

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item E-1
April 12, 2016
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-1 [Start: 10:11:55 a.m.]

An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables, Florida prohibiting buttons and other encroachments in the public right-of-way without approval from the City directing the City to remove such unauthorized buttons and other encroachments from the right-of-way, authorizing the City to bill the property owner for such removal as a special assessment, and providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, enforcement and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Cason: Alright. The next item is E-1; this is an Ordinance on Second Reading, City Attorney, Item E-1.

City Attorney Leen: Thank you Mayor. Item E-1 is an Ordinance on Second Reading sponsored by Mayor Cason. An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables, Florida prohibiting buttons and other encroachments in the public right-of-way without approval from the City directing the City to remove such unauthorized buttons and other encroachments from the right-of-way,

authorizing the City to bill the property owner for such removal as a special assessment, and providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, enforcement and providing for an effective date. This is a Second Reading Ordinance. This is a public hearing item Mr. Mayor. Also, since this is your fifth year anniversary, I know this is a very important ordinance for you and so I would turn it back over to you.

Mayor Cason: Do we have any speaker cards?

City Clerk Foeman: No Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Cason: So we'll close the public hearing. Anymore discussion?

Commissioner Keon: Does the provisions in our, I think it's in our City Code that allow people to call to get no parking signs and all of that, all that section will be struck from our Code?

City Attorney Leen: The no parking signs?

Commissioner Keon: Do the encroachments, other encroachments where someone in the neighborhood can call, and have a no parking sign placed in front of their home?

City Attorney Leen: That remains in the Code. If they put the no parking signs themselves this would apply, but if it's an authorized no parking sign...Madam Manager.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Commissioner you are correct. We are revisiting no dumping, no trash, no parking signs, in addition to the buttons; we are going to look at them as a case-by-case basis. There will be some need to have that if it's approximate to Venetian Pool, but it will not be just because somebody called in for that request.

Commissioner Keon: But, I know that now there are around the City in front of some homes, because they don't want their neighbors to park in front of their house, they have requested and have gotten no parking signs, and I guess it's through our Parking Department that...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: You are correct, and we are going to be dealing gently with those residents on pulling those signs back, and no longer allowing somebody to put a no parking sign in front of their house, if it's just so that their neighbors won't be able to park.

Commissioner Keon: I understand around the Venetian Pool and those things, but there are other areas where....in front of their house...

Mayor Cason: A lot of them may have been put in years and years ago, and the owner moved, and sold the house, and the next person says why is this here?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And that's why we are going to handle it at the level that you want, in terms of customer service.

Commissioner Keon: OK. So going forward we are not going to grant those signs unless you see there – it's not just because they desire it, it's because there has to be something in the area.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: A public safety public service need to have it and so, yes, the Parking Department is revisiting all of those "no parking anytime" signs. At the same time, we have done a very good job at resident parking permits only, and so we are going to be continuing to do those resident parking permits.

Commissioner Keon: OK. Thank you.

Mayor Cason: Alright. Do we have a motion on E-1?

Commissioner Keon: I'll make the motion.

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Keon makes the motion, the Vice Mayor seconds. City Clerk.

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: (Stepped out of the Chambers)

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Slesnick: Yes

Mayor Cason: Yes

(Vote: 4-0)

[End: 10:15:18 a.m.]

[Note: After discussion Agenda Item E-2, the Mayor came back and allowed Commissioner Lago to vote on Agenda Item E-1, as he had stepped out of the Chambers during the vote].

Commissioner Lago: City Clerk, I stepped out, I apologize, to go to the bathroom. I'd like to vote on E-1 – yes on Second Reading in regards to the buttons.