

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

1. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS:

Mayor Dieguez presented a certificate of recognition to Councilmember Alejandro Sanchez who was the recipient for the Congressional Veteran Commendation Medal. Mayor Dieguez explained that this award is an acknowledgement of Councilmember Sanchez's honorable service in the United States Navy and his enduring leadership in the Miami Lakes Community. Councilmember Sanchez thanked Mayor Dieguez and the Town Council for this recognition.

Mayor Dieguez presented a proclamation to the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes, proclaiming November 2025 as Zonta Club Month in the Town of Miami Lakes. Mayor Dieguez explained that the Zonta Club of Miami Lakes is dedicated to empowering women and girls in our community through service, advocacy, and education. He further explained that this proclamation specifically recognizes Zonta's 16 days of activism, their unwavering commitment to the "Zonta says no to Violence" campaign and eliminate violence against women and girls. The members of the Zonta Club thanked Mayor Dieguez for this recognition.

Mayor Dieguez presented a proclamation Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board recognizing their work within Miami-Dade County. Mayor Dieguez explained that this board serves under the Miami-Dade Office of Community Advocacy and the Board of County Commissioners working year-round to advance issues that impact the county's vibrant Hispanic population and promotes civic participation, cultural appreciation, and community engagement. Mayor Dieguez recognized and commended the Miami Dade County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board for its outstanding service and contributions to the town, neighboring communities, and abroad. The members of the board thanked Mayor Dieguez for this recognition.

Mayor Dieguez presented a proclamation to the representatives of Debon Air Mechanical. Mayor Dieguez explained that Charlie L. Allasher was the owner and founder of Debon Air Mechanical. He further explained that Debon Air Mechanical has serviced both residential and commercial customers while providing turnkey air conditioning, refrigeration and heating services throughout the State of Florida with an established culture of placing people over profit. Mayor Dieguez proclaimed Thursday November 20th, 2025, as Charlie L. Allasher day in the Town of Miami Lakes. The representatives from Debon Air Mechanical thanked Mayor Dieguez and the Town Council for this recognition.

Mayor Dieguez presented a proclamation to Major Gonzalez, proclaiming November 19th, 2025, as Major Jose Gonzalez day in the Town of Miami Lakes. Mayor Dieguez explained that under the leadership of Major Gonzalez the Town of Miami Lakes has experienced significant multi-year reductions across all major crime statistics. Major Gonzalez thanked the Town Council for this recognition.

2. CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll at 6:30 pm. Councilmember Fernandez, Councilmember Garcia, Councilmember Herzberg, Councilmember Sanchez, Councilmember Cuadra Garcia, Vice Mayor Morera and Mayor Dieguez were present.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

The moment of silence was led by Major Gonzalez during the police report in memory of Deputy Devin Jaramillo. The prayer was led by Vice Mayor Morera.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Girl Scout Troop 902.

5. ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR:

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, presented the item. She collected the ballots from each elected official and read the ballots out loud, thereby casting their votes for the election of Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Bryan Morera received 6 votes and Councilmember Ray Garcia received 1 vote, Thus, Vice Mayor Morera was reelected as Vice Mayor.

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

Councilmember Sanchez moved 11A and 17B to after public comments.

Councilmember Herzberg requested to defer Item 9K to the next regular council meeting and pulled Item 13C from Consent Calendar.

Town Manager Pidermann recommended combining Item 9L with Items 16B and 16C.

Vice Mayor Morera motioned to approve the New Order of Business. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Youtube 37:45)

(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.

Mrs. Claudia Luces came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She recognized Major Gonzalez' dedication and achievements to the Town of Miami Lakes.

Mr. Miguel Martinez, Vice Chair of the Blasting Advisory Board came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. He provided photos to the Town Council of the canal that is discussed in item 9C of this agenda and shared his concerns with the failure of the canal embankment and its connection to seismic activity.

Ms. Lynn Matos came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She recognized Major Gonzalez' dedication and achievements to the Town of Miami Lakes.

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

8. APPOINTMENTS:

Mayor Dieguez stated for the record that there were three committee removals.

9. MANAGER'S REPORTS:

A. Adoption of 2026 Council Meetings Schedule (Pidermann)

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item stating Town Clerk Inguanzo put the schedule together for all the Regular Council Meeting dates, deadlines for Town Council, staff deadlines and the dates that the agendas get published. Mayor Dieguez moved to adopt the 2026 Council Meeting schedule and Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Monthly Police Reports (Major Gonzalez)

Major Gonzalez presented his final Police Report and answered questions posed by the Town Council who along with Town Manager Pidermann, Town Clerk Inguanzo and Town Attorney Gastesi shared their sentiments towards Major Gonzalez and his tenure as Town Commander.

C. Canal Stabilization Report (Cuadra Garcia, Santos)

The Public Works Director, Mr. Omar Santos, presented the Canal Stabilization Phase I report and answered questions posed by Town Council along with Calvin, Giordano & Associates representative and Mr. Eric Padron, who is a licensed professional engineer and was hired by the Town to perform this inspection and engineering report.

D. Public Works Monthly Infrastructure Report (Santos)

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

E. Report on Street Light Maintenance (Santos)

The Public Works Director, Omar Santos, presented the report and research done by Town staff to provide options to essentially modernize our streetlight infrastructure and answered questions posed by Town Council.

F. Fleet Replacement Update – Finance and Lease Options (Santos)

The Public Works Director, Mr. Omar Santos, presented the report and provided the pricing from Miami Lakes Auto Mall for lease and finance options for the Town's fleet replacement. He also answered questions posed by Town Council.

Town Manager Pidermann provided feedback and discussed potential equity value for the replacement of these vehicles in the future.

After further discussion Vice Mayor Morera moved to adopt staff recommendations for the lease of one Chevy Colorado and one Chevy Silverado and Mayor Dieguez seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

G. Report on School Zone Cameras (Garcia, Alonso)

Town Principal Planner Ms. Susana Alonso presented her report on school zone cameras, which was previously requested by Councilmember Garcia. She stated that Town staff has been working with the Sheriff's Office and has been meeting with some representatives of Red Speed, -the company that implements the school zone cameras throughout the county. Ms. Alonso also answered questions posed by Town Council.

Lieutenant Ulloa came before the Town Council to provide feedback, and he answered questions posed by Town Council. Councilmember Garcia stated the main priority for the item is public safety. After further remarks Councilmember Garcia moved to have staff look into this and adopt the school zone cameras. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion for discussion.

After discussion, Councilmember Sanchez motioned to defer the item to cover two bases; he asked for Town Council and Town Staff to get documented whenever Red Speed sends out the warnings for the initial infractions to be able to track that the recipient of the notice was delivered. He also stated that we get documented proof from them of how their radar guns are calibrated to meet up with the standards of Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion.

Councilmember Garcia stated he would want to see the Sheriff's department sign off on it and if the Sheriff's department feels that this is something that is meeting the standards, then we have met the criteria. Councilmember Garcia also stated that we give up to 90 days for warnings.

After further remarks the motion to defer the item died 2-5. Councilmember Fernandez, Councilmember Garcia, Councilmember Herzberg, Vice Mayor Morera and Mayor Dieguez voted in opposition.

After discussion, the main motion died 2-5. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia, Councilmember Herzberg, Councilmember Sanchez, Vice Mayor Morera and Mayor Dieguez voted in opposition.

H. Report on Removal of Certain Hedges along 87th Avenue (Dieguez, Bajdaun)

Parks and Recreation Director Mr. Jeremy Bajdaun presented his report and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Mayor Dieguez requested to bring back the item for the mid-year budget amendment and to support the total cost to remove all three areas.

