

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**February 8, 2022**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Government Center**  
**6601 Main Street**  
**Miami Lakes, Florida 33014**

**1. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS:**

Vice Mayor Rodriguez welcomed everyone to the Special Presentations section of the Regular Council Meeting.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez recognized the crossing guards in the community with a proclamation for Crossing Guard Appreciation Day. He then called upon Mr. Gary Cardenas, the head crossing guard, on behalf of all crossing guards in Miami Lakes. He recognized the crossing guards on all their hard work with a proclamation on Crossing Guard Appreciation Day. Mr. Cardenas stated being a crossing guard is a critical role in the community. He expressed that being a crossing guard is so important because they help the children safely cross the roads. On behalf of his team, Mr. Cardenas thanked the Town of Miami Lakes for recognizing all the hard work.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez read the names of all crossing guards in Miami Lakes to thank them for their work and then proceeded to read aloud the proclamation. Councilmember Collazo added that these crossing guards add a sense of security in the community. He also mentioned that the crossing guards bring a sense of community which adds value in the Town. Councilmember Collazo mentioned he walks his children to school every day and his children look forward to saying hello to the crossing guards each time and therefore, he greatly appreciates the team of crossing guards

**2. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll at 6:50 pm with the following Councilmembers being present: Luis E. Collazo, Josh Dieguez, Marilyn Ruano, and Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rodriguez. Mayor Manny Cid was participated via zoom, Councilmember Tony Fernandez joined the meeting at 7:09 pm and Councilmember Carlos O. Alvarez was absent.

**3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Mr. Danny Fiallo of the C Scouts Ship 144 led the prayer.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez asked for a moment of silence for Miami laker and freebee driver Jose Castillo who lost his life earlier in the week.

There was a presentation of Colors by C Scouts Ship 144 Color Guard.

Mr. Ariel Fernandez from Better You Minute, led a moment of mediation via YouTube.

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

The Pledge of the Allegiance was led by Councilmember.

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

Vice Mayor Rodriguez moved Item 14J and 14H to right after Public Comments. Town Manager Edward Pidermann deferred Item 12A to the March Regular Council Meeting.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to adopt the Order of Business as amended and Councilmember Ruano seconded. The motion passed and all were in favor 5-0 with Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Fernandez absent.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to reopen the Order of Business and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The motion passed and all were in favor 5-0 with Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Ruano absent.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to add Item 14K which would be a petition gathering related to the bridges at NW 154<sup>th</sup> Street and NW 170<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Cid seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0. Councilmember Ruano and Councilmember Alvarez were absent. Councilmember Collazo then pulled Item 10C from the Consent Calendar, for discussion.

Councilmember Dieguez then made a motion to adopt the Order of Business as amended and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The motion passed and all were in favor 5-0 with Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Ruano being absent.

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

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, read the instructions of proper decorum that are to be respected and followed during public meetings.

Mr. Armando Bernal came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. He came to speak in favor of the Item 14J proposing the idea of a skate park in the town. He stated that building a skate park has many benefits for children and the community. This skate park will instill a sense of community amongst the teens. He currently has a petition going around to support the skate park as well.

Mr. Sean Schwinghammer came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. He stated that Miami Lakes once had a skate park and it got replaced with the Youth Center and he stated that he believes a skate park would be a good idea. Aside from that, he spoke about blasting. He stated that he is one of the founders of Citizens against Blasting,

that it is a tough fight but that we have to have residents that have been negatively affected by blasting effects – gain some control of their lives. feels as though it is important to stop the DOAH Hearings because it denies peoples’ rights to challenge someone in court when they have been aggrieved. Mr. Schwinghammer added that he knows a group of individuals that would love to work with the Town Attorney to address this issue. He thanked the Blasting Committee for their efforts in trying to better the quality of life of residents.

Ms. Bonnie Cintron came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. She shared with the Town Council an email she sent to Commissioner Pepe Diaz and other commissioners about the bridge issue. She hopes the Town Council will have a strong defense against the bridge opening. Ms. Cintron shared what she believes is going wrong with how Miami Lakes is evolving. She pulled up the Strategic Master Plan of 2015-2025 and stated a lot of projects are stemming from this plan. She believes the Town does not need to grow continuously and feels as though our quality of life diminishes with each new initiative proposed. She believes the Master Plan should be thrown out and a new one should be made to preserve what is already created in Miami Lakes.

