

MINUTES
Workshop on MLOP Workshop Option #3
November 16, 2021
6:30 P.M.
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Present at the workshop were: Mayor Manny Cid, Councilmember Luis E. Collazo and Councilmember Marilyn Ruano. Councilmember Tony Fernandez joined the meeting in person at 7:15 PM. Councilmembers Carlos O. Alvarez joined the meeting via zoom at 7:15 PM.

Also present at the workshop were: Town Manager Edward Pidermann; Deputy Town Manager Tony Lopez; Parks and Recreation Director Jeremy Bajdaun; Chief Financial Officer Ismael Diaz, Town Clerk Gina M. Inguanzo, Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Shepple and Deputy Town Attorney Lorenzo Cobiella.

Ms. Jacqueline Mesa from Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc. was present. She participated on behalf of the of the financing team.

Mr. Kirk Olney from Bermello, Ajamil & Partners, Inc. He participated on behalf of the park project design team and pricing consultants.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

None.

3. Public Comments:

Ms. Hope Reynolds stated she was upset that this workshop was scheduled at the same time of the homeowner's meeting. She explained Miami Lakes Optimist Park is not completely owned by the Town of Miami Lakes and property owners should be only eligible to vote for this bond referendum.

Ms. Bonnie Citron stated only property owners should be voting on the bond and Miami Lakes Optimist Park should have modest improvements. She expressed that her neighbors are interested in this topic. She expressed some residents may not attend because if it's a

formal meeting they may not get their questions answered or will not be able to speak longer than three minutes.

Mr. Ray Garcia stated he is in favor of the Miami Lakes Optimist Park bond option and the park infrastructure improvements. He stated that whether you own property or rent, you should be able to vote on the bond option. He expressed there should be penalties imposed against contractors that do not meet the end date of construction.

Ms. Mirtha Mendez stated she was upset at the councilmembers' attendance at this workshop. She asked how the bond could move forward without a joint use agreement since the park is not completely owned by the Town. She asked why the multi-purpose facilities and splash pads are included in option #3 because originally, they were not.

Mr. Juan Carlos Alonso, a program manager of construction projects, stated he is familiar with these types of bonds. He stated that he has worked on projects like this in Doral and Fort Lauderdale. He recommended to the Town that it needs to receive the actual numbers of the pricing on the big-ticket items from vendors; that he is concerned about the escalation piece, and that he is concerned about some of the pricing of the add-ons because they seem higher than what he has seen. He stated that the Town needs more information on how the numbers were arrived at.

Ms. Claudia Luces expressed that the pricing keeps going up every time the Town Council talks about the Optimist Park. She expressed that the park needs some essential improvements. She asked how paid partnerships will work.

Mr. Jim Hamilton stated that if you pay to go to the Miami Lakes Food and Wine Festival, which is for a great cause, that ticket cost is the equal amount of what individuals will be paying for the bond each year. He expressed the longer we wait to improve the park, the cost will continue to go up. He stated his sports shop will be closing at the end of the year.

Mr. Eddie Blanco stated he is in support of Optimist Park bond improvements and that the community needs to be educated. He stated that parks improve property values and sporting complexes improve economic development. He expressed that all eligible voters should be able to vote on this item and not just property owners.

Ms. Lynn Matos expressed great cities have great parks and if the park had been done long ago it would not cost as much to fix. She expressed if the park continues to be let go, that there is always the possibility of the school board selling the portion of land they own to a developer.

4. Items for Discussion:

Mr. Jeremy Bajdaun gave a presentation about the Miami Lakes Optimist Option #3 buildout and improvements. He discussed the purpose, price factors, level of design and amenities, summary of enhancements and financing. Town Manager Pidermann stated that the Town Council can add or subtract to the enhancement list and that there will be an educational campaign.

Councilmember Collazo and Councilmember Ruano expressed their concern that the pricing of this project will most likely sway voters to not vote for the bond and stated that they fear the Optimist Club will end up with no improvements.


Councilmember Alvarez expressed he is for improving all park recreation facilities at Optimist Park and was in favor for option #3 or #4. He expressed the Town's parks and recreation programming are lacking compared to other cities. He expressed that the bond referendum will allow the majority to decided what is best for Miami Lakes.

Ms. Jacqueline Mesa presented about the millage impact on average homes in Miami Lakes.

5. Adjournment:

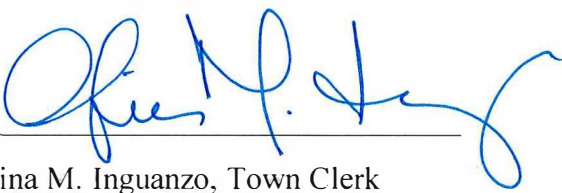
This meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Approved this 11th day of January 2022.



Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk