

MINUTES

**CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS
TUESDAY, December 19, 2023
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10001 NW 87 AVENUE**

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Luciano Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:** Present were Councilman Elmo Urra, Councilman Jorge Gutierrez, Councilman Jorge Merida, Councilman Rolando Piña, Chairman Luciano Garcia, Mayor Yioiset De La Cruz, and Mr. Charles A. Citrin, City Attorney.
- 3. Invocation:** Chairman Garcia gave the invocation.
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor De La Cruz led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 5. Deletions/Emergency Additions** N/A
- 6. Review of Minutes: December 5, 2023** Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the minutes of **December 5, 2023**. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 7. Public Comments** None were offered.

8. Proposed Resolution:

- A) RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, MAKING FINDINGS; DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT N.W. 138TH STREET AND N.W. 107TH AVENUE, HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA 33018, AS THE WESTLAND GARDENS GREEN REUSE AREA PURSUANT TO SECTION 376.80(2)(C), FLORIDA STATUTES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REHABILITATION, JOB CREATION, AND PROMOTING ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO NOTIFY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF SAID DESIGNATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **(Second Reading)**

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Mr. Brett Brumund, of Goldstein Environmental Law Firm, came forward representing the applicant Linkvest HG LLC and stated his name and address for the record. This is the second public hearing in consideration of this resolution. Mr. Brumund gave an overview of the presentation he previously gave to the Council regarding the Florida brownfield program, as well as how this applicant qualifies for acceptance into the program.

Chairman Garcia opened the public hearing at 7:43; no one came forward and he closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

Ms. Martinez-Ruiz came forward and read a memorandum into the record on behalf of Mr. Joe Lopez, Public Works Director. The memorandum states that the Department has reviewed Link Vest's request for designation as a green reuse area pursuant to Florida's Brownfield Redevelopment Act, and found no objections to its approval.

The Chair made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- B) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF CITY NOTICES ON A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION; DIRECTING ANNUAL NOTICE BY NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION OF ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF RECEIVING CITY NOTICES; PROVIDING FOR MAINTENANCE OF A REGISTRY OF PERSONS DESIRING RECEIPT OF CITY NOTICES BY FIRST CLASS MAIL OR EMAIL; DIRECTING THAT A LINK TO THE NOTICE WEBSITE BE CONSPICUOUSLY POSTED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. He noted that the City Clerk prepared the attached report and memorandum explaining that the City's current publisher of public notices, the Daily Business Review, would no longer be printing paper. Therefore, the best option available to the City that would comply with Florida Statute is to move to the online publication of legal notices as an alternative to newspaper publication. The platform contracted by Real Auction LLC will provide a streamlined way to do this at \$50 per notice.

The Chair made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously by individualized voice vote.

(5-0)

9. **City Attorney's Report:** Mr. Citrin asked to reserve his comments for the end of the meeting.
10. **Mayor's Report – Miscellaneous:** In honor of this being Mr. Citrin's last meeting as City Attorney, Mayor De La Cruz began to speak on his legacy after 23 years with the City of Hialeah Gardens. He expressed at length how much he and the Council appreciate, respect and cherish him as a colleague and friend.

Councilman Merida seconded his words.

Chairman Garcia spoke and expressed similar appreciation and sentiment for Mr. Citrin, who he considers family. He emphasized that it has been an honor to work with him, share with him, know his family, and see his children grow up. He is especially thankful for all Mr. Citrin has done for them, the City and its residents.

11. Council Members Concerns / Reports / Board Appointments

Water & Sewer Board Appointment (J. Merida, E. Urra) - Pending

Councilman Gutierrez spoke and reiterated how appreciative he is of Mr. Citrin and all the advice he has given him over the years. Councilman Merida and Pina added their comments of appreciation as well.

Mr. Citrin then took a moment to speak on his career with the City, and how much he respects and praises the City of Hialeah Gardens. He thanked all City Staff and his family profusely.

12. **Adjournment** : The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Maria L. Joffee, 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 ensure 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, February 20, 2024, 7:30 P.M.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Monday, February 5, 2024, 7:30 P.M.

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 1, 2024, 11:00 A.M.

WATER AND SEWER BOARD

T.B.D.

POLICE PENSION BOARD

Wednesday, March 21, 2024, 1:00 P.M.