Ms. Yessenia Gonzalez came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. She thanked the Town Council for the street renaming for Sgt. Ofren Arrenchaga. She then stated she came forth the Town Council today to speak about Rare Disease Day and the consideration of marketing Rare Disease Virtual Walk and to also include the Special Needs Advisory Board. Then, she asked the Town Council to consider proclaiming February 28<sup>th</sup> as Rare Disease Day.

Mr. Angelo Garcia came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. He came to the meeting to address a few issues he has been noticing around the town to see who can work on resolving them. He also provided the Town Council a few images of one of the issues he noticed in the Town.

Mr. Bryan Morera came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. He mentioned that he was at the Miami Dade County Transportation, Mobility, and Planning Committee hearing that took place earlier today and is happy to report that members of the Town Council and Mayor Cid were fighting the resolution proposed by Commissioner Diaz to open the 154<sup>th</sup> Street bridge. He explained that everyone in the Town already knows the negatives of opening the bridge and he is here to say the town will continue to fight this issue every time it comes up. He reported that the Commissioners moved for this item to move and be presented to the entire Board of County Commissioners. He ended his comments by emphasizing that we need to continue fighting so that the bridge is not opened.

Mr. Steven Herzberg came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. He began by thanking those that went to the Miami Dade County Transportation, Mobility, and Planning Committee hearing earlier today to fight on the issue of the bridge. He then expressed his support to committees/boards and mentioned that he feels it is important to have active members in these groups. He came to make sure everyone knows it is important to have proper funding for these committees/boards for everything they do for the Town. He also added that a skate park is a fantastic idea to keep kids active in the parks.

Mr. Angel Armesto came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. He began by thanking Chairman Miguel Martinez, Secretary Steven Herzberg, Vice Chairman Rodolfo Blanco, and other members for all the hard work they do for the Blasting Advisory Board, the committee that Mr. Armesto is part of. He also thanked the Town Council for empowering the BAB and allowing them to lobby in Tallahassee. He then addressed the issues on the Protection of Town Property Ordinance and some solutions he came up with. He stated that the Town should have a group of Constitutional lawyers tackle the constitutional issues.

Ms. Claudia Luces came to the Regular Council Meeting and participated in-person public comments. She began by thanking those that attended the Miami Dade County Transportation, Mobility, and Planning Committee hearing earlier today and advocating for the residents of Miami Lakes. She stated this will be a difficult fight that we must continue fighting seeing as it will affect our quality of life. She feels as though the Town should organize something to go down there and fight for the Town. She doesn't understand some of the comments made at the BCC. She feels as though the Town should hold off on the investments with Optimist Park until the decision of the bridges is made, more expenses will be incurred, and they need to be looked at before we keep investing in our town.

Ms. Esperanza Reynolds participated in virtual public comments. She began by thanking those that attended the Miami Dade County Commissioners meeting to speak against the resolution that is urging the opening the 154<sup>th</sup> bridge. She urged the residents of Miami Lakes, PSN, FDOT and residents of Hialeah to consider the alternative of ramps that will allow the traffic to flow out of our respective areas. She stated that the will of the people needs to be considered to achieve the consent of the government. She then discussed the use of LPRs in the HOAs of Miami Lakes. She feels as though LPRs should be placed in high crime areas throughout the town rather than the entrance of an HOA.

Mr. Alexander Ariano participated in virtual public comments. He began by saying that thanks to a public records request, he knows there are only two LPRs installed by the Town of Miami Lakes. He stated that there are very few cameras installed in the Town of Miami Lakes and how it is possible to have such a success rate of catching criminals through the tags with such few cameras. He feels as though LPRs at the entrances/exits of HOAs is overkill and a waste of assessments.

## **7. APPOINTMENTS:**

Ms. Madelin Santana to the Cultural Affairs Committee by Councilmember Carlos Alvarez.

Ms. Trinette Zarran to the Cultural Affairs Committee by Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rodriguez.

Mr. Josh Rios to the Youth Activities Task Force by Councilmember Marilyn Ruano.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to move the list of appointments provided by the Clerk and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed 6-0 with Councilmember Alvarez absent.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Chairman Miguel Martinez, along with members of the Blasting Advisory Board presented this report. He began by updating the Town Council on their trip to Tallahassee. He further explained events that took place while the committee was lobbying in Tallahassee. Chairman Martinez also outlined each individual committee they met with while on their trip. He stated the trip was a success and exceeded all expectations. He added the Town must continue to fight for this issue and then proceeded to thank his committee members, the Town Council, Representative Tom Fabricio, Representative Alex Rizzo, Senator Diaz, and those in the community that sent complaints via email.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez thanked Chairman Martinez and his committee members on behalf of the Town Council, for all the work they do on behalf of the residents. Councilmember Dieguez also thanked Chairman Martinez on his leadership for this particular issue because when other failed to step up, he did so.

Committee member Mr. Steven Herzberg added that no one in the State works as hard as Chairman Martinez. He also mentioned that sending emails out to the state works because this is a marathon long fight. Councilmember Collazo added to Mr. Herzberg's last remarks, and he stated that the BAB builds momentum on the frustrations of the residents because they seek a resolution to this problem. Councilmember Collazo then asked if the bill was heard or calendared in committee and Chairman Martinez said not yet; Councilmember Collazo added that is the goal.

Committee member Mr. Bryan Morera emphasized that this trip was a success for the issue, and it also allowed the members to all learn more on the issue to lobby about. He feels as though everything learned on this trip will make next year's trip even more successful. Another committee members added it is important for everyone to follow up with the representative to get anything done regarding this issue.

## **9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

None.

## **10. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Councilmember Dieguez moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez. The motion passed 5-0; Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Ruano were absent.

### **A. Approval of Minutes**

- January 11, 2022 Regular Council Meeting
- January 20, 2022 Attorney-Client Executive Session

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY TO REIMBURSE THE STATE FOR THE COST OF PROSECUTION OF CERTAIN CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES CODE OF ORDINANCES; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT; PROVIDING THE TOWN MANAGER WITH AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH 305 SPORTS, LLC FOR THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT 2022-03 FOR THE BASKETBALL PROGRAM; 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.

This item was pulled from the Consent Calendar for discussion by Councilmember Collazo.

Councilmember Collazo heard this program going to be held at the basketball courts adjacent to the middle school. He stated his main concern is the possibility of there being parking conflicts because the baseball program is always growing.

Town Manager, Edward Pidermann added that if this item passes, that concern will be worked out with the vendor. He explained that at the moment, the vendor would like to have the program weekdays from 5 to sunset, which puts the program around spring or summertime, thus not conflicting with the baseball season. However, he will make sure the item does not create conflict at the park.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to approve Item 10C and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed 5-0 with Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Ruano being absent.

## **11. ORDINANCE- FIRST READING:**

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING

CHAPTER 13, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE IX, TITLED “SIGNS”; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE TOWN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella, read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Councilmember Dieguez explained that this ordinance is to try and make the signage code compliant with the latest decisional law as it pertains to the first amendment.

Councilmember Dieguez then made a motion to approve the ordinance and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo called the roll and the ordinance in first reading passed 4-0; Councilmember Alvarez, Councilmember Ruano, and Mayor Cid were absent.

- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 13, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, SECTION 13-449 TITLED “SWALE AREAS”, AND SECTION 13-1508 “DRIVEWAYS AND PARKING SPACES”; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE TOWN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella, read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Councilmember Dieguez explained this ordinance intends to give homeowners another tool to combat those parked illegally on their swales.

Councilmember Dieguez then made a motion to move the ordinance as written and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo called the roll and the ordinance in first reading passed 4-0; Councilmember Alvarez, Councilmember Ruano, and Mayor Cid were absent.

**12. ORDINANCE IN SECOND READING:**

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 13, SECTION 13-2116, TITLED “PROCESS” OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES CODE OF ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE TOWN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Town Manager, Edward Pidermann deferred Item 12A to the March Regular Council Meeting.

- B.** AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING ARTICLE III, SECTION 2-55 OF THE TOWN CODE TITLED “TOWN MANAGER”; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE TOWN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella, read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Councilmember Dieguez explained that this ordinance includes the change requiring a review of the Town Manager to either renew the contract or begin the process for a new manager six months prior to the expiration of the contact.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to adopt the change and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo called the roll and the ordinance in second reading passed 5-0; Councilmember Alvarez and Mayor Cid were absent.

- C.** AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 13, SECTION 13-2116, TITLED “PROCESS” OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES CODE OF ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE TOWN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella, read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Councilmember Dieguez explained this ordinance is adopting a change to the naming rights ordinance in which it will change the notice requirements, so it is less cumbersome.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to adopt the change and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo called the roll and the ordinance in second reading passed 6-0; Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

### **13. RESOLUTIONS:**

- A.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TOWN’S AMENDED 2015-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICIES AND GOALS UNDER THE 2015-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager, Edward Pidermann stated this item is n result of the retreat they had last year, and it reflects all the changes made during the retreat.



Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to adopt the updated strategic plan and Councilmember Fernandez seconded.

Councilmember Ruano stated that she received requests from the public asking her to workshop this item and allow resident input. She asked if councilmembers were interested in tabling this item and holding a workshop for resident feedback. Town Manager Pidermann added this item is not time sensitive and reminded them that the workshop was scheduled for January but was cancelled due to conflicts with the councilmembers scheduled. Town Manager Pidermann added that the Town Clerk will work with the Town Council to determine their availability and rescheduled the meeting. Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella gave input to table the item.

Councilmember Ruano made a motion to table Item 13A until we are able to workshop it and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed 6-0; Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

#### **14. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

##### **A. Partnership Solid Waste Management (Cid)**

Mayor Cid presented his item and explained that he would like for recycled material to be used as a replacement for concrete slabs around trees so that sidewalks do not crack when roots grow.

Mayor Cid made a motion directing Town Staff to put out an RFP to find a vendor to work with our partners in the County to obtain recycled tires or rubber and break it down so that we can utilize them instead of the concrete around our trees and then be able to work with residents and their approaches. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. All were in favor and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

##### **B. Streetlight Repairs (Ruano)**

Councilmember Ruano presented her item and explained that it was brought to her attention that there are many streetlights in need of repair. She would like for these streetlights to be repaired and for this to come out of the contingency funds. After some discussion, Town Manager Pidermann stated that this item can be included in the carryforward amendment that will be presented in the March Council Meeting and that it will be included under the infrastructure recommendations.

Councilmember Ruano made the motion to include streetlight repairs as an item in the carryforward amendment that will be presented to the Town Council in the March Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez. The motion passed 5-1; Councilmember Fernandez voted in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

##### **C. Taxpayer Savings Study (Dieguez)**

Councilmember Dieguez presented the item and explained that he would like for Town Administration to undertake a study and determine the savings generated by taking Town

buildings off the grid and using solar technology instead. He would like to know what the cost would be for each building to move it off the grid. The genesis of this item is to save the Town money.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion directing the Town Administration to study and evaluate what the cost would be to move every building off the grid and to report to the Town Council the findings and the best option according to Town Staff. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Rodriguez added that Town Administration should include the costs of installing battery backups. All were in favor. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

#### **D. Town Manager Evaluation (Rodriguez)**

Vice Mayor Rodriguez presented the item and made a motion to grant the Town Manager the same increases that Town Staff received in 2020 and in 2021 and the bonus payment that Town Staff received in 2021. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion.

Shortly thereafter, Mayor Cid made an amendment to the main motion, to appoint Mr. Tony Lopez as the Town Manager. The motion failed due to lack of second.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez' motion passed 5-1; Mayor Cid voted in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez fostered a discussion to take place regarding the evaluation mechanism to be used by the Town Council, when evaluating the Town Manager, in regard to the bonus payment. Vice Mayor Rodriguez then motioned for the ICMA evaluation mechanism form to be used by the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. The motion passed 5-1; Mayor Cid voted in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

#### **E. Recognition of Ms. Felicia Salazar (Collazo and co-sponsored by all Town Council)**

Councilmember Collazo presented his item and spoke about long-time Miami Lakes resident Ms. Felicia Salazar. He stated that she designed the Town Seal and is always very involved with town matters and that he would like for a plaque to be placed in Town Hall by one of the Town Seals. The motion was seconded by the entire Town Council. All were in favor.

#### **F. Economic Development (Cid)**

Mayor Cid presented the item and spoke about the need for other grocers to invest in our town. Mayor Cid made a motion to direct Town Staff to coordinate with the Town of Miami Lakes Economic Development Committee and the Miami Lakes Chamber of Commerce to schedule a tour of Miami Lakes with the CEOs of organic grocers such as Whole Foods, Trader Joe's. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Councilmember Collazo made a friendly amendment to add Sprouts and other organic grocers to the list of organic grocers. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The main motion, as amended passed 6-1; Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

#### **G. 154 Street Bridge Opening (Dieguez)**

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to waive Section 7.3 of the Special Rules of Order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. All were in favor.

Councilmember Dieguez presented the item and explained that the BCC met on February 8<sup>th</sup>, during the Transportation Mobility in Planning Committee, and discussed a resolution presented by Commissioner Pepe Diaz, asking the FDOT to open the NW 154th Street bridge over Interstate 75 (I-75).

Councilmember Dieguez expressed his opinion and then made a motion stating that he wants the Town Council to approve a resolution that is equitable for both sides of the bridge and for this resolution to be sent to FDOT, to show FDOT that the Town of Miami Lakes has sincere efforts to resolve this problem. Councilmember Dieguez explained that this resolution will provide a background on the bridge dispute, the County's history with respect to opening the bridge, the Town's opposition, an alternative proposal to equitably resolve this issue- including a study with potential ramps as to the 170<sup>th</sup> and 154 Bridge, as well as other alternatives to resolving that traffic problem. This resolution would be sent to the FDOT and to Florida League of Cities, Miami-Dade County League of Cities and the Board of County Commissioners. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

#### **H. Private Public Partnership Ordinance (Rodriguez)**

Vice Mayor Rodriguez presented this item and called up students from Miami Lakes Middle School to discuss directing Town Staff on developing an ordinance regarding Private-Public Partnerships throughout the Town.

A group of students from the Miami Lakes Middle School Civic Leadership Program presented what private public partnerships are and their benefits. The students also proposed bringing P3s to the Town of Miami Lakes through an ordinance to deliver high quality public services at a low cost to taxpayers.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez and Councilmember Dieguez expressed how greatly the students presented the P3s. Councilmember Collazo thanked the students for taking on this project and expressed how they may continue working together on this item. Councilmember Ruano asked if the students will be present at the P3 workshop and seeing as they said yes, she asked them to brainstorm some downsides to this idea for the Town Council to consider for their ordinance. Mayor Cid commended these students on their forward thinking of P3s benefiting the Town.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez then made a motion to direct Town Staff to work on developing an ordinance regarding public private partnerships in the Town. Councilmember Dieguez seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

**I. Miami-Dade County Sheriff (Cid)**

Mayor Cid presented the item and explained that although the County Commission is still having conversations about what the Miami-Dade County Sheriff is going to look like. Mayor Cid would like for a committee to be created to discuss the upcoming changes. Mayor Cid 'made a motion to pass a resolution creating an Ad Hoc Committee that will analyze the County Commission's Ordinance -once it's finalized- in regard to the elected Sheriff that is fast approaching. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed 4-2; Councilmember Collazo, Councilmember Ruano voted in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

**J. Skate Park**

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to direct Town Staff to analyze the cost of designing and building a skate park at either Veterans Park or the Youth Center Park East. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed 5-0 with Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Ruano being absent.

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to waive section 7.2 of the Special Rules of Order and Councilmember Fernandez seconded. The motion passed 5-0 with Councilmember Alvarez and Councilmember Ruano being absent.

**K. Petitioning Gathering related to the NW154th & 170 Street (Dieguez)**

Councilmember Fernandez motioned to waive Section 7.3 of the Special Rules of Order and the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez. The motion passed; all were in favor.

Councilmember Dieguez presented his item and explained that this item is related to the resolution of the bridge opening at NW 154<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he would like to start a petitioning process in support of opening the bridge but with conditions; he explained that we need other points of connectivity to I-75. Then, Councilmember Dieguez proceeded to make the motion directing the Town Administration to immediately begin a petition gathering program, through change.org, to begin gathering petitions to keep the bridges closed, until meaningful traffic solutions are found. He also added to the motion that once petitions are gathered and closer to the first reading of the resolution -when it goes in front of the entire BCC, to transmit all those petitions to the offices of the BCC so that they can see what we have gathered. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Rodriguez.

