

TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

Town Council

Mayor Wayne Slaton

Vice Mayor Mary Collins

Councilmember Roberto Alonso

Councilmember Robert Meador

Councilmember Michael Pizzi

Councilmember Richard Pulido

Councilmember Nancy Simon

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING December 12, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Miami Lakes Middle School

6425 Miami Lakeway North

Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Wayne Slaton called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Town Clerk Debra Eastman called the roll with the following Councilmembers present: Robert Meador, Richard Pulido, Nancy Simon, Michael Pizzi, Roberto Alonso and Mayor Wayne Slaton. Vice Mayor Mary Collins joined the meeting at 8:05 p.m.
3. **INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Mayor Wayne Slaton asked for a moment of silence.
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Wayne Slaton led the pledge.
5. **PRESENTATIONS:** The Miami Lakes Soccer Club presented the Council with an award and expressed gratitude for use of the soccer field.
6. **ORDER OF BUSINESS (DEFERRALS/ADDITONS/DELETIONS):** Councilmember Robert Meador requested that his name be added as a sponsor to item 14. Councilmember Richard Pulido requested to pull item 8E from consent. Councilmember Nancy Simon moved to accept the agenda as amended. It was seconded by Mayor Wayne Slaton. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso moved for passage of the consent agenda. It was seconded by Councilmember Nancy Simon. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

7. **APPOINTMENTS:**

8. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ACQUIRE MOTOR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT FROM**

POTAMKIN CHEVROLET INC. THROUGH EITHER A LEASE OR PURCHASE AGREEMENT. (Rey)

Approved on consent.

B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING AN EXTENSION TO THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE OF POCKET PARKS AND TOT LOTS BETWEEN TROPICS NORTH LANDSCAPING, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES. (Rey)

Approved on consent.

C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SUPERIOR LANDSCAPING & LAWN SERVICE, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR THE TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM. (Rey)

Approved on consent.

D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE SELECTION OF VENDORS AND CREATING THE TOWN'S QUALIFIED VENDOR LIST FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES. (Rey)

Approved on consent.

E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTING STATE LEGISLATION THAT COMMITS TO TRAFFIC SAFETY BY RECOGNIZING RED LIGHT RUNNING AS A THREAT TO THE SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC-AT-LARGE AND IMPLEMENTING AUTOMATED PHOTO ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS TO DETER VIOLATIONS. (Alonso)

Councilmember Richard Pulido questioned the validity and merit of the devices utilized in automated photo enforcement systems.

Councilmember Nancy Simon questioned whether discussion is necessary prior to inclusion of an item on the agenda. Town Manager Alex Rey explained the prior procedure.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso explained that there was discussion regarding this issue at the July Council meeting. Mayor Wayne Slaton stated that appropriate procedure was followed in bringing the item before the Council. Town Manager Alex Rey delivered a brief overview of previous discussion of the issue at prior council meetings.

Councilmember Richard Pulido spoke in favor of further exploration of the issue.

Councilmember Robert Meador spoke in favor of pulling item 9E from the consent agenda. Councilmember Robert Meador suggested that the Town should allow time for the state to debate the item and vote for enacting legislation.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso made a motion for passage of the item. The motion was seconded by Mayor Wayne Slaton. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE TOWN CLERK TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS UNDER CHAPTER 48, FLORIDA STATUTES FOR ALL LITIGATION FILED AGAINST THE TOWN. (Rey)

Passed on consent.

G. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ACOSTA TRACTORS, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR THE ROYAL OAKS PARK GRANT IMPROVEMENTS. (Rey)

Passed on consent.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Miriam Mendoza spoke about the upcoming County election.

Gus Abella spoke about harassment of citizens at the polling place.

Nelson Duque spoke in favor of the Home Sales Relief Initiative and open house signs. Duque provided the Council with copies of other cities ordinances regarding the use of open house signs.

Stephen Touzalin spoke about the real estate market downturn. Mr. Touzalin provided the Council with current real estate market data.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cultural Affairs Committee

Mr. Bob Spano, Chairman of the Cultural Affairs Committee Chair, gave a report. He discussed the Committee's accomplishments and current initiatives.

11. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

AN ORDINANCE OF TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES AMENDING SECTION 8CC-1 OF THE TOWN CODE, TITLED "CIVIL OFFENSES AND PENALTIES; HEARING OFFICERS," TO ALLOW FOR REVISIONS OF THE SCHEDULE OF CIVIL PENALTIES BY RESOLUTION; AMENDING SECTION 8CC-10 OF THE TOWN CODE, TITLED "SCHEDULE OF CIVIL PENALTIES," TO ADD VIOLATIONS OF THE TOWN CODE RELATING TO OVERNIGHT PARKING ON THE SWALE, TO REPLACE REFERENCES TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA BUILDING CODE WITH THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE, TO ADD REFERENCES TO CHAPTER 8 OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CODE, AS APPLICABLE TO THE TOWN; AND TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CODE SECTIONS NOT SPECIFICALLY LISTED IN THE SCHEDULE OF CIVIL PENALTIES. (Rey)

Town Attorney Nina Boniske read the ordinance by title into the record. The ordinance was moved for adoption on first reading by Councilmember Roberto Alonso. There was a second from Mayor Wayne Slaton. The motion was carried with Mayor Wayne Slaton, Councilmembers Alonso, Meador, Pizzi and Pulido in the affirmative and Councilmember Simon in opposition. Vice Mayor Collins was not in attendance.

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES – SECOND READING:

13. RESOLUTIONS:

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF MITIGATION ADJUSTMENT POLICY REVIEW TASK FORCE REPORT ADOPTED ON JUNE 26, 2006 AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATE TOWN OFFICIALS TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY TO IMPLEMENT THE REPORT. (Slaton/Meador)

Town Attorney Nina Boniske read the resolution by title into the record. Councilmember Robert Meador pointed out that he had previously requested to be added as a sponsor to this item. Councilmember Meador spoke in favor of the Resolution. He thanked Mayor Wayne Slaton and the Town Staff for their work.

Councilmember Richard Pulido complimented Mayor Wayne Slaton for bringing the Resolution before the Council. He expressed support for the Resolution. Councilmember Richard Pulido asked for clarification regarding the language, on page two (2) of the Resolution, concerning mitigation payments. Town Attorney Nina Boniske clarified the language.

Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

14. REPORTS:

A. MAYOR'S REPORTS:

Mayor Wayne Slaton proposed the following appointments:

Lourdes McArthur, Beautification Committee
Barbara Bertot, Beautification Committee

Councilmember Nancy Simon made a motion for the acceptance of the appointments. There was a second from Councilmember Roberto Alonso. Mayor Wayne Slaton called for the vote and all were in favor.

Councilmember Nancy Simon requested a list of Committee Appointments. Town Manager Alex Rey stated that a list would be prepared for Councilmember Nancy Simon.

B. MANAGER'S REPORTS:

1. Update on Paper Recycling

Town Manager Alex Rey delivered an update on paper recycling. He stated that the most efficient and cost effective solution is for the Town to purchase the bins and to contract a company to pick up the paper.

2. Process to Identify Potential Town Hall Options

Town Manager Alex Rey explained the process for identifying potential Town Hall options.

He clarified that a letter must be drafted to property owners in town with vacant property or buildings for sale, and an ad published in the newspaper. Mr. Rey

stated that a catalog of potential properties would be compiled and that he would report back to the Council.

3. Update Miami Lakes Clubhouse FEMA Grant

Town Manager Alex Rey gave a report on the status of the Miami Lakes Clubhouse FEMA Grant. The Town Manager stated that FEMA will pay \$152,000 for the damage to the clubhouse rather than the originally anticipated \$50,000.

4. 82nd Avenue Drainage Project Maintenance of Traffic

Town Manager Alex Rey explained that the 82nd Avenue Drainage Project would begin in January, 2007. Town Engineer, Russell Barnes gave an overview of the traffic management plan for the project. Mr. Barnes estimated that the project would take 4-6 months to complete.

Councilmember Nancy Simon inquired about the timing of the projects. Councilmember Simon questioned whether there was a financial incentive for the contractor to finish on time.

Councilmember Roberto Alonso commented that the Palmetto Project had been handled well.

C. COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS:

1. Update Overcrowding at Schools (Pulido)

Councilmember Richard Pulido delivered a report on the issue of overcrowding at Miami Lakes Schools. Councilmember Pulido reported that he had met with School Board Member Perla Tabares Hantman and that they were currently exploring proactive measures. He noted that he is scheduled to meet with School Board Member Evelyn Greer to discuss the issue. Councilmember Pulido stated that he would bring a detailed plan to the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Robert Meador thanked Councilmember Richard Pulido for his efforts.

D. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

15. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Car Seat Certification Program (Simon)

Councilmember Nancy Simon explained that a class on child car seat installation is available and could be held at the Town of Miami Lakes Town Hall. Councilmember Simon stated that it would be of significant service to the community if the Town residents had staff properly trained in car seat installation. Councilmember Simon estimated the cost of the training to be around \$600. No motion was made.

B. Elderly Homestead Exemption and Veteran's Exemption (Collins)

Vice Mayor Mary Collins delivered a report on the Elderly Homestead Exemption and Veteran's Exemption.

It was agreed that Vice Mayor Mary Collins would write a letter to the Florida Veteran's Administration offering assistance in notifying the veterans in Miami Lakes of the legislation and the application process.

C. Home Sales Economic Relief Initiative (Pulido)

Alex Ruiz spoke in support of having open house signs in a controlled situation.

Miriam Mendoza stated that the code for signs needs to be enforced.

Gus Abella stated that the code for signs needs to be enforced more.

Mario Mujica expressed support for open house signs with the stipulation that the signs be closely regulated.

Felicia Salazar spoke out in opposition to open house signs.

Dorothy Cook expressed opposition to open house signs.

Bob Echols spoke out in opposition to open house signs.

Angela Garrison spoke out in opposition to open house signs.

Councilmember Richard Pulido read the Home Sales Economic Relief Initiative memo from the agenda packet into the record. Councilmember Richard Pulido stated that he was not advocating open house signs. He explained that the main focus of the request was to aid residents in a declining real estate market. Councilmember Pulido requested that a member of the Board of Realtors be brought before the Council to speak about the issue.

Councilmember Pulido made a motion to adopt the recommendation that he brought before the Council. There was a second from Councilmember Nancy Simon.

Town Manager Alex Rey stated that the proposed ordinance would require a change in the Town of Miami Lakes code.

Councilmember Richard Pulido and Councilmember Nancy Simon discussed the time frame. Town Manager Alex Rey clarified the time table.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi emphasized the importance of assisting the business community. Councilmember Pizzi suggested that the Council move forward and begin the process of reviewing the sign code.

Councilmember Richard Pulido withdrew the motion. Councilmember Pulido stated that the issue should be brought before the Council at the January meeting.

Town Manager Alex Rey stated that a workshop would be scheduled to discuss the issue.

16. FUTURE MEETING DATES:

January 9, 2007, Regular Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway N, Miami Lakes 7 PM
January 16, 2007, Zoning Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway N, Miami Lakes 7 PM

17. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Approved this 13 day of February 2007.

Wayne Slaton
Wayne Slaton, Mayor

Attest:

Debra Eastman
Debra Eastman, MMC
Town Clerk