

INDEX
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 24, 2003

1.	Called to Order/Roll Call of Members.....	Page 1
2.	Invocation.....	Page 1
3.	Pledge of Allegiance.....	Page 1
4.	Nomination of Vice Mayor by Mayor; Election of Vice Mayo.....	Page 1
5.	Brief Discussion of the Sunshine Laws by Hans Ottinot, Esq.....	Page 2
6.	Legislation.....	Page 2
	A. Ordinances (none)	
	B. Resolutions	
2.	Res. #2003-02 Adoption of Roberts Rules of Order	Page 2
3.	Res. #2003-03 City's Application for Employer Identification Number and Tax Exemption.....	Page 2
4.	Res. #2003-04 Interlocal Agreement with Miami-Dade County for an advance of funds to the City	Page 2-3
5.	Res. #2003-05 Providing for the establishment of City accounts with a qualified public depository.....	Page 3
6.	Res. #2003-06 Purchase of insurance coverage for City elected Officials, Officers, and Office Facilities.....	Page 3-4
7.	Res. # 2003-07 To solicit proposals for temporary office space and to negotiate a lease agreement for temporary office space....	Page 4
8.	Res. #2003-08 To hire a temporary secretary for the City Council	Page 5
9.	Res. #2003-09 To purchase necessary office supplies and equipment for the City Council in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.....	Page 5
10.	Res. 2003-10 An agreement with CWC & Associates, Inc.....	Page 5-6
11.	Res. 2003-11 Appointment of Hans Ottinot, Esquire as Interim City Attorney.....	Page 6
12.	Res. 2003-12 Appointment of Meighan Pier as acting City Clerk.....	Page 7
13.	Res. 2003-13 Appointment of Willie J. Green as Transitional Coordinator	Page 7
14.	Res. 2003-14 Appointment of Lilie Q. Odom as Administrative Coordinator for the office of the Mayor	Page 7-8
15.	Res. 2003-15 Search for a City Manager	Page 8
16.	Res. 2003-16 Establishing an initial schedule for City Council Meetings	Page 8
7.	Discussion Items	
	A. Sunshine Law and Ethics Workshop (tentative 7/31/03).....	Page 8
	B. Zoning Hearing Workshop (tentative 8/14/03)	Page 8
	C. Budget Workshop	Page 8
8.	Public Concern	Page 8-9
9.	Adjournment	Page 9

CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS
MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2003
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Miami Norland Senior High School
1050 N.W. 195 Street
Miami Gardens, FL 33169

I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The following members of the City Council were present:

Mayor Shirley Gibson
Council Member Aaron Campbell, Jr.
Council Member Barbara Watson
Council Member Audrey J. King
Council Member Melvin L. Bratton
Council Member Sharon Pritchett
Council Member Oscar Braynon, II

The following staff members were present:
Interim City Attorney Hans Ottinot
Acting City Clerk Meighan Pier
Transitional Coordinator William J. Green

II. INVOCATION

Council Member Audrey King offered the invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A student led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

IV. NOMINATION OF VICE MAYOR BY MAYOR; ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, DECLARAING _____ AS VICE MAYOR FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson nominated Council Member Campbell for the position of Vice Mayor.

Council Members Pritchett and Braynon asked for clarification.

Following discussion, the matter was put to vote. The vote was as follows: Mayor Shirley Gibson: Aye; Council Member Aaron Campbell, Jr.: Aye; Council Member Barbara Watson: Aye; Council Member Audrey J. King: Aye; Council Member Melvin

L. Bratton: Aye; Council Member Sharon Pritchett: Abstained; Council Member Oscar Braynon, II: Abstained.

Resolution 2003-01 was adopted. Aaron Campbell, Jr. was appointed Vice Mayor.

V. BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE SUNSHINE LAWS BY HANS OTTINOT, ESQ.

Attorney Ottinot provided a brief explanation of Florida's Sunshine Law.

VI. LEGISLATION

A. ORDINANCES (none)

B. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER AS THE TEMPORARY STANDARD OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TO GOVERN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilwoman Pritchett. Seconded by Councilwoman King.

Following brief discussion, the Motion passed unanimously (7-0). Resolution 2003-02 was adopted.

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT THE CITY'S APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND TAX EXEMPTION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilman Bratton. Seconded by Vice Mayor Campbell.

Following brief discussion, the Motion passed unanimously (7-0). Resolution 2003-03 was adopted.

3. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING INITIAL START-UP FUNDS FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR AN ADVANCE OF FUNDS TO THE CITY, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A" AUTHORIZING THE

MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson provided an explanation of the subject resolution. She noted that the advance would be debited by Miami-Dade County in the future.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilwoman Watson. Seconded by Councilman Bratton. All voted in favor. Resolution 2003-04 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

4. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CITY ACCOUNTS WITH A QUALIFIED PUBLIC DEPOSITORY; PROVIDING FOR DEPOSIT OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR NECESSARY SIGNATORIES ON SUCH ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING NOTICE TO THE STATE TREASURER; PROVIDING FOR A WAIVIER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Vice Mayor Campbell. Seconded by Councilman Bratton.

Councilman Braynon asked the purpose of waiving competitive bid procedures.

Mayor Gibson explained that the City must have a bank account in order to expend the initial start-up funds being providing by Miami-Dade County. She noted that competitive bidding could be performed in the future if the Council desires.

Pursuant to Councilwoman Pritchett's request, the signatories on the account were defined, and it was noted that the Charter requires that the Mayor and a Council person must sign on each check.

All voted in favor of the previous motion. Resolution 2003-05 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

5. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE, AND THE INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE THE PURCHASE OF INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE CITY'S ELECTED OFFICIALS, OFFICERS, AND OFFICE FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR DETERMINATION OF IMPRACTICABILITY AS TO COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR SUCH INSURANCE SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Ottinot emphasized the importance of retaining insurance.

Mayor Gibson added that it is important for elected officials to be covered. She stated that the City can seek the services of another insurance vendor in the future.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilwoman King. Seconded by Councilman Bratton.

Councilman Braynon asked for clarification.

Attorney Ottinot noted that the resolution allows permission for negotiations to begin with the Florida League of Cities. He advised that if the negotiations are successful, the item would return for ratification.

All voted in favor of the previous motion. Resolution 2003-06 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

6. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, AND/OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE, AND THE INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR TEMPORARY OFFICE SPACE AND TO NEGOTIATE A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR TEMPORARY OFFICE SPACE PROVIDED THAT THE LEASE AGREEMENT IS APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilman Pritchett. Seconded by Councilwoman King.

Following discussion, the Acting Clerk read correspondence from Ross Properties into the record.

Mayor Gibson noted that more permanent space would be sought in the future.

Councilwoman Pritchett asked if night meetings would be held at the temporary office space.

Mayor Gibson noted that the Council would continue having meetings at the local schools until more permanent facilities are found. She noted that any lease for office space would require formal approval by Council.

All voted in favor of the previous motion. Resolution 2003-07 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

7. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING MAYOR AND/OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE, TO HIRE A TEMPORARY SECRETARY FOR THE CITY COUNCIL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilwoman Watson. Seconded by Councilman Bratton.

Councilman Braynon asked if this individual would be a temporary employee.

Mayor Gibson confirmed the position would be one secretary on a temporary basis, who would report to the transitional Manager, the Mayor and the Council.

Councilwoman Pritchett asked for the definitive time frame of the length of the temporary status.

Mayor Gibson explained that the permanent City Manager performs all hiring function; therefore the position would be temporary until such time as a Manager is hired.

Attorney Ottinot confirmed that the individual would be an independent contractor and that the Council would review the salaries of all employees once a temporary budget was approved. He explained that the Resolution gives the Mayor authority to act as defacto City Manager until one is hired.

Following discussion, all voted in favor of the previous motion. Resolution 2003-08 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

8. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE NECESSARY OFFICE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY COUNCIL IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000); PROVIDING FOR THE WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BID REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilman Bratton. Seconded by Councilwoman Watson. All voted in favor. Resolution 2003-09 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

9. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AND CWC & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTING

SERVICES DURING THE TRANSITION PHASE AS SPECIFIED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson introduced Cynthia Curry and offered a brief explanation of her experience and qualifications.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilman Bratton. Seconded by Councilwoman King.

Councilwoman Watson asked the length of the contract.

Mayor Gibson noted that the contract would terminate upon completion of the projects defined therein. Attorney Ottinot concurred.

All voted in favor of the previous Motion. Resolution 2003-10 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

10. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF HANS OTTINOT, ESQUIRE, AS INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE RETAINER AGREEMENT ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A"; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO CONDUCT A SEARCH FOR A CITY ATTORNEY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson provided explanation with regard to Hans Ottinot's experience and qualifications.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilman Bratton. The Motion failed for lack of second.

Acting Clerk Pier offered clarification regarding parliamentary procedure. Miami-Dade County Commissioner Betty Ferguson concurred and provided her input regarding the importance of a governing body having counsel. She asked Attorney Ottinot if he would be able to serve two municipalities.

Attorney Ottinot replied affirmatively, adding that he has the concurrence of the administration at Sunny Isles Beach.

Following discussion, Councilman Bratton moved to adopt the proposed Resolution. Seconded by Vice Mayor Campbell. All voted in favor. Resolution 2003-11 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

11. A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPOINTING MEIGHAN PIER AS ACTING CITY CLERK ON A TEMPORARY BASIS; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO CONDUCT A SEARCH FOR A PERMANENT CITY CLERK; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mrs. Pier noted that she is providing her services voluntarily.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilwoman King. Seconded by Councilwoman Pritchett. All voted in favor. Resolution 2003-12 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

12. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM J. GREEN AS TRANSITIONAL COORDINATOR; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONSULTANT AGREEMENT ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson provided explanation with regard to Mr. Green's qualifications and duties.

A Motion to adopt the proposed Resolution was made by Councilmember Bratton. Seconded by Vice Mayor Campbell.

In response to inquiries from Council members Braynon and Pritchett, Mayor Gibson clarified that Mr. Green would lead the transitional team and hold the position until a permanent City Manager is appointed.

Mr. Green noted that he would commence his duties on August 1st.

All voted in favor of the previous Motion. Resolution 2003-13 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

13. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF LILIE Q. ODOM AS ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR FOR THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONSULTANT AGREEMENT ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson provided a report.

Councilman Bratton moved to adopt the proposed resolution. Seconded by Councilwoman King.

Following brief discussion, all voted in favor of the previous Motion. Resolution 2003-14 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

14. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FROM RECRUITMENT FIRMS TO CONDUCT A NATIONAL SEARCH FOR A CITY MANAGER; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson provided explanation of the matter.

Councilwoman Pritchett moved to adopt the proposed Resolution. Seconded by Councilman Braynon. All voted in favor. Resolution 2003-15 was adopted unanimously (7-0).

15. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING AN INITIAL SCHEDULE FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Gibson provided a report.

Councilwoman King moved to adopt the proposed Resolution. Seconded by Councilwoman Pritchett. All voted in favor. Resolution 2003-16 was adopted unanimously (7-0).-read report.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. SUNSHINE LAW AND ETHICS WORKSHOP (tentative 7/31/03)

Attorney Ottinot announced that a Workshop on the Sunshine Law and Ethics had been scheduled for July 31, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at Miami Norland High School.

- B. ZONING HEARING WORKSHOP (tentative 8/14/03)

Mr. Green announced that a Workshop regarding Zoning Hearings had been scheduled for August 14, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at Miami Norland High School.

- C. BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Gibson advised that she would discuss this workshop with Ms. Curry and provide information to the Council at a later date.

VIII. PUBLIC CONCERN

The following individuals addressed the Council: Colleen King of 9415 NW 25 Street, Robert Parrish of 1421 NW 179 Street, Abraham Thomas of 17320 NW 17 Avenue, Marsha Hillman Harris of 3143 NW 213 Street, Janice Copley of 19681 NW 33 Avenue, Raymond Christy of 1720 NW 171 Terrace, Skye Williams, Citibank Assistant Vice President, Lenny Gwin of 19675 NW 32 Court, and Michael Grubs of 17665 NW 22 Avenue.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Pritchett moved to adjourn. Seconded by Vice Mayor Campbell. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by:


Meighan J. Pier, Acting City Clerk

*Adopted by the City Council on
this 20th day of August, 2003.*


Shirley Gibson, Mayor