

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
February 18, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS:

Vice Mayor Morera presented a proclamation to Boy Scout Troop 566. He explained that the Boy Scouts mission is to prepare young men to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime, by instilling in them the values of the scout oath and law. He further explained that Boy Scout Troop 566 was founded 25 years ago and has been a significant force in shaping positive character development in the youth of Miami Lakes. On behalf of Mayor Dieguez, Vice Mayor Morera proclaimed February 2025 as Boy Scout Troop 566 month in the Town of Miami Lakes. Scout Leader Sean Schwinghammer thanked the Mayor and Town Council for this recognition.

Councilmember Garcia presented a certificate of recognition to Ms. Hailie Prieto. He explained that this certificate of recognition is an acknowledgment of Ms. Prieto's remarkable contributions to the Youth Activities Task Force and Education Advisory Board. He further explained Ms. Prieto's contributions to the promotion of civic engagement and community involvement among the youth in Miami Dade County. Ms. Prieto thanked the Mayor and the Town Council for this recognition.

2. CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll at 6:57 pm. Councilmember Fernandez, Councilmember Herzberg, Councilmember Garcia, Councilmember Cuadra Garcia. Councilmember Sanchez, Vice Mayor Morera and Mayor Dieguez were present.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Councilmember Fernandez led the prayer.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Fred Senra.

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

Vice Mayor Morera asked for a waiver of Section 7.2 of the Special Rules of Order for Item 14D, 14E, 14H, 14J and a waiver of Section 6.10 and Section 7.2 of the Special Rules of Order for Item 14k. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Dieguez then moved Item 9A, the Police Report, to be discussed after Item 7 Appointments. Vice Mayor Morera then combined Item 14H and Item 14J to be considered together and for Item 14K to be moved after the Police Report. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia then moved Item 14C to be discussed after the Committee Reports. Councilmember Sanchez moved Item 14B to be discussed after Item 14C. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion and all were in favor.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Youtube 1:31:00)

(Phonetic spelling of each speaker's name will be used throughout the minutes unless correct spelling is known.)

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

Ms. Felicia Salazar came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She explained that the Cultural Affairs Committee is waiting for approval from the Town Council to move forward with the Main Street Live Event in collaboration with the Economic Development Committee.

Mr. Matthew Casamayor came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained the importance of reinstating the Main Street Live Event. He further explained that reinstating this event would bring more families and tenants to Main Street.

Mr. Abel Fernandez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He stated that he is a member of the Royal Oaks Homeowner's Association Board. He explained that the Royal Oaks Residents have been discussing continuous issues regarding 79th Avenue and the Bob Graham facility traffic. He further explained that this issue has affected both the safety of the students and the homeowners. He urged Mayor Dieguez to address the Miami Dade County Public School's Board regarding this issue.

Mr. Homero Cruz came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that the Royal Oaks Residents have been discussing continuous issues regarding 79th Avenue and the Bob Graham facility traffic. He further explained that he had a couple meetings with members of the school board to discuss possible solutions to the issue, but none of the solutions ended up working out. He thanked the Miami Lakes Police Department for doing an outstanding job in trying to mitigate the traffic. He explained that residents are unable to enter or exit Royal Oaks during Bob Graham's dismissal time. He urged the Town Council to attend the next school board meeting on March 19th.

Ms. Eileen Gutierrez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She explained that the Royal Oaks Residents have been discussing continuous issues regarding 79th Avenue and the Bob Graham facility traffic. She provided the Town Council with a series of photos showcasing the danger of the traffic and the threat to the safety of both the students and the homeowners. She further explained that residents are unable to enter or exit Royal Oaks during Bob Graham's dismissal time. She urged the Town Council to consider this issue and to attend the next school board meeting on March 19th.

Former Vice Mayor Mr. Nelson Rodriguez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that the traffic on Miami Lakes Drive and 79th Avenue has become unbearable. He further explained that 15 years ago Miami Lakes K-8 Center had the same issues regarding excess traffic. He explained that the school developed three different dismissal times to mitigate traffic. He further explained that implementing three different dismissal times eliminated the traffic issue. He explained that Bob Graham should implement different dismissal times to eliminate traffic.

Ms. Lydia Hernandez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She explained that residents are unable to enter or exit Royal Oaks during Bob Gramham's dismissal time. She further explained that this issue has affected both the safety of the students and the homeowners. She urged the Town Council to find a solution to this issue.

Ms. Bonnie Cintron came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She thanked the Town Council for really listening to the constituents when they came forward. She stated that she is glad that the Town Council will be looking into the beautification of the underpass on 67th Avenue. She stated that there should be additional ways to pay for parking other than paying by phone. She explained that the Town Council should investigate developing a roundabout to mitigate traffic.

Mr. Robert Sosa came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He explained that residents are unable to enter or exit Royal Oaks during Bob Graham's dismissal time. He explained that this issue has affected both the safety of the students and the homeowners. He urged the Town Council to find a solution to this issue.

Mr. Manny Lopez came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He urged the Town Council to find a solution to the Bob Graham K-8 Center traffic issue.

Town Clerk Gina M. Inganzo stated for the record that she received two written Public Comments from Ms. Esperanza Reynolds and Ms. Maria Santelices.

There being no further public comments, public comments were closed.

7. APPOINTMENTS:

Mayor Dieguez announced the following appointments:

Ms. Sabrina Alonso to the Youth Activities Task Force by Mayor Dieguez.

Ms. Magaly Rubio to the Blasting Advisory Board by Councilmember Garcia.

Vice Mayor Morera motioned to waive the requirements for the appointments of Mr. Charles H. James and Ms. Lola A. Kosani. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Charles H. James to the Veterans Committee by Councilmember Sanchez.

Ms. Lola A. Kosani to the Youth Activities Task Force by Vice Mayor Morera.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Special Needs Advisory Board

Chairperson Vivian Levy presented the report and thanked John Roger for his outstanding job as the previous chair of the Board. She explained that the board is continuing with Arts for Autism the dance classes. She further explained that the board is continuing to offer the contactless martial arts classes on Monday's and Wednesdays at the Youth Center. She stated that they had a successful two semesters of the animation program for adults. She explained that the board continues to sponsor the Hope for Autism gala. She stated that the board hosted their fall picnic for special needs families at veteran's park. She explained that the board recently had their annual painting with a twist event.

She explained that the board would like to add a sensory park feature to one of the parks within the Town. She further explained that the board will be hosting a resource fair in April and additional workshops throughout the year. She stated that they plan to have the sensory friendly room available at the Town's 4th of July Celebration. She then answered questions posed by the Town Council

B. Public Safety Committee

The Public Safety Committee Chair Carlos Andres recognized former committee member Omar Gonzalez for his 22 years of service to the committee. He explained that Mr. Gonzalez was also a volunteer for the veterans committee. Mr. Gonzalez thanked the committee for this recognition.

Andres explained that the committee is requesting a breakout for the allocation of funds for committee events. He stated that the committee is pushing for a 305-4 Police Number. He explained that they hosted a recognition lunch and went to Station 64 and Station 1 to thank them for their service. He explained that the committee hosted a luncheon in January to educate individuals on Human Trafficking. He explained that they are working on an event in collaboration with the Fire Department. He explained that the committee would like to host a car show that features both the police office and the fire department. He further explained that the car show would provide the opportunity for residents to meet with the police officers and firefighters and encourage residents to get involved in community initiatives.

Town Manager Pidermann explained that the Town Council would have to approve the committee's allocation of funds.

