

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Virtual Meeting
Agenda Item F-5
July 14, 2020
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Vince Lago
Commissioner Jorge Fors, Jr.
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
Asst. City Attorney, Gustavo Ceballos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Chapter 54- Solid Waste, of the City Code, to prevent uncollected garbage in the City and Section 1-7 entitled “Penalties” to include additional penalties for violations of Section 54-19; providing for a severability clause, repealer provision, codification, and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The next item on the agenda is F-5.

City Attorney Ramos: Mr. Ceballos, can you walk everyone through the ordinance? It is on first reading.

Asst. City Attorney Ceballos: Good Morning Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners. Before you is an ordinance on First Reading as the City Attorney said amending Chapter 54, Section 1-7, in order to address an ongoing issue that we currently have in the City with our private waste collection. Currently, when a business closes or moves, or ceases to pay their waste collection account, the City steps in and continues to pay these providers in order to make sure that there is no uncollected garbage or accumulation in any of the areas where it is not currently services by

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our Public Works team. This then places the City in an awkward position of debt collection which we are seeking to avoid. This code change will shift the burden back to the end user and it is their responsibility to maintain and activate waste collection account so that we can avoid to basically have to chase down these companies that... Frankly, from what I have been told, it is very common when a company or business closes, they don't close their waste collection account which then in turn puts them in default, and you know, then the City starts... may continue to make these payments. So, this basically shifts that burden back to them. It also requires a two-month deposit for all new accounts, so that if an account does go into default, there is that buffer of two months where the waste private collector can continue to do their job and then eventually just close the account, so that the Public Works team isn't basically put into the position of a debt collector. If there are any technical questions, I believe the Assistant Public Works Director is on the line and he can address those types of questions. If there are any questions in regard to the ordinance, I will be glad to answer those.

Vice Mayor Lago: It seems pretty straight forward.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah, and logical.

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

Commissioner Mena: Second.

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

City Clerk Urquia: Vice Mayor Lago.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Commissioner Fors, Jr.: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.