

**MINUTES**  
**Sunshine Meeting**  
**Working Budget on General Fund Preliminary Budget**  
**July 22, 2025**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Government Center**  
**6601 Main Street**  
**Miami Lakes, Florida 33014**

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting began at 6:08 pm.

The following elected officials were present: Mayor Joshua Dieguez, Vice Mayor Morera, Councilmember Juan Carlos Fernandez, Councilmember Angelo Cuadra Garcia, Councilmember Ray Garcia and Councilmember Steven Herzberg, who attended at 6:29 p.m.). Councilmember Alex Sanchez was absent. The following Town staff members were present: Town Manager Edward Pidermann, Deputy Town Manager Tony Lopez, Budget Officer Melissa Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer Kay Grant, Public Works Director Omar Santos, Parks & Recreation Director Jeremy Bajdaun, Deputy Town Clerk Alexis Martinez, Deputy Town Attorney Lorenzo Cobiella and Attorney Matthew Perez.

**2. Public Comments:**

Mayor Dieguez opened the Public Comments section of the agenda.

Mr. Carlos Andres came before the Town Council and spoke about common resident concerns and FPL rates.

Ms. Felicia Salazar came before the Town Council and spoke on behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee. She addressed the costs of doing business with vendors, allocating money for the committee, some resident concerns about litter in the town and provided a chart of the committee's details of budget line items.

Ms. Loris Corvo came before the Town Council on behalf of the Elderly Affairs Committee, spoke about the elderly relying on the committee for their health and well-being, increasing the budget for meal services and monthly bingo and social events.

Mr. Carlos Padilla came before the Town Council Chambers on behalf of the Economic Development Committee. He spoke about improving the economy in Miami Lakes, requesting a budget increase of \$100,000 and providing a handout of their marketing strategy for the Town.

Mr. Rudy Blanco came before the Town Council and on behalf of both the Economic Development Committee and the Blasting Advisory Board, spoke about wanting more

businesses coming into and promoting the Town and concerns regarding the forthcoming blasting legal case and costs.

Ms. Hope Reynolds provided remote public comments and shared her concerns about money being spent on Miami Lakes Optimist Park, increasing FPL costs, budget support for the elderly and conducting elections for Special Taxing Districts.

Mr. Boris Foster provided remote public comments and spoke about the statutes and ordinances that govern the Town Councils authority, Special Taxing Districts and their services through owner petitions and voting.

### **3. Item Discussed:**

Mayor Dieguez opened the meeting for discussion and Town Manager Pidermann presented the FY 2025-2026 Budget Preliminary General Fund Overview PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Dieguez then gave his post budget presentation and public comments remarks, emphasizing that this is solely a presentation of the budget and encouraged his colleagues to work with staff to get more information and get the best budget possible for our residents, balancing the need for core services. Vice Mayor Morera requested to have the budget, line item by line item, revenue and expense sent to Town Council to assist in setting the forthcoming millage cap rate. Town Council provided their post budget presentation remarks, concerns and suggestions.

Town Manager Pidermann and Budget Office Melissa Hernandez provided additional feedback and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

### **4. Adjournment:**

This meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day August 2025.



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Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:



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Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk