

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
March 17th, 2026
6:30 p.m.
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS:

Vice Mayor Morera presented a certificate of recognition to Spanish Teacher Ms. Maria Nodarse and her students, Ms. Sandra Gosin and Mr. Charles Eves. Vice Mayor Morera explained that Ms. Gosin and Mr. Eves have been a part of the Town's Spanish class for 20 years. Mr. Eves and Ms. Gosin thanked the Town for this recognition.

Vice Mayor Morera invited members of the Public Safety Committee to come forward for their check presentation. Chairperson Carlos Andres explained that this past fall season, the committee hosted their first Cars for Heroes event. He stated that the committee will be donating \$500 to the Police Benevolent Association Love Fund. South Florida Police Benevolent Association Member, Mr. Alex Munoz, explained that the South Florida PBA has a nonprofit called the Love Fund, which assists officers and their families. He thanked the Town of Miami Lakes for their contribution. Committee Member Darwin Villavicencio explained that the committee also donated funds to the First Responders Resiliency Fund. He explained that this money goes directly to assisting first responders with mental health needs.

2. CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Clerk, Gina M. Inguanzo, called the roll at 6:31 pm. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia, Councilmember Garcia, Councilmember Fernandez, Councilmember Herzberg, Councilmember Sanchez and Vice Mayor Morera. Mayor Dieguez was absent.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

The moment of silence was led by Councilmember Garcia.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Sanchez.

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

Councilmember Garcia moved to approve Committee Reports 10A and 10B to be heard after Public Comments. Councilmember Herzberg pulled Item 12G from the Consent Calendar. Vice Mayor Morera pulled Items 12B, 12C and 12E from the consent calendar.

Councilmember Garcia moved to approve the New Order of Business. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

After Item 8A was discussed, Vice Mayor Morera moved to reopen the agenda. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Mayor Morera then moved to defer Item 16A and 16E, both of Mayor Dieguez' New Business Items, to the next Regular Council Meeting and he also moved Items 12E and 12G to be discussed after Item 8A. Councilmember Garcia seconded the item. The motion passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Youtube 51:20)

(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. Carolina Cuba came before the Town Council to participate in Public Comments. She stated that the Youth Advisory Board was established in 2024 but remains inactive. She explained that the residency requirement is one of the main reasons as to why she thinks the Board remains inactive. She stated that the residency requirement prevents students who are actively part of the Miami Lakes community from applying to the Board. She thanked the Town Council for their time and consideration.

Mr. Abel Fernandez participated in Public Comments via zoom. He stated that the drainage issues in the Royal Oaks Area have improved. He explained that he disagrees with the Florida State legislature marginalizing certain members of the community.

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

7. APPOINTMENTS:

Vice Mayor Morera announced the following appointments:

Mr. Gabriel Fernandez to the Economic Development Committee by Councilmember Fernandez.

Ms. Fiorella Vano to the Cultural Affairs Committee by Councilmember Garcia.

8. MANAGER'S REPORTS:

A. Town-wide Survey Efforts 2025 (Cure, Pidermann)

Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, Mr. German Cure presented his item and introduced Mr. Jason Morado, Vice President of Community Research with ETC Institute who attended via Zoom and gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Town-wide Survey results and answered questions posed by Town Council.

Councilmember Sanchez requested a map to show the areas affected by flooding.

Councilmember Garcia requested a map for all the areas of opportunity that the Town is not up to par with other municipalities.

Once the discussion of Item 8A ended, Vice Mayor Morera moved to reopen the agenda. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Mayor Morera recognized Mr. David Marin, from Senator Rene Garcia's office, for being present at the meeting and for looking out for the community. Vice Mayor Morera then moved to defer Item 16A and 16B, Mayor Dieguez' New Business Items, to the next Regular Council Meeting and he also moved Items 12E and 12G to after Item 8A. Councilmember Garcia seconded the item. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Vulnerability Assessment Study and Adaptation Plan Presentation (Santos)

Public Works Director, Mr. Omar Santos, along with Ms. Gisselle Guitierrez, presented the report and answered questions posed by Town Council.

Grants and Governmental Affairs Manager, Ms. Olivia Shock, came before the Town Council and provided feedback about having already begun the process on some of these opportunities for funding some of these resiliency projects.

After further discussion, no motions were made. It was stated that the resolution to adopt this item is under the consent calendar.

C. Public Works Monthly Infrastructure Report (Santos)

Public Works Director, Mr. Omar Santos, presented the Monthly Infrastructure Report and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

Vice Mayor Morera recommended the Gantt chart of the timelines on pg. 82 of the agenda, to be put in landscape mode to be able to see the full timeline. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia shared his concerns with regards to the Canal Embankment Stabilization Project, Phases 1, 2 and 3. He requested legal feedback from the attorneys that the Town is going to held accountable.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated that they can look at the agreement from Phase 1, and for Phase 2, an inspection can be done. Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated that it is the only way we would have some backing to move forward in any legal respect and with

Phase 3. Public Works Director Santos stated that inspections on Phase 3 have been done and results have been provided. Director Santos and Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella answered questions posed by Town Council.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated they would look at what remedies or what actions the Town can take against some homeowners for the damage they are causing to the canal banks in Miami Lakes.

After further discussion, Councilmember Cuadra Garcia mentioned that he wanted the Town Council to go out to the Canal Embankment Stabilization Project site and do another inspection after a couple of days of rain and see how it reacts. He stated that Phase 2 and Phase 3 are starting to wash out because we have not considered that we are in a blasting zone. Vice Mayor Morera recommended for Town Staff to set up another field trip for Phases 2 and 3 and coordinate for Town Council to find a date so they can go out there. After discussion, no motions were made.

D. Monthly Police Report (Gonzalez, Ulloa)

Lieutenant Ulloa presented the Police Report and answered questions posed by the Town Council.

E. Budget Calendar (Hernandez, Pidermann)

Town Manager, Mr. Pidermann, presented the budget calendar dates stipulated in the memo. Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Detailed Budget Preparation Timeline. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion for discussion.

After brief discussion, Budget Director, Ms. Hernandez provided clarity on the Budget Calendar proposed date for the Strategic Planning Budget Town Council Workshop and stated she has given all the department directors from April 1st to April 15th to submit their budget. She also explained that the purpose of planning the Strategic Planning Budget Town Council Workshop on March 31st is so that department directors can hear from Town Council where the direction is and what they should then submit in their department proposals. Vice Mayor Morera recommended approving the calendar as is, and that a new date for the Strategic Planning Budget Town Council Workshop be determined through the Town Clerk's Office or through the Town Manager, and to look out for alternate dates that work for everyone.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

F. Update on Code Enforcement Liens (Angel)

Building Department Director, Mr. Angel, presented the item and answered questions posed by the Town Council. He provided the Town Council with an update regarding the Town's

efforts to resolve outstanding Code Enforcement liens of non-homestead properties and presented potential policy options for addressing cases that remain unresolved. He stated that Town Staff members are seeking Town Council direction on whether to proceed with foreclosure under the current ordinance or consider a one-time proposal of a six-month mitigation, 75% reduction on all liens, homestead and non-homestead liens for properties owners to resolve their outstanding liens.

After further discussion, Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the item with Option #2 in the memo, which is to amend the ordinance to allow a one-time limited six-month mitigation period on any property in which we would potentially be going into foreclosure, and that it must come before Town Council for a majority approval, before a foreclosure action is filed in the courts, and during the six-month window, we would revert back to the old method of lien mitigation and at the expiration of the six-month window we return to the strengthen lien mitigation structure, what we currently have today. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. After brief discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Director Angerl requested a point of personal privilege to address an update on the upcoming RFP for the new Digital Community Development Platform.

9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Mental Health Task Force Report

Vice Mayor Morera moved to defer the Mental Health Task Force Report to the next Regular Council Meeting. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Blasting Advisory Board Report

Chairperson William Miguel Martinez presented the report and went over the events and initiatives that the committee has been working on and answered questions posed by Town Council. He stated he provided Town Council with an updated agenda.