I. Right-of-Way Flower Options (Bajdaun)

Parks and Recreation Director Bajdaun presented his report recommending the Town to maintain the current Quarterly Flower Replacement Program, provided options and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Vice Mayor Morera requested to know the offset or the set off in costs in moving to something like what is being proposed as an alternative as opposed to just doing the quarterly change outs. Councilmember Garcia requested staff to look into native plants that do not require any trimming, Councilmember Cuadra Garcia shared he is in or of finding a species of plants that require low maintenance or no maintenance and Councilmember Herzberg also requested to find something low cost and low maintenance nor additional cost.

J. Potential Impact of State Legislative Action on Ad Valorem Tax Collection (Dieguez, Herzberg, Pidermann)

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item and stated no action is required. He stated that this is just informational for the Town Council as feedback on the items requested by Mayor Dieguez and Councilmember Herzberg from last month's agenda.

Mayor Dieguez asked Town Staff to come up with a legislative package that is revenue neutral- that phases out our property taxes and instead relies on alternative revenue sources.

Councilmember Herzberg stated he would provide a first draft of the joint letter at the next meeting.

K. Beautification Master Plan Update 2025 (Dieguez, Bajdaun)

This item was deferred to the next regular council meeting by Councilmember Herrzberg, during the New Order of Business.

L. Report on 2026 FDOT Transportation Alternative Grant (Shock)

This item was discussed concurrently with item 16B and 16C.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item and Mayor Dieguez moved to approve both FDOT Tap grants in resolution line items 16B and 16C. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion.

Grants and Governmental Affairs Manager, Ms. Olivia Shock, explained item 16B and provided clarification on what the grant is paying for.

The motion passed 5-2. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia and Vice Mayor Morera voted in opposition.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Settlement with the Becker and Poliakoff, P.A., Law Firm (Gastesi)

Town Attorney Gastesi presented his item and stated the attorneys handling this case have reached a settlement with the Becker firm, the money has actually been paid, and it is sitting in their trust account, so there is no exposure to the Town, and he strongly recommends the settlement. Vice Mayor seconded the recommendation.

The recommendation for settlement passed unanimously.

B. Report on Enforcement of Town Council Ordinances & Monthly Report on SB180 (Gastesi)

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella presented the item and stated the SB180 case and complaint have been filed, that there are several dozen cities included in it and that they will keep on monitoring it. He stated that at the moment that it is ripe, they will suggest filing an amicus brief for supporting pleading. As far as the enforcement of Town Council ordinances, he stated that they have been able to make contact with the Sheriff's office. He stated that by January 2026, the Town Attorneys will definitely be able to report back a path forward to be able to enforce our ordinances.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Youth Activities Task Force Report

Chairman Brian Rodriguez presented the report and detailed upcoming events.

B. Special Needs Advisory Board Report

Chairwoman Vivian Levy presented the report and explained three new items.

First, regarding the Communication Board Project, Parks & Recreation Director, Mr. Bajdaun provided feedback and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Councilmember Garcia and Councilmember Herzberg shared their concerns regarding the cost of the Communications Board Project and suggested finding local manufacturers in the Town that can produce the same product for less money.

Second, Chair Levy explained the request for the inclusive gallery opening night. Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the inclusive gallery opening night event and Mayor Dieguez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Third, Chair Levy explained the request for an inclusive picnic with UM Card (Center for Autism & Related Disabilities) and UM Card could possibly incur some of the expenses. Councilmember Sanchez moved to approve the inclusive picnic event and Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Vision Zero and Transportation Master Plan Presentation

Principal Town Planner Alonso presented the item and introduced Mr. Jesus Fuentes, PE from EXP, gave a presentation discussing Vision Zero, an initiative that comes from the federal government that looks at the safe system approach to mitigate crashes by designing safer roads, providing education, enforcement and multilayer system of protection to ensure the minimization of crashes that result in fatalities. He answered questions posed by the Town Council.

13. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Sanchez moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herzberg. The motion passed 6-0. Vice Mayor Morera was absent.

