

## MINUTES

ORGANIZATIONAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2005

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
10001 NW 87 AVENUE

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Chairman Luciano Garcia, Councilman Jorge Gutierrez, Councilman Jorge A. Merida, Councilman Manuel Zardon, and Councilman Rolando Piña. Also present were Mayor Yioiset De La Cruz and City Attorney Charles A. Citrin.
3. **Invocation:** Chairman Luciano Garcia led the invocation.
4. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Yioiset De La Cruz led the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. **Swearing in Ceremony for Mayor Yioiset De La Cruz, Councilman Rolando Piña, and Councilman Jorge Gutierrez:** The Honorable Judge Ana Maria Pando.

The Honorable Judge Ana Maria Pando performed the swearing in ceremony for Mayor De La Cruz, Councilman Jorge Gutierrez, and Councilman Rolando Piña. Judge Pando offered words of praise for Mayor De La Cruz. Mr. Citrin offered words of commendation to Judge Pando. Chairman Garcia offered words of congratulations to the Mayor and the Council members and expressed appreciation for working together for the betterment of Hialeah Gardens. Councilman Merida and Councilman Zardon also offered words of congratulations. Councilman Gutierrez thanked everyone for their support and believes that the lack of opposition in this election serves as proof of the hard work and accomplishments of this administration. Councilman Piña thanked those who were present and commended the Mayor and the City staff for their hard work as well. Mayor De La Cruz also offered words of praise for the Council and for those present who have offered their support. It gives him great pleasure to see so many of the same faces present that were here four years ago when he first took office. The Mayor also thanked his wife and parents. His goal was to unify this City and he believes he has accomplished this.

6. **Reorganization of the City Council's hierarchical order:** Mr. Charles A. Citrin, City Attorney

Mr. Citrin introduced the matter of reorganization of the hierarchical order therefore, Councilman Merida made a motion to nominate Luciano Garcia for Chairman of the Council, seconded by Councilman Piña, and unanimously approved by individualized voice vote. Chairman Garcia made a motion to nominate Councilman Piña as Vice Chairman, seconded by Councilman Merida, and unanimously approved by individualized voice vote. Chairman Garcia made a motion to nominate Councilman Zardon as Finance Director, seconded by Councilman Merida, and unanimously approved by individualized voice vote.

7. **Board Appointments: Water and Sewer Board, Planning and Zoning Board**

Chairman Garcia re appointed Susie Cordero to the Planning and Zoning Board, and asked to postpone his appointment to the Water and Sewer Board. Councilman Gutierrez asked to defer his appointments to the Water and Sewer Board and the Planning and Zoning Board until the next meeting. Councilman Merida re-appointed Andrew Perez to the Planning and Zoning Board and asked to delay his appointment to the Water and Sewer Board until the next meeting. Councilman Zardon re-appointed Kandyce Villar to the Planning and Zoning Board and appointed Elmo Urra to the Water and Sewer Board. Councilman Piña re-appointed Pedro Duque to the Water and Sewer Board and Ovidio Eijan to the Planning and Zoning Board. Chairman Garcia noted that the meeting dates for the Council schedule will remain the same until further discussion at the next meeting.

8. **City Attorney's Report**

Mr. Citrin commended the Council, the Mayor, and his Administration for their ability to work together and the professionalism and respect they show for one another.

9. **Mayor's Report – Miscellaneous**

Mayor De La Cruz thanked Judge Pando and friends for being here tonight.

10. **Council Members Concerns/Reports – Miscellaneous**

Councilman Gutierrez, Councilman Piña, and Chairman Garcia thanked all.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Maria L. Joffe  
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, March 15, 2005, 7:30 P.M.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Monday, April 11, 2005, 7:30 P.M.

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 6, 2005, 11:30 A.M.

WATER AND SEWER BOARD

Tuesday, March 22, 2005, 7:00 P.M.

POLICE PENSION BOARD

Monday, May 23, 2005, 10:00 A.M.