

TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

**COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

July 10, 2001

Miami Lakes Middle School
6245 Miami Lakeway North
Miami Lakes, FL 33014
7:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Wayne Slaton called the meeting to order Tuesday, July 10, 2001 at 7:20 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 Attorney Nina Boniske and Allison Bieler and Town Clerk Beatris M. Arguelles.
3. **INVOCATION:** Pastor Al Pino of the Palm Vista Community Church offered the invocation.
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Slaton led the Pledge.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2001 MEETING:**

Councilwoman Collins moved the minutes be accepted. Councilwoman Simon seconded the motion. Councilwoman Simon asked the Clerk to correct what appeared to be a missing name on page 3, paragraph seven at the end of the paragraph. The Clerk inserted the name Manny Figueroa. Hearing no additional corrections, the minutes were approved as amended, by a unanimous vote of the Council.

6. **ORDER OF BUSINESS (DEFERRALS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS):** Councilwoman Collins asked that an item be added to the Agenda, presenting certificates and prizes to the winners of the Logo/Slogan contest to a time certain of 8:00 p.m.

Town Manager Stierheim asked that item 10(B) Council Meeting & Agenda Procedures be deferred in order to allow Council members to review and make recommendations and changes to the document.

Councilman Pizzi asked that he be allowed to give a report on the new blasting regulations in Tallahassee, before the other items in New Business.

The amended Agenda was approved unanimously.

7. **PRESENTATIONS:** The Mayor announced the winners of the Logo and Slogan Contests and issued prizes (Gift certificates from the Italian Terrace, Regal Theatres and Shula's Steak 2 and for the first place winner, a \$1,000 savings bond donated by the Graham Companies). The following winners were announced: Slogan: First Place: Ericka Gonzalez, Second Place Jenise Romeo and Third place: Haydee Borrero for the Logo: First Place: Martha Zapata, Second Place Humberto Smester and Third place: Priscilla Aleman.

The Mayor also gave certificates of appreciation to the Judges: Dorothy Cook, Diane Greaney and Marlene Naylor:

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No residents were heard.
9. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES:** None nor public hearings held.
10. **RESOLUTIONS:**

A. MPO I-75 INTERCHANGE STUDY:

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO REQUEST FUNDING FROM THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR A MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY – Town Attorney Nina Boniske read the Resolution by title. Councilwoman Simon moved adoption of the Resolution. Councilwoman Collins seconded the motion.

The following residents spoke: Richard McRory, in favor and Raul Gastesi questioned the amount.

Councilwoman Simon reported that the Metropolitan Planning Organization is looking into adding an exit off I-75 into Miami Lakes and that the MPO has asked for the opinion of the Town as to the location for the exit (154th Street or 170th Street). She noted that the resolution would allow the Town to obtain funds to obtain a study to be done that would assist the Town in determining the best site for the exit.

The Town Manager noted that the resolution would require an action on the part of the MPO and an allocation of financial commitment of DOT resources to perform the study. He recommended approval of the resolution, noting that if the Town did not want to spend the matching 20%, that the Town could pull out.

Following discussion among the Council, the motion to approve the resolution carried unanimously.

11. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS:

A. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- 1. Transition of Services with Miami-Dade County** – Mayor Slaton reported that he will be bringing an interlocal agreement for the acquisition of Royal Oaks park for the Council's consideration at the July 24th Regular Council Meeting. He stated that the County will also be considering the agreement at their meeting on July 24.

He also noted that in a Council Workshop, Consultant George Duyos presented the Council with the status of building permitting and code enforcement. He noted that the next step in the process will be to hold another workshop during which Mr. Duyos would make specific recommendations. He suggested that the Council begin to think about how they would like to have the Building and Zoning and Code Enforcement Departments established.

B. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- 1. Miami Lakes Strategic Planning Process** – The Town Manager announced that the Town Council attended the Strategic Planning Retreat over the weekend, noting that the process relates directly to the Budget for the coming year which begins on October 1st. He announced that the dates for the budget workshops and Hearings would be set shortly. He mentioned that the Town benefited greatly from the input from the public at the Strategic Planning Sessions.

C. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. REPORT ON BLASTING** - Councilman Pizzi reported that the State of Florida Fire Marshal has proposed a rule that would essentially increase the allowable peak particle velocity for blasting within two miles of residential areas. He urged the Council to request that the rule be amended to reflect lower particle velocity.

Mayor Slaton asked that Councilman Pizzi draft a document. Councilman Pizzi stated that he would be willing to prepare a resolution to bring to the Council at the next meeting. Each Councilmember stated they would co-sponsor the document.

Councilwoman Collins suggested that the Town ask the Fire Marshal to hold meetings in Miami Lakes to receive input from the residents that are impacted by the blasting.

Councilman Meador suggested opening discussion with the rock mining industry and asked if a dialogue could be opened up in the meantime (since we are a municipality in close proximity to the mining operations,) and suggested if they could consider, voluntarily, operating as they are now, without increasing the intensity and frequencies of the blasting and show sensitivity to the Town.

The Mayor asked Councilman Meador if he would be agreeable to initiating the dialogue. Councilman Meador noted that he would be agreeable, however he suggested the Manager might also be an appropriate individual to handle the matter. The Mayor noted consensus on the Council and asked that the Manager work with Councilman Meador in establishing such dialogue.

2. **BEAUTIFICATION** - Councilmember Pizzi announced a "Wall Painting" project scheduled for Saturday, July 14, 2001. He noted that the pink wall running along 154th Street between 87th and 89th Avenues would be painted and encouraged residents interested in helping to paint should meet at 9:00 a.m. at Barbara Goleman High School.
3. **GRAFFITI** - Councilmember Pizzi distributed a copy of a Hialeah Graffiti Ordinance and encouraged the Council to consider adopting a similar Ordinance in the future.
4. **TOWN EMPLOYEE ETHICS AND ETHICS TRAINING** - Councilman Pizzi asked that the Manager look into including ethics training in the policies and procedures for the Town.
5. **ATTORNEY'S FEES** - Councilwoman Simon expressed concern that the Town might be expending too much in attorney fees. She suggested that the Town explore other avenues. Councilman Thomson requested that the Town Manager give the Council information on what other municipalities have done with regard to the Attorney. The Council concurred.

12. FUTURE MEETING DATES: The following meetings were announced:

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 24, 2001, Miami Lakes middle school.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES TASK FORCE

7:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 11, 2001, Miami Lakes/PSN Public Library, 6699 Windmill Gate Road.

ZONING WORKSHOP - 4:00 p.m., July 12, 2001, Miami Lakes Town Hall

EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD – 7:00 p.m., July 18, 2001, Miami Lakes/PSN
Public Library, 6699 Windmill Gate Road.


13. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Approved this 24th day of July, 2001

Attest:



Hon. Wayne Slaton, Mayor



Beatris M. Arguelles, Town Clerk