

**TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA**

**COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**May 22, 2001**

Miami Lakes Middle School  
6245 Miami Lakeway North  
Miami Lakes, FL 33014

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order Tuesday, May 22, 2001 by Mayor Wayne Slaton at 7:15 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:** In addition to the Mayor, the following Council members were present at roll call: Vice Mayor Roberto Alonso, Councilwoman Mary Collins, Councilman Robert Meador, Councilman Michael Pizzi, Councilwoman Nancy Simon, and Councilman Peter Thomson. Staff members present were Interim Town Manager Merrett Stierheim; Acting Town Attorneys Richard Jay Weiss and Alison Bieler, Acting Town Clerk Beatris M. Arguelles and Interim Administrative Coordinator Angela Garrison.
3. **INVOCATION:** Mark Caldwell, United Methodist Church offered the invocation.
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Slaton Led the Pledge.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2001 MEETING:**  
  
May 8, 2001 - Councilman Thomson moved the minutes be accepted as submitted. Councilwoman Collins seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
6. **ORDER OF BUSINESS (DEFERRALS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS):**  
Councilwoman Simon asked that an item 10(C) regarding the Miami Lakes Education Board be added to the Agenda. Councilwoman Collins moved to accept the Order of Business. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Alonso. The motion carried unanimously.
7. **PRESENTATIONS:**  
**Miami Lakes Education Board** - Beth Martinez urged the Council to consider developing a Miami Lakes Education Board to review feeder patterns and school boundaries. Maria Kramer urged support of Charter School(s) for Miami Lakes. She also urged support of the ACT program. She suggested that a Board be created made up of seven members, one person appointed by each Commissioner or at least one person from each district.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Angel Gonzalez** - made comments regarding the I-75 Project noting that the proposed ramp is tentatively located on 154<sup>th</sup> Street (Miami Lakes Drive) and not on 170<sup>th</sup> Street as thought by many.

**Jose Enriquez** - regarding decorum, urged that all members of the public be asked to abide by the same rules. He opined that creating a Miami Lakes Education Board is a good idea. Regarding the annexation issue, he asked that correct information be distributed regarding the actual costs for cleanup.

**Michael Pike** - was upset that copies of the Budget were not made available to the public free of charge, citing that staff advised him that copies were available at a charge of \$.15 per page.

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES:**

**A. PURCHASING PROCEDURES (Second Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING PURCHASING PROCEDURES; DESIGNATING A PURCHASING AGENT; PROVIDING FOR LIMITATIONS ON PURCHASES; PROVIDING FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING; ESTABLISHING COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND BID OPENING PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR AWARDING OF BIDS; PROVIDING FOR WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING; PROVIDING FOR EXEMPTIONS FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Acting Attorney Richard Jay Weiss read the Ordinance by title.

Councilwoman Simon moved its adoption as read. Councilwoman Collins seconded the motion. The Mayor closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing. The following resident was heard: Angel Gonzalez - expressed concern over an exemption for professional services. No other residents were heard.

The Mayor Closed the Public Hearing and Reopened the Regular Commission Meeting. Interim Town Manager Stierheim, in answer to Mr. Gonzalez's concern, stated that a separate Ordinance would be drafted in regards to professional services. He noted that meeting criteria would be more important than price when it came to certain types of professional services.

Discussion ensued regarding raising the limits on purchases and other matters. Subsequently, Councilman Meador moved to amend the resolution to include in Section 2. an item C(5) "Invitation to bid shall include a statement that the Town Council may reject any and all bids and may waive any irregularity in the bids or

bidding procedures.” Councilwoman Collins seconded the motion. The motion to amend the ordinance carried unanimously.

Councilman Meador moved that should the situation exist, that “sole source” will be included on the purchase order at the time the P.O. is submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thomson and carried unanimously.

The motion, as amended, carried unanimously on a roll call vote. Each Council Member voted as follows:

**B INTERIM BUDGET (Second Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE INTERIM BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE** Acting Attorney Richard Jay Weiss read the Ordinance by title.

Councilwoman Simon moved its adoption as read. Councilwoman Collins seconded the motion. The Mayor closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing. The following resident was heard regarding the Budget in general: Raul Gestasi, Jose Enriquez and Michael Pike.

The Council reviewed the interim budget and discussed at length appropriations. At the time the Council discussed the Mayor’s salary line item, the Mayor removed himself from discussion and left the room, citing a conflict of interest.

There was a brief recess. When the Council reconvened, Vice Mayor Alonso served as meeting Chairman.

The Council discussed at length the matter of the Mayor’s salary. Vice Mayor Alonso opened the floor to the public for comments. The following residents were heard: In favor of the salary: Raul Gestasi, Trish Morgan and Maria Kramer. In opposition to the amount budgeted: Jose Enriquez, Angel Gonzalez and Paul Bonilla.

The Council continued lengthy discussion and debate. Following two motions, which died for lack of a second, Councilwoman Collins moved that the line item regarding the Mayor’s salary remain as stated in the budget and that a separate Ordinance establishing the salary not be required. Councilman Thomson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion failed due to a tie (3-3) with each Council Member voting as follows: Councilwoman Collins: Yes, Councilman Meador: No, Councilman Pizzi: No, Councilwoman Simon: No, Councilman Thomson: Yes, Vice Mayor Alonso: Yes.

Following additional motions calling for removal of the Mayor's salary, which failed for lack of a second, Councilwoman Simon moved (as stated by the Town Attorney) that an appropriation for the Mayor's Salary and benefits will be footnoted in the budget to state that these are budgeted items with the exact salary and benefits to be paid to the Mayor to be set by the Council pursuant to a separate ordinance. Vice Mayor Alonso seconded the motion which carried unanimously (5-0) with each member voting as follows: Councilwoman Collins: Absent, Councilman Meador: Yes, Councilman Pizzi: Yes, Councilwoman Simon: Yes, Councilman Thomson: Yes, Vice Mayor Alonso: Yes, Mayor Slaton: Absent.

The Mayor rejoined the meeting, as did Councilwoman Collins. The question was called on the main motion to approve the interim budget, as amended. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote with each member voting as follows: Councilwoman Collins: Yes, Councilman Meador: Yes, Councilman Pizzi: Yes, Simon: Yes, Councilman Thomson: Yes, Vice Mayor Alonso: Yes, Mayor Slaton: Yes - however, he abstained from voting on the matter of the Mayor's salary as recommended by the Town Attorney.

**10. RESOLUTIONS:**

**A. PROJECT IMPACT:**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, DECLARING THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES A "PROJECT IMPACT PARTNER" WITH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PROJECT IMPACT COMMUNITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Councilwoman Collins moved adoption of the Resolution. Councilman Thomson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**B. INVESTMENT OF LOCAL FUNDS**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF EXCESS FUNDS IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SURPLUS FUNDS TRUST; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Councilwoman Collins moved to adopt the Resolution. Councilman Thomson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. MIAMI LAKES EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD - Town Attorney Richard Weiss reau**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, CREATING THE MIAMI LAKES EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Councilwoman Collins, on a point of order called for the four-day rule, noting that the Resolution was not in the Agenda packet and that she needed more information prior to voting on the matter.

**11. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT:**

1. **Transition of Services with Miami** - Mayor Slaton noted that next transition meeting will discuss Police Services and that eventually he would like to have a special workshop meeting with the Council to discuss the various issues that will ultimately be parlayed into a contract for police services.

Regarding the Strategic Planning Process, the Mayor stated that implementation will begin within the next few weeks.

**B. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS:**

1. **Town seal, logo, slogan, website** - Councilwoman Collins disseminated a final draft of the Town Seal. The Interim Manager presented two samples of the Seal to the Council, one round and one oval. Councilman Thomson moved that the Council approve the oval shaped seal. Councilwoman Collins seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. **Status report - The Consulting Group** - Interim Manager Stierheim announced that consultants are on target and moving on schedule, adding that he has received the preliminary asset inventory.
2. **Miami Lakes Strategic Planning Process** - Town Meetings will be scheduled, the results of which will be included in the budget for the next fiscal year.

**D. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **BEAUTIFICATION** - Councilman Pizzi suggested that discussion should be included in the Strategic Planning Process.
2. **ZONING PROCEDURES** - Due to time constraints at this meeting, Councilman Pizzi asked that this item be placed in the form of a resolution on the next agenda for discussion.

12. **FUTURE MEETING DATES:** - 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 12, 2001 & June 26, 2001, Miami Lakes Miami lakes middle school.

13.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

Approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2001

*attest:*

  
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Hon. Wayne Slaton, Mayor

  
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Beatris M. Arguelles, Interim Town Clerk