



**CITY OF WEST MIAMI  
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
HYBRID MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2021  
7:30 PM  
COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
901 S.W. 62<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE  
WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA**

**ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**  
<https://zoom.us/j/3255236059>

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:** The City Clerk read the instructions to participate in the hybrid Commission Meeting.

- 1. INVOCATION.** Mayor Rhonda A. Rodriguez gave the Invocation.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Director of Public Works Juan Pena led Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. ROLL CALL.** The City Commission for the City of West Miami met in regular hybrid session on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 beginning at 7:30 PM in the City of West Miami Commission Chambers, 901 S.W. 62<sup>nd</sup> AVE, West Miami, FL 33144 and through Zoom Video Conferencing <https://zoom.us/j/3255236059>  
Present at the Commission Chambers were: Mayor Rhonda A. Rodriguez, Commissioner Candida Blanca and Commissioner Juan M. Blanes.  
Present through Zoom were: Vice-Mayor Eric Diaz-Padron and Commissioner Luciano L. Suarez.  
Also in attendance were: City Manager Yolanda Aguilar, City Clerk Annery Gonzalez and City Attorney Jose A. Villalobos were present through Zoom.
- 4. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES FOR APPROVAL FOR DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 SPECIAL COMMISSION HYBRID MEETING.** Commissioner Blanca motioned to approve the Minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blanes. All voted in favor by a 5;/0 voice vote.

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES FOR APPROVAL FOR DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 REGULAR COMMISSION HYBRID MEETING.** Commissioner Blanca motioned to approve the Minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blanes. All voted in favor by a 5;/0 voice vote.

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES FOR APPROVAL FOR JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 REGULAR COMMISSION HYBRID MEETING.** Commissioner Blanca motioned to approve the Minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blanes. All voted in favor by a 5;/0 voice vote.

- 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** No public comments.

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:** Commissioner Blanca requested a point of privilege to request the reconsideration of the time of Commission meetings. The request entailed the reconsideration of holding the meetings at 10:30 am instead of 7:30 pm. A discussion ensued and all the



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Commission members expressed their points of view. After the discussion Vice-Mayor Diaz-Padron, Commissioners Blanes and Suarez voted to keep the meetings at 7:30 pm. Mayor Rodriguez and Commissioner Blanca voted for the meetings at 10:30 am. By a 3/2 vote the meetings at 7:30 pm prevailed.

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:** The Mayor congratulated Corporate Citizen Mr. Elliot Asbel on his birthday.

6. **REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER.** The City Manager submitted a verbal report on the following:
  - Chief of Police Health Condition
  - \$ 75.00 one-Time Water Credit
  - Commencement Packet for FRDAP Grant
  - Front Office Re-organization
  - Document Management
  - New Front Office Clerk
  - Freebee Riderships
7. **REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY.** No report submitted.
8. **REPORT OF THE CITY ENGINEER.** The City Engineer submitted a verbal report on the status of the Water Main Improvements Project Phase 1. There was a discussion in regards to the dust problem generated by the aforementioned project, the Police Off-Duty work and the use of water to mitigate the dust. The City Engineer answered questions. The City Manager would provide a follow-up report at the end of the week.
9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.** No reports.
10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.
11. **NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS:**
  - A) **Request for Mitigation of liens for code violations at the property located at 6287 SW 12<sup>th</sup> ST, West Miami, FL 33144 and owner Geanna Diez.** The Chief Code Enforcement provided the highlights of the case. Geanna Diez, property owner, 7795 Point Vicente Court, Jacksonville, FL 32256, provided details of the case. There was a discussion. The City Manager recommended a mitigation amount for Fifteen Thousand Dollars ( \$15,000.00), said amount to be paid at closing and/or 45 days.



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- B) 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 FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000.00) FROM GEANNA DIEZ ON CODE ENFORCEMENT LIENS FOR CODE VIOLATIONS AT THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6287 SW 12<sup>TH</sup> STREET, WEST MIAMI, FL; PROVIDING THAT IF PAYMENT IN FULL IS NOT PAID AT CLOSING AND FORTY FIVE DAYS (45) DAYS THEN THE AMOUNT OWED SHALL REVERT TO THE ORIGINAL LIEN AMOUNT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** After a discussion Commissioner Blanes motioned to approve the Resolution as discussed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blanca. All voted in favor by a 5/0 voice vote.
- C) RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ISSUE PAYMENT TO TY-LIN INTERNATIONAL FOR SERVICES RENDERED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF THE 2019 WATER AND SEWER ATLAS IN GIS FORMAT, AS REQUIRED BY THE MIAMI DADE COUNTY FEDERAL CONSENT DECREE MIAMI DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (DERM) AGENCY, SAID FUNDS TO BE PAID FROM SEWER PHASE I AND SEWER PHASE II RESERVES FOR FY ENDED SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2020, PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.** The City Engineer provided a detailed explanation of the project. The City Manager spoke of the financial portion of the project. After a discussion Vice-Mayor Diaz-Padron motioned to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Suarez. All voted in favor by a 5/0 voice vote. This Resolution was adopted and entered into the record.
- D) Report and recommendation by the office of the City Manager Re: The 2021 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant application cycle.** The City Manager informed the City had been notified by Miami-Dade County TPO about the opening of the 2020-2021 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant Application Cycle, which has a criteria for eligible projects the City can apply for, there is a window of time to be able to submit said grant application for 2024-2025. The City Manager further recommended the authorization of the Commission to continue the work the City started with the Traffic Calmers, that were identified in the May 2020 submittal of the Citywide Traffic Study. These Grant applications range from Half a Million to a Million Dollars. A discussion ensued in regards to traffic signs. All were in favor of the City Manager proceeding with the Grant application process.
- E) Initial Report by the Office of Mayor Rhonda Rodriguez/City Manager regarding the need to establish Legislative priorities for FY 2020-2021 State Budget.** The Mayor informed the 2021 Legislative Session is upon us. The Mayor and the Manager had recently communicated with the office of the Legislative Consultant Jonathan Kilman, who recommended certain priorities for this year. The City Manager recommended a Resolution to be considered at the next Commission meeting to support legislative appropriations to pursue grants on behalf of the City. All were in favor.



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**F) Update/Report/Follow-Up Re: Damages to Sewer Line on SW 10<sup>th</sup> TERR and SW 62<sup>nd</sup> AVE.** The City Manager informed the City Manager, City Attorney and Director of Public Works had participated in a conference call with one of the adjusters for one of the many subcontractors that were involved in the project. The City has around \$100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) worth of reimbursables. As of this date that City has not received an offer to settle. The City Manager further recommended the City Attorney should prepare a demand letter. The City Attorney further recommended the Office of the City Manager should first issue a letter to the contractor and report back to the Commission. All were in favor.

**G) Discussion on proposal to enact an ordinance concerning state of emergencies.** Vice-Mayor Diaz-Padron expressed the fact that the City does not have any legislation considering a State of Emergency has been inconvenient during these times, particularly during this pandemic. Further the Vice-Mayor recommended as Phase I of an Ordinance (Discussion) to consider a very basic framework outlining the powers of the City Manager, Public Works Director, Parks Director, City Attorney amongst others. Creating a very strong check and balance to have in the books that allowing the City to operate under actual emergencies. All were in favor to instruct the City Attorney to draft said Ordinances.

**H) Discussion on proposal to repeal, replace, and codify the current occupational licensing ordinances.** Vice-Mayor Diaz-Padron expressed the Ordinance providing for regulations and fees for Occupational Licenses was not codified in 1972 when it was adopted. Further Vice-Mayor Diaz-Padron recommended as Phase I of the Ordinance (Discussion) to leave the rates as they are, just entertain the modification on the language of said Ordinance. All were in favor to instruct the City Attorney and Director of Planning and Zoning to work on a draft Ordinance.

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:** Commissioner Blanes inquired about the possible legislation to allow certain fencing materials. The Director of Planning and Zoning expressed said Ordinance was remanded to the Planning and Zoning Board and it will be included in the next meeting's Agenda.

**I) Discussion on proposal to amend and codify requirements for the registration of lobbying and consulting in the City of West Miami.** Vice-Mayor Diaz-Padron expressed there is a Resolution that was adopted in 2003 providing for Lobbying Registration and Issue Application, which should be codified. The City Attorney informed that at a recent Ethics Commission meeting attorneys were informed that in the absence of any municipal ordinance on the issue, the municipality must follow the guidelines by the Ethics Commission as codified in the County's Ordinance. All were in favor.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**13. GOOD OF THE ORDER.** Commissioner Blanes provided information about "El Mago de las Fritas". In closing Commissioner Blanes commended the services of the Passport Office. Mayor Rodriguez spoke about the gratitude expressed by City's residents for the \$ 75.00 water credit.



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**ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business before the City Commission the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:40 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Annery Gonzalez".

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**ANNERY GONZALEZ, MMC  
CITY CLERK**

**APPROVED:** *2/17/2021 Regular Commission Meeting*