Vice Mayor Morera made a motion to add the Pilot Statistics Program at the end of this report to the Blasting Advisory Board section in the Town Website, to approve the science project and requested Chair Martinez to confer with the Town's Communications Department on making sure that the sponsorship from United Dental Specialist was done fairly per sponsorship ordinance. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion.

After brief discussion, Vice Mayor Morera added that pg. 1 of the Pilot Statistics Program, be put up as an RSS feed on our Town Website, where it is automatically updated as the Mine Activity Clearing House website updates, to show a live feed of the actual numbers. The motion passed unanimously.

11. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None.

12. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Fernandez moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Approval of Minutes

February 17, 2026 Regular Council Meeting
February 27, 2026 Sunshine Meeting

The minutes were approved in the Consent Calendar.

B. Feasibility Study – Traffic Alternatives – Palmetto and Miami Lakes Drive (Alonso, Santos)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWNMANAGER TO EXECUTE WORK ORDER NO. 06 WITH KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR A MIAMI LAKES DRIVE TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS FEASIBILITY STUDY, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$55,000.00, INCLUDING A PROJECT CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Morera pulled the item. He clarified that this is not a \$55,000 project, he emphasized that this is an \$86,000 project and moved to approve the item. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion. After further discussion, the motion passed 4-2. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia and Councilmember Garcia voted in opposition.

C. Authorization to Award a Contract for ITB 2026-04 Lake Maintenance Services (Marrero, Bajdaun)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO SOLITUDE LAKE MANAGEMENT AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR ITB 2026-04 LAKE MAINTENANCE SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT AND ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Morera pulled the item. He stated he received clarification that the vendor for the lake maintenance is the existing vendor and moved to approve the item. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Authorization to Award a Contract for RFP 2025-21R Federal Lobbying Services (Marrero, Pidermann)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH NEW CENTURY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, LLC FOR FEDERAL LOBBYING SERVICES PURSUANT TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 2025-21R; PROVIDING FOR A CONTRACT AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) PER MONTH OR SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$60,000) ANNUALLY; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

E. Authorization to Award a Contract for ITB 2026-05 Painting of Town Bus Shelters & Related Fixtures (Marrero, Alonso)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO SKY PEAK CONSTRUCTION, LLC AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR ITB 2026-05 PAINTING OF TOWN BUS SHELTERS & RELATED FIXTURES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED BUDGETED FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT AND ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO AWARD THE CONTRACT TO THE SECOND LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER IN THE EVENT THE LOWEST BIDDER IS UNABLE TO PERFORM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Morera pulled this item. Town Manager Pidermann presented the item and Vice Mayor Morera stated the reason he pulled this item was more procedural reasons, because he had noticed the client reference letter was not signed. He mentioned that similar issues arise in item 12C, and he wanted to emphasize that Town Staff needs to comply with our Town procedures. Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the item. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the item. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

F. Adoption of the Town of Miami Lakes Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan (Santos)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION PLAN; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was approved in the Consent Calendar.

G. Palma Del Lago Covenant (Pidermann)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE A COVENANT WITH GT HOMES MIAMI LAKES, LP; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilmember Herzberg pulled this item. He stated he saw issues with the covenant regarding what happens when the developer sells a home that no longer exists. He specifically asked what would happen if in the future, the developer is gone and if the HOA's is not that active, and we have irrigation lines and landscaping concerns and then residents will state that it is Town's property, and they will eventually ask the Town to fix these issues. He asked Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella to explain how to resolve his concerns.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella explained that it is common practice in Miami-Dade County, that when there is a new plat, there is always a provision that you create a dormant STD. He explained that the idea in this item is for GT Homes, and the Town would submit the application for a dormant Special Taxing District, only activated if the HOA fails their duty to properly maintain or if the HOA becomes defunct. That way the taxpayers will not have to fix and maintain the irrigation, the landscaping and for the area dedicated to mailboxes.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella then stated that the Town Attorneys would like to work with the GT Homes Attorneys and finalize and negotiate that covenant and add other things that they identified that will strengthen it and work into this STD fix. Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella then requested for Town Council to approve the resolution as is, including the covenant as is, with the provision, should there be a Home Owners Association (HOA) fail or GT Homes fail, that there would be a Special Taxing District (STD), that it is the responsibility of GT Homes together with the Town to submit the application for a Special Taxing District (STD) to the county, once said application is submitted they can go ahead and obtain a Certificate of Occupancy (CO). Town Attorney Gastesi interjected and further clarified that GT Homes cannot close on a home until the application is submitted to the county.

Ms. Melissa Tapanes, Attorney for GT Homes, provided feedback and answered questions posed by Town Council. She stated they are trying to close out their landscaping permit, which was approved by the Town Council and that she is willing and able to work with the Town regarding the dormant Special Taxing District and that GT Homes is ready to close on these homes in the next months. She also read into the record the covenant language proffered to the Town Attorneys to address this specific issue. She stated:

“Upon the conveyance of the property and turnover of control by GT Homes to the Homeowner's Association, all rights, duties and obligations and liabilities of GT homes under this covenant, shall automatically and without further action, signed and assumed by the Association and in the event the Association is dissolve, terminated or otherwise ceases to exist for any reason, then all obligations under this covenant shall automatically vest in and be assumed by any legal entity or mechanism that succeeds to the maintenance responsibilities for the property or if none jointly and severally by all the record owners of the lot within the property”.

The Town Council posed questions to the Landscape architect. After further discussion, Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the item with the recommendation provided by the Town Attorneys of the dormant Special Taxing District, which is proffered in the application, submit a no Certificate of Occupancy (CO) until the application has been submitted and authorize the Town Attorneys to work with the GT Homes counsel, to finalize that covenant in the same form the Town Council has before them. Vice Mayor Morera moved all recommendations together with the condition that once the owner signs the covenant, they have to deliver it to the Town, and the Town has to be the party that records it. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

13. ORDINANCE- FIRST READING:

a. Mid-Year Budget Amendment (Hernandez, Pidermann)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN'S FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET ESTABLISHED BY ORDINANCE NO. 25-346; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Attorney Gastesi read the title of the ordinance in first reading into the record.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item. He recommended to approve the amendment to the FY 2025-26 Budget to carry over prior year's estimated surplus to fund the following: (1) projects that were budgeted and commenced in the prior year but not completed, (2) allocate donations and or sponsorship funds for the committees that were not utilized in the prior year, and (3) allocate funds for one-time operating and/or capital improvement expenditures.

In addition, Town Manager Pidermann stated that the budget amendment recognizes grants awarded to the Town, as well as donations received for specific Town events. He also stated the unassigned fund balance at the Town Council's discretion, for their consideration. He concluded by stating that Town Staff put together a series of considerations, for Town Council to consider using the unassigned fund balance amount.

Councilmember Herzberg made a motion to approve the item. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion for discussion.

After brief discussion, Town Manager Pidermann stated the list of considerations put together by Town Staff is just for conversation, and that anything that Town Council wants to allocate from this list of considerations or anything else offered would require an amendment to the ordinance. Councilmember Herzberg recommended not putting surveys on line, because we do not want to advertise what we are willing to spend and he also stated to focus on immediate needs and the rest of the money put away in a contingency fund and use it for budget season.

Councilmember Garcia moved to amend the budget amendment and consider replenishing the \$400,000 for the MLOP (Miami Lakes Optimist Park) account. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion for discussion. After further discussion, the Town Clerk called the roll and motion died 2-4. Councilmember Cuadra Garcia, Councilmember Herzberg, Councilmember Sanchez and Vice Mayor Morera voted in opposition.

Vice Mayor Morera proposed recommendations to the budget amendment and Parks & Recreation Director, Mr. Bajdaun, provided clarification on what the considerations for the pocket parks and playground parts are for. After discussion, Councilmember Herzberg made a motion to clear some of the recommendations and moved to reduce roadway maintenance to zero, sidewalks replacements to \$75,000 and removed lines 13-17, from the list of considerations completely, to put a contingency fund to hold the money for budget season. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion and recommended keeping those funds in a non-departmental, as its own version of a safeguard so those funds cannot be used unless it comes back to Town Council, through an ordinance for an amendment. The motion passed 5-1. Councilmember Garcia voted in opposition.

Principal Town Planner, Ms. Alonso, provided explanation as to what is contained in the considerations line-item Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR). After brief discussion, Vice Mayor Morera moved to remove the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) item from the considerations list and stated that amount can fall back into the non-departmental, and when Town Staff goes out for bids, we will just pull it out of non-departmental. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion. Town Manager Pidermann clarified that Town Council is giving Town Staff the greenlight to go out and do the solicitations and bring it back to Town Council. The motion passed 5-1. Councilmember Fernandez voted in opposition.

Councilmember Sanchez reiterated his amendment to add to the \$57,500 as a contingency, to fully fund the traffic project at Bob Graham Education Center, if we do not get the project fully funded from Tallahassee from Appropriations and \$8,500 for the field south of Babara Goleman Senior High School, to prevent dumping to the considerations list. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. During discussion, Councilmember Herzberg then made an amendment to Councilmember Sanchez' amendment to only vote for the \$57,500 for the contingency to fully fund the traffic project at Bob Graham Education Center due to the time sensitivity on State allocations. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the amendment. After brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Vice Mayor Morera moved to remove the 11 new bollards for damaged existing – Veterans Park item from the considerations list. Councilmember Herzberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Herzberg moved to fully fund the Education Advisory Board STEM elective. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. After brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Pidermann went over the list of considerations to make sure he got everything correct and made sure everyone was on the same page. Budget Officer Hernandez requested to place the \$150,000 in a contingency reserve so when it comes back, Town Staff does not have to make a budget amendment. Budget Officer Hernandez

explained it would just be a resolution because it would be transferring one line item to another. Vice Mayor Morera moved the request and Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further discussion, the main motion as amended, ordinance in first reading, item 13A passed 5-1; Councilmember Garcia voted in opposition.

14. ORDINANCE IN SECOND READING:

a. Procurement Ordinance (Lopez)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE NO. 17-203 PERTAINING TO PURCHASING PROCEDURES; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE REVISED RULES AND REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; 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. Then he read the Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing instructions into the record for item 14A.

Vice Mayor Morera opened the hearing for public comments. There being no public comments and the public hearing was closed.

Vice Mayor Morera made a motion to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilmember Garcia seconded the item.

Deputy Town Manager, Dr. Lopez, presented the item and answered questions posed by Town Council. He highlighted the first and second reading edits of the procurement ordinance including but not limited to updates to the bid protest filing fees and costs, adding a certification requirement for suspension and debarment of vendors and a term of method section that outlines and defines several procurement methodologies that are available to us and what provisions they should contain or at least for us to consider to contain. There being no further discussion, the Town Clerk called the roll and the motion passed 6-0.

15. RESOLUTIONS:

A. Authorization to Apply for the 2026 Hurricane Loss Mitigation Grant Program (Shock)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE 2026 HURRICANE LOSS MITIGATION PROGRAM (HLMP) GRANT THROUGH THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR THE MIAMI LAKES WEST LAKES GARDENS THIRD ADDITIONAL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000; AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IF AWARDED; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION

OF GRANT AGREEMENTS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item. Vice Mayor Morera moved to approve the item. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

B. Authorization to Apply for the 2026 Lowe’s Community Impact Grant Program (Shock)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE 2026 LOWE’S COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANT PROGRAM TO FUND THE MIAMI LAKES POCKET PARKS PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000; AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IF AWARDED; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENTS AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS AND SUBMISSION OF REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Town Manager Pidermann presented the item. Councilmember Garcia moved to approve the item. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion. There being no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

16. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Public Art Land Development Code Requirement (Dieguez)

This item was deferred by the Town Council to be discussed at the April Regular Council meeting.

B. Committee Report to Council Form Update (Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg presented his item and made a motion to updating the Committee Report Form, for committees to include a simple section identifying any request for Town Council approval and allowing the Town Council to act on those items during said report, rather than requiring the committee to return at a later meeting or allowing committees to act without proper direction from the Council.

He stated this will also provide Town Staff with clearer directions. He explained that we should enter a resolution to direct staff to implement the revised Report to Council form, attached hereto, which adds a section requiring committees to clearly identify any new initiative, event, or budget item requiring Council approval. Vice Morera seconded the item.

After brief comments the motion passed unanimously.

C. Installing “Leaving Town of Miami Lakes” on 77th CT (Fernandez)

Councilmember Fernandez made a motion directing Town Staff to evaluate the feasibility, cost, and appropriate placement of a “Leaving Town of Miami Lakes” sign along NW 77th Court between Miami Lakes Drive and NW 169th Street, in addition to including a sign on Miami Lakes Drive and NW 57th Ave. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion and asked Councilmember Fernandez for safety, if he wanted the signs to be lit at night. Councilmember Fernandez confirmed and stated we can include solar lights. After brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Protecting the Town’s Tree Canopies (Garcia)

Councilmember Garcia presented his item and due to the reoccurring issues with the Oak Trees in Town swales being illegally and unhealthily trimmed by unscrupulous landscapers, he made a motion asking the Town Manager and Town Attorney if we a mechanism can be created to hold landscapers accountable, by imposing fines and removing their ability to do business in the Town. In addition, Councilmember Garcia stated that he wants a blacklist to be created and shared with residents, so residents can report these landscapers, if they see them doing business within the town of Miami Lakes. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the item.

Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella provided legal feedback and answered questions posed by the Town Council. Councilmember Garcia requested for the Town Attorneys to conduct research and look at any legal remedies or even lawsuits, whatever it takes to prevent these landscapers from doing this and any criminal charges we can face.

Vice Mayor Morera added that he believes that when it does happen at a residential or commercial property, a concurrent fine should also go to homeowner or the property owner. He shared his concern regarding the second part of the item which is the part of compiling some form of blacklists, and he stated that if we are allowed to do that, to look for a better way of phrasing that. Deputy Town Attorney Cobiella stated he would investigate that. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

E. Autism Acceptance Flag (Sanchez)

Vice Mayor Morera moved to waive 7.2 of the Special Reules of Order for this item. Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Councilmember Sanchez presented his item. He moved that in recognition of Autism Acceptance Month, for the Town to participate in this important observance by flying an Autism Acceptance Flag on April 2. If feasible, it is further recommended that the flag remain raised throughout the entire month of April to reinforce the Town’s commitment to acceptance and understanding. Councilmember Fernandez seconded the motion.

Councilmember Garcia requested to be a co-sponsor of the item. Councilmember Herzberg shared his concerns regarding the item due to SB 1334 legislation going into effect January 1, 2027, that may conflict with the flag request and his recommendation to remain neutral content. Councilmember Sanchez requested Town Attorneys to review state and federal law regarding permitted or allowable flags.

After further discussion, Vice Mayor Morera offered a friendly amendment to fly the Autism Acceptance Flag, to light up Town Hall in the Autism Awareness color for the entire month of April. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion. The amendment passed 5-1. Councilmember Garcia voted in opposition. The main motion as amended passed unanimously.

F. Changes to Recording of Covenants (Dieguez)

This item was deferred by the Town Council to be discussed at the April Regular Council meeting.

G. HB 1001 (Herzberg)

Councilmember Herzberg presented his item. He made a motion for the Town Attorney to review the final enacted version of SB 1134 and for the Town Attorney to provide a written legal opinion addressing the Town programs potentially restricted by SB 1134 plus whatever else the Town Attorney believes is necessary, so when we come to budgeting season we are not going to be removed from office. Councilmember Sanchez seconded the motion.

After further discussion, Councilmember Herzberg added that if the Town Attorneys find litigation to keep up with it, because he will want to file an amicus briefing in an appellate court. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Herzberg moved to extend the meeting to 11:15 p.m. Vice Mayor Morera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

17. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Town Manager Evaluation (Cuadra Garcia)

Councilmember Cuadra Garcia withdrew his item from and requested that his evaluation remain in the Human Resources records.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

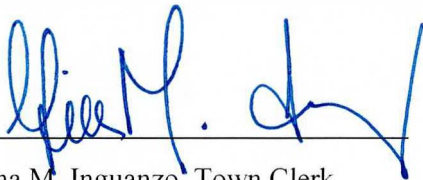
There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01pm.

Approved this 21st of April 2026.



Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk