

**Mayor**

Yioset De La Cruz

**City Council Members**

Chairman Luciano "Lucky" García

Vice Chairman Rolando "Roly" Piña

Council member Jorge A. Merida

Council member Jorge Gutierrez

Council member Elmo L. Urra

**MINUTES**

**CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS  
TUESDAY, April 19, 2022  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
10001 NW 87 AVENUE**

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:** Present were Chairman Luciano Garcia, Councilman Elmo L. Urra, Councilman Jorge A. Merida and Councilman Rolando Piña. Also present were Mayor Yioset De La Cruz and City Attorney Charles A. Citrin. Councilman Jorge Gutierrez was absent.
- 3. Invocation:** Chairman Garcia gave the invocation.
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Yioset De La Cruz led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 5. Deletions/Emergency Additions:** N/A
- 6. Review of Minutes: April 5, 2022,** Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the minutes of April 5, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 7. Public Comments:** None were offered.

**8. Formal Introduction of the Honorable Perla Tabares Hantman, Miami-Dade County School Board Chair, (District 4) and Mr. Jose L. Dotres, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.**

The expected guests were not yet in attendance; Chairman Garcia moved this item until the end of the meeting.

**9. Proposed Resolutions:**

- A) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GENERAL MOW FOR THE PURCHASE OF TREES AS PART OF THE GROWING ROOTS FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY EQUITABLE NEIGHBORHOODS (GREEN) MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GENERAL MOW; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Ms. Ailyn Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant for the Administration Department, came forward and read a memo of recommendation into the record. The purpose of this resolution is to solidify the purchase of 40 trees as agreed upon via the Miami Dade County GREEN Grant that the City was awarded; the City has decided to utilize an existing contract with landscaping company 'General Mow' based on their competitive rates. The main goal when applying for the grant was to use the grant monies to purchase the largest trees possible for immediate canopy and shade. Upon approval, the trees will be purchased immediately and installation shall be completed by May 30. Ms. Gonzalez clarified that the company guarantees the health of the trees for 12 months and has agreed to include watering of the trees for the first 3 months in the rate. No further comments or questions. Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously. **(4-0)**

- B) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) FOR THE DESIGN OF UTILITY WORK REQUIRED AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT IDENTIFIED AS OKEECHOBEE ROAD FROM EAST OF NW 116 WAY TO EAST OF NW 87 AVENUE; WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING; UTILIZING AN EXISTING GOVERNMENT CONTRACT AS ALLOWED BY SECTION 46-121 OF THE HIALEAH GARDENS CODE OF ORDINANCES; AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FDOT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Mr. Joe Lopez, Public Works Director, came forward on behalf of the Water & Sewer Department and read a memo for recommendation into the record. The W&S is seeking Council approval to enter into an agreement with FDOT for final engineering design plans, other necessary related design documents, and cost estimate for the relocation of City owned-Water & Sewer facilities that are in conflict with FDOT Project 423251-4-32-04. This area encompasses West Okeechobee Road from East of NW 116<sup>th</sup> Way (Hialeah Gardens Blvd) to East of NW 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This resolution will also allow the department to pay an advance deposit of \$101,028.61 to FDOT as per the attached agreement. Project funding source is the City's Water & Sewer Department's construction operating account. Chairman Garcia confirmed that we have to pay for this because it is on FDOT right-of-way; there are other projects like this coming up in the future. Mr. Lopez added that this is third phase of the reconstruction of Okeechobee Road between the Turnpike and the Palmetto Expressway. Phase 1 has already been completed and Phase 2 is underway; there are still two more phases after the third. This is only the design portion; subsequent phases including construction costs will come before the Council as well as different projects involving other areas of the City. This project is targeted to begin in May of 2025.

No further comments or questions. Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously.  
**(4-0)**

**10. Second Reading /Public Hearing First Reading for consideration and final adoption of the following ordinance:**

Mr. Citrin swore in those intending to testify on the following item.

- A) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE VI ENTITLED TRANSPORTATION, PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS, SECTION 78-141 (B) TABLE OF OFF STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF PARKING SPACES FOR SELF STORAGE FACILITIES TO: 1 SPACE PER 5,000 SQ, FT OF BUILDING AREA FOR THE FIRST 20,000 SQUARE FEET OF BUILDING; 1 SPACE PER 10,000 SQUARE FEET OF BUILDING AREA THEREAFTER PLUS 1 SPACE PER 400 SQUARE FEET OF GROSS OFFICE AREA OR FRACTION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE. (TRC Vote: 5-0; P&Z Vote: n/a)

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Mrs. Mirtha Gonzalez, Chief Zoning Official, came forward and explained that there a couple of projects proposing mini warehouses [self-storage facilities] in the City; the recommendation from Zoning staff is to change the Code to amend the section regarding parking standards because it is currently too high. The City previously approved a [warehouse] project with a variance reducing the amount of required parking spaces. After researching the parking standards of other municipalities and the County, Staff recommends to amend the ratio of parking requirements for self-storage facilities in order to promote this type of use in the commercial district. Doral, Miami Lakes, and the County have similar standards. No projects are currently in the permitting pipeline waiting on this; this is a preemptive change.

Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:41 p.m.; no one came forward. Public hearing closed at 7:41 p.m. No further comments or questions from Council. Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The ordinance was approved unanimously via individualized voice vote.

**(4-0)**

- 11. City Attorney's Report:** No comments.
- 12. Mayor's Report – Miscellaneous:** Mayor De La Cruz reported on the success of the City's annual Easter event over the weekend and added that the City is prepping for its first in-person 4<sup>th</sup> of July event in two years.
- 13. Council Members Concerns / Reports / Board Appointments**  
Police Pension Board Appointment – Pending  
Water & Sewer Board Appointment (L. Garcia, J. Merida, E. Urra) - Pending
- 14. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Maria L. Joffe, City Clerk

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's office no later than four days prior to the proceeding. For assistance, the City's telephone number is (305) 558-4114; if hearing impaired the telephone for the Florida Relay Service is (800) 955-8771 (TDD) or (800) 955-8770 (VOICE).

Pursuant to Section 286.0105 Florida Statutes, any person desiring to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and it will be their responsibility to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

**CITY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 7:30 P.M.

**PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD**

Monday, June 6, 2022, 7:30 P.M.

**TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 5, 2022, 11:00 A.M.

**WATER AND SEWER BOARD**

T.B.D.

**POLICE PENSION BOARD**

Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 5:30 P.M.