



MINUTES

TOWN OF MIAMI

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023 AT 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Medina calls the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION:

Councilmember Sosh led the pledge of allegiance and Mayor Medina gave the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Mayor Medina, Councilmember Black, Councilmember Licano, Councilmember Reiman and Councilmember Sosh.

EXCUSED: Vice Mayor Moat and Councilmember Gonzales.

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Rivera, Public Works Director Derhammer, Finance Director Lopez and Town Clerk Norris.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve Minutes of November 13, 2023 Regular meeting.
- B. Consideration and possible action to approve Town of Miami Payroll for November 12, 2023.

Councilmember Sosh moved to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Councilmember Black. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

5. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS AND PRESENTATION OF BUDGET REPORTS:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve the General Demands for November 3, 2023 to November 16, 2023.

Councilmember Black moved to approve the demands for November 3, 2023 to November 16, 2023. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

6. REPORTS / RECOGNITIONS:

A. Town Manager Reports.

Town Clerk Norris and Town Manager Rivera present Senior Center Employees, Christine Duarte, Veronica Olvera, Tricia Preston and April Galvan, with Certificate of Recognition in recognition of their hard work and dedication to the Town of Miami. Town Manager Rivera reports on the Mackey's Grant progress and the upcoming meeting with Arizona DEMA and FEMA to finalize details of the grant.

B. Mayor/Council Reports.

Mayor Medina reports on the flags being ordered half-staff. Comments on his disappointment of the huge flag across from Walmart not being placed at half-staff. Gives thanks to those who do observe the half-staff orders.

7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Ray Webb, Miami resident, expresses on his support of Town Manager Rivera.

Mrs. Cindy Grainger, Miami resident, comments on her privilege of working with Town Manager Rivera and expresses her support of him as Miami Town Manager.

Mr. Ernesto Escobedo, Mackey's Camp resident, expresses thanks to Mayor Medina and Council for being responsive to the serious issues related to flooding in Mackey's Camp.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Information, discussion and possible action: To recess into and hold executive session:

- a) Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (1) and (4) for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, salary, promotion, demotion or discipline and the contract of Town Manager, Alexis Rivera.

Councilmember Black moved to convene into executive session. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused,

Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye.
MOTION PASSED. 6:54 p.m.

Councilmember Black moved to reconvene from executive session. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales –excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye.
MOTION PASSED. 6:57 p.m.

Town Manager Rivera elected to have this item discussed in the public meeting.

Councilmember Black states he has some issues with Town Manager Rivera. Councilmember Black comments on an incident when Town Manager Rivera first came on and the, then Police Chief, was put on administrative leave. A memo was put out regarding the covering officers' shifts and someone changed the memo on the Police Department letterhead, which is a felony. Councilmember Black explains that he asked for an investigation of that incident and he got nothing. Comments on a recurring incident of an employee parking in front of the Senior Center, in the front driveway, in which he requested, 8 times that a NO PARKING sign be put there and he was ignored. Councilmember Black questions who runs the Town. Comments regarding the call he received from the Police Chief that he was resigning due to lack of support from the Town Manager. Comments on an email he received from one of our Police Officers who had sent an email to the Town Manager, in which the Town Manager told the Officer that he would get back to him and never did. Councilmember Black states his main concern is with our lack of police officers. Comments that every employee of the Town has been given raises except our police officers. Our police officers are the lowest paid officers in the state. Comments that we have the smallest budget in the State of Arizona. Concerned why the Town has not been recruiting officers. Comments on the Police Department reserve funds. Councilmember Black continues with, the Town Manager bought a new car without the Council's approval of the purchase and he did not use the current car as a trade in, but gave it to another department. Councilmember Black states that these seem like little things but they add up. When it comes to employee issues he cannot talk to the employees, he has to go through the Town Manager. Councilmember Black has an issue with the lack of communication from the Town Manager. Council is the ones who are responsible for the Town and need to be aware of what is going on with the Town. Town Manager Rivera responds to Councilmember Black explaining that in regards to the purchase of the vehicle, that was his mistake and he did apologize for that. Town Manager Rivera comments on the Chief's resignation and that the Town has options and will not close the Police Department. Mayor Medina comments on meeting with the Governor's staff at the State capital with the Town Manager. The Town has a good thing going on right now and believes in the future. Suggests a work session to discuss some of these issues. Councilmember Sosh comments on wanting to see the Town grow. The Town Manager needs to communicate with Council. The communication issue has come up in several meetings with the Town Manager and nothing has changed. Comments on concern with the budget, have not had a budget report in 6 months. Comments on lack of Town Manager reports. Councilmember Sosh states that he requested to have the Town Manager reports as an agenda item and that has not happened.

Councilmember Sosh also comments on the issue of grants and that he is not aware of any grants awarded yet. Town Manager Rivera comments on the \$125,000.00 Capstone grant the Town has received. Town Manager Rivera comments on the process for applying for grants. Brief discussion regarding applying for grants and how difficult and time consuming the process is. Brief discussion regarding a few years ago when the Town was operating in the red and not wanting to go back to that and concerns with the budget. Town Manager Rivera comments on the status of the Town before his time here, he inherited that problem and is working hard to provide the best for the community. Brief discussion about concerns of losing the Police Department. Councilmember Reiman comments that he feels Town Manager Rivera is doing a great job and he supports him. Councilmember Licano comments that he isn't concerned with the Town Manager's performance but with what he doesn't do. He does not keep Council informed, but would like to keep him. Several community members stand up and speak in favor of Town Manager Rivera.

B. Information, discussion and possible action: Discussion and possible action with regards to the employment of the Town of Miami Town Manager.

Councilmember Black moved to terminate the Town Manager. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Medina calls for a roll call vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – nay, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales –excused, Councilmember Licano – nay, Councilmember Reiman – nay and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION FAILED.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Information, discussion and possible action: Consideration and possible action to approve closure of Keystone Avenue, Sullivan Street to Gibson, for Second Saturday events January through June 2024, with Public Works staff setting up and taking down barricades at 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. as well as Town to use digital sign at each end of town to advertise the Second Saturday event in advance of the event.

Mr. Lob Instagon, Miami Arts Commission, presents this request to Council. Mr. Instagon comments on the growth of this event. Councilmember Sosh states that he requested this item be pulled from the last agenda, Consent Agenda, because he has an issue with paying Town employees' overtime to put up and take down the barricades and paying for the porta john. If this is something the businesses want to do, they should open their store restrooms for the public. Mr. Instagon states most of them do allow the public to use the restrooms. Brief discussion regarding opening the park restrooms for this event. It is explained that the Public Works Department sets out the barricades for the event, but the employees do not come out and set them up and take them down. Miami Arts Commission and Town Manager Rivera normally put them up and take them down, and Public Works pick them up on Monday. Councilmember Sosh moved to approve the 2nd Saturday events January through June with the restrooms being open and no more porta johns. Motion seconded by Councilmember Black. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember

Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

- B. Information, discussion and possible action:** Possible approval of the Angel Perez Wings of Hope Show N Shine Car Show on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with use of the Veterans Park and restrooms with Town staff to setting up and taking down barricades for street closures.

Mrs. Christine Duarte presents this request to Council as Mrs. Perez had a family emergency. Mrs. Duarte gives a brief overview of the event and states if the barricades are left out by Public Works, the event coordinators will set them up and take them down after the event. The money raised from this event is used for local scholarships. There will be no alcohol served at this event. Councilmember Sosh moved to approve the Angel Perez Wings of Hope Show N Shine Car Show on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with use of the Veterans Park and restrooms. Motion seconded by Councilmember Black. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

- C. Information, discussion and possible action:** Discussion and possible approval of an action plan for the Town of Miami Police Department regarding the oversight and management of the Department, the hiring of a Chief of Police, the transfer of funds between Department accounts and the establishment of a salary increase step program.

Town Manager Rivera presents the proposed action plan for the Town of Miami Police Department. Town Manager Rivera explain that the Police Department has a \$37,000.00 budgeted line item for overtime and would like to redirect \$17,000.00 of that line item to enhance the salary of the police officers. If approved tonight the increase will begin tomorrow morning. Town Manager Rivera reviews the proposed increase for the police officers. He would also like to promote Officer Mano's temporarily to Police Sergeant and start recruiting a Police Chief. Brief discussion regarding funding for the raises. Councilmember Reiman moved to accept the proposal of the Town Manager (inaudible) of the Police Department, as written. Motion seconded by Councilmember Black. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales –excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

- D. Information, discussion and possible action:** Possible approval of PHI Cares Emergency Air Medical Membership Benefits Agreement for Town of Miami residents in the amount of \$5,208.00.

Town Clerk Norris presents this item to Council for consideration. This item is a renewal item with no increase in fees. Brief discussion and comments regarding the service provided to the residents of the Town of Miami. Councilmember Sosh moved to approve PHI Cares Emergency Air Medical Membership Benefits Agreement for Town of Miami residents in the

amount of \$5,208.00. Motion seconded by Councilmember Black. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

E. Information, discussion and possible action: Possible approval of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) No. IGA-2024-0024 with City of Globe for Copper Mountain Transit System.

Town Clerk Norris presents this IGA to Council for consideration. Mayor Medina moved to approval of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) No. IGA-2024-0024 with City of Globe for Copper Mountain Transit System. Motion seconded by Councilmember Reiman. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

F. Information, discussion and possible action: Possible approval of Sourcewell Design-Build Agreement for skate path to be located at Bullion Plaza Park.

Town Manager Rivera request that Council table this item so that Sourwell can be present at the meeting to answer any questions from Council. Councilmember Black moved to table this item. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED – ITEM TABLED.

10. CALL TO THE COUNCIL:

Mayor Medina thanks the public for attending the meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Black moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Medina calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Medina – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – excused, Councilmember Black – aye, Councilmember Gonzales – excused, Councilmember Licano – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh - aye. MOTION PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Miami, AZ held on the 27th day of November, 2023.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 11th day of December, 2023.



Karen Norris, Town Clerk

APPROVED:


Jose "Angel" Medina Sr., Mayor