A. Approval of Minutes

October 16, 2025 STD Town Council Workshop
October 21, 2025 Regular Council Meeting
November 6, 2025 Sunshine Meeting- Town Charter Revision

The minutes were approved in the Consent Calendar.

- B.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO INCREASE THE PROJECT CONTINGENCY FOR THE NW 154 STREET AND PALMETTO EXPRESSWAY TURN LANES PROJECT, NOT TO EXCEED THE AVAILABLE GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN MANAGER.

This item was approved in consent calendar.

- C.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A BUDGET LINE-ITEM TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$135,000.00) FROM THE INFRASTRUCTURE SINKING FUND CONTINGENCY RESERVE (ACCOUNT NO. 307-549002) TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE – MINI PARKS (ACCOUNT NO. 3077257-563000) AND INFRASTRUCTURE – PICNIC PARK EAST – YOUTH CENTER (ACCOUNT NO. 3077227-563000); PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION OF THE TOWN MANAGER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was pulled by Councilmember Herzberg during the New Order of Business section of the agenda.

Parks & Recreation Director Mr. Bajdaun presented the item and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Mayor Dieguez moved to adopt the item, and it was seconded by Councilmember Sanchez. The motion passed 6-0. Vice Mayor Morera was absent.

- D.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2025 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY PLAN; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM PROJECTS TO BECOME A PART OF THE LOCAL AND STATEWIDE HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGY; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT PROJECTS UNDER THE LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MAYOR, TOWN MANAGER, AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved on consent calendar.

14. ORDINANCE- FIRST READING:

None.

15. ORDINANCE IN SECOND READING:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA; AMENDING SECTION 13-1509. FENCES, WALLS AND GATES OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES; AMENDING THE REGULATIONS FOR FENCES ON SIDEYARDS FACING A STREET, EAST OF THE PALMETTO EXPRESSWAY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Attorney Gastesi read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Town Principal Planner Ms. Susana Alonso presented the item. She explained that the proposal is that instead of going all the way to the sidewalk, it is to go 10 feet from the sidewalk and 5 feet from the main structure. She explained that this would provide a little more privacy for the windows. She explained that the Planning & Zoning Board at their last meeting held on November 12, 2025, recommended proceeding, but they stated that they would like to consider the aesthetics of fences and the materials that are used for fences at a later date.

Maor Dieguez opened the public hearing. There being no public comments, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Sanchez moved to approve the ordinance in second reading, and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed 6-0. Vice Mayor Morera was absent.

16. RESOLUTIONS:

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, CREATING A CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION; PROVIDING FOR AN APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION AND APPOINTING MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING; PROVIDING FOR DISSOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Attorney Gastesi presented the item, he explained that each member of the Town Council needs to appoint someone to the Town Charter Revision Commission and he stated that the Mayor also appoints a member to the Town Council as a non-voting member.

Mayor Dieguez moved the item, and it was seconded by Councilmember Sanchez.

Councilmember Sanchez appointed Ms. Marylin Ruano, Councilmember Fernandez appointed Lynn Matos, Mayor Dieguez appointed Javier Ley-Soto, Vice Mayor Morera appointed Mr. Ramiro Inguanzo, Councilmember Garcia appointed Mr. Homero Cruz, Councilmember Herzberg appointed Hector Abad and Councilmember Cuadra Garcia appointed Dr. David Bennett. Town Council agreed.

Mayor Dieguez moved to the amendment that in the event that one of the appointees is no longer able to continue to serve, the Town Council can appoint someone new by notifying the Town Clerk. Vice Mayor seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

The main motion as amended, passed unanimously.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE MIAMI LAKES COMMERCE WAY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was discussed concurrently with item 9L and item 16C as approved by the new Order of Business.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item. Mayor Dieguez moved to approve both items- Item 16B and Item 16C and Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion.

The items were approved 5-2. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia and Vice Mayor Morera voted in opposition.

- C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE MIAMI LAKES PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND SIGNALIZATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was discussed concurrently with item 16B and 9L as approved by the New Order of Business. Town Manager Pidermann presented the item concurrently with the previous item.

The item was approved 5-2. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia and Vice Mayor Morera voted in opposition.

D. QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING-

COND2025-0386, requesting a Conditional use to operate a Clinical Research Facility within an industrial district within the town.

HEARING NUMBER: COND2025-0386
APPLICANT: Panax Clinical Research, LLC
FOLIO: 32-2013-034-0010
LOCATION: 5845 NW 158th Street
MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA 33014
ZONING DISTRICT: IU-C

In accordance with the Town of Miami Lakes Land Development Code (the “Town LDC) Panax Clinical Research, LLC “Applicants”) are requesting a Conditional Use to operate a Clinical research facility within an industrial district within the town.

The Deputy Town Attorney Gastesi read the Quasi-Judicial rules into the record for item 16D and Town Clerk Inguanzo swore in all individuals who were to provide testimony and stated for the record that all Town Council had no ex-parte communications with the applicant.

There were no participants for public comments during the public hearing.

Town Principal Planner Alonso presented the item and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

The applicant, Ms. Maria Revoredo came before the Town Council to provide further explanation of her business operation and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Mayor Dieguez closed the public hearing. Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the applicants request and Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion for discussion.

After further remarks the motion was approved 7-0.

- E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL CLOSEOUT OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 AMENDED BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item and Vice Mayor Morera moved to adopt the resolution and Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved 7-0.

- F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THE TERM SHEET DATED OCTOBER 24, 2025, FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE NON-REVOLVING LINE OF CREDIT, SERIES 2026 NOTE, WITH BANKUNITED, N.A.; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE TERM SHEET AND ENTER INTO THE RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH BANKUNITED, N.A.; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item and stated that as directed by the Town Council, Town Staff explored the option of just extending our existing line of credit, which they were able to negotiate with Bank United, for an extension. He also explained that we got a reduction in our interest rate and the new draw period under the new terms is going to go from 30 months to 36 months, and he stated that we got a reduction in fees from the Bank Attorney of \$20,000.

Vice Mayor Morera moved to adopt the resolution and Councilmember Sanchez seconded.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved 7-0.

17. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Alternative Revenue Opportunity (Dieguez)

Mayor Dieguez presented his item and moved to direct the Town Manager to work with Town Staff, to explore amending our Land Development Code and other parts of the Town Code, as necessary, to permit billboard construction with the conditions listed in his memo. He explained this item is solely to explore legislation authorizing electronic billboards and what they look like. His intent is for Town staff to come back to Town Council with more information, for example, what would be the design standards and aesthetic standards that we would impose on these sites. He also stated that the revenue obtained through revenue sharing with billboard operators/owners, the first \$25,000 of revenues, must go to the Special Needs Advisory Board to finally provide this committee with a consistent source of funding, with any remaining revenue free to be allocated to any other committee at the Town Council's election or for use in Neighborhood Service Districts to offset their costs. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion.

Vice Mayor Morera then made a friendly amendment and asked within the staff exploration, to see whether the Town owns any land that would satisfy the mayor's conditions. Mayor Dieguez seconded the amendment. There being no further discussion on the amendment, the amendment passed 7-0.

Councilmember Herzberg shared his opposition towards the billboards and Councilmember Sanchez shared his concerns regarding content regulation of the billboards to which at the request of Mayor Dieguez, Town Attorney Gastesi and Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella, provided feedback to his concerns.

After further discussion, Councilmember Garcia stated he wants to see a little more openness on how we use the revenue and asked for Town staff to provide Town Council with a visual to help them see what the billboards would look like.

The motion passed 7-0.

B. Veterans Honor Wall (Sanchez)

Councilmember Sanchez presented his item and recommended that Town Council approve the proposed renderings provided by Colonel (Retired) William Perez to authorize the commencement of fundraising efforts necessary to support and complete the Veterans Honor Wall at Veterans Park. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion.

Retired Colonel William Perez came before the Town Council to give background about the Veterans Honor Wall renderings.

Vice Mayor Morera clarified that all the Town Council is doing is approving the overall design and shared his concerns and suggestions to prevent skateboarding issues at the top ledge of the design. After further remarks, the motion passed 7-0.

C. Resolution in Support of House Bill 115 Property Damage Caused by Limestone Mining Operations by Rep. Fabricio-2026 (Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg presented his item and first amended his resolution to include Senate Bill 416 and he moved to approve the resolution, as amended, proposing that the Town Council adopt a resolution in support of House Bill 115, which is legislation filed by State Representative Tom Fabricio addressing property damage caused by limestone mining operations and to include the Senate Bill 416, which was filed by Senator Bryan Avila. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion passed 7-0.

D. Pathway to Additional Officers (Dieguez)

Mayor Dieguez presented the genesis of this item. He stated his continued desire to have a more visible police presence and to make sure that response times stay at the right level of service and moved for the Town Administration to come back to Town Council with a more specific criteria and concrete metrics, once these benchmarks are hit through the review process done by the Town Manager Pidermann and Major Gonzalez to determine whether more police officers are necessary. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion.

After further remarks the motion passed 7-0.

E. Appropriation Request (Sanchez)

Councilmember Sanchez presented his item. He first amended his memo and stated that in the second paragraph of recommendations, it should state \$115,000 instead of \$165,000.

Councilmember Sanchez then stated that to alleviate congestion and improve safety at Bob Graham Educational Center, it is recommended that a new perimeter fence be added and a third internal traffic lane to accommodate additional vehicle staging. Councilmember Sanchez stated first implement the fence and come back a year down the line, in order to add the third lane. He mentioned that he has already spoken to Representative Alex Rizzo who is happy to sponsor this appropriation request. Councilmember Sanchez moved to have this appropriation request go through the process of Tallahassee which is due on November 21st. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion.

Councilmember Sanchez clarified that this item is asking the state for appropriations, to do the study for the third lane and to build out the new fence; that this requires no new money out of the Town budget.

After further remarks, the motion passed 7-0.

F. Evaluation of Cost Savings and Alternative to Decorative Mulch and Quarterly Flower Rotations (Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg presented his item and requested Town staff to report to Town Council, too evaluate what other options there are besides mulch, that is not yearly changed, -options that make sense for majority pocket parks and what the cost would be. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion and there being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously 7-0.

G. Sponsorship Database (Sanchez)

Councilmember Sanchez presented his item. He stated that it is recommended that a comprehensive list be compiled of all sponsors who have contributed within the past five years. He explained that this database would serve as a foundation for outreach efforts by Town Committees to reconnect with past sponsors and establish relationships with new ones.

Additionally, outreach should target recently established businesses within the Town, as well as businesses holding a valid Business Tax Receipt (BTR) or Certificate of Use (CU) that have not previously participated in sponsorships, potentially due to lack of awareness about available opportunities. Councilmember Sanchez explained that this approach would enhance engagement with the business community and increase sponsorship participation across Town programs and events.

Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion for discussion. Vice Mayor Morera stated he is in favor of the item and his recommendation regarding the companies having an opt out option and that it is not forced upon.

There being no further discussion the motion passed 7-0.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Update of Rock Mining Blasting Matters and Proposed Blasting Legislation (Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg provided an update regarding Rock Mine Blasting. He stated that Representative Tom Fabricio and Senator Bryan Avila have filed bills in that regard. He also stated he would send himself to Tallahassee at some point, to get on lobbying efforts and that he would attend the Miami-Dade Delegation meeting scheduled to take place on December 18th. Additionally, he mentioned that a Special Call meeting might have to be scheduled to discuss litigation.

Town Attorney Gastesi agreed he would like to have that Special Call to discuss the work that has been done behind the scenes and stated we cannot have an executive session because there is no litigation pending.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 pm.

Approved this 20th of January 2026.



Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk