

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Items E-5
December 8, 2015
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

City Commission

**Mayor Jim Cason
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick**

City Staff

**City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item E-5 [Start: 11:53:50 a.m.]

An Ordinance amending Chapter 50 of the Code of the City of Coral Gables entitled "Pensions," amending Section 50-239(A), Limitation on Payment of Retirement Income, and providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Cason: Let's try to do E-5 and E-6 before we eat lunch and then we'll pick up the rest of the issues.

City Attorney Leen: Yes Mr. Mayor.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Mr. Mayor before the City Attorney introduces the item; I want to make sure that the employees understand that anyone that is currently under the pension, this is not affecting them. This is a program for those that have retired, that have separated from the City that may wish to come back in a fulltime capacity. So I don't want anyone to think that

we are placing this item to jeopardize their current situation and as we are presenting it now, it is specifically directed to non-represented employees and if those that are represented would like to be a part of it we are keeping that door open.

City Attorney Leen: Mr. Mayor, Item E-5 on First Reading is an ordinance amending Chapter 50 of the Code of the City of Coral Gables, entitled "Pensions," amending Section 50-239(A), Limitation on Payment of Retirement Income, and providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date. This is an item on First Reading. I would also note that to the extent this affects anyone within a bargaining unit, it would only apply to them if the bargaining unit representatives agreed to that to a memorandum with the City Manager, and what this does, if its OK Madam Manager, is Ms. Gomez here or is she not? I can present it. What this item does is it really gives to the City Manager the same authority that the County Mayor has, and in fact it was patterned to a large extent after what the County allows, which is if you have a fulltime employee and they retire and six months passes, they can then come back as a fulltime employee; and it would give them the ability to have a 401(A), they wouldn't receive two pensions, it wouldn't be like they come back and get a second pension from the City. Instead they would have a 401(A), and for individuals who were in police and fire, they could come back as an employee, not police and fire, because of Section 175 and 185, there are issues related to their pension and suspension of the pension and things like that that can't be done. But to the fullest extent that this ordinance can impact them and help them, it does. Again though, it does not affect any police, fire or general employees that are in a bargaining unit until that bargaining unit accepts it.

Vice Mayor Quesada: How does a 401(A) affect our own unfunded liability?- no impact, is that correct?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Correct. The risk goes to the employee and not to the City. Our consultants are recommending that we move.

Vice Mayor Quesada: In other words it gives us an additional tool to bring back someone who's been here a long time, knows the City and we think could be a superstar and has no impact on our unfunded liability. Saying that, so moved.

Commissioner Lago: It gives a lot of flexibility. I'll second the motion.

Mayor Cason: First of all, it's a public hearing. Do we have any speaker cards?

City Clerk Foeman: No Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Cason: Close the public hearing.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I'll make my motion back.

Mayor Cason: Vice Mayor made the motion.

Commissioner Lago: I'll second the motion.

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Lago seconds. City Clerk

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Slesnick: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: Yes

Mayor Cason: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

[End: 11:57:07 a.m.]