

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item E-6
January 26, 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-6 [12:45:38 p.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, prohibiting a resident or business from removing a sewer cap during a backup; providing for enforcement; providing for a repealer provision; severability clause; codification and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Cason: Item E-6, an Ordinance on First Reading.

City Attorney Leen: Mr. Mayor, Item E-6 is an Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, prohibiting a resident or business from removing a sewer cap during a backup; providing for enforcement; providing for a repealer provision; severability clause; codification and providing for an effective date. This ordinance is on First Reading and it's a public hearing item, and I know that the City Manager may want to speak on it.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Just to say that this actually came at the suggestion of our Operator II crews that work the sewer lines in the City. Most of our residential homes that remain still on septic, but do have our commercial and some of our residential on sewer, and they came up with this suggestion and the City Attorney quickly drafted it, and we've briefed you all individually on it, and I think its an excellent legislation for you all to consider.

Mayor Cason: Why do they take the caps off?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Raw sewage is never a nice discussion, but if individual operations are having a backup, they unfortunately believe the best fastest, temporary solution is to uncap it so that it flows into the public right-of-way, and our crews have to come up and clean it out. So we are suggesting you will be fined; it starts as a fine that fine continues to increase with repeat offenders, we know who repeat offenders are, we are working on advising them of this, and it is an unfortunate and unsanitary solution that they will now be penalized for.

Mayor Cason: OK. There are no speaker cards, so we close the public hearing. Do we have a motion?

Commissioner Lago: I'll make the motion.

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Lago makes the motion.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Seconds.

Mayor Cason: Vice Mayor seconds. City Clerk.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Slesnick: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: Yes

Mayor Cason: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

[End: 12:47:35 p.m.]