

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-7
May 31, 2022
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Michael Mena

Commissioner Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Jorge Fors, Jr.

Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Assistant City Attorney, Naomi Levi-Garcia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-7 [Start: 1:39 p.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida amending Chapter 62 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places", Article IV "Maintenance of Sidewalks and Swale Areas", Section 62-151 "Alleys, swale areas and rights-of-way to be kept clean and mowed" of the Code of Ordinances, to revise the maintenance responsibilities of property owners, providing for severability clause, repealer provision, codification, and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored by Mayor Lago)

Mayor Lago: Moving onto F-7.

City Attorney Ramos: An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida amending Chapter 62 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places", Article IV "Maintenance of Sidewalks and Swale Areas", Section 62-151 "Alleys, swale areas and rights-of-way to be kept clean and mowed" of the Code of Ordinances, to revise the maintenance responsibilities of property owners,

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providing for severability clause, repealer provision, codification, and providing for an effective date. This is a public hearing item. Ms. Levi-Garcia.

Assistant City Attorney Levi-Garcia: So, this ordinance clarifies the maintenance responsibilities for abutting property owners, but also codifies the bi-annual deep cleaning obligation for commercial property owners. Deep cleaning means pressure washing, scrub brushing or similar standard of cleaning that gets out grease and spray paint and other similar substances. General maintenance was clarified to include removing debris, gum, litter; and landscape maintenance was clarified to include weed removal.

Mayor Lago: So very briefly. I sponsored this item because I wanted to make sure we codified our moving forward initiative of cleaning up the downtown. That there weren't any loopholes or anything holding us back. I'm going to take this opportunity to showcase two individuals who I think are doing an exceptional job, an exceptional job in maintaining their properties. I think maintenance is a reflection of who you are and what you stand for, just like your own personal grooming when you show up, you don't show up in a dirty suit, show up with a haircut, show up presentable. Armando Codina, Manny Cadre who happen to be joining us today for a separate matter and I've mentioned it before, do an exceptional job in regard to their project. Another piece of property that is always in tiptop shape, A-plus, showcasing the quality of the City of Coral Gables is Allen Morris' entire block which is also something that I want to commend. I had some pictures that I wanted to show, but I think we may have not uploaded them. So, the purpose of putting this legislation together was to hold business owners accountable in regard to the June 30th twice a year requirement for sidewalks, alleys, front entrances, your walls to be nice and clean and for staff and Code Enforcement to have the necessary tools to make sure that we enforce what we are asking them to do.

Assistant City Attorney Levi-Garcia: Right. So, the operative clause is the ordinance. It does specifically mention June 30th, it grants the Manager flexibility to adjust that date, moving forward, if necessary, but it will still be bi-annually.

Mayor Lago: Yes. Any public comment Mr. Clerk?

City Clerk Urquia: No sir.

Mayor Lago: I'll entertain a motion.

Vice Mayor Mena: I'll move it.

Commissioner Anderson: Second.

Commissioner Menendez: Yes

Commissioner Anderson: Yes
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Commissioner Fors: Yes

Vice Mayor Mena: Yes

Mayor Lago: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)