

MINUTES

**CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10001 NW 87 AVENUE**

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:** Present were Chairman Luciano Garcia, Councilman Jorge Gutierrez, Councilman Jorge Merida, Councilman Rolando Piña, Councilman Elmo Urra, Mayor Yiozet De La Cruz and City Attorney Charles Citrin.
- 3. Invocation:** Chairman Garcia gave the invocation.
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor De La Cruz led the pledge of allegiance.
- 5. Deletions/Emergency Additions:** Item 9 D. was deleted from the agenda.
- 6. Review of Minutes: August 20, 2019** Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the minutes of August 20, 2019. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 7. Public Comments:** None were offered.

8. Presentation on the 2020 Census: Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr., Chair of the Miami-Dade County 2020 Task Force. The presentation was rescheduled for 9/17/2019.

9. Proposed Resolutions:

- A) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR CENTRAL DISTRICT DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS (PW19-100); AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ACOSTA TRACTORS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the resolution into the record. Mr. Joe Lopez, Public Works Director was present and came forward. Mr. Lopez explained that sealed bids were received for the Central District Drainage Improvements PW19-100 for furnishing labor materials and equipment and performing all work necessary for the specific project. He continued to read his memo and stated the proposed bid amounts from each company. The Department reviewed the six packages and was able to qualify all six bidders as responsive and responsible. Funding for the project is made available through a cost reimbursement grant for \$1,200,000 which required the execution of a grant agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection. The remaining funding of \$191,154.62, will come from CITT funds. The Department therefore recommends that the Council award the project to Acosta Tractors Inc., for a contract of under \$1,391,154.62 as the lowest responsive/responsible competitive bidder. Chairman Garcia asked if there were any additional comments or questions. None were offered. The Chair made a motion to approve the resolution, Councilman Merida. The resolution was approved unanimously. **(5-0)**

Mr. Citrin allowed Ms. Aida Martinez-Ruiz, Assistant City Attorney, to take over as counsel for the next two insurance items.

- B) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS APPROVING AND RATIFYING THE AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY'S HEALTH INSURANCE BETWEEN AETNA AND THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Martinez-Ruiz read the item into the record. Ms. Martinez-Ruiz also read her memo of recommendation into the record, which details and compares the rates to Avmed, our current provider. She explained that Humana and Aetna had the best pricing. She recommended Aetna because it is a bigger company than Avmed, is owned by CVS, and

has a larger directory of providers and mini clinics. While Avmed has provided excellent service, Ms. Martinez-Ruiz believes, when compared Aetna is the better choice.

The City's insurance broker, Mr. Angel Gonzalez with Millennium Benefits, was in attendance for questions. Chairman Garcia opened the item to any questions from the Council. Mr. Jorge Gutierrez asked about the credit offered by Aetna. Ms. Martinez-Ruiz explained that there would be a rate increase of 5.5%, but Aetna would be providing an invoice credit in the amount equal to 5% which will result in an increase of only 0.5%. She added that it's all under a one-year contract is always negotiated based on performance. Chairman Pina asked if employees would have to re-enroll. Ms. Martinez-Ruiz answered that yes everyone would have to re-enroll and that it would be scheduled for September 17th. She emphasized that after thorough review, she believes Aetna will provide the best service. Chairman Pina asked the brokers if it was foreseeable to have a contract for multiple years. Mrs. Mercy Del Castillo with Aetna came forward and answered that they do not do extended contracts for 24 months because rates would be higher. Changing this policy would move their anniversary dates which is something the City does not want to do. The Mayor stated that doing it once a year puts the City in a position of strength to negotiate. The broker explained their business philosophy which focuses on partnering with the client. Aetna is on a national platform so clients will have access to providers outside of Florida. There will be no co-pay for visits to mini-clinics for minor emergencies. The broker explained the benefits associated with mini-clinics. Mr. Angel Gonzalez came forward and explained that they will be here for employees during enrollment to explain the changes and benefits. Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Merida. The resolution was approved unanimously. **(5-0)**

- C) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS APPROVING AND RATIFYING THE AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY'S SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH INSURANCE BETWEEN BEAZLEY INSURANCE AND THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Aida Martinez-Ruiz read the item into the record. She referred to her memo will includes a recommendation to continue with Beazley for supplemental insurance because it is less expensive for the City and employees have to have a higher copay and supplemental insurance with covers deductibles for hospitalization and can also be used for MRI and other diagnostics. Employees sign up for both insurances at the same time. Chairman Garcia made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Merida. The resolution was approved unanimously. **(5-0)**

- D) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF A LINE OF CREDIT ISSUED BY SYNOVUS (FORMERLY FLORIDA COMMUNITY BANK) IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$1,250,000 TO PAY COSTS RELATING TO COVENANTING TO BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS, FROM LEGALLY AVAILABLE NON-AD VALOREM REVENUES, TO REPAY SUCH NOTE; PRESCRIBING THE FORM, TERMS AND DETAILS OF THE NOTE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was deleted from the agenda.

Mr. Citrin returned to the dais at this time to serve a course..

10. First Reading / Public Hearing for consideration of the following Budget ordinances:

- A) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020, AT 5.1613 MILLS, WHICH IS AN INCREASE OF 8.66 % OVER THE ROLL BACK RATE SO AS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REVENUE TO MEET THE DETERMINED BUDGETARY NEEDS OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Chairman Garcia asked all those who would be providing testimony on the items for public hearing to stand and be sworn in by Mr. Citrin. Mr. Citrin reiterated that this was a public hearing for budget ordinances. He then read the first item into the record. The Chair opened the public hearing at 7:55 p.m. No comments were offered and the public hearing closed at 7:55 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- B) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:56 p.m. No comments were offered; public hearing closed at 7:56 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- C) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACT FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:56 p.m. No comments were offered; public hearing closed at 7:56 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- D) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE STORM WATER UTILITY FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:57 p.m. No comments were offered; public hearing closed at 7:57 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- E) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE STREETS AND ROADS FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:57 p.m. No comments were offered; public hearing closed at 7:57 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- F) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:58 p.m. No comments were offered; public hearing closed at 7:58 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

- G) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITIZEN'S INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Citrin read the item into the record. Chairman Garcia opened a public hearing at 7:58 p.m. No comments were offered; public hearing closed at 7:58 p.m. The Chair made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Merida. The item was approved unanimously on first reading by individualized voice vote. **(5-0)**

11. **City Attorney's Report:** No comments.
12. **Mayor's Report – Miscellaneous:** No comments.
13. **Council Members Concerns / Reports / Board Appointments:** None.
14. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Maria L. Joffee
City Clerk

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, October 1, 2019, 7:30 P.M.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Monday, October 7, 2019, 7:30 P.M.

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 3, 2019, 11:30 A.M.

WATER AND SEWER BOARD

Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 7:00 P.M.

POLICE PENSION BOARD

Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 5:30 P.M.