

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item E-3
December 7, 2021
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Michael Mena

Commissioner Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Jorge Fors

Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Maria Cruz

Agenda Item E-3 [Start: 10:00 a.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission accepting the recommendation of the Chief Procurement Officer to award the Residential Recycling Bins purchase to Peninsula Plastics Limited dba Nova Products, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the initial amount of \$195,200.00, pursuant to Invitation for Bids (IFB) 2021-035 and Section 2-763 of the Procurement Code entitled "Contract Award".

City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Mayor, I do have a speaker card from a resident wishing to pull an item from the agenda.

Mayor Lago: Not a problem. What is the item?

City Clerk Urquia: Its agenda item E-3 and its Ms. Maria Cruz.

Mayor Lago: I'll pull the item. Can we vote on the rest of the Consent Agenda?

City Commission Meeting

Commissioner Anderson: I'll move it.

Commissioner Menendez: Second.

City Clerk Urquia: All in favor.

All: Aye.

City Clerk Urquia: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Let's discuss E-3, Ms. Cruz, good morning, thank you for being here.

Ms. Cruz: Maria Cruz, 1447 Miller Road. This is the item on the recyclable bins. There is only one problem. The company that bid and if you read what it says, very specifically calls it a residential curbside recycling bin. Okay. Very clearly, its right there in all the documents. I am here to let you know that this creates concerns, that this creates, like you said Mayor, the elderly is not happy with the fact that this item could lead to what we've been fighting all along that we do not want to have recycle bins by the road, and that's what curbside means last time I checked. So, we need some assurances that that's not going to be the case, number one; number two, back when the recycle bins came up, we had \$600,000 marked, I guess that's the word, I don't know, for the recyclable bins. Now we are talking \$195,000. Are we buying less bins? Are we buying cheaper bins? How come three years ago or thereabouts, we had a little over a half a million dollars for recyclable bins, and now we have only less than \$200,000? Those are the questions.

Mayor Lago: First off, I can address the first comments and maybe that language was not the most appropriate, but I can give you a reassurance and if my colleagues will support me on this. We will never support curbside pickup. The type of pickup that we have here in the City of Coral Gables is synonymous with our quality of life and our quality. That's the end of that.

Ms. Cruz: And people need to hear that, that's why I brought it up.

Mayor Lago: People can hear it. I will repeat it as much as and as many times as they like.

City Manager Iglesias: Mr. Mayor there is no intention to have any curbside bins. It could be a name for the bin because its slightly larger and it has a cover on it, but the name is not the use. The use will be the normal use that we have now.

Mayor Lago: I will take an opportunity to do a public service announcement.

Ms. Cruz: Good.

Mayor Lago: I got rid of my trash pit three years ago, it was liberating. I recommend that everyone get rid of your trash pit, you don't need a trash pit. Ask your landscaper to take away his

City Commission Meeting

landscaping with him, its beautiful. I don't have a pile, and by the way, I don't have any illegal dumping anymore on my swale, like I've had on two different occasions. If you insist on having a trash pit because you are afraid about not being able to throw things away like furniture, put it on your side yard or put it on your driveway, it will get picked up the night before, but there is no need to have trash pits. If you'd like to get rid of your trash pit, you call the city, and the city will fill your trash pit in for free and put grass on it and it's a beautiful opportunity to make the city even look more beautiful.

Ms. Cruz: And you have a lot of residents waiting to see what kind of benefits or credits we are going to get, because I've been talking to quite a few people, but since we discussed the possibility of getting a credit, people don't want to do it before we know.

Mayor Lago: We're working on that, and we look forward to potentially rolling something out in the beginning of the year, to discussing in regard to how we are going to address that.

Ms. Cruz: You may have all my block already, but we need to know how much.

City Manager Iglesias: Mayor, this is an additional purchase of 16,000 bins and covers and we initially need 11,000, so this is the initial purchase to start with the new larger covered.

Mayor Lago: That's the second point of your question. So, this is just the initial purchase, okay.

Ms. Cruz: Okay. But make sure that there are enough bins, because I have heard already from people that at the present were asking for bins and were told that there were none available. So, we need to have enough or else its not going to work.

City Manager Iglesias: We have 11,000 that are needed, and we ordered 16,000, the initial order, 5,000 more.

Mayor Lago: Okay. Perfect. So, do we need to take a vote on E-3, Mr. Clerk. We are voting on E-3.

City Clerk Urquia: Yes sir.

Mayor Lago: Can I get a motion?

Ms. Cruz: Mayor since I'm here already can I do my public comments and get it out of the way?

Mayor Lago: We are about to start now. You know what I'm thinking about, maybe we don't do public comment right now, because we are going to do 10 a.m. time certain agenda, which is, I imagine a lot of the public comments are going to be the same thing.

Ms. Cruz: No. My public comment is...

City Commission Meeting

December 7, 2021

Agenda Item E-3 – Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Chief Procurement Officer to award the Residential Recycling Bins purchase to Peninsula Plastics Limited

[Date]

3

Mayor Lago: Okay. Then I want to make sure that everybody is fine that we start late on...

Ms. Cruz: Two seconds.

Vice Mayor Mena: I think if we set time certain 10 a.m., we should try to stick to it, if we can.

Mayor Lago: Let's vote on this.

City Clerk Urquia: May I have second.

Commissioner Anderson: Second.

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Vice Mayor Mena: Yes

Commissioner Menendez: Yes

Commissioner Anderson: Yes

Mayor Lago: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)