

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item H-1
March 12, 2024
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Melissa Castro

Commissioner Ariel Fernandez

Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Amos Rojas, Jr.

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Assistant City Attorney, Naomi Levi-Garcia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item H-1 [2:50 p.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission calling a Special Election on the proposed non-binding straw ballot question to be held on August 20, 2024; providing for submission of a non-binding straw ballot question to the electors related to the possible annexation of Little Gables; providing for requisite ballot language; providing for procedure for balloting; providing for notice; providing for related matters; and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Lago: Moving onto item H-1.

City Attorney Suarez: H-1 is a Resolution of the City Commission calling a Special Election on the proposed non-binding straw ballot question to be held on August 20, 2024; providing for submission of a non-binding straw ballot question to the electors related to the possible annexation of Little Gables; providing for requisite ballot language; providing for procedure for balloting; providing for notice; providing for related matters; and providing for an effective date.

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Agenda Item H-1 – Resolution calling a Special Election on the proposed non-binding Straw ballot question to be held on August 20, 2024

[Date]

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Assistant City Attorney Levi-Garcia: Good afternoon, Mayor and Commissioners, Naomi Levi-Garcia, Assistant City Attorney. At the last meeting, you all considered a resolution to adopt ballot language for the Special Election of the straw ballot question regarding annexation of Little Gables. We received direction to amend the language to include some information related to cost, indicating two people who would read the ballot question, that costs are associated with the annexation so that they would be prompted to do some additional research and see what other information is available to them in regard to those costs and so, we've added that language. We presented the language to you. We are still within the required number of words for the title and for the question itself. If you have any comments or questions, I'm happy to take them at this time.

Mayor Lago: I'll entertain a motion, if there's no comment.

Vice Mayor Anderson: The only question I had is the same question I had to you all is to, what information can we put in E-NEWS or whatever to tell people where they can find information.

Assistant City Attorney Levi-Garcia: So, we have brainstormed on that question a bit. We do think that we will be able to direct residents and individuals who are interested in obtaining more information regarding the annexation costs. We do think we can add some information to E-NEWS directing them to the website and that all information, including the estimates that Diana discussed last meeting could be posted on the website.

Vice Mayor Anderson: I'll move it.

Commissioner Castro: I'll second.

Commissioner Menendez: Yes

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes

Commissioner Castro: Yes

Commissioner Fernandez: Yes

Mayor Lago: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Naomi. I appreciate your hard work.