# MINUTES OF MEETING MERRICK SQUARE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Board of Supervisors of the Merrick Square Community Development District held Public Hearings and a Regular Meeting on September 19, 2023 at 2:30 p.m., at the offices of D.R. Horton, 6123 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, Florida 33073.

# Present at the meeting were:

Rebecca Cortes Chair
Darlene DePaula Vice Chair

Maria Bolivar Assistant Secretary (appointed at meeting)
Raul Sanchez Assistant Secretary (appointed at meeting)
William "Woody" Hughes Assistant Secretary (appointed at meeting)

#### Also present:

Daniel Rom District Manager
Ginger Wald District Counsel

Liza Smoker Billing, Cochran, Lyles, Mauro & Ramsey

P.A.

#### FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

# Call to Order/Roll Call

Mr. Rom called the meeting to order at 2:36 p.m. He stated that this meeting will recess and be continued to September 20, 2023 to proceed with the Public Hearings.

Supervisors Cortes and DePaula were present. Supervisors Tavel, Albertson and Gonzalez submitted resignation letters and were not present.

#### SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Acceptance of Resignation of Javier Tavel [Seat 2]; Term Expires November 2026

On MOTION by Ms. Cortes and seconded by Ms. DePaula, with all in favor, the resignation of Mr. Javier Tavel, was accepted.

#### **FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Consider Appointment to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 2

Ms. DePaul nominated Ms. Maria Bolivar to fill Seat 2. No other nominations were made.

On MOTION by Ms. DePaula and seconded by Ms. Cortes, with all in favor, the appointment of Ms. Maria Bolivar to Seat 2, was approved.

# Administration of Oath of Office to Appointed Supervisor

Mr. Rom, a Notary of the State of Florida and duly authorized, administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Maria Bolivar.

- A. Guide to Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees
- B. Membership, Obligations and Responsibilities
- C. Financial Disclosure Forms
  - I. Form 1: Statement of Financial Interests
  - II. Form 1X: Amendment to Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests
  - III. Form 1F: Final Statement of Financial Interests
- D. Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict

These items were not addressed.

#### FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Acceptance of Resignation of Karl Albertson [Seat 1]; Term Expires November 2026

On MOTION by Ms. Cortes and seconded by Ms. DePaula, with all in favor, the resignation of Mr. Karl Albertson, was accepted.

#### SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

# Consider Appointment to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 1

Ms. DePaula nominated Mr. Raul Sanchez to fill Seat 1. No other nominations were made.

On MOTION by Ms. DePaula and seconded by Ms. Cortes, with all in favor, the appointment of Mr. Raul Sanchez to Seat 1, was approved.

# Administration of Oath of Office to Appointed Supervisor

Mr. Rom, a Notary of the State of Florida and duly authorized, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Raul Sanchez.

#### **SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Acceptance of Resignation of Horatio Gonzalez [Seat 5]; Term Expires November 2024

Ms. Wald stated that she spoke to Mr. Gonzalez and certified that he submitted his resignation, via email, and it is on record.

On MOTION by Ms. Cortes and seconded by Ms. DePaula, with all in favor, the resignation of Horatio Gonzalez, was accepted.

#### **EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Consider Appointment to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 5

Ms. DePaula nominated Mr. William "Woody" Hughes to fill Seat 5. No other nominations were made.

On MOTION by Ms. DePaula and seconded by Ms. Cortes, with all in favor, the appointment of Mr. William "Woody" Hughes to Seat 5, was approved.

Administration of Oath of Office to Appointed Supervisor

Mr. Rom, a Notary of the State of Florida and duly authorized, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. William "Woody" Hughes.

Mr. Rom distributed Form 1 to the newly appointed Supervisors to file with the Supervisors of Elections office.

#### NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution 2023-05, Appointing and Removing Officers of the District and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Cortes nominated the following slate:

Rebecca Cortes Chair

Darlene DePaula Vice Chair

Maria Bolivar Assistant Secretary

Raul Sanchez Assistant Secretary

William Hughes Assistant Secretary

No other nominations were made.

Prior appointments by the Board for Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary Daniel Rom remain unaffected by this Resolution.

On MOTION by Ms. DePaula and seconded by Ms. Cortes, with all in favor, Resolution 2023-05, Appointing and Removing Officers of the District and Providing for an Effective Date, as nominated, was adopted.

#### **TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Consideration of Resolution 2023-06, Ratifying the Action of the District Manager in Resetting the Date of the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024; Amending Resolution 2023-03 to Reset the Hearing Thereon; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date

Mr. Rom presented Resolution 2023-06.

On MOTION by Ms. Cortes and seconded by Ms. DePaula, with all in favor, Resolution 2023-06, Ratifying the Action of the District Manager in Resetting the Date of the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024; Amending Resolution 2023-03 to Reset the Hearing Thereon; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

#### **ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget

- A. Proof/Affidavit of Publication
- B. Consideration of Resolution 2023-07, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budgets for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023, and Ending September 30 2024; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date This item was deferred to the continued meeting.

#### TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Hearing to Hear Comments and Objection on the Imposition of Maintenance and Operation Assessments to Fund the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, Pursuant to Florida Law

- A. Proof/Affidavit of Publication
- B. Mailed Notice(s) to Property Owners
- C. Consideration of Resolution 2023-08, Making a Determination of Benefit and Imposing Special Assessments for Fiscal Year 2023/2024; Providing for the Collection and Enforcement of Special Assessments, Including but Not Limited to Penalties and Interest Thereon; Certifying an Assessment Roll; Providing for Amendments to the Assessment Roll; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date

This item was deferred to the continued meeting.

#### THIRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution 2023-09, Relating to the Amendment of the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2022 and Ending September 30, 2023; and Providing for an Effective Date This item was deferred to the continued meeting.

# **FOURTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Acceptance of Unaudited Financial Statements as of July 31, 2023

Mr. Rom was advised to continue sending funding requests to Ms. Laura Sorrentino.

On MOTION by Ms. Cortes and seconded by Mr. Hughes, with all in favor, the Unaudited Financial Statements as of July 31, 2023, were accepted.

#### FIFTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of May 16, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

On MOTION by Ms. Cortes and seconded by Ms. DePaula, with all in favor, the May 16, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented, were approved.

#### SIXTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Staff Reports** 

- A. District Counsel: Billing, Cochran, Lyles, Mauro & Ramsey P.A.
- B. District Engineer: Alvarez Engineers, Inc.
- C. District Manager: Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC

There were no District Counsel, District Engineer or District Manager Reports.

- NEXT MEETING DATE: October 17, 2023 at 2:30 PM
  - QUORUM CHECK

#### SEVENTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Board Members' Comments/Requests** 

There were no Board Members' comments or requests.

#### **EIGHTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Public Comments** 

There were no public comments.

# NINETEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

# Adjournment

Mr. Rom stated that the budget public hearing is being rescheduled because it was originally scheduled for the same date as Broward County's Budget Public Hearing, which is prohibited.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting recessed at 2:49 p.m., and was continued to September 20, 2023 at 2:30 p.m., at the offices of D.R. Horton, 6123 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, Florida 33073.

[SIGNATURES APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair Vice Chair