

MINUTES
Sunshine Meeting
Between
Councilmember Cuadra Garcia, Town Council and Town Staff
to Discuss
the Appointment of the TOML Police Major

January 15, 2026
11:00 AM
Mayor's Conference Room
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 11:14 a.m.

The following Councilmembers were present: Mayor Josh Dieguez and Councilmember Cuadra Garcia. Councilmember Juan Carlos Fernandez, Councilmember Ray Garcia, Councilmember Steven Herzberg and Councilmember Alex Sanchez attended via phone.

The following Town staff members were present: Town Manager Edward Pidermann, Deputy Town Manager Tony Lopez, Deputy Town Clerk Alexis P. Martinez, Attorney Mirelis Castilla, Esq., with the law firm Gastesi.

2. Public Comments:

Dr. David Bennett, provided public comments and spoke about the transfer of the police contract from the Miami-Dade Police Department to the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office. He then spoke about the meaning of the definitions in the contract, possible changes to the contract and the validity of the contract.

3. Item Discussed:

Mayor Dieguez gave the floor to Councilmember Cuadra Garcia who called for the meeting to discuss the Town of Miami Lakes Interlocal Agreement for Police Services contract and the Town Commander nominations.

Councilmember Cuadra Garcia shared his concerns with Section 9.2 of the police contract and the process of selecting nominations for the Town Commander including but not limited to selecting the most qualified candidate, open transparency as to who is being nominated for Town Commander and future proposals to change the contract to allow more involvement of Town Council with selecting nominees.

Mayor Dieguez stated the selection of the Town Commander is embedded in the duties of the Town Manager and has been a process in place from the very beginning. He explained that involving Town Council would politicize the selection process. He also provided feedback on the nomination process for the Town Commander, clarifying terminology in the contract. He also stated reasons as to why the forthcoming Town Commander, Lieutenant Eddy Ulloa is qualified for the position,

Councilmember Garcia posed questions to Councilmember Cuadra Garcia and mentioned that the Town's record has the lowest crime rates due to the current system in place. He stated that if more transparency is wanted then perhaps Councilmember Cuadra Garcia can bring it up as a new business item in the future and it can be discussed further in a regular council meeting.

Councilmember Herzberg provided legal feedback.

Town Manager Pidermann provided feedback regarding the timeframe for when the selection process and consideration for nominees began for the next Town Commander.

Attorney Castilla provided legal feedback and clarification concerning the police contract, stating the interlocal agreement is still in effect with Miami-Dade County the only difference is how they designate their law enforcement.

Councilmember Cuadra Garcia gave closing remarks.

4. Adjournment:

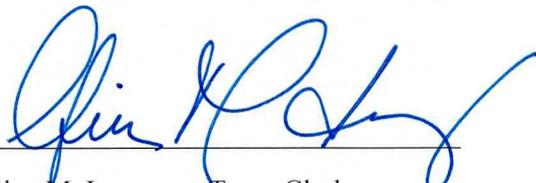
This meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Approved this 17th day February 2026.



Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk