.

Mayor Cid moved the ordinance in second reading and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed 6-0. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE VI, DIVISION 1, CREATING SECTION 13-1617, SCHOOL FACILITIES SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS, 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 read the title of the ordinance into the record.

The students of Miami Lakes Middle School Legal Studies Group presented a PowerPoint presentation titled Safe Place in School and they explained that the proposed ordinance in 1st reading will establish commercial and residential buildings to be at a safe distance away from school in order to prevent any incident to happen in the future. They also explained that the inspiration for this ordinance came from the Lucida project, currently being built next to Bob Graham Education Center.

Mayor Cid made a motion to move forward the ordinance in first reading and it was seconded by Councilmember Collazo.

The Town Council asked questions to staff, regarding future businesses that would require business licenses in locations that are close enough to the school, such as Royal Oaks Shopping Center and the Windmill Gate shopping Center. Councilmember Ruano asked if Town Staff had identified any property that could fall under this scrutiny. Also, she asked if there are any legal ramifications due to the Town taking rights away from these property owners or diminishing the value of their property; she also asked if the Town could be sued. The Town Attorney stated that his concern with the alcohol sales, so he suggested tweaking the ordinance and said he would look into these concerns before second reading.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed approving the ordinance in 1st reading, 7-0. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

12. RESOLUTIONS:

None.

13. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Honoring Reta Lee (Dieguez, co-sponsored by all Town Council)

Councilmember Dieguez presented the item and acknowledge the life, the work and the memory of Ms. Reta Lee. The councilmembers shared beautiful words and sentiments towards Ms. Reta Lee and her family and unanimously agreed to co-sponsor this item.

Councilmember Dieguez then made a motion co-designating Miami Lakeway South as Reta Lee Way, in honor of a long time Miami Laker and local legend. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

B. PharmaDrop Boxes (J. Rodriguez)

Councilmember J. Rodriguez explained that PharmaDrop collection systems provide a place to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs to avoid the improper use of these drugs. Councilmember J. Rodriguez explained that after submitting this new business item, he became aware that both local CVS Pharmacies are DEA certified and have a similar program. He decided not to remove or pull this item and decided to create awareness of this great service that is offered by CVS. No motion was made.

C. Police Explorer Program (Cid)

Mayor Cid made a motion to restart the Miami Lakes Police Explorer program. It was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez and Vice Mayor Rodriguez, simultaneously.

Councilmember Collazo supported the item and mentioned that the Town of Miami Lakes should partner up with Station 1 at the beginning phase, until we have the opportunity to get the program up and running. Town Commander Ruiz mentioned that Station 1 had approximately 8 explorers and that Barbara Goleman High School has the program running as well. Town Commander emphasized that the program would start again in January, due to COVID-19 pandemic. Councilmember Ruano supported the item and asked for the funding of this program. The Town Manager stated that it would be embedded in the next year's budget and discussed during the upcoming budget season.

The motion passed and all were in favor.

D. Mental Health Awareness Task Force (Collazo)

Motion by Mayor Cid to waive Section 7.2 of the Special Rules of Order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruano and all were in favor.

Councilmember Collazo introduced his item and explained the importance of the ongoing efforts to continue bringing attention to mental health issues. He explained that he would like to create a Mental Health Awareness Task Force to have representatives of our committee system at the table with some help of mental health professionals, and in a timed limited fashion, come back with recommendations. Councilmember Collazo then proceeded to make a motion to create a Mental Health Awareness Task Force to be comprised of different members of committees from the Elderly Affairs Committee, Public Safety Committee, Veterans Affairs Committee, Youth Activity Task Force, Education Advisory Board, Special Needs Advisory Board, Youth Council and two (2) other mental health professionals appointed into the task force to help guide the committee members in setting up these policies and for them to be able to bring back its recommendations.

It was explained that the Task Force will provide a set of recommendations on how the Town can continue to support efforts to address the stigma associated with mental health treatment and possibly identify gaps and solutions to addressing those gaps in our community. No counseling services to be offered. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez and all were in favor.

E. Property Tax Transparency (Dieguez)

Councilmember Dieguez introduced his item and explained that by illustrating the percentage allocation of where each property tax dollar will help residents understand better how much of the property tax that people pay actually goes to the town and that these illustrations should be included as part of future budget presentations. Councilmember Dieguez made a motion directing the Town Administration to illustrate, moving forward, the percentage allocation of where each property tax dollar goes (Town of Miami Lakes, Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade County Schools, etc.). This illustration requirement will begin with the presentation of the FY 20-21 budget. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

F. Circular Driveway Island Ground Cover (J. Rodriguez)

Councilmember J. Rodriguez introduced his item and explained that he would like for a revision of our Building Code to take place, to allow for other types of permeable ground cover when you are applying for a building permit, or getting it approved, and for actual final approval. He then motioned to discuss the potential amendment to the Town ordinance, to broaden the type of ground covers allowed for center islands to include other types of permeable ground cover such as mulch, decorative rocks, or other landscaping designs. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

G. Independence Day Celebration Music Video (Cid)

The Communications Department was directed to create a celebratory video for the Town's Independence Day celebration. No motion was made.

H. No Building Permits for Gutters (J. Rodriguez)

Councilmember J. Rodriguez explained that the installation or repairing of gutters is considered by many to be a routine maintenance project. Thus, Councilmember J. Rodriguez made a motion to discuss amending a Town Ordinance or the Town Code to remove the requirement of obtaining a permit when installing or repairing gutters. Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion and all were in favor.

I. I. Expanding Miami Lakes Social Media Reach (Cid)

To better communicate with residents and showcase transparency/accessibility to Miami Lakers of all ages, Mayor Cid introduced his item and made a motion directing town staff to look into other social platforms that other municipalities are using and that we are not currently using and to come back to the Town Council with recommendations on any new platforms. Councilmember J. Rodriguez seconded the motion. Councilmember Dieguez asked for Town Staff to come back with their research, opinions and findings regarding security issues/risks. All were in favor.

J. Police Evaluations (N. Rodriguez)

Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to waive section 7.2 of the Special Rules of Order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo and all were in favor.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez stated that he should have submitted this item as a report and not as a New Business Item, so that the Town Commander, Major Javi Ruiz, would have had a chance to explain how the Miami-Dade County Police-Miami Lakes Division recruits and reviews police officer's records that patrol our Town. Vice Mayor Rodriguez clarified that he supports the Police Department and he proceeded to made a motion in full support of Officer Juan Rodriguez and Officer Steve Hackett, and asked the Town Attorneys to draft a resolution acknowledging both officers -which have been major part of our community- that they are essential and have been great role models to our children and residents. He also stated that he is in full support of the police department and directed for Officer Juan Rodriguez and Officer Steve Hackett to be supported and commended for their efforts in keeping the Town safe. He also stated that he does not want these two officers to be transferred from the town. Councilmember Collazo seconded the motion.

Councilmember Dieguez commended all police officers in our town. Then he made an amendment to the main motion, to make it broader, to forward a message to all our police officers, thanking them for their hard work, their professionalism, trying to get peace with everything going on and that all police officers should also get commended for their hard work – and of course, adding language that commends and supports Officer Rodriguez and

Officer Hackett. The amendment to the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez. All were in favor.

After discussion, the main motion passed unanimously. Councilmember Alvarez was absent,

14. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

None

15. MANAGER'S REPORTS

A. Town Manager Monthly Police Report

Javi Ruiz, Town Commander, presented the Monthly Police report. Town Commander Ruiz mentioned that police officers are checking with businesses to make sure they are following guidelines, checking on the parks, responding to the protests that have taken place in the town and that their primary objective has been to ensure public safety and proper traffic flow.

Councilmember Collazo thanked the Police Department for their great work. All councilmembers agreed.

Mayor Cid then asked about the West Lakes Drainage Project. The Town Manager said he would send an email out to the Town Council with a status report regarding this project.

B. Renaming of a Park for Jakey

Mayor Cid presented the item and introduced Mr. Tony Fernandez, the Chair of Youth Activities Task Force, to speak about renaming the 154 Bridge Park phase 1 in memory of Jakey Duque. Mr. Fernandez explained that the Duque family is supportive of this item and that they also like the rendering of the park, which was done by Jake's godfather.

Mayor Cid made a motion to designate the 154 Bridge Park Phase 1 as the "Jackey Duque Park". Councilmember J. Rodriguez seconded the motion. After discussion, it was emphasized that the Town Council would only be approving the name, the location site and the overall concept. All were in favor. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

16. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

The Town Attorney had nothing to report.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Collazo stated that Royal Oaks Park will no longer be the site of the Food Distribution and that now the distribution will take place at the Miami Lakes United Methodist Church. He thanked Pastor Stuart Bodin and the entire team HOPE from the Methodist Church for the food distribution efforts.

Mayor Cid thanked the entire community and restated that we need to continue to empathize as a society.

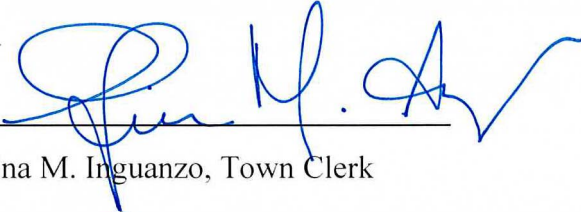
There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 11:38 pm.

Approved this 16th day of June 2020



Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk