



## MINUTES

### TOWN OF MIAMI

#### WORK SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025, AT 5:30 PM

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Madrid called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION:

Pledge of Allegiance, and Councilmember Stewart gave the invocation.

#### 3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**PRESENT:** Mayor Madrid, Vice Mayor Gonzales, Councilmember Medina, and Councilmember Stewart.

**EXCUSED:** Councilmembers Moat, Reiman and Sosh.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Town Manager Rivera, Town Attorney Paladini, and Town Clerk Norris.

#### 4. BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion only:** Discussion regarding the implementation of a Town of Miami Neighborhood Watch Program and the possible establishment of a strategy for the Program.

Mayor Madrid explains that this meeting aims to establish a good Neighborhood Watch Program. Mayor Madrid comments on the Nextdoor App, a Virtual Neighborhood Watch Program. Mayor Madrid also states that a copy of the Checklist for Starting a Neighborhood Watch Program is provided if anyone wants a copy. Town Manager Rivera recognizes that State Representative David Marshall is in attendance at this meeting. Town Manager Rivera comments on the Checklist for Starting a Neighborhood Watch Program and invites Police Sergeant Hernandez to speak on starting the Neighborhood Watch Program. Sergeant Hernandez explains that the Neighborhood Watch Program, once established, is a very simple program. Sergeant Hernandez explains the basics of starting a Neighborhood Watch Group and the Police Department's involvement with the Watch Program. Open discussion and comments regarding helping the Neighborhood Watch Groups get established. Town Manager Rivera states the Town can facilitate the first Group meeting at the Town Council Chambers. Once the Groups are set up, they can hold their own monthly or quarterly meetings. Discussion

regarding the Town establishing a phone line designated specifically for the Neighborhood Watch Program groups. They can use the line to call and report suspicious activity. This phone line will not be manned 24-7. The Group will be able to leave a message and officers will follow-up on messages left. Open discussion regarding how the Groups can make contact with the Police Department. Discussion regarding including surrounding agencies, Globe Police Department and Gila County Sheriff's Office so that Miami has adequate coverage. Several residents speak in favor of the Neighborhood Watch Program and strongly support it. Open discussion regarding the Town's role with the Neighborhood Watch Groups. Discussion regarding the Town Council meeting with the Watch Groups on a quarterly basis, then decide if they need to meet with them more or less often. Town Attorney Paladini explains that the Neighborhood Block Watch is not a formal Town organization, but the Town can support it in many ways. This allows the Groups to meet without all the legal rules weighing them down. Discussion regarding the Groups getting coordinated and working with the Police Department. Sergeant Hernandez explained that the Police Department would attend their meetings and help them coordinate, educate them on what to look for, and teach them how to be the best witnesses. Brief discussion regarding providing a vehicle to the Groups so they can use it to drive around and keep an eye on the neighborhood. State Representative Marshall comments on what he can do to help the Town and the Miami Police Department.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Madrid adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Work Session of the Town Council of the Town of Miami, AZ held on the **21st** day of **April**, 2025.

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

DATED this **12<sup>th</sup>** day of **May** 2025.

**APPROVED:**

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Karen Norris, Town Clerk

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Gil Madrid, Mayor