

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**November 17, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Government Center**  
**6601 Main Street**  
**Miami Lakes, Florida 33014**

**1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Cid gave a Proclamation to the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes and recognized their efforts in fighting against the worldwide pandemic of violence against women. He congratulated them for celebrating their 100 years as an organization and for their efforts in trying to end child marriages, which is used as a tool in trafficking throughout the world and for trying to eradicate violence against women. He proclaimed November 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 as the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes Day.

Ms. Sally Whitton, President of the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes, attended the meeting virtually and thanked the Mayor and Council for the Proclamation.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Manny Cid called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll with the following Councilmembers being present: Carlos O. Alvarez, Josh Dieguez, Tony Fernandez, Jeffrey Rodriguez, Marilyn Ruano, Vice Mayor Luis E. Collazo and Mayor Manny Cid.

**3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella, led the prayer.

Ariel Fernandez led a moment of mediation from Better You Minute.

**4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Pledge of the Allegiance was led by Councilmember Tony Fernandez.

**5. ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR:**

The Town Council submitted their ballots to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk read the ballots out loud, thereby casting their votes for the election of Vice Mayor.

Councilmember Luis E. Collazo received 5 votes, Councilmember Marilyn Ruano received 1 vote and Councilmember Jeffrey Rodriguez received 1 vote.

Thus, Councilmember Luis E. Collazo became the Vice Mayor.

Former Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez came to the Town Council Meeting, addressed the Town Council and congratulated the new Vice Mayor. He gifted Vice Mayor Collazo the Vice Mayor Badge that was in his ownership for the last two years.

Former Vice Mayor Rodriguez also gave a Badge to Councilmember Tony Fernandez and welcomed him as the new elected official of the Town of Miami Lakes.

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

Mayor Cid asked for Item 14A, 14F and 16C to be moved up and heard after Public Comments. Councilmember Rodriguez pulled Item 10F from the Consent Calendar and Vice Mayor Collazo pulled Item 10E. Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to approve the new order of business and it was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. All were in favor.

## **7. 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.

Mr. Eric Weimer came to the Town Council to speak about the on-going issues with the HOA for Oak Villas. He stated that they have been having flooding issues and explained that because they were unable to park their cars in their properties, residents parked their cars in the streets and their cars were towed. He added that there were no towing signs so residents were not aware of the restrictions. Also, he stated that some residents -including himself, received landscaping violations for violations taking place in the common areas of Oak Villas. He requested assistance pertaining to this matter.

Mary Rivero came to the Town Council to speak about the code violation she received because of her having a 19' inch boat in her backyard. She stated that she had her boat there only as an emergency during the weekend. She stated that she would like for the Town of Miami Lakes to consider having an emergency provision.

Miguel Martinez came to the Town Council to speak about Item 14C. He stated that he felt insulted. That he has always assisted the community and that Item 14C should not have been entertained for discussion and he requested the Town Council not to approve it.

Alejandro Sanchez came to the Town Council to speak about Item 14C. He mentioned that he had been awarded the "Volunteer of the Year Award" a few years ago -thanks to his team and committee members. He stated that Mr. Charles Jourdan was also was awarded with this recognition years ago, and that he is not a resident. He spoke on behalf of all the volunteers that

work towards making our community a better place -regardless of where they live. He asked the Town Council to withdraw item 14C from the Agenda.

Ray Garcia addressed the Town Council via zoom. He congratulated all the elected and re-elected councilmembers and thanked the Town Council and public in general for the gratitude they showed him during the election season. He said that blasting is affecting the west side of the community and that the Town Council has his support to work on this matter.

Angel Vazquez came to the Town Council to speak about Item 14C. He congratulated all the elected and re-elected councilmembers. He recognized Major Ruiz and all the police officers. He also recognized and thanked all the participants of the Veterans Parade, the Communication Department – led by Ms. Clarisell de Cardenas, the Veterans Committee and Mr. Fred Senra.

Liliana Tudela addressed the Town Council via zoom and spoke in support of Item 13B – the item granting funds to aid small businesses in our community. She thanked the Town Council for this item and asked for information pertaining to this item so that she can submit the paperwork as soon as possible.

Angelo Cuadra Garcia came to the Town Council to speak about potholes in our streets- that the potholes across the Bob Graham Education Center were not done well.

Rosario Navarro addressed the Town Council via zoom and spoke about Item 14C. She expressed her concern that many volunteers -like Pedro Fiallo, help the community even though they are not residents of the town.

Claudia Luces came to the Town Council and congratulated all the elected officials. She stated that she was disturbed to know about the content of a meeting that took place with Mr. Angel Vazquez, Mayor Cid, Town Manager Pidermann and Major Ruiz. She alleged that in that meeting, Mayor Cid asked Mr. Vazquez to refrain himself from publicly criticizing the Town or anything that occurred with the Town or himself because of his committee chair position; she stated that no one should relinquish their constitutional freedom of speech and that individuals should be able to express their opinions as they see fit. She also added that Item 14C seems confusing.

Larry Borman addressed the Town Council via zoom and spoke about Item 14C. He stated the proposed amendment would discredit some of the volunteers in the Veterans Committee because they are not residents. He stated that at the very least, these non-resident committee members should be grandfathered in.

Written Public Comments- These emails were distributed to the Town Council prior to the Regular Council Meeting:

Hope Reynolds sent an email addressing the Amendment of Town Committees – Item 14C.

Bonnie Cintron sent an email addressing Town Committees – Item 14C.

Bonnie Cintron sent an email addressing the Safe Routes to School Grant – Item 10E.

Mirtha Mendez sent an email addressing Item 14C.

Susana Herrera sent an email thanking the Town and Town Staff for assisting all residents in the battle against COVID-19; the election of Vice Mayor and the Amendment of Committee Rules.

Mayor Cid called for a moment of personal privilege and stated that he does not respond to every random rumor that is posted in social media. However, to clarify the facts about the meeting held with Mr. Angel Vazquez, he asked for Town Manager Pidermann to address this in public.

Town Manager Pidermann clarified the extent of the meeting. He stated that on election day, Mayor Cid received a phone call from Mr. Angel Vazquez., alleging that there might be election fraud going on. Mayor Cid called the Town Manager and informed him about this call. Town Manager Pidermann then called the Police Major Javier Ruiz and they all agreed that it would be best to all meet to understand better what was Mr. Angel Vazquez alleging. Ms. Rosa Marrero, the Assistant to the Town Manager, called Mr. Angel Vazquez to set up the meeting and all parties agreed.

Town Manager Pidermann explained that during the 15-minute meeting, Mr. Angel Vazquez stated that his call to Mayor Cid regarding election fraud had been a joke; that Mr. Vazquez stated that Mayor Cid and him are long time friends and that they discussed several other things during that call. Town Manager Pidermann stated that at the end of the meeting, everyone was very satisfied with the outcome and that they all agreed to move forward and work together. The Town Manager stated that this meeting was not called to discuss about the comments Mr. Angel Vazquez made in social media.

## **8. APPOINTMENTS:**

Nayib Hassan was nominated to the Veterans Committee by Councilmember Marilyn Ruano

Angelo Cuadra Garcia was nominated to the Blasting Advisory Board by Councilmember Josh Dieguez.

Raymond Garcia was nominated to the Blasting Advisory Board by Councilmember Tony Fernandez.

Councilmember Alvarez made a motion to approve the appoints and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Collazo. All were in favor.

Mayor Cid called for a moment of personal privilege and stated that it is very nice when all people work together and are congenial to one another; he pointed out that although the election was contentious, his wishes are for Mr. Nayib Hassan, Councilmember Tony Fernandez, Mr. Raymond Garcia and Councilmember Marilyn Ruano to be congenial and work together.

## **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Blasting Advisory Board**

Chair Miguel Martinez addressed the Town Council and spoke about the three follow-up questions included in the committee's report. He stated that the Committee is kindly requesting an informative Town Hall meeting to take place in Council Chambers, in order to educate the public better and provide background information.

He also stated that the committee would like to organize a small and not costly trip to Tallahassee to lobby against the effects of the blasting in the community. Chairman Martinez also stated that the BAB would like for the TOML to be more active- that more exposure is needed and that the TOML needs to better promote the BAB.

Mayor Cid made a motion to approve and move forward with everything that was requested by the BAB. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

### **B. Elderly Affairs Committee**

Chairwoman Dottie Wix addressed the Town Council via zoom. She thanked her committee, the volunteers and the restaurants. She requested for a reallocation of funds between categories to take place; for \$2,500 from Boxin, \$6,000 from Senior Field trips and \$12,000 from Senior Social to be allocated to the METET line item, to continue hosting the Traveling Bingo Luncheons. The total transfer of funds to be for \$20,500.

Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to approve the request and Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion. All were in favor.

## **10. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Vice Mayor Collazo moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approved on Consent.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; RECOGNIZING THE GROWING PROBLEM OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CALLING FOR THE ADOPTION OF IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM AS AN IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL TOOL TO ADDRESS ANTISEMITISM; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (N. Rodriguez)**

Approved on Consent.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; RECOGNIZING THE GROWING PROBLEM OF DISCRIMINATION OF PERSONS OF RELIGIOUS FAITH IN THE UNITED STATES AND DENOUNCING ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION AND PERSECUTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (N. Rodriguez)

Approved on Consent.

- D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF OFFICE SUPPLIES ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO UTILIZE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES STATE PURCHASING CONTRACT 44111513-17-01 WITH STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL, INC AND OFFICE DEPOT 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.

- E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Pidermann)

Vice Mayor Collazo pulled this item for discussion. Vice Mayor Collazo spoke about the issue of a speed zone and that that school is the only one in Miami Lakes that is not protected by a speed zone and he emphasized that he would want that school (Miami Lakes Educational Center) to have a 15 mile per hour speed zone. Town Manager Pidermann explained that Miami-Dade County requested a study to be done prior to the speed zone installation and that the School Board initially approved to have the study funded; he explained that the Town of Miami Lakes has already entertained discussions with Miami Dade County about this matter. Vice Mayor Collazo also emphasized that regarding the Safe Routes to School project, he wants the existent tree canopy to be protect and preserved. Town Manager Pidermann acknowledge this. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

- F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, TOWN COUNCIL, APPROVING A JURISDICTIONAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR RIGHTS OF WAY ALONG N.W. 77th COURT, FROM NW 82nd AVENUE TO NW 154th STREET; AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE JURISDICTIONAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Councilmember Rodriguez pulled this item for discussion. He stated that this transfer was brought about because of a discussion introduced by Councilmember Dieguez regarding traffic calming devices near the K-9 Cove Park. He stated that FDOT offered to transfer jurisdictional authority of NW 77<sup>th</sup> Court to The Town of Miami Lakes and that this was already done. However, Councilmember Rodriguez explained that the Town of Miami Lakes still has to ask for approval to install traffic calming devices. Thus, Councilmember Rodriguez opined that the Town Staff should foster having a discussion with Miami-Dade County to have a blanket authority agreement on any residential road that we maintain and have authority to put traffic calming devices on our own residential roads. He proceeded to make a motion to approve item 10F with an amendment, directing the Town Staff to negotiate an interlocal agreement with Miami-Dade County, for blanket authority to install traffic calming devices on residential roads. Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-2; Councilmember Fernandez and Councilmember Ruano voted in opposition.

## **11. ORDINANCE –**

- A. AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, MODIFYING THE BUDGET APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 20-269; AMENDING THE TOWN'S FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.(Pidermann)

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

Town Manager Pidermann explained that this is an Emergency Ordinance and that it is required to be read only once. He explained that this has to be completed by the end of December 31<sup>st</sup> and that it has a companion item, which is Item 13B. He explained that this item is a budget modification to create the Small Business Granting Program in our budget. The program is to allocate \$10,000 grants, to award the grants to 50 different businesses and that applicants will have to meet the eligibility criteria. Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to approve the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Collazo. The Town Clerk called the roll and the ordinance passed 7-0.

## **12. ORDINANCES- SECOND READING:**

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO PERMITTED MATERIALS FOR TOWNHOUSE, SINGLE-FAMILY AND TWO-FAMILY CANOPIES AND ACCESSORY BUILDINGS; AMENDING CHAPTER 13, "LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE", AT ARTICLE I, "IN GENERAL", AT SECTION 13-1, "DEFINITIONS AND REFERENCES", AND AT ARTICLE IV, "ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS", DIVISION 3 "RU-TH TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT", AT SECTION 13-442, "DEFINITIONS", AND AT ARTICLE V, "ALLOWABLE ENCROACHMENTS INTO THE REQUIRED YARDS AND EXCEPTIONS TO THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED HEIGHTS" AT SECTION 13-

1502, "ACCESSORY BUILDINGS", AND AT SECTION 13-1506, "CANOPIES" PERMITTING ALUMINUM AND SYNTHETIC MATERIALS IN A STYLE THAT RESEMBLES WOOD CONSTRUCTION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (J. Rodriguez)

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, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Town Manager Pidermann stated that this is the result of a new business item that was brought back in August 2020, to allow canopies to be made of aluminum and synthetic material and about the requirements that those canopies are required to have. Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to approve Item 12A, ordinance in second reading. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion all were in favor.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the ordinance in second reading passed 7-0.

### **13. RESOLUTIONS:**

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE PROVIDER SERVICES TO UNITED HEALTH CARE; 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)

Town Manager Pidermann explained that this year's renewal came back at 35% higher than the current year's premium. He explained that a national network of doctors will be provided and that the schedule of benefits will be comparable to the benefits Cigna has provided in the past. He stated that United Health Care met all the criteria and at a 16% savings (\$179,000) from our current year's premium. Mayor Cid and Town Manager Pidermann thanked and praised Ms. Cynthia Alejo, HR Specialist, for a great job done pursuing a great health plan for our employees. Vice Mayor Collazo made a motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed unanimously.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND ESTABLISHING THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM, FOR ELIGIBLE BUSINESSES IN THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES IN RESPONSE TO ECONOMIC INJURIES CAUSED AS A RESULT OF THE CORONAVIRUS ("COVID-19"); AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN



MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Pidermann)

Town Manager Pidermann introduced the item and stated that it is the companion item of Item 11A; that this item is about the authorization to award the grants and issue the money.

Councilmember Rodriguez motioned to move it and it was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez.

Tony Lopez, Deputy Town Manager, explained the program overview and the criteria that will be used in this grant program, as it was included in Exhibit A of the Agenda Packet. He stated that the eligibility criteria models what other cities are using in their small business grant program application process. He explained that small businesses will need to meet one of the three following economic hardship programs: loss of revenue, rental assistance and mortgage assistance.

Councilmember Rodriguez made six separate amendments to the main motion. The first amendment dealt with the loss of revenue; Councilmember Rodriguez motioned for the loss of revenue requirement to be lowered from 25% to 15%. This motion was seconded by Mayor Cid. All were in favor.

Councilmember Rodriguez made a second amendment regarding the merit-based process for loss of revenue. Councilmember Rodriguez motioned to amend the program to award the grants to the applicants with the highest% of loss of revenue as demonstrated thru their application. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. All were in favor.

Councilmember Rodriguez motioned to amend the rental assistance and mortgage assistance capped to \$5,000 instead of \$10,000, thereby incentivizing applicants to apply under the loss of revenue category where we can quantify. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Collazo and all were in favor.

Councilmember Rodriguez motioned to amend the eligibility criteria #4, which entails that businesses must have been in business by March 2019” – for this requirement only to apply to applicants that are applying for the grant under the loss of revenue criteria. Councilmember Dieguez seconded this motion and all were in favor.

Councilmember Rodriguez motioned to amend the eligibility criteria #6, to increase it from 10 or less employees, to 20 or less employees, at the time of application. Mayor Cid seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Councilmember Rodriguez motioned to amend the eligibility criteria #7, where it says “be in good standing with the Town’s Building Code Compliance and Finance Department” and instead only have this requirement apply prior to March 1, 2020. Councilmember Alvarez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mayor Cid made a motion to have 100% of the grant money to go to the small businesses. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion. After discussion, Councilmember Ruano stated that maybe allocating \$12,000 out of the \$52,370.00 for administrative costs associated with the grant, could be feasible. Town Manager Pidermann agreed that up to \$12,000 to be paid for administrative costs and only claim staff time if there are no more grants to be awarded. After discussion, Mayor Cid then withdrew his motion.

Councilmember Ruano then motioned to change the language from \$500,000.00 to \$540,000 to expend budgeted funds and \$12,000 for administrative costs associated with the grant, with the leeway that if at some point we maximize the amount of applicants that we receive, we can claim staff time. Mayor Cid seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Town Clerk called the roll on the main motion, as amended 7 times, and the motion passed unanimously.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, MODIFYING THE BUDGET APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 19-251, AND AMENDED BY ORDINANCE 20-258 AND 20-267 ; MODIFYING BUDGETED LINE ITEMS; 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)

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

Town Manager Pidermann explained that this resolution is an annual event that needs to happen by State Statute 166.241 (5). Councilmember Dieguez motioned to approve this item and it was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. All were in favor.

Vice Mayor Collazo thanked the Town Manager, Town Staff and all his colleagues for the great work during this tough year and for making good decisions regarding the budget.

## **13. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **A. Serenity Pointe (Cid)**

Mayor Cid introduced his item.

Vladimir Jaen, HOA President from Serenity Pointe, stated that he loves living in Miami Lakes and has been a resident for 17 years. That Serenity Pointe is a private community but that the streets and street signage belong to the Town of Miami Lakes. He requested assistance for his community regarding the faded signage and street bumps. He also mentioned that some people believe that the west side of the town has been forgotten by the Town Council.

Mayor Cid made a motion to immediately fix the street signs and fix (paint) the stripping on the streets of the Serenity Pointe community and using a portion from the Town Reserves line item. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez.

Councilmember Dieguez made an amendment to the main motion and moved for all street signs in the west side of the town to be replaced- not only in Serenity Pointe. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the amendment. After additional discussion about the

budget implication, Councilmember Dieguez withdrew his amendment, and explained that he would like to gather more information about budget implications and then discuss it further under Item 14G.

Town Manager Pidermann stated that the Public Works Department has provided him with a tally of an assessment of signs that need replacement. He stated that 79 signs town wide, need to be replaced. The approximate cost would \$13,000-\$14,000.

The main motion passed unanimously.

#### **B. Swale Protection (Dieguez)**

Councilmember Dieguez introduced his item and explained that the City of Miami Springs has an interesting ordinance that gives homeowners the ability to have two ways of dealing with the unauthorized vehicles -report to Code or contact the Police Department. Councilmember Dieguez then made a motion directing Town Staff to develop an ordinance to change the Town Code, to provide for an added layer of protection for homeowners so they can go ahead and protect their swale areas; to draft an ordinance in line with section 96-70 of the City of Miami Springs. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Collazo. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **C. Amendment of Committee Rules (Fernandez)**

Councilmember Fernandez introduced the item about non-resident members serving on committees. He explained that up until March of 2015, committee members were in fact categorized and encouraged to be in committees, but in an advisory capacity. Thus, Councilmember Fernandez made a motion to revert the Committee Rules to how they were before March 2015; to allow only residents who meet criteria (a) or criteria (b), serve as full voting members of a committee and for individuals who do not meeting criteria (a) or (b), to serve as nonvoting advisory members of the committee. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the motion for discussing.

After a thorough discussion, the motion failed 1-6; Councilmembers Alvarez, Dieguez, Rodriguez, Ruano, Vice Mayor Collazo and Mayor Cid voted in opposition.

#### **D. Public Gathering on Streets and Rights-of-Way (Ruano)**

Councilmember Ruano introduced the item and explained that during early voting 2020, she witnessed many individuals playing music and having a “party” on the streets, while obstructing the traffic flow on 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Councilmember Ruano expressed her concern for public safety and then made a motion for Town Staff to bring forth a plan to handle and better address these situations in the future and also look into the possibility of maybe restricting these gatherings or possibly even changing the early voting election site to another better suited location, to improve the public safety issue. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez.

The motion passed 6-1; with Mayor Cid voting in opposition.

#### **E. Committee Rules and Procedures (Collazo)**

Vice Mayor Collazo introduced the item and explained the importance of supporting material in budgetary line items to always be included as part of the Agenda packet and for this language to be included in the Committee Rules. Vice Mayor Collazo then proceeded to make a motion for there to be supporting documents any time committees come forward with any budget requests. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez. Councilmember Dieguez summarized that if no supporting documentation is provided, no request should be brought forward – that default would be that if no documentation is included, no request to be included in the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Mayor Collazo then made a motion requesting a Workshop on Committee Rules to be held, in order for committee members to be able to opine and the rules to be updated. Councilmember Alvarez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

#### **F. Pembroke Pines Police Department's Special Needs Registry (Cid)**

Mayor Cid introduced the item and asked IT Staff to play the YouTube video from the Pembroke Pines Police Department.

Vivian Levy, Chair of the Special Needs Advisory Board, via zoom, spoke about this program and stated that it is very needed in all towns. She would like for the Town of Miami Lakes to take a lead on this and for other municipalities to follow.

Mayor Cid made a motion approving this program in the Town of Miami Lakes in partnership with the Special Needs Advisory Board. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

#### **G. Review of Street Signage Condition and Policy for Inspection and Replacement (Fernandez)**

Councilmember Fernandez introduced the item and explained that some street signs in the west area are washed out. He stated that he wants the signage to be repaired and for a plan to be put into place, so that it gets budgeted accordingly, and for a policy to be put into place for the future.- to prevent issues and be more proactive. He motioned to find \$14,000 to fix the signs that need to be replaced and to make sure that we put a plan in place town wide to budget in the future accordingly. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alvarez.

Councilmember Alvarez then made an amendment to the main motion and requested for Town Staff to come back with a report on all streets that need stripping of lanes throughout the town, in addition to the street signage inspection. Councilmember Rodriguez seconded the amendment and it passed 6-0; Vice Mayor Collazo was absent.

\*As a point of order, during the discussion of Item 13H, Vice Mayor Collazo noted that he wanted everyone to know that he also voted in favor of Item 13G, although he was not on the Dais.

## **H. Protecting Biscayne Bay (Cid)**

Mayor Cid introduced the item and made a motion in support of protecting Biscayne Bay – he stated that he doesn't want to follow Miami-Dade County's process entirely- that he would like a resolution in support of protecting Biscayne Bay just because one of the town's canals is connected to the Bay. Vice Mayor Collazo seconded the motion and all were in favor. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

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

None.

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

### **A. Upcoming Legislative Session and Town Council Recommended Priorities**

Town Manager Pidermann explained that Mayor Cid and himself met with the Town's lobbyists and their recommendation was to submit projects for appropriations request and then to consider legislative priorities that may deal also with policies or statutory changes that may benefit the Town of Miami Lakes. Town Manager Pidermann asked the Town Council to submit a list of their priorities so that they can be compiled as a master list at the January Council Meeting, for you to adopt or make changes. Once approved, the list can be given to the lobbyists.

Vice Mayor Collazo expressed his desire for the Town Council -as a body- to meet with the new elected officials that represent the Town of Miami Lakes at the state level. He explained that he would like to have three sunshine meetings and have the opportunity to have a dialogue with them about core issues; to also have this opportunity with our new County Commissioner and new County Mayor - to hear from the Town Council as a body. It was discussed that these sunshine meetings should be held, if possible, during the evenings, in order for all councilmembers to be able to attend. It was agreed that these sunshine meetings will be held after the Holiday season.

Mayor Cid stated that his office is coordinating a drive-along tour of the town with some of these newly elected officials and that he would like for all the Town Council to participate in the tour. The drive-along tour will be held in the sunshine and it will be taking place in the next few weeks. It was agreed that in January, the other sunshine meetings would be scheduled.

### **B. Update on the Miami Lakes Shop Local Website**

Ms. Clarisell de Cardenas, Communication and Community Affairs Director, provided an update on the town's economic development website. She explained that this website will provide economic information and businesses resources and she stated that the Localintel business tool is funded by the Economic Development Committee. Ms. De Cardenas explained that the Business Spotlight serves as a useful tool to meet our community's needs

and the vision is to feature businesses of all sizes and to include home based businesses and brick and mortar businesses. The intention is to help promote our businesses and our local economy.

Ms. De Cardenas also spoke about the Scavenger Hunt and about the Best of Miami Lakes 2020 Awards. Mayor Cid thanked Ms. De Cardenas for the good job done with this website.

Mayor Cid made a motion to extend the Council Meeting to 12:15 am. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Collazo and all were in favor.

### **C. Miami Lakes Library Presentation**

Mr. Leo Gomez, from the Miami-Dade County Library system, addressed the Town Council and presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Interior and Exterior Renovation Project to take place in the Miami Lakes Public Library in the near future.

### **D. Town Manager Monthly Police Report**

Javi Ruiz, Town Commander, presented the Monthly Police Report.

## **16. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:**

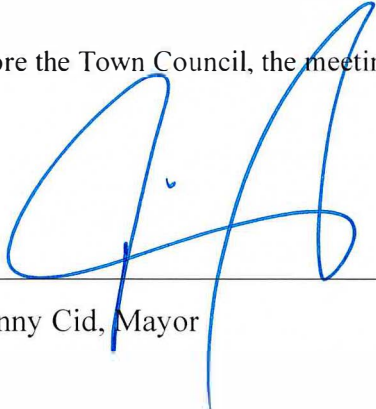
The Town Attorney stated that he filed some motions on the Bridges Litigation case. He asked for two Attorney-Client Executive Sessions to be held in the next few weeks- one for the Bridges Litigation case and another one on the Pizzi case. He requested these Attorney-Client Executive Session to take place on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at 8:45 am or later.


The Town Attorney also mentioned that in the Valiente case, the insurance carrier moved for a summary judgement.

## **18. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 am.

Approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021

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

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