



Fred Spencer Deno IV
Mayor

Jorge Arce
Council President

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes
January 18, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Council Members
Richard Block
Debra Conover
Gabriel Fernandez
Elizabeth-Taylor Martinez

1. Call to Order

Council President Jorge Arce called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Invocation

Council Member Taylor-Martinez led the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Taylor-Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

Council President Arce, Council Member Block, Council Member Conover, Council Member Fernandez, Council Member Taylor-Martinez, and Attorney Cuadra were in attendance.

5. Meeting Notices

- Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Village Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need 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.
- Pursuant to the provisions of the **Americans with Disabilities Act**, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this proceeding is asked to advise the Village at least 2 days before the proceeding by contacting the Village Clerk's office at **305-871-6104**

6. Presentations

1. **(a)** Presentation from FDOT for the NW 67th Avenue Intermodal Freight Corridor Improvement Study-Presented by Mr. Jesus Fuentes, PE and Miss. Leny Huaman.

7. Citizens Comments

8. Announcement of Amendments/Corrections to the Agenda

9. Approval of Minutes

(a)-Regular Council Meeting –November 16, 2023 Approved

A motion to approve Regular Council Meeting for November 16, 2024 made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 5-0.

10. Mayor's Report

1. Project DOT has received 90% approval in the audit process.
2. Grants have been submitted for Ludlum, indicating progress and engagement in securing funding.440845-1-58-01
3. A Lightning Project is on the horizon, another DOT initiative, which involves installing street lights along 66th Avenue on the south side and 41st Street. Additionally, lights will be installed along 62nd Avenue and 40th Street, extending down to the pump station. This project is anticipated to be ready for implementation in the next two years. 451684-1

11. Administrative Items

(a)-Administration

(b)-Beautification

- The Minutes for the months of December 2023 and January 2024 have been submitted.
- The 2023 Holiday yard winners are;
 - 1st Place – Lilian Vanegas of 6342 NW 38th Ter.
 - 2nd Place – Erasmo & Teresa Rodriguez of 6610 NW 40th St.
 - 3rd Place – Christopher & Lindsay Deno of 6401 NW 38th Ter.

(c)-Planning & Zoning

No meeting for the month of January.

(d) –Public Safety

1. The statistics for the months of November and December 2023 have been submitted.
2. Officer Osvaldo Prado Leyva has been hired as a Full-Time Officer, filling the position left vacant by Officer Fonseca, who resigned from the department.
3. Request Council Approval of Applicants for part time Officers.

An initial Motion was made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez to grant Chief Hernandez the authority to continue with the hiring process approval for Part-Time Officers. This Motion was seconded by Council Member Block, and it initially passed with a 4-1 vote.

Subsequently, there was a decision to stop and reconsider the initial Motion, opting to approve officers separately.

A new Motion was then made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez to allow Chief Hernandez to continue with the hiring process approval for Part-Time Officer Rene A. Garcia. Council Member Fernandez seconded the Motion, and it passed with a 4-1 vote.

The gavel was passed to Council Member Elizabeth Taylor-Martinez to allow President Arce to make a Motion.

President Arce proposed a Motion to give Chief Hernandez the authority to proceed with future hires without consulting with the Council Members. Council Member Block supported this statement, while Council Member Fernandez, Council Member Conover, and Mayor Spencer disagreed. President Arce withdrew the motion.

Council Member Elizabeth Taylor-Martinez returned the gavel to President Arce.

Council Member Block made a final motion to allow Chief Hernandez to continue with the hiring process approval for Part-Time Officer George Agular. Council Member Taylor-Martinez seconded the Motion and passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

(e) –Public Works

(f) –Recreation

A motion to move up 11 (f) to Presentations, Made by Council Member Fernandez was seconded by Council Member Taylor- Martinez. The motion passed 5-0.

1. The Annual Soccer Award Banquet is scheduled for Monday, January 22nd at 6:00 PM.
2. The Soccer program is experiencing a growing number of participants, with our defending State Champions playing over the weekend.
3. The soccer field is in excellent condition, and a few repairs have been carried out under warranty.

(g) - Resolutions

1. **Attorney's Report**
2. **Old Business**
3. **New Business**
4. **Good & Welfare**

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Ivette and her family for the passing of her Mother, Isabel G. May they find strength, comfort, and support during this difficult time.

5. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 5-0. Council President Arce adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: February 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.