Mayor Cid suggested to use all of the Town's social media campaign for this purpose. Councilmember Dieguez agreed to using the Town's social media and also via change.org.

Communications Director, Clarisell de Cardenas provided relevant information about social media and its cost.

Councilmember Dieguez then amended the main motion and stated that he authorizes the Town Manager to spend up to \$5,000 for social media outreach campaign for the petitioning campaign. Vice Mayor Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-1; Councilmember Fernandez voted in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

The main motion, as amended, passed. Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

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

### **A. Update on Zip Code (Dieguez)**

Councilmember Dieguez made a motion to waive section 7.2 and 7.3 of the Special Rules of Order and Councilmember Ruano seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed 6-0 with Councilmember Alvarez absent.

Councilmember Dieguez presented this report and explained one of the federal lobbyists for the Town updated him on what is going on in respect to the zip code. On the side of the House, Congressman Diaz Balart partnered up with Congresswoman Val Demings to get an amendment on the pollster reform packet. On the side of the Senate, they have enlisted Senator Rubio and Senator Scott's office toward our cause to get this item on their pollster reform packet as well.

## **16. MANAGER'S REPORTS**

### **A. Monthly Police Report (Ruiz)**

Major Javier Ruiz presented this report and stated that in the month of January crime was down. He mentioned that there was a shooting reported and the investigation is still open. With that being said, he mentioned that extra personnel will be set up to promote high visibility and deter criminal activity. He reported that his staff is working the Bike305 event patrolling traffic and also participating in the event.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez stated he has received calls from residents in the West Lakes area regarding burglaries and vehicle theft and then he proceeded to ask if the Major has or will increase police presence. Major Ruiz stated they will take a look at it and he also mentioned that in the West Lakes area officers are going to begin walking through to leave flyers. Major Ruiz also added that compared to many years ago there is more reporting seeing as many people now have video footage proving the burglaries.

### **B. Monthly Infrastructure Report (Acosta)**

Public Works Director, Mr. Carlos Acosta presented this report and began by giving an update on the two mid-block crossings; both are progressing well and awaiting FPL to install power. Moving on the stormwater bond projects, the NW 159<sup>th</sup> Ter and NW 166<sup>th</sup> St projects are both working towards the 100% plan development for DERM approval. Mr. Acosta added that the

Canal Bank Stabilization project is progressing well as well as some projects in the West Lakes area. He stated a couple of the drainage improvement projects are in their final stages to closeout and added that with all the rain recently there was no flooding on the streets for NW 83<sup>rd</sup> Pl drainage project. As for facility projects, the police fence is completed and pending the installation of a key box for the fire department. Finally, Mr. Acosta added that roadway maintenance is doing very good.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez thanked Mr. Acosta for reaching out to Miami-Dade County in regard to the repaving of 67<sup>th</sup> to make sure they did not disrupt pickup and drop-off times at Miami Lakes K-8.

### **C. Report on National Flood Insurance Program (Angel)**

Building Director, Mr. Danny Angel presented this report and explained it was a New Business Item presented last year by Councilmember Fernandez where he asked the Town Manager for a study on the potential impact of proposed stormwater improvements on flood insurance to be conducted. Through FEMA, the Town participates in a voluntary incentive program called the Community Rating System and we currently hold a class six rating which provides residents a 20% discount on flood insurance.

Mr. Angel stated that while in consultation with the FEMA representative, the Town can acquire a class four rating which provides a 30% discount if a comprehensive floodplain management document is formulated. His plan in this new cycle is to get a consultant to make a floodplain management document and possibly qualify as class four. Mayor Cid expressed concern of the cost to people to conduct this plan because it is extremely expensive. Mr. Angel gave feedback on the mayor's concern and added that we lose the 20% discount the Town already acquired if we no longer participate in the program.

Councilmember Fernandez added that the Town needs to look at these additional requirements and make sure that they are really effective and that they actually mitigate flood. That a cost-benefit analysis should be done.

### **D. Report on Miami Lakes Section 1 – NSD Straw Poll for LPR's (Bajdaun)**

Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Jeremy Bajdaun, presented the report. He explained that this report is in response to the direction given by Town Council at the January 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting, where the Town Council asked for a cost estimate of a Straw Poll for the residents of the Miami Lakes Section 1, regarding the LPS's. He reported that staff reached out to USPS and that the total budget for the straw poll, at a 100% return rate, is \$1,555.85 and that it is within the budget of the NSD. He answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Councilmember Fernandez made a motion to proceed with installing the LPR's in Miami Lakes Section 1. The motion received a second from Vice Mayor Rodriguez.

After further discussion, Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to amend the motion from Councilmember Fernandez. His motion was to do the following: no straw poll, he gave direction to Town Staff to set up an administrative item at the next NSD meeting, notice to be given and that at said meeting, the NSD Board members to make a decision on the LPR's and that based on their decision, the Town Council will come back in March and make a final decision. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dieguez.

The Town Clerk called the roll and the amendment to the motion passed 4-2; with Councilmember Collazo, Councilmember Ruano voting in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez being absent.

The main motion, as amended, passed 4-2; Councilmember Collazo and Councilmember Ruano voted in opposition and Councilmember Alvarez was absent.

**E. Monthly Report on Miami Lakes Optimist Park (Bajdaun)**

Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Jeremy Bajdaun presented the report and he began highlighting the Food & Wine Festival that took place at Miami Lakes Optimist Park on February 5<sup>th</sup>. He then went on to discuss the JUA on Amendment #10, he mentioned that nothing has been received from the School Board yet; however, he is hoping this will be the last set of exchanges from the School Board. Mr. Bajdaun mentioned Opening Day for the baseball season is the 19<sup>th</sup> and as for the dugouts some materials have not shipped due to a stop of schedule 40. Seeing as he received that information today, he will be looking at alternatives to expedite the project.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez commented that in the Pinto B field, only one side had a bench this past week, so the other team had to sit on the floor. Mr. Bajdaun stated he will look into that and see where the bench got moved to. Councilmember Collazo added he noticed one of the benches in the t-ball field also got relocated. He also mentioned there is a concern with some of the Optimist Club individuals with the lack of certain play areas like the t-ball fields for the growth of children playing at Optimist and he wanted to make Jeremy aware to speak to those members about accommodating that growth.

**F. Report on “Drive Like Your Children Play Here” (Bajdaun)**

Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Jeremy Bajdaun presented the report and explained this item was brought up at the November Council Meeting to create permanent signage around the pocket parks stating, “Drive Like Your Kids Live Here”. The report provided to the Town Council proposes locations, style, and pricing of the project along with its phases. Town Manager Pidermann mentioned this project will be included in the list of projects in the carry forward amendment, to be presented to the Town Council in March.

**17. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:**

Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella presented this report and began by asking for an Executive Session regarding the NW 170th case in the next 1-2 weeks.

Vice Mayor Rodriguez made a motion to move the Executive Session and Councilmember Fernandez seconded.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella then mentioned that next month they should be coming up with a golf cart ordinance along with the help of Town Planner, Susana Alonso. He also stated over

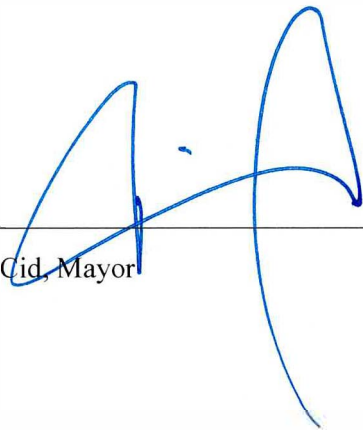
the last few months the communication between code enforcement team, Danny Angel, and the attorneys has been constant which allows cases to be settled quicker.

Councilmember Collazo asked to discuss the oral arguments during the executive session and Mr. Cobiella provided brief feedback on how they went. Then Councilmember Collazo took time to address a situation that occurred in Miami Lakes while the Council Meeting was going on. He explained an individual took his own life as well as his two children and then asked for a moment of silence for that family and the grief they will be going through.

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

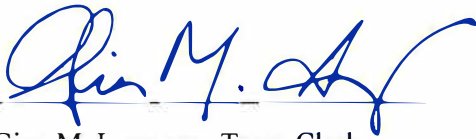
There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022.



Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk