



**CITY OF WEST MIAMI
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15TH, 2014
7:30 PM
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
901 S.W. 62ND AVENUE
WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA**

1. **INVOCATION.** City Manager Yolanda Aguilar gave the Invocation.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Police Captain Carlos Avila led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL.** Mayor Muhiña called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present were Mayor Eduardo H. Muhiña, Vice-Mayor Luciano L. Suarez, Commissioner Candida Blanca, Commissioner Juan M. Blanes and Commissioner Elsa J. Vazquez.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: Mayor Muhiña instructed the City Clerk to take item 9 out of order.

4. **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES FOR APPROVAL FOR DECEMBER 19TH, 2013 SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING.** Commissioner Blanca made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Suarez. All were in favor.
5. **REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER.** The City Manager submitted a written and verbal report, which included the following:
 - FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) - Traffic Calmer/Pedestrian Safety and Lighting Project
 - Grant Writing presentation at Florida International University
 - 2013 VITA Program (Income Tax Preparation site)
 - Potable Water/Improvement and Service Lines
 - Martin Luther King Holiday
6. **REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY.** The City Attorney reported that the City Clerk brought to his attention that the Qualifying period for the City of West Miami Municipal Elections of April 8th, 2014, which was supposed to start on Monday, February 17th, 2014 at noon falls on a holiday (President's Day). Therefore, City Attorney suggested having the first day of qualifying on Tuesday, February 18th, 2014 starting at noon and ending on Monday February 24th, 2014 at noon. All were in favor.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: Since Item 11K) was related to the discussion, the Mayor instructed to take said item out of order.



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7. **REPORT OF THE CITY ENGINEER.** No report submitted.
8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** The Mayor wished everybody a happy and healthy new year 2014.

Commissioner Blanes reported he was able to secure donated gym equipment for the Recreation Center.

9. **CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS.** No presentations.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: Item 11 B) was taken out of order.

10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A) **NOMINATION OF ALTERNATE MEMBERS TO THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD AND SELECTION OF MEETING DATE.**

Mayor Muhiña nominated Alexander Soto as an alternate member to the Charter Review Board.

Commissioner Vazquez requested to postpone her nomination until the meeting of February 5th, 2014.

After a brief discussion it was agreed unanimously to hold the next Charter Review Board meeting on March 5th, 2014 at 6:00 P.M.

11. **NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS:**

- A) **AWARD OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO SPONSORS OF "LIGHTING OF THE TREE 2013" EVENT.** The certificates recognizing the sponsors were presented by the Mayor and the City Commission.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: After the presentation Items 11 C) was taken out of order.

- B) **PRESENTATION BY MARILYN STEPHENS, DATA DISSEMINATION SPECIALIST FROM THE US CENSUS BUREAU.** Ms. Stephens, on behalf of the US Census made an informative presentation.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: After this item The Mayor requested taking Item 11 A) out of order.



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- C) **A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED MIXED USE PROJECT LOCATED AT 950 SW 57 AVENUE, WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA AND DECLARING THAT THE PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE REVITALIZATION EFFORTS OF THE CITY TO IMPROVE THE SW 57 AVENUE CORRIDOR.**

Felix M. Lasarte, from the Lasarte Law Firm, 3250 NE 1st AVE, #334 Miami, FL 33137 spoke in support of the item.

Robert Suris, from Estate Investments Group, LLC, 4949 SW 75th AVE, Miami, FL 33155 spoke in support of the item.

After a brief discussion Vice-Mayor Suarez made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vazquez. All were in favor.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: Item 11 J) was taken out of order.

- D) **REQUEST FOR MITIGATION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT LIENS FOR CODE VIOLATIONS AT THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6090 SW 11 ST, WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA, AND OWNER BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.**

Ronald E. Kaufman, Esq., Board Certified Construction Attorney, Certified Circuit Civil Mediator, from Law Offices of Ronald E. Kaufman, P.A., 2332 Galiano Street, 2nd Floor Coral Gables, FL 33134, spoke on behalf of Federal Mortgage Association and requested the mitigation of the fines for code violations. After a brief discussion it was agreed unanimously to mitigate the liens for code violations, plus the utilities owed to the City, for the amount of twenty thousand dollars.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: The records were corrected to reflect Federal Mortgage Association as the property owner.

- E) **RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A MITIGATION OFFER IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLAS (\$20,000.00) FROM FEDERAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION ON CODE ENFORCEMENT LIENS FOR CODE VIOLATIONS AT THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6090 SW 11TH ST, WEST MIAMI, FL; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.** After a brief discussion the City Attorney recommended the mitigation amount to be paid in thirty days. Upon motion by Vice-Mayor Suarez, second by Commissioner Blanca and unanimous 5-0 vote, the foregoing Resolution was adopted with the proposed amendments.

- F) **RECOMMENDATION ON GRANT WRITER SERVICES BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER.** The City Manager recommended contracting Mr. Roberto Ruano as Grant Writer.



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- G) **RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ECOSTRATA SERVICES, THROUGH ITS PRESIDENT, ROBERTO RUANO FOR THE PURPOSE OF GRANT WRITING SERVICES, PROVIDING FOR A RETAINER AGREEMENT, PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.** Upon motion by Commissioner Blanes, second by Commissioner Blanca and unanimous 5-0 vote, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: Mayor Muñiña instructed the City Clerk to proceed with the regular order of the Agenda, with Item 4.

- H) **REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE FOUR CITIZENSERVE USER SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FOUR STEP-UP USER ACCOUNTS TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION AND TRAINING.** The City Manager and the Director of Planning and Zoning requested the Resolution and recommended approval.
- I) **RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SPEND NINE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$9,600.00) FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR CITIZENSERVE USER SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FOUR STEP-UP USER ACCOUNTS TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION AND TRAINING TO BE PAID FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT/CODE COMPLIANCE ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACHIEVING FULL ACCESS TO THE PERMIT TRACKING SYSTEM RECENTLY ACQUIRED FROM CITIZENSERVE ONLINE SOLUTIONS.** Upon motion by Commissioner Blanes and second by Commissioner Blanca, the foregoing Resolution was adopted with a 5-0 unanimous vote.
- J) **REPORT BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER RE: BUILDING DEPARTMENT.** The City Manager submitted a written and verbal report to provide the Mayor and City Commission with an update on progress made with the Building Department transition. The City Manager informed that after some issues that have surfaced, which will impede the City's ability to honor Mr. Francisco Alonso, P.E. from T.Y. Lin, as the City's Building Official, her office designated Mr. Eugenio M. Santiago, P.E. Mr. Santiago currently serves as the Building Official for the Village of Key Biscayne and has temporarily agreed to assist the City during the transition. The City Manager further requested that Resolution #2013-76 be amended to include Mr. Eugenio Santiago, P.E., CFM as the City's Building Official effective immediately, until further notice. All were in favor.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: The Mayor instructed the City Clerk to proceed with items 11 F) and 11 G).



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- K) **A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR THE ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND TWO COMMISSION MEMBERS, ELECTED AT LARGE, WITH THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH, 2014, AS PROVIDED BY THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI; DESIGNATION OF THE CANVASSING BOARD; PROVIDING FOR THE CLOSING OF REGISTRATION BOOKS; DESIGNATING HOURS AND PLACES FOR VOTING, AND ESTABLISHING THE QUALIFYING FEE FOR MAYOR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Upon motion by Commissioner Vazquez, second by Vice-Mayor Suarez and unanimous 5-0 vote, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: The Mayor instructed the City Clerk to proceed with the regular order of the Agenda, with Item 7.

- L) **REQUEST BY VICE-MAYOR SUAREZ TO BE NOMINATED TO THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BOARD.** Vice-Mayor Suarez expressed he was acting on a solicitation by the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council Board to fill a vacancy. Commissioner Blanca motioned to nominate Vice-Mayor Suarez for the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blanca. By 5-0 vote this item passed.
- M) **RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER THE EXPENDITURE OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (LETF) AS A MATCH FOR A GRANT OF \$90,207.00 PROVIDED BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT (FDLE); PROVIDING FOR FUNDING FROM FDLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,207.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE TO IMPLEMENT A COMPUTERIZED POLICE REPORT SYSTEM; AT NO COST TO THE TAXPAYER.** Upon motion by Commissioner Blanca, second by Commissioner Blanes and unanimous 5-0 vote, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

12. **GOOD OF THE ORDER.** None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the City Commission, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY ANNERY GONZALEZ, CITY CLERK