

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-4
November 14, 2017
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Frank Quesada
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

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

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-4 [10:27:03 a.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Section 2-243 of the Code of the City of Coral Gables, entitled “Lobbying” and providing for a repealer provision, codification, enforceability, and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: F-4.

City Attorney Leen: So Item F-4 is An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Section 2-243 of the Code of the City of Coral Gables, entitled “Lobbying” and providing for a repealer provision, codification, enforceability, and providing for an effective date. Mr. Mayor this is an item on First Reading and it’s a public hearing item. The Deputy City Attorney or the City Attorney Designate she drafted this item.

Deputy City Attorney Ramos: Good morning again. I drafted this item together with the City Clerk, he's been wanting to do this for quite some time, we finally got together and got it done. Basically it takes our lobbying ordinance and just updates several things. I'll go through the changes for you. It ups the fee, the annual registration fee from \$150 to \$250.00, which is significantly less, still than many other municipalities. It adds at the Clerk's request that any lobbyist who pays an annual fee for a particular item and the item is carried over to the New Year, basically he will not make them pay again. It allows him to waive for public purpose the amount aside from waiving for financial difficulty, which is already in the Code, and a public purpose might be for like a 501(c)(3) that they would not have to register. It also adds selection committee language that is in the County Code, which allows for members of a selection committee to register on a separate form and not pay the registration fee, as long as they are only lobbying as part of the selection committee. If they go outside of that then they would have to register. It also prohibits contingency fees as its true with the County Code which we are bound by in this case, and it adds the exceptions so that they read the same as the County Code and does not create any confusion.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Do I hear a motion?

City Attorney Leen: Mr. Mayor it's a public hearing.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Public hearing – anyone wants to speak?- motion?

Vice Mayor Keon: I'll move it.

Commissioner Quesada: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK. Will you call the roll please?

Vice Mayor Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Quesada: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

[End: 10:29:00 a.m.]