Vice Mayor Morera motioned to approve the new event type of coffee with a medic by the Public Safety Committee. Councilmember Garcia and Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Mayor Morera motioned to approve the idea for a car show in the fall to honor the police and fire department here in the Town of Miami Lakes. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Herzberg amended the motion to approve the car show subject to it being at zero cost to the Town and for the committee to come back to the council and provide further information regarding the event. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-2. Councilmember Garcia and Councilmember Cuadra-Garcia voted in opposition.

9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Police Report (Major Gonzalez)

Major Gonzalez presented the monthly Police Report and explained that the Police Department has met with Royal Oaks Residents and School Board Member's to discuss a solution to the Bob Graham traffic situation. He further explained that Bob Graham Education Center has experienced an increase in traffic since it transitioned from being a K-5 to a K-8 center. He explained that the school has created three pickup loops to address the increase of student which has led to the separation of staging in three different locations. He stated that there are five officers stationed at the school to assist with traffic. He explained that he met with Mr. Cassianos, the assistant principal of Bob Graham, and developed a couple of proposals. He explained that the proposal consists of connecting the south pickup loop with the north pickup loop via the bus loop and relocating the bus loop to the east pickup loop. He stated that they have a follow-up meeting with the school on Thursday February 20th.

Miami Dade County Public Schools Board Member Roberto Alonso explained that the school board created a barrier on 159th Street to deter parents from parking in the swell area. He explained that the school currently has 1450 students enrolled and is at 70 percent capacity. He explained the importance of educating the families and the community on when is the appropriate time to come pick up their child. He stated that the district is willing to work with the Town to develop a solution to this issue. He then answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Major Gonzalez answered questions posed by the Town Council.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Vice Mayor Morera moved to accept the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sanchez. The motion passed 7-0.

A. Approval of Minutes

January 8, 2025 Sunshine Meeting
January 10, 2025 Sunshine Meeting
January 21, 2025 Regular Council Meeting

These minutes were approved in the Consent Calendar.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ITB 2025-03, TO ATC ENGINEERING, INC (“ATC”) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED FORTY FOUR DOLLARS AND 00/100) APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE CONTINGENCY RESERVE LINE-ITEM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER, PURSUANT TO CONTRACT 2024-43 FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES, WITH 300 ENGINEERING GROUP, LLC FOR WEST LAKES DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE IV - NW 153RD TERRACE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION (CEI) SERVICES FOR AN AMOUNT OF EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX DOLLARS AND 50/100 (\$89,126.50) NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; MODIFYING THE TOWN BUDGET APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 24-330; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY OF TOWN OFFICIALS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR ROUNDING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

- D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR ITB 2025-04, GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR FDOT RIGHTS OF WAYS TO ABLE BUSINESS SERVICES, INC., AS THE PRIMARY CONTRACTOR AND SUPERIOR LANDSCAPING AND LAWN SERVICE, INC., AS THE SECONDARY CONTRACTOR, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE

THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

- E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, PROVIDING THE AUTHORITY TO THE TOWN MANAGER TO SETTLE AMOUNTS OWED TO AES PORTABLE SANITATION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

- F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF PORTABLE TOILET RENTALS PURSUANT TO BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO UTILIZE THE MIAMI DADE COUNTY RENTAL OF PORTABLE CHEMICAL TOILETS CONTRACT EVN0000440 PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, DIVISION 2, SECTION 2-157 OF THE TOWN CODE (THE TOWN'S PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE); AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

- G. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT 2022 AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING; AUTHORIZING TOWN OFFICIALS TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE 2025 AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

11. ORDINANCE- FIRST READING:

None.

12. ORDINANCE IN SECOND READING:

None.

13. RESOLUTIONS:

A. None

14. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Fleet Renewal Program (Herzberg)

Councilmember Morera presented the item and stated that the current fleet is extremely old, and he believes that the TOML needs to invest in a new fleet. He made a motion for the Town Manager to start working on the cost and to determine what's the best way to do the fleet renewal program it and that this would increase the fleet but not increasing the cost. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garcia.

The Town Manager stated that he would present all the different scenarios, all the funding scenarios for the Town Council to make the policy decision as to which way to go.

Town Manager Pidermann stated that at the March Regular Council Meeting, he expects to include the carryforward amendment and that he will present an update on vehicle fleet conversation, for the Town Council to have a conversation on this matter and to be able to consider this at the regular budget cycle.

After discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

B. Volunteer Initiative (Sanchez)

Councilmember Sanchez presented the item. He explained that there are 12 Town Committees, and these committees host many events where volunteers are needed. He explained the genesis of his item and stated that this is an opportunity for students to get voluntary hours with existing committee events. It will induce civic engagement and induce vision into what our town does. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herzberg, and it passed 7-0.

C. Underpass Bridge on 67th (Cuadra Garcia)

Councilmember Cuadra Garcia explained the genesis of his item. He stated that the conditions at the underpass bridge on 67th Avenue are unacceptable and that it is an eyesore to our residents and that it has become a health issue. He emphasized that this is a gateway - an entrance to our town. He shared pictures of the underpass bridge and described the unhealthy conditions at said area. He then motioned to direct the Town Manager to provide some ideas, to talk to FDOT on how we can improve the quality of the 67th Avenue underpass bridge. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garcia.

The Town Manager spoke about the site visit spearheaded by Councilmember Garcia, that the Town Council had two years ago, when they visited the underpass bridge, and met with the FDOT District Secretary, Ms. Stacy Miller and several of her staff members. He stated that Senator Rene Garcia was also on that onsite visit. Town Manager Pidermann explained that the outcome to that was that they would do one-time head-to-toe-cleaning. He explained that if the Town Council wants to pressure cleaning this area and maintain it, it would be at

the Town's cost. He also stated that the Public Works Director, Omar Santos presented to the Town Council some proposals but it was not funded during the last budget cycle.

Councilmember Garcia stated that the underpass is a major entrance to the Town and that it is not upheld to Miami Lakes standards. He stated that the Town should look into what Miami Gardens has done. Mayor Dieguez requested that the Town Manager provide the council with updated numbers.

Mayor Dieguez stated that he was informed that at the last transportation Planning Organization Meeting, in which Councilmember Garcia sits, there was an item funded or approved, called the Step Study for Complete Street Features. He stated that the study was a combination of both figuring out what the county can do on their end to beautify some entrances and make it more pedestrian friendly. He stated that that is an outgrowth from Councilmember Garcia's item. Vice Mayor Morera stated that perhaps sponsorships could be considered.

After discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

D. 2025 Reindeer Run Challenge (Morera)

Vice Mayor Morera presented the item and formally challenged Senator Bryan Avila, Representative Fabricio, Senator Rene Garcia, Mayor Dieguez, and Town Staff to participate in the 2025 Reindeer Run. He explained that the challenge consists of all these individuals to participate in the run and lead by example. He further explained that the Reindeer Run supports the Town's Veterans and promotes health. He explained that the challenge also consists of a fundraising challenge where the proceeds will go toward the Veterans Committee, for their initiatives. He stated that the challenge will also increase runner registration because elected officials and staff will use their respective platforms to promote the event.

Mayor Dieguez accepted the challenge as well as other elected officials. No action was taken.

E. Proposal to Amend the Special Rules of Order to move the Manager's and Attorney's Report to before the Committee Reports (Garcia)

Councilmember Garcia presented the item and motioned for all the Manager's Reports to be moved up and heard before the Town Committee Reports, so fresh information is provided to the residents, before they opt to go home. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Morera.

Vice Mayor Morera made an amendment to the motion, for the Infrastructure Report -in its written form - to remain the same, but when the report is presented to the Town Council, for it to be delivered only highlighting topics (a summarized version) and perhaps direct questions for the Town Council. The amendment was seconded by Councilmember Sanchez. After some discussion, Vice Mayor Morera withdrew his amendment and made a new amendment, to bring up all the Manager's Reports and Attorney's Reports – to relocate them before the Committee Reports, for the Police Report to be taken away from the Special

Presentation section of the Agenda and for it to be relocated under Manager's Reports and for the Infrastructure Report to be orally presented in a summarized version. This amendment was seconded by Councilmember Garcia, and the amendment passed unanimously.

The main motion, as amended passed 7-0.

F. Private-Public Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg presented his item and motioned for Town staff to look into the possibility of funding some of the improvements that we all know we need with our pocket parks, especially the pocket parks that need playground equipment and upgrades, and for the Town to get potential sponsorships. He asked Town staff to look into what other municipalities do and to ask local businesses, even national businesses and to include plaque placements. He explained that this needs to be done to improve our parks without spending taxpayers' dollars. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Morera. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Golf Cart Safety (Sanchez)

Councilmember Sanchez presented his item and stated that the Miami Lakes residents use golf carts around town, He stated that policies in the Code need to be recognized. He stated that the purpose of this item is to figure out a way -through the Police Department -of enforcing policies, such as safety restraints, especially for the kids. He explained potential options such as enforcing laws via their annual registrations and to perhaps add signage throughout the town. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion.

Major Jose Gonzalez answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Town Manager Pidermann stated that Town staff will engage in conversations with the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office and with the Miami-Dade Clerk's Office on this matter. The motion passed 7-0.

H. Prioritization of Carryforward Amendment Funding for Town's 25th Anniversary Event (Morera)

This item was discussed concurrently with Item 14J.

Vice Mayor Morera presented his item. He explained that these two items are to be considered jointly because they are co-dependent on each other. He then first spoke about Item H, regarding funding for the Town's 25th Anniversary event. He stated that assuming the Town has carryforward funds from the prior fiscal year's budget, in March Town Staff will present the carryforward amendment to the current year's annual budget. He stated that the 25th Town Anniversary is a major milestone and only happens once, he then motioned for the Town Council to allocate the first \$25,000 or more, from the available carryforward funds, if any, towards the Town's 25th anniversary event. As part of this item, he explained that regarding Item 14J, he asked for the next \$20,000 of the carryforward to

be earmarked to the design and construction of the Veteran's Memorial. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Herzberg.

Councilmember Herzberg stated that he is in favor of the motion that allocates \$25,000 towards the 25th Anniversary Event but that he is not sure that he wants to prioritize for the Veterans Memorial. Vice Mayor Morera then clarified that he made two separate motions, one for \$25,000 to be allocated to the 25th Town Anniversary and \$20,000 to be allocated towards the Veteran's Memorial.

Councilmember Herzberg then made an amendment to the motion that allocates \$25,000 towards the 25th Anniversary Event, and stated that he wants to start planning the 25th Town Anniversary Event, that a Ad Hoc Committee should be created for the planning of this event, for this committee be composed of 7 chairs (CAC, EDC, SNAB, NIC, EAC, YATF and VC), that these committees should get sponsors and he requested for the Town to have a resolution drafted for the March RCM Agenda, for this committee to start in March and end in December. The amended motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Morera. The amendment passed 7-0.

The main motion, to allocate \$25,000 towards the 25th Town Anniversary, passed 7-0.

Vice Mayor Morera then made a motion to move for earmarking the next available \$20,000 towards the design and construction of the Veterans Memorial. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. After discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

I. Resolution in Support of House Bill 303 Property Damage Caused by Limestone Mining Operations by Representative Fabricio (Herzberg, Dieguez, Morera, Fernandez, Cuadra Garcia, Garcia, Sanchez)

Councilmember Herzberg presented the item. He stated that House Bill 303 provides alternate feasible refuge for compensation for residents that have had damage from limestone, and he explained that this resolution provides support to State Representative Fabricio's Bill, and he also wants to include Senator Avila's Bill to the resolution. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Morera.

Vice Mayor Morera made an amendment to the motion, for the Town Clerk to send the resolution but for it to be accompanied by a cover letter drafted by Councilmember Herzberg and for the letter to be signed by either the mayor or by the entire Town Council. He explained that there should be two versions of the letter- one for everyone (municipalities, elected officials) and a more detailed letter tailored to the chairman of each of the committees, to which this Bill is going to be referred, both on the House and on the Senate side. Vice Mayor Morera emphasized that Senator Avilas Bill should be included in the resolution, in addition to some minor typos that he pointed out during his agenda briefing. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the amendment, and it passed 7-0.

Councilmember Garcia asked for the entire Town Council to be co-sponsors of this item and Councilmember Herzberg agreed.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated that since their last Sunshine Meeting, Town Attorney Gastesi, Attorney Mestre and himself have been working on this matter, and he stated that they were going to have a complaint ready in March. However, he stated that

after speaking with Councilmember Herzberg, they think it's better to give support to Representative Fabricio and Senator Avila. He explained that they believe it's more prudent to hold back a little on presenting a complaint. He further explained that if they file a complaint now, it might hamper their efforts, as they must give legislation a chance. Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated that perhaps it's more prudent to come back in April or in May.

Vice Mayor Morera motioned to accept the Town Attorney's recommendation and Mayor Dieguez added to postpone presenting any complaint until June of 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. After discussion, the amendment passed 7-0.

The main motion, as amended twice, passed 7-0.

J. Prioritization of Carryforward Amendment Funding for Veterans Memorial (Morera)

This item was discussed concurrently with Item 14H.

K. Use of Council Chambers for Non-Profit Event (Morera)

Vice Mayor Morera stated that TOML Resolution 15-1325 requires the Town Council to vote on approving this event. He then motioned for the Town Council to approve the use of Council Chambers for a non-profit Virtutem Populo, Inc event. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion.

Mr. Maurits Acosta came before the Town Council to speak on behalf of the event and asked to use Council Chambers for the March 18th Florida Student School Board Initiate launch event. He explained the event consists of student leaders, community leaders and leaders from Aetna Better Health of Florida in launching statewide advocacy movement on school boards across the state of Florida. He invited the entire Town Council to attend.

The motion passed 7-0.

L. Providing Formal Approval for the Main Street Live Concert (Morera)

Vice Mayor Morera motioned to approve the Cultural Affairs and Economic Development Committee sponsorship for Main Street Live. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

M. For Town Hall to be lit up Throughout the Month of April for Autism Awareness

Mayor Dieguez motioned to light up Town Hall blue throughout the month of April for Autism Awareness Month. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

15. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Update on Rock Mining Blasting Matters (Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg stated that the BAB is having a Workshop on February 27th, in the Council Chamber and that 83 elected officials were invited, every State Representative in Dade County, the entire Dade Delegation and some representatives in Lee County. He stated that Miami Dade County Mayor Levine Cava is also sending several staff members.

Councilmember Herzberg stated that he had a meeting with Councilwoman Cabral from Doral. He also spoke about going to Tallahassee to focus on blasting efforts and encourage his colleagues to lobby as well. Mayor Dieguez respectfully asked for the coordination of these flights to Tallahassee to be shared with the Office of the Mayor, because as head of intergovernmental relations, he wants his office to be considered and for the message to be uniformed.

16. MANAGER'S REPORTS

A. Public Works Infrastructure Report (Santos)

The Public Works Director, Omar Santos, presented the monthly infrastructure report and answered questions posed by the Town Council.


17. ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Town Attorney Gastesi stated that his report was given during the discussion of Item 14I.

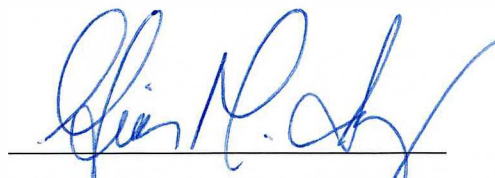
18. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 pm.

Approved this 18th of March 2025.


Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:


Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk