



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: The regular council meeting for Tuesday, October 25th, 2022 is called to order at 7:02 PM. We've already had side of meditation and pledge of allegiance. Madam Clerk, may I please have roll call please?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Here.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Present

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Here.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Present.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Also present for the record, Yenise Jacobi, Village Clerk, Christia Alou, Village manager, and Joseph Geller, Village Attorney. You have a quorum.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much Madam Clerk. I appreciate it. Next is approval of the agenda. I do have a couple of items that I want to alter. I want to remove G3. I already have that as part of my state of the village address on Saturday. I'm going to remove G3. We'll talk about that on Saturday during my address here at the Village Hall, 2:00 PM. Little plug.

I also want to move H1. I want to move H1 to right before our agenda items. The only reason why that is, is because the individual for H1, he is on a break and he has to get back to work immediately. H1 will go right above G and then we'll do the agenda items, then we'll go back to H2 after the agenda items. I'm removing G3 altogether. That's going to be on the state of the village address. Do I have any more alterations or do I have motion to approve the agenda?

Councilman Luis Pirela: If I may, Mayor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, Councilperson--

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilman Luis Pirela: Before approving the agenda, I have two items that I want to actually have a little discussion from the consent agenda.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes

Councilman Luis Pirela: That'll be F3 and F4.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: F3 and F4. You want them in regular-- These are resolutions, so we're going to put them in resolutions. F3 and F4. Those will become now H6 and H7.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Mayor, we don't have [unintelligible 00:02:04] number. You can just take them off if you want to at the end of the consent [inaudible 00:02:09].

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Now, I'm going to remove them. You said F3 and F4 Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: F3 will make H6, and F4 is a resolution so we'll make it H7.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Perfect.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Sound good Councilperson Pirela.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Perfect. Yes, sounds good. Thanks.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Do I have any more alterations? Do I have a motion to approve the agenda with changes?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moved by councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by councilperson Martin. All in favor say aye.

Members: Aye.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Opposed say nay. Hearing none. Moving right along. Good and welfare. Okay. Usually, I do good and welfare to where you come up and talk three minutes about any item that is on the agenda. Then we have a second good and welfare at the end that concerns any item altogether. I know that we have a packed house. I think I got an email that there's a couple of people that wanted to talk about a couple of things really quickly. I don't want to keep you here because we do have what could be an exhaustive meeting. We're good?

Agenda. For the first good and welfare, those who want to talk about anything at all, you have three minutes. You can come and talk about anything at all. You just have to say your name and address for the record. We're doing this tonight because of the event of the agenda. We usually only keep the good and welfare for what is on the agenda itself. Do I have any type of problems or situations from the council to where that they don't want to grant that?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Grant what?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Those being here to come and talk about anything at all during this first good and welfare for today. Everybody good? No objections?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Nope.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: All right. Here we go. The first good and welfare, if you want to come and talk about anything at all, come up, say your name and address for the record and the floor is yours. Three minutes. Anybody at all?

Thomas Pulliam: Good evening. My name is Thomas Pulliam. I'm at 205 Northeast 86th Street. Last time I was here was two months ago. I wasn't present at the last meeting, which was canceled. However, I did intend to be at that budget hearing, which was just 15 minutes prior. Long story short, I did a public records request. I've also emailed all the members on the council about this. Just wanting to see what the contracts were with the staff and how that correlates with the budget and spend.

What I found out was that the manager's contract is allowed a 3% increase yearly. However, what's been approved is an 8%. There's a discrepancy there that I want to bring to the Village's attention. In addition, I asked for the employment contract for the village attorney, which we did not have one executed as of the year 2020 when I received those documents on September 29th. I just want to bring all that to the councilperson's attention. Thank you.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Pullium. Attorney Geller was interim attorney for a while and he became a permanent attorney. He had a contract during his interim attorney phase. Since he's become a permanent attorney, we still have to have an administration and finance meeting and secure his contract for his permanent attorney's status. Do I have anybody else for good and welfare [unintelligible 00:06:24]? You could talk about anything at all. Name and address. Three minutes.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I have a brief comment if I could.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Anders Urbom, 416 Northeast 89th Street. Just a reminder, while we have a full house, that hurricane season is not over. Yes, we'll talk about it in the state of the village, but while I have the opportunity, just a reminder I'm on a Facebook group with a bunch of weather nerds. Just a reminder, Hurricane Kate 1985, Category 2, two days before Thanksgiving. Everything's quiet right now in the Atlantic Basin, but that can change at any time. Luckily, from 1985 to now, we have much better-advanced forecasting and things like this. Just a reminder to everybody that we should remain diligent genuinely all the way through to December 1st at least.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Well said, vice mayor. I would've kept that on there for you. All you had to do was say something when we were in the agenda.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: No, because it just needed 30 seconds. We didn't need the whole agenda.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: It's all good. I appreciate you. Anybody else? Anybody else good and welfare, three minutes. You can talk about anything at all before I move on. Okay. Seeing, hearing none. Moving down to the consent agenda. Do I have a motion to approve the consent agenda?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Move

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Move by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Do I have a second?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Second.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by Vice Mayor Urbom. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call, please?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call. Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [unintelligible 00:07:52]

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes. Five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Clerk. I appreciate that. Moving down to agenda items. We're on the first agenda item G1, potholes, street repair, phase two. There are a couple of potholes that definitely have to get done with this phase two. Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, Councilperson Martin, you guys might be able to talk just more about these because I see them as I'm passing out flyers in your neighborhood. There's one that Councilperson Martin, it might be 89th-

Councilwoman Darian Martin: It's 89th.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: - or 88th, 99th that has the cone-

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Has a cone, yes. It's right at the base of a driveway.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: It's one of those giant cones, you guys. The cone is halfway deep. That's how deep this pothole is. It's getting wider and wider and wider. That one definitely has to get done. When I'm passing out my flyers, I'm like, "Oh my Lord." I'm embarrassed that I'm the mayor and I'm walking past this pothole and this pothole looks that way where this giant cone is halfway gone because it's in that pothole.

It's absolutely terrible. It's right there going into somebody's driveway. That's one. There's another one that's on that back alley. You guys know we have the houses on 91st that have the two stories. If you go down that back alley, there is one there that is humongous and so dangerous and right there in the middle of the road. Anna, those two definitely have to get done in this phase two. I'm going to open up to the council. Anybody have any comments about anything?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [unintelligible 00:09:35]

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes. Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: I think I'd do better if I knew that the manager had comments right now [inaudible 00:09:44].

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Thank you. I appreciate that. This pothole that you spoke of that is getting wider and wider with the big cone in it, that was a resolution item number F6. from the consent agenda. That's a sinkhole that we have been reporting on for the past couple of months. With the passage of that resolution, we are now able to have that repaired.

Councilman Luis Pirela: I'm sorry, F5?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: F5. Oh, what did I say?

Councilman Luis Pirela: 6.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Oh, sorry. Sometimes I don't-- F5 will take care of that particular pothole. Also, on the list of repairs is the-- let's see here. I do have our public works director as well as our public works coordinator here, but the the sinkhole does have the three quotes that we've provided for Village Council's consideration. Again, that will be covered in that. In terms of what remains with potholes, we do have one at-- Oh, I believe it's 550 Northwest 87th Street, right in front of the home, that is huge.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

That is actually on the swell, but it is such a bad pothole that's deteriorating as well as the one that Mayor Nickerson spoke about that is in the alleyway between Northwest 90th and Northwest 98th and 5th Avenue. Those are two that we want to also take care of. If anyone else can identify something, we would definitely consider that, but we also have on our list to take care of the paving that is at the Sherwood Forest Park. That will not be considered a pothole. It's not a pothole. It's more of a road issue that will be addressed when we do our parks renovation.

Councilman Luis Pirela: I identified another one on that issue. It needs to be added to the list, which is the one by Sherwood Forest. It's in front of a house, 385 Northeast 85th Street. It's very close to be a sinkhole. I mean it's huge. I just passed by two days ago and it needs to be addressed quick.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you Councilperson.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Anymore that anyone can identify, please let us know.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Councilperson Lightfoot-ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: My concern is, since most of it seem to be on the northwest area, is there something about-- We may be doing patches or temporary work, but is there something about the ground that we are missing, because this one on 86th is always popping up? I'm wondering if we're just doing bandage as opposed to doing the work necessary, are we sinking? Are we on a water log area and we don't know it? Has any systemic work been done that says why do we have these Potholes? Not only do they start out small, but they end up large before we we're able to give attention to it.

My concern is, can you imagine a house going under because we didn't take time to think about that a little bit deeper. I can imagine that. I don't like [unintelligible 00:13:32]. Is it something that we're not doing because it's always in that part? Most of the potholes are always in my side of the Lauren and I area, and they're much travel because that's 3rd avenue. It's that 3rd Avenue. It's always there. The 5th Avenue, aren't you right Next to 5th Avenue? Is there something that we're missing?

I've been on the council long enough, I've been in the Village 30 years to know that these same areas are the same areas where most of the potholes are. Are we missing something [unintelligible 00:14:10]. That's just a [unintelligible 00:14:13] covered it. That's why I'm

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

asking these questions. Why did it go up? I didn't turn it up. I don't know. I think we need to look at it a little bit differently. Whoever's doing it, I'd be happy to have the report on what they saw. What did they have to do? What did they-- Because if we don't ask for it, the company's not going to going to tell us.

They say, "Listen, your grounded area is on a flat that has A, B, C, D on it." Since we've never gotten that back, we just got, "Yes, we paved it." Maybe we're not looking at this like it should be. I don't doubt the person that's doing it is doing a good job. I'm just very concerned that they're always in the northwest, the majority, big going out of control on basically the same streets in my area. Just a thought. I'm not blaming nothing. I'm not saying anything like that. I'm saying do we need to look at it differently?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Mr. Mayor, if I may?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Just a question based on what Councilman Lightfootl-Ward is saying, which I completely agree with. Is the idea of what we're doing patching these or repairing? What have we been doing? Have we just been patching the same potholes or repairing them?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: No, they are not the same potholes. These are different ones. We've had a phase one that was mostly on the northeast side. We did a little bit of road resurfacing as well in phase one, but that was northeast, the majority of those potholes. We wanted to address what remains. As you see, phase two is a smaller or shorter list than the phase one that we conducted in 2021. That's where we're now addressing whatever's left on the northwest side.

To your point about the road, why the pothole? We haven't had our roads resurfaced or reconstructed in a number of years. From what I understand from the traffic study that was done a few years ago, roads have to be repaved after 15 to 20 years. We're long past due for anything like that, but we just don't have those finances to repave our roads. What we can do is patch and repair potholes where possible. When we're able to, we can resurface as we did a little bit of a resurface in phase one here on the northeast side.

Also, what contributes to the pothole issue is erosion and the flooding. That weakens the base and it causes those sinkholes and these problems. We have a lot of flooding throughout the

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

village. As you notice on northeast 2nd and 89th and 90th as well, there's a lot of erosion and worn out roads, but we aren't in the position right now to repave them because we cannot afford the permeable pavers.

Instead of just putting asphalt on that, that's just something that will wear away in another two years. We are trying to address these with our mobility study, which you all passed about two months ago. In our traffic study, I hope to at least kind of address those matters as well. I will keep you posted. Thank you for those comments.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: I do have a follow up. What we're doing is patching and how long should the patch hold up? Do we know?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: No, we don't know, because we patched and haven't had any other issues with patches.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Thus far.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Thus far.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: We patched maybe a couple years ago. I think a really sound question that comes from what Dr. Lightfoot-Ward is saying, what are the plans to repave? Are there any plans to acquire these funds or to quantify how much it would be for more permanent solution for villagers on the northwest, and honestly, on the northeast side as well. Are we looking at that?

Village Manager Alou: We are. As part of the whole septic to sewer conversion, there would have to be a repaving of the roads as well. That is one portion. Those are only 99 homes that would be in that phase one of the septic to sewer conversion, but we would address the roads in that project.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: That would provide relief to those 99?

Village Manager Alou: Yes. For that area.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Then are we looking at the other villagers? This, obviously, is not going to happen in the short term, but in addition to us patching, I think we should be functioning on both tracks and looking at a more robust solution to the problem and how we

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

can execute on this repaving. Maybe for the 99 first, but also contemplate the villagers as they come behind that that are not part of the 99.

From what the Mayor was saying and everyone up here, some of these potholes are gigantic. Patching it is good, but figuring out a more permanent solution would probably provide a lot more comfort to-- At least I know my neighbor on 89th Street who currently has that gigantic pothole in the front. Maybe we could do both.

Village Manager Alou: Well, the issue again is that is a fund that we do not have for-

Councilwoman Darian Martin: For sure.

Village Manager Alou: -repaving our roads. Again, we would then have to go to the state and other areas to look for funding for such if we're doing that.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: For sure. I know that we can't do it right now, but planning is always a good option. Just to keep our eyes on how we might do it in the future.

Village Manager Alou: Well, we actually have a road plan, or what's it called? A master plan for road revitalization that's been issued by Craig A. Smith & Associates. It's being updated right now by Craig A. Smith & Associates. I think it was 2019, Mr. Tomby?

Mr. Tomby: [unintelligible 00:20:14] 2019.

Village Manager Alou: Yes, we have a study that breaks it out in phases. As we get funding, we're able to do this, this, and this, but we just don't have the funds right now.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Perfect.

Village Manager Alou: We will continue to address it.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: It's good to know that we're at least thinking about that and the different phases that that might encompass.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Again, if you look at the repairs, the scope of work it's like actually compressing the soil, and using rocks and then paving on top of it. It's not like it's just patching it. They're doing what is supposed to be done to take care of that. Now, if it happens again in

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

the same place, then they'll have to be some engineer, and a study be done to see whether it's-

Councilwoman Darian Martin: No, I say all of this just because I have multiple neighbors who have lived in the village far longer than I have who have complained about reoccurring potholes. I have no doubt that they're competent in what they're doing. My question is the longevity of it. If we can fix it for five years, or we can do it for 15, 20 years, can we look at, is there a way to phase that longer, more robust solution? Maybe the answer is no, but I think we need to be looking on both tracks to find just the best solution possible. I think all things can be true.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: If I could remind the council that, [unintelligible 00:21:50] has a brilliant, if I may say, Resilient Streets plan that if we are able to get organized enough as the need for redoing streets comes into play, they have a absolutely forward-looking plan, fully-developed, ready for us to implement when it comes time to redo a street after a septic to sewer. Additionally, I'll just say it again, Resilient Streets is the key here. That's the ticket.

Then additionally, the storm water project, that is going to go a long way also to mitigating how much groundwater is sitting after heavy rains or with elevated canal levels and things like this. That storm water project is critical to this discussion as well. I'll just remind us, once again, Resilience Streets and the Stormwater Project both are great here.

Attorney Joseph Geller Building on what Vice Mayor just said, let me just say, although I don't normally get involved in a discussion like this, but the manager is out as the mayors and all of you are out actively looking for unusual grant money. We have this infrastructure bill that finally actually passed the Congress, and there's money like there never was precisely for these neglected infrastructure needs.

With a good plan, like you just described that our planning consultants have come up with, if everybody keeps looking, the money is out there. It never was for all these years. It's been 50, 60 years since there's been this kind of investment, but now would be the time to try to find some of that infrastructure money. If possible, with a good plan like that, it could make a long-term difference.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Anybody else from the council about the sinkholes? No. Anybody from the audience have any questions or comments about the pothole street repair? No. May I have a motion to approve the list from item G1?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moved by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, second by Vice Mayor Urbom. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call please.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call, Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [unintelligible 00:24:33]

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: All right. We're going to jump to H1 right now, you guys. We went through this in the committee meeting, if you guys remember, with the CAT representative who came up to the-- and spoke about the situation that happened with the roof. I don't know if you guys want to go back over it again or if it's necessary. There's really nothing that we can really say or do about it.

Attorney Joseph Geller: [unintelligible 00:25:03]

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Oh, yes, that's right for all the items.

Attorney Joseph Geller: [unintelligible 00:25:09]

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, no problem.

Attorney Joseph Geller: For items H1 that we're going to take up next as well as H2 and H3, if everyone who plans to offer any testimony on those items would please stand and raise your right hand. If you're going to talk about them, just stand for a second and raise your right hand and just repeat after me. I, and state your name.

Witnesses: I [unintelligible 00:25:36]

Attorney Joseph Geller Do hear by solemnly swear-

Witnesses: Do hear by solemnly swear-

Attorney Joseph Geller: -that the testimony I will give tonight-

Witnesses: -that the testimony I will give tonight-

Attorney Joseph Geller: -will be the truth-

Witnesses: -will be the truth-

Attorney Joseph Geller: -the whole truth-

Witnesses: -the whole truth-

Attorney Joseph Geller: -and nothing but the truth-

Witnesses: -and nothing but the truth-

Attorney Joseph Geller: -and either, so help me God, or you can take an affirmation.

Witness: [inaudible 00:25:52]

Attorney Joseph Geller: So help me God works if [unintelligible 00:25:54]. Okay, Thank you. Witnesses are sworn. Thank Mayor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. I appreciate that. That being said, do I have a motion to approve H1?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: We can do it, but we went through this in the committee meeting and there was nothing that we could do about it. Moved by councilperson-- Did you move it? Moved by Vice Mayor Urbom, second by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call. Councilperson Martin.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot Ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [inaudible 00:26:41]

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes. This is a true hardship. Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Next we're going to-- Let's jump up to G2, the Charter Revision Board. We're due to start to look at our charter, you guys, and put together a charter revision board. We have to start the process, Attorney Geller, we have to start the process in 2022. Our charters doesn't say anything about we have to finish the process in 2022. It says we have to start the process, begin the process in 2022.

I want you guys to-- before the new year. We have the November meeting, we have the December meeting. We'll try to get it through for the November meeting, but if not, we still have the December meeting, which is the last chance that we have to do this. What we have to

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

do, you guys, we have to pick a charter review board, and it has to be residents. It has to be a board of residents. I believe it's six residents, if I'm not mistaken. I think the charter says six residents. I believe I have that in my mind.

Attorney Joseph Geller: I don't believe it was--

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Oh, seven.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Seven.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: It might have been seven.

Attorney Joseph Geller: It might have been seven. It was an odd number.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Seven, that's what it was. It was seven, because I remember thinking two of us are probably going to have to pick two, or we have to do something like that. What I would suggest is, I would suggest that-- We're five, we have to pick seven. I would suggest that each individual, each Councilperson, think of a resident that you want to have on the charter review board. Go to the resident, ask them if they want to be a part of the charter review board, and two of us can pick two people.

It doesn't have to be me. Whoever wants to pick two individuals can pick two individuals. It could be the Mayor and Vice Mayor, but it doesn't have to be that way, you guys. Whoever wants to pick two people just think about it. If you really feel adamant that you want to pick a second person, just call the manager or call the clerk and let them know, and we'll just go from there. If not, then we'll just keep it Mayor and Vice Mayor to pick two people.

Attorney Joseph Geller Mayor, let me just say because I've done this twice for the village already. You can do it any way you want based on what the charter says is minimal. In the past, by my recollection, even though you can have individual council members nominate people, the requirement has been that to be on it, somebody has to get that the-- All the names have to be voted and there has to be a majority of the council that votes to put somebody on. You can nominate too or somebody else can nominate too, whatever, but they still have to get a majority vote.

The other just a note to make, since it's been a while, and I know you were here, but the charter board makes recommendations, but they are not in empowered to put things right on the ballot.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

The charter board makes recommendations, then the council reviews them and the council decides whether it agrees or disagrees, and the council is who votes to put the recommendations on the council. It's not a new charter, it's just revisions to the charter, individual revisions. The idea of having the citizen's committee is to get input from outside the council, but still, just to be clear, it's subject to a council vote to put it on the ballot. Then, of course, it's the citizen's choice whether they accept those individual recommendations or not. Everybody votes on it. Just to frame it up, if that's okay.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: No, thank you.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Mr. Mayor, if I may. I also think there should be a mechanism by which the villagers can express interest in serving on the board as well. Just because I'm sure there are countless people who might be interested but might not be known to any of us, and I want them to have an opportunity as well to let us know what their thoughts are to improve our village. Maybe there could be a certain number of spots reserved just for people to reach out to the clerk and let her know that they're interested in serving.

Attorney Joseph Geller If I may, Mayor. That's an excellent point, Councilperson. What this should be viewed as, because it's not-- Anyone who wants to serve can put their name forward. This should be taken by the village at large as an opportunity for people who want to serve to put in their name or an application or a resume, whatever, to the clerk. Along with whatever names that you choose to nominate, and all the names, whether somebody is volunteering to do it or being urged by you, can be put forward in advance of the next meeting.

That way, if you're ready to act in November, you'll have the names of people who volunteered to serve. You'll have the names of people you've asked to consider serving, and if you're ready in November, you can vote on those names. I think Mayor is right at seven. It's just a matter of getting enough people who have a majority vote of the council.

If you're not prepared to do that final vote in November, as the Mayor says, you could still do it in December. If you named five people that got a majority vote in November and you didn't get seven, you can come back and fill the other two vacancies that you didn't appoint in December, if you get a majority vote. Unless you decide otherwise, and it is your privilege to make this decision where the charter doesn't dictate it, but it's been that it does take a majority vote.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

If you ended up with a charter commission that had six people instead of seven, because that's how many got a majority vote of the council, you can proceed that way. Again, it's not whatever their recommendation is and isn't binding. If there's a tie vote on something, it still comes to you, and you make the decision. That's an excellent point, Councilperson. This should be looked at as notice and the clerk can follow it up with whatever public notice, that if people want to submit their names and application and resume, that the village is now open to accept those for this.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. Are we 100% certain that if we are less than seven, that fulfills that charter review board?

Attorney Joseph Geller Yes, but if you want ultimately to have seven, if you end up with six, you need to find someone that could be the seventh that will get a majority vote of the council. I'm sure there's someone in the village even if you have to go out and recruit someone. The idea is that you're not putting people on that don't have the support of the council because the council has to come back and consider these recommendations anyway.

In the past, at least, it's been a requirement, as I recall, that you have a majority vote to put someone on. If you end up with six, and you want seven, I don't think it disqualifies it, frankly. It's six citizens giving input. If you want a seventh, you just come back and find somebody else that you can have consensus on that will get a majority vote of the council, gets three votes.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: That's the only reason why, and I think that Councilperson Martin made a great point, which, I want everybody who wants to be a part of it to be able to apply application to be a part of it. This is my concern though. This is why I said that I think that we should all at least go out and try to find five and two people to to try to find two because I don't want to get to December-- You guys, our next meeting is November 15th and then December 13th because of the holidays.

If we get to December, and we don't have those seven people, then we're going to be out of compliance. Let me just read the charter for a second to you guys what it says. "The council shall appoint a charter revision commission consisting of not less than seven village residents." If we don't have seven by December 13th, we're out of charter compliance. That's the reason why I said because-- I think we should do both. I don't just want to put it out there, and then we only get three people to come in. I want to at least be safe and say, "Okay, we have seven interested people." Then if we get 20 or 30, even better, but at least we have that seven. Nothing

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

else, at least we won't fall out of compliance. Let's at least I think try to get that seven, at least people who are interested in being on that charter review board.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: If I may?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: No, completely. My line of the night is all things can be true. I think we should recruit. I think I could find seven people by myself who might be interested in doing it, but I also think that we need to make it as open as possible. I do think we should definitely recruit, but open it up for additional villagers who might want to have their name considered as well. I love the addition of the resume so that we can have a varied amount of skillsets on that board so that we make sure we are looking at things from all angles.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Sounds good. Yes, Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I wholeheartedly agree with Councilperson Martin. In my opinion, this whole process, once we get the board, the whole process should be, if it's done properly, it should be loud, it should be chaotic, it should be messy. If it's not loud, chaotic and messy, then we are missing a lot of things. In addition to that, I think that the invite, at least from my end, is going to be very open in terms of don't worry about what's on your resume, just tell us who you are and why you're interested kind of a thing.

Everyone who lives in this village lives out of this village, and so the powers of observation are incredibly powerful powers. Almost anybody with almost any skill set, I do believe would have something to add in terms of, "This has been my experience, this is what I would like to see improved. This is what is working well, I don't want to see a change," that kind of thing.

I think if we could aim for 25 people and land somewhere above 10, that that would be ideal. I think the seven would be considered a bare minimum of enough brains in it to really get some solid ideas out of it. Just as it's wonderful to see a full house tonight, the council cannot do this job without input, and this board is not going to be able to function without a considerable-- This is the most significant thing that we'll be dealing with until it's done. There won't be anything more significant than this, and so I don't think that could be understated enough or overstated enough.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Attorney Joseph Geller Vice mayor, let me just say though, just keep in mind the more members, the longer it takes to get to a final product. There's a balance there. I hope you're not thinking of appointing 20, 30 people to that because that would make every meeting very difficult to bring each meeting to a conclusion, to make sure everybody who wanted to be heard at each meeting on each topic got heard. You'd have to have more meetings.

The other thing is that sometimes you find with a process that stretches literally for months, that there's a lot of enthusiasm at the beginning, and then you find yourself with difficulty getting a quorum as you move forward because it takes a majority of the committee. Your point is subtle, but I'll tell you that there's a balance is all I'm saying.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I am discovering balance in my life at this point. I come from hospitality. Someone orders something, they want it now. When it comes to government, I am a believer that government should move slowly because it is a very large vessel that carries a ton of mass with it, and you're not going to turn on a dime, and if you do, you're going to capsize. I take your point. I still think we should aim for more than 20 applicants and be satisfied to land somewhere around 10, 11, even as high as 13 actual members. For me personally, I just think it needs to be as loud as possible to get the best product out of it at the end. That's all.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Vice Mayor Urbom. Anybody else from the council? Hearing none. Anybody from the audience have anything they want to say? Seeing none. There's nothing to vote on here, you guys. That's just fine. Try to find a minimum of at least seven and come back and then we'll work with the manager and the front desk. We'll all get together and try to figure out a form we can have for the application. All right. We're moving on to H2. We're on H2, you guys, that's the resolution H2. I don't know, Attorney Geller, if you want to read that into the record for us.

Attorney Joseph Geller: H2, a resolution of the Village Council of El Portal Florida granting site plan approval for new construction of a one-story edition at 8545 Northeast 4th Avenue Road in zone three, Suburban residents in the village of El Portal. An application by Gregory, I don't know if it's Borja or Borja. Providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date. Is the applicant here? Sir, I apologize. How is your last name pronounced properly?

Mr. Borja: Some people say, Borja, Borja, right?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Attorney Joseph Geller: What do you say?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: How do you say it?

Mr. Borja: Borja.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Borja?

Mr. Borja: [unintelligible 00:42:01] Borja [inaudible 00:42:02].

Attorney Joseph Geller: Nothing is more irritating to people than not having their own name pronounced correctly. I try to be a stickler for that. Thank you Mr. Borja for enlightening us. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you, Mr. Attorney. May we have Mr. Borja come up please, and we have village staff either Camilla or Juan come up.

Mr. Borja: Hello. My name is Gregory Borja. I live in 8545, NorthEast 4th Avenue Road. I'm here because I'm looking for the approval of a new construction, a two-storey addition to my house, and also an addition to the existing structure of a master bedroom and a car garage.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Borja.

Mr. Borja: Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you. Camila, if you want to give us your view on it, the staff view and the staff recommendation. Let's just start there?

Camila: Yes, Mayor Nickerson. Thank you. The site plan---

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Oh, Mr. Borja you can stay up there. Yes, you're good.

Camila: The additions, as Mr. Borja has stated comply with the zoning requirements and the site development standards for zone three. The proposed plan is consistent with the comprehensive plan and intent of the use in the district in which it is located. The approval of this site plan will not have any adverse impact in the village. While the design of the addition is of a different architectural style, it is still consistent in scale and composition and materials of the existing house on the property. The applicant shows good cause with the proposal of the

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

new construction of the residents, and therefore, staff recommends approval of this type of application.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Mayor, without objection, you should accept the staff report into evidence because it is evidence for the quasi-judicial determination.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Staff recommends approval. Do I have any objection to the staff recommendation?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Well, if may, I do have a question for the applicant, because I noticed that you have a lot of mature oak trees in the property on your backyard.

Mr. Borja: Yes.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Are any of those trees being removed?

Mr. Borja: Not at all.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Nothing's going to-- The new construction's not going to interrupt any of the--

Mr. Borja: It's going to be-

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Around the trees.

Mr. Borja: -around the trees.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Okay. Sounds good. Thanks.

Mr. Borja: I believe that the trees are one of the most beautiful-

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Part of your--

Mr. Borja: -part of the house. That was one of the reasons why I bought the house.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Perfect. Thank you. I appreciate that.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mr. Borja: Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you. Before we get to the details of what's going on, because that's going to lead to the vote itself, so we're going to ask the details to see if we agree or don't agree with putting this through, but our staff recommends approval. Do we have an objection with the staff at least recommending approval? Whether we approve it, we're going to discuss that in a second, but staff approval. Do I have any objec--

Attorney Joseph Geller: We just accept the report as is.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, it's just accepting the report. Do I have any objection about the staff approving? All right, thank you very much. Okay, now let's open up to the council. Do you have any questions for either the applicant or the staff regarding this particular property?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes. Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: If I'm not mistaken, it took two meetings. It was two, right?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes, this is the second.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: It took two meetings for us to get to this place. Seems like there's redundancy on this third time.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: No, but this is--

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: All these resolutions got here because we already went through tooth and nail, everything. When we come to this third one, that's always problematic for me. The person already convinced us, told us, talked about this two, three hours sometime about what they want to do. It doesn't seem fair to me as an applicant. They should simply be able to come over here and say, "Hey, we had it. We did what we did. We aren't changing it. We're not trying to change it. You've already accepted it and let's vote." To keep doing this three times doesn't seem to make sense.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Each one of these could have been easily just said resolutions, H2, H3, I'll hold on H4, and H5, bring it. Why? They've already done everything. They just came here for the formal and final need to have this. Not put them through this every single time. The first time because we need an understanding. The second time to correct what we told them, to correct by way of our consultant.

That's what we do. The first time they tell us what they want, they tell them how to make it right, they make it right. The third time we're ready to vote. Why do we keep doing this over and over? I want the protocol to change so that when they come here, they're not trembling and shaking and thinking we going change our mind after they've already been through the process.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: We have a committee meeting and then they come to us for a second time. There's no third time.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Come on, people. I know I've been here to each one of these and we got it to this point because we were satisfied. That's how we got here. You left here knowing we were satisfied.

Mr. Borja: Thank you.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: No more justification necessary. That's all I'm saying.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Sir, is this the second or third time you've been in front of us?

Mr. Borja: Second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. We have a committee meeting and it goes to the full council. These properties--

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: I stand corrected. I'm not going to be stood up over here. I stand corrected. That is my pure point. We've already been through this. Why can't we just simply vote H2, H3, H4, H5? Why can't we just vote them? I know you got to do the Robert rules of order. I know that, but why can't we just vote them? If I was him right now, I'd be shaking in my whatever thinking that you all going to change your mind. You already been through the process. That's all I'm asking. Let's be right.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: If I may, Mayor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: One thing, Vice Mayor, and I got you. I don't necessarily disagree with you Councilperson Dr. Lightfoot-Ward. I want to get through these as quickly as possible, but this is the thing. It goes through committee, at the committee level, at the planning and zoning committee level, that's the committee level. Now, we voted through at the committee level. Once it gets to the council level, we could change our minds. At the council level, we could vote it down at the council level, because this is the council level. At the committee level, it's not a resolution yet.

At the council level, if it passes through committee, which is the first step, at the council level though, the second meeting, the council level. At the council level, it's a resolution. A resolutions of legal document, and therefore, this is the one that really counts. At this one from the committee till now, I could have said, "You know what, man, I passed that through to the committee, but I don't know if I like that too much."

Here at the council level, this might fail. Now, I don't disagree with trying to put things through as fast as possible, but I just don't think that we could make it like in a consent agenda type of thing to where we just consent them all through. We have to go by them one by one. Correct, Attorney Geller, because of the hearing.

Attorney Joseph Geller: You're both right, and I don't know if you realize that in different ways, you're saying the same thing. Two hearings are required. The only time there's a third is if you had sent somebody back to make changes because there was a problem, and you said, "Well, we're not going to approve it this time, but if you make the following changes and come back, that'll be okay." Two hearings are required, and you have to swear witnesses, and you have to have evidence, but that doesn't mean where you've gone over something in detail, other than the formal parts, you're not obligated go back over everything.

I think that's all that the councilwoman is saying is you don't need to do that, but you need to do the formal parts. You can't do it in one, but you also don't need to be redundant of what was done at the first meeting. That's why I say, you're both correct. There's some stuff you got to do, but you don't have to do what you don't need to do. That's my only comment.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: I appreciate you. Vice-Mayor Urbom.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: The only thing I have to add to that is I agree with the attorney. I agree with Dr. Lightfoot-Ward, I agree with the mayor. For me, I also see an extra benefit to the public, to the residents of us going through this process because it's an extra layer of transparency essentially. Frequently, we have residents say, "Hold on. Wait a minute. You guys didn't even talk about this, and you just passed this significant thing without realizing--" Sometimes, for example, in the case of the budget, we had multiple meetings before this where this was all hushed out.

While I certainly agree with Dr. Lightfoot-Ward, I believe, that everyone in this council is in agreement that we have gone through this specific item at length, and we are probably ready to take a vote. I think that there is an added benefit to the public, to the residents that we fully engage in this process because for many residents, this will be the first time that they're encountering this.

Maybe they're trying to do the similar thing with their property, and they're thinking, "Wait a minute." Maybe they were denied something in the initial application of something similar and not understanding the nuances of what would be different from one application to the next. Yes, without adding more redundancy, I'll say I agree with everybody who spoke.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Vice-Mayor Urbom. Anybody else from the council have any questions or comments about this property? Anybody from the audience, any questions or comments about this property? Do I have a motion to approve Resolution H2?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moved by Vice-Mayor Urbom. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by Councilperson Martin. Madam Clerk, can we please have roll call on H2?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call. Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice-Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes, five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. Gregory Borja: Thank you so much.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Take care.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Mayor?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Item H3.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Resolution of the Village Council of El Portal, Florida authorizing the approval of the variance for a fence and the primary front setback as requested by 9001 NE 1st Avenue, LLC, providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. How are you doing? You can come up to the mic. Good to meet you. Give us the overview of the staff report and staff recommendation, Camilla.

Ms. Camilla: Yes, Mayor Nickerson. This application, I will move forward with your recommendation and staff report that we had submitted originally, which is, the application is for construction of a fence in the front yard with a height of four feet with masonry posts and horizontal aluminum slats, or slats. I'm not sure how you pronounce that. This is for the front yard, the frontages at NE 1st Avenue, which is currently a dead-end. It might be opened in the future, we need to keep that in mind. That frontage consists of a 25-foot setback, 5-foot sidewalk, and a parkway.

The staff recommendation is approval for this fence. Again, we just had a meeting in which we were directed otherwise, but this approval comes with the intent that the design would be subject to review at the council, at the public hearings, in which it has been presented. The staff recommendation is approval for this variance application. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Does anybody from the council object to accepting the staff recommendation of approval?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Mr. Mayor, I don't object to the recommendation, I just like-- Like I said in the meeting before, explain to the public why this address is an LLC, and that it is not in violation. If we give the attorney a chance to do that, then nobody will come back and say, "The applicant did not disclose that." That's what I liked about this applicant. He actually disclosed that he was doing business.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Apparently, my understanding, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, is the titleholder of the property is a corporation, which is certainly permitted under law. That is the owner, and therefore, it's the owner that's applying, and the address is incorporated into the corporate [unintelligible 00:55:36] man or the owner. That's the reason.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. See how things work out. Everything worked out. See, even Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward had a question about this. Look, we would've passed right through it, she wouldn't even be able to ask her question.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: No, I would've asked, I would've wanted to do it anyway-

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: There we go.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: -but I wouldn't have wanted this man to feel like he was under-- because this other guy looked like he was trembling. Don't be scared, we're not going to beat you up.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: It's all good.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: We're not doing that.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: It's all good. We all work out. We all work out. I appreciate you, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. You know I love you. Any other questions about this property from the council?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: No questions, but if I may, Mayor. In the Planning and Zoning meeting that we had at 6:00 today, we're changing how we do fences and how we view fences and the Village of El Portal hopefully. This was one of the last variances, I think, that **[unintelligible 00:56:30]** is wanting to recommend approval. I understand that they have already recommended approval, so I'm willing to move forward with what staff has recommended, but I'm excited about how things are going to change shortly.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Councilperson Martin. I appreciate that. Councilperson Martin is the Chairperson of the Planning and Zoning Committee. Any other questions or comments from the council? Hearing none, any questions or comments from the audience? Hearing none, do I have a motion to approve resolution H3?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moved by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: We need a second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Nobody wants to second? I will need a second for this to go to vote. If I don't get a second--

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: It's not going anywhere.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: If I don't get a second on this, this is will die for lack of a motion passing through a second. Guys, one more time, do I have a second for Resolution H3?

Attorney Joseph Geller: I'm not trying to suggest anything, Mayor, but you are privileged to second [inaudible 00:57:43].

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: We've never done that, Attorney Geller in all my years.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I'll second. Let's bring it to a vote. I'll second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Seconded by Vice-Mayor Urbom. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Oh, this is kind of spicy. I'll say no. No.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: No.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice-Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I'm sorry, but no.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion fails three to two.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Sir, I'm sorry about that, motion failed.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Moving on, you guys. Resolution H4. Attorney Geller. Thank you very much, Camilla and Juan. You guys, take care. Have a great night. I need an email from you, Juan.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Item H4, a resolution of the Village Council, Village of El Portal and Miami-Dade County, Florida, providing for the approval of the interlocal agreement between the Village of El Portal and Miami-Dade County Clerk of Courts, providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, Manager Alou, we're on H4.

Village Manager Alou: Oh, I'm sorry.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: No problem. The interlocal--

Village Manager Alou: If I can, please, bring Major Harrison up to the podium to discuss this interlocal agreement that we are pursuing.

Major Tom Harrison: Good evening, everyone. This is basically--

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: State your name.

Major Tom Harrison: I'm sorry?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: State your name.

Major Tom Harrison: I'm sorry. Major Tom Harrison. This is basically an agreement with Miami-Dade County Clerk of Courts. On paper, this is for the citations, so they no longer will be issuing paper citations. They'll all be done electronically, printed out to a paper. As of last month, they're no longer handing out paper citations.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Manager Alou, [unintelligible 00:59:47]?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: This is H5?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Village Manager Alou: We are recommending or requesting to be able to move forward in this interlocal agreement so that we, in our vein of pursuing excellence in technology as well, we want to also to follow the county's model and work with them for e-citations.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Any question-

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Mayor, point of order. I didn't hear a word was said. Say that again.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Because the train was passing by, madam manager. Say it again.

Village Manager Alou: I'll restate. Sorry. I'm accustomed to the train. My office is right at the tracks. We want to follow in the county's footsteps with the e-citations. The village is pursuing technology and everything that we're doing, and this is a way to eliminate the use of paper and filings. We can do all of the filing in the cloud. It's just a way to move forward. We do want to pursue this interlocal agreement, and I guess contribute to the county's effort with e-citations.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Any questions or comments for either Manager Alou or Major Harrison?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: You'll still be doing tickets.

Major Tom Harrison: Correct. Actually, the county did that before. Sorry. The county has it so as soon as our paper tickets run out, so we won't be able to give tickets. This is something that has to be done for us to give citations. They will no longer issue paper tickets. We won't have any. When we run out, we will have to stop.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: You'll still be stopping people.

Major Tom Harrison: Absolutely.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: You give them something. What will you give them?

Major Tom Harrison: If we don't have citations, verbal warnings. Verbal warnings.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Wait, wait now. I can speed and do whatever I want, but I won't get a ticket and it'll be okay.

Major Tom Harrison: We will have the access and tracks in the system we use to write citations. We just need to be linked with the courts to transmit and we will have all the tickets.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I have one question. Is there any costs, nominal or significant associated with accomplishing this?

Village Manager Alou: No, there is no cost to the Village of El Portal.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Any more questions or comments from the council from to either Manager Alou or Major Harrison? Hearing and seeing none, any questions from the audience about this particular item? Hearing and seeing none, do I have a motion to approve resolution H4?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moved by Councilperson Martin. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call, please?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call, Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes. Five to nine.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, madam clerk.

Major Tom Harrison: Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: When you get a chance, Attorney Geller, resolution H5.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Resolution H5. Resolution of the Village Council of the Village of El Portal, Florida and Miami-Dade County, Florida, approving an increase of the existing code enforcement software service through GovPilot to administer short-term vacation rentals in the Village of El Portal, providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. Appreciate that. This is a short-term rental, you guys. I don't know where you guys want to start. Councilperson Martin, I might just turn it over to you. I know this was your item. We had a town hall, right?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Talking about this. This was the last part to make our original ordinance go into effect is the structure of the fees. It's the last thing we have left. We went through a lot of things and spoke about a lot of things that day at the town hall. Manager Alou in her supporting documents has her suggestion about what the fee should be. We'll start with the council. Do you have any questions about the fee structure that Manager Alou proposed? Questions or comments? If not, I'll go to the audience.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: I do want to just-- for my own clarity. We're doing two things tonight. We're saying, yes, we want to scale up our membership with GovPilot to administer our short-term vacation rental program. In addition to that, we are solidifying the fees, right?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, absolutely, because GovPilot, that program, has the fee structure, comes with that program. That program is a program that's being used by multiple municipalities all around the place. Manager Alou, if you want to chime in on that.

Village Manager Alou: Yes, I will. As the mayor has described, and thank you for holding the town halls and we've gone through a significant discussion about the fees. I've provided you the recommendation memo that discusses why I recommend these fees. I had significant conversations with our new code enforcement office or who will be administering the short-term vacation rental regulations for the village. We have had many conversations with software providers.

We already do our code enforcement software through GovPilot. They have extra components that we would have to build with GovPilot to make it customized to the Village of El Portal. They are available if we want to ask them questions over the phone. They are in another state. We have been working with them to build those components, and we just ask that you allow us to pursue the subscription agreement, which is annual subscription fee of \$4,000 annually. They discounted it. It's reported.

I'm sorry, it's typically \$10,000, I think. Mr. Simmons is here. He's gone over this with me. You can see the package level is basic, but it's a built-in, so it's something that we will enhance as we continue to administrate short-term vacation rental. Because it's our first year doing this, it's new, it's an evolving process. I think this will get us where we need to go in terms of just starting to enforce the ordinance. It will allow us to maybe take a look at it within 12 to 18 months to see where we're at and what we need to build out further for this.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: That makes sense to me. Thank you for your hard work on that. That memo really clarified all of the elements they go into administering this program. I appreciated that aspect of it as well as the snapshot as what some other similarly situated municipalities are doing. I think I have enough information to move forward personally.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Anybody else from the council? Any questions or comments before I move to the audience?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Mr. Mayor, was this the only company that want to do this?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Village Manager Alou: No, there are many companies that do software. This is the company that we already have a contract with and we figured we would use what we have because it's compatible with our existing service and it's still a very competitive program. Mr. Simmons is here, he can speak more about it because he's the one who's actually working with GovPilot to build it. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Also, if I'm not mistaken, GovPilot is the one that is vastly used amongst municipalities all around us.

Village Manager Alou: Absolutely. We did take quotes from others as well, but found that this was the more affordable way of starting this process, but also again, the compatibility and the customer service aspect helps.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Good evening. Is this on?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Say your full name and your position.

Councilman Luis Pirela: I don't think he's been informally introduced, right?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: How are you all doing on? I'm Fitzgerald Simmons. I'm the new code enforcement officer. As madam manager stated, the GovPilot is the new code enforcement software that we are utilizing within the village. All the manual open code violations we have, I'm currently entering it in GovPilot because BS&A doesn't do a data transfer. If they were to do a data transfer, it would take approximately five months as well as - I may be in another process of the case and they wouldn't be able to transfer.

Primarily, with the software is that no matter what software we go with, we have to build it around Village of El Portal. Since I've been working diligently with GovPilot right now establishing the program for the Village of El Portal like implementing our ordinances. All of this I am doing manually because they're not doing it correctly. No matter what code software we utilize, it will have to be built and designed to be best utilized with the Village of El Portal.

Since we've already been pairing it the past couple of months, I finally have it up and running is something that I was going to let everyone know at the informational expose we have this weekend. The links are up on the village's website where they can go in there, they can submit - They can file what is called a report of concern. They're able to track the concern as I progressively go through it as far the investigation is concerned.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

When it come to short-term vacation rental, it's very demanding. What happens is that we can't regulate the individuals that the property's been rented to, but with stiff fines and regulations in place, it will definitely help and it will hold the owners accountable. As far as the software is concerned, I've been building it up hand by hand with GovPilot. Yes, this is definitely the best course of action.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Vice Mayor. I needed your permission to talk.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Have you completed anything like this before, sir?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: In reference to?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: What you just said. You're building it. This is the first time you built it?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: No, but I have experience with it.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: You said, "No, but." Yes or no? Do you know this software to work?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: No, I've never utilized GovPilot before, but regardless of the co-software that we do decide to go with, we have to design it for the Village of El Portal. What happens is they give us the software and we have to go through the program and we have to say, "Okay, we need you to add this." Which has currently been my issue with just the code enforcement portion of it. Now that I have that up and running, once they insert the short-term vacation rental, it shouldn't be an issue. When it comes to short-term vacation rental, it's primarily going to be utilized to enforce the ordinance for short-term vacation rentals.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: All right. I'm convinced you know what you're talking about.

Village Manager Alou: May I also, councilperson Lightfoot-Ward? Mr. Simmons does have experience utilizing a short-term vacation rental software from his previous position as code enforcement officer. He's also a code or a short-term rental inspector, so we do have the best of both with Mr. Simmons.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: It's a yes.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes, I've done the inspection, short-term vacation rentals.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: All right.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes, ma'am.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: He said yes, Mayor.

[laughter]

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: I hear you, Councilperson.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: In reference to directly with the program, no matter what software we utilize, we have to design it for the Village of El Portal.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Thank you.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: I do have one question, if I may. What you're saying is that what you're working with now building out on the code enforcement side, that's GovPilot, right?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Awesome. This is just an extension of what you're already mastering?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Chairperson Martin.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: First, I want to thank you again. It's great to have you, sincerely. My only question is, as you've been working with GovPilot, does it seem like it is the type of software that will survive into the future in terms of multiple years down the road? Will this

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

process of-- would not have to be duplicated again because at some point, the software is not adequate.

It's not up to the task or for whatever reason, it's not like how it'd be, let's say, you're not able to transfer data, things like that. As you've had some genuine experience with GovPilot since you're doing everything manually and you're in it, how has GovPilot been for you in terms of thinking, "Hey, you know what? They have it together. They've been thinking about this. It works the way it's supposed to." Things like that.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: No issues. There are a few bugs as far as the mobile app is concerned when it comes to when we get in the field.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: When you're out in the field.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes, but as far the software itself, how it works, no, no issues. It's something that we may be able to just stick with going forward. What happens is that, as I stated before, all softwares work differently. They're not the same. Some are better than others. Some are worse.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Certainly. This one.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Once it's designed to be best utilized for the Village of El Portal, it should function with no issues.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Okay, that's great. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Any more questions or comments for either Manager Alou or our Code Enforcement Officer? Moving out to the audience, if you have any questions about this item, come to the podium. Say your name and address for the record and the floor is yours for about three minutes.

[pause 01:14:54]

Robert Ross: Hello. I'm Robert Ross. 144 Northwest 87th Street. My wife and I along with our immediately adjacent neighbors that live next door to us and across the street, diagonally across the street as well, are deeply concerned about the situation with the short-term rentals. The house at 110 Northwest 87th Street, the last we checked is actively advertising itself as a

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

party house short-term rental. It's absolutely, unreasonably loud over there any day of the week, any time.

We've noticed an increase in speeding on the street. I think the house at 110 has a pool and that's one of the reasons they advertise themselves as a party house. The house at 147 Northwest 87th Street is currently putting in a pool. They're also operating as a short-term rental. We urgently need this to be reeled in. We're concerned about the timeframe for-- It sounds like there's a degree of time that it's going to take to implement this GovPilot. If you could explicitly address, what can we do until it's fully implemented? Also, I was curious, there's a \$4,000, is that an annual fee?

Village Manager Alou: Yes.

Robert Ross: Will the village recupe that money through fees charged to-

Village Manager Alou: Yes.

Robert Rose: -people that are participating in short-term rentals? Additionally, off-topic, but I'd like to ask about speed bumps on Northwest 87th, if that can be addressed.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: We're currently in the middle of-- Well, not in the middle yet. We're at the 50% mark of redoing the village-wide traffic study. That's begun. We're just--

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: I'll say with the 87th specifically as well as the other main quarters of Miami and Northeast 2nd, these are county-regulated rules. The traffic study which has been attempted before on a smaller scale was not successful and convincing to the county to lower the speed limit specifically. Former Chief Magnusson had done a traffic study on 87th, and what we basically learned from that was it's not necessarily a speeding problem. It's a speed limit problem.

People were relatively within margin of error on speed limit, plus or minus five or so. Really the issue was glaring in the obvious that the speed limit is the problem. That is going to be the county giving us permission to lower that speed limit or the county lowering the speed limit from our request and the traffic study that the Mayor just mentioned, which will be far more extensive than what's been done in the past. That is the meat and potatoes of convincing the county that we have a need to lower the speed limit. In a nutshell, that's that piece. I don't know if anyone wants to speak about the initial question.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Councilwoman Darian Martin: I would love to. Through this process that we've been going through, we've heard a lot from the operators of short-term vacation rentals. It's really good to hear from someone who has had their quiet enjoyment disturbed by the operation of some of those short-term vacation rentals because I've been in this same situation. I do want to reassure you that we're not that far way. Actually, we've passed the ordinance, so we do have an ordinance. What we're doing tonight is to just determine the fees. Once we determine the fees, then there will be effective date.

The discussions that we're having about GovPilot, I don't want that to be discouraging either, because whether or not the software is fully up and running, which I'm sure it will be, once there is an effective date on that ordinance, then that will be the law of the land. El Portal is that people can't infringe upon your ability to enjoy your property without there being some consequence. I know that there are tons of responsible short-term vacation rental owners and I'm sure we'll hear from some, but the ones we're targeting are ones that do not care about the residents next to them and who are operating outside of what is reasonable and tolerable in the village.

I do appreciate hearing from you and I want to want to reassure you and your neighbors that there is a remedy and that remedy will be here in short order. I appreciate you standing up and expressing that viewpoint tonight. I know you've waited a while to say that. It's been a lengthy meeting for us nowadays, but a lot of people that I encounter in the village have expressed the same sentiment. I appreciate you putting it on record.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: I'm sorry, but for clarification, the code software is fully functional. It's up and running. As far as the short-term vacation portion rental of it, it will be GovPilot's responsibility to monitor how many short-term vacation rentals are being advertised within the Village El Portal.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Thank you for that clarification. They can report now.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Yes.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Perfect. Great clarification.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: The current issue is that once the ordinance is adopted, then I am able to enforce our ordinance for them being a short-term vacation rental. That property in particular, I understand we had an issue approximately a month or two ago. There was a wild

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

party that was thrown. Unfortunately, I couldn't site for them being a short-term vacation rental, but I did cite them for violating our noise ordinance.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Very good.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: We are fully aware of it, but what happens is that GovPilot will monitor everyone that's advertising short-term vacation rental without approval. That's when I come into play using the software to enforce our ordinance. For clarification, the software is up and running. Whenever I'm out and about and I'm actually issuing notices, I'm utilizing the software.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: I like you already. Thank you.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Mayor, because this is a champion right here. He's a champion. He's not one of those people. Anyway, did you get that address? 147 Northwest 87th Street. You got that?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: 147 Northwest 87th Street

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: That's what they said was a-- Did you not say 147 Northwest?

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: No, 110.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson1: 110 and 147 Northwest.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Okay. 87th Street, right?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: I wrote it out too.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Okay. This is beautiful. He comes, you've already been, a couple of other people came and said, "We don't do that. We don't do it like that." We try to do it right. This guy says this. We're not trying to do that. I'm trying to get to his point is that we didn't know that address. Now we do. Listen, on my street, councilwoman, they moved. They moved real quick. They're gone. All three of them.

Thank you. You, thank you, because he was an advocate. You got to do something. I got it too but I don't have them noisy like that. When you come and you start talking, now you fill the

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

gap. Now I just need you to make sure that you got those address because we don't play in El Portal with noisy people.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Absolutely. I also want to go on record and let you all know, it's very important that you all, I don't want to say complain, but utilize the Village's website. Like I said, the links are there. The concerns will come directly to me. Once I get in in the morning, that's the first thing I check prior to going out in the field. It is beneficial to us for you all to file these concerns because there are-- I'm not here all day. You may think just because I'm not here, there's no consequences but there are. Once PD respond primarily with 110, that was approximately one in the morning, I was able to utilize the law enforcement incident report as evidence to support my case. Definitely fire your concerns.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Very good.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Of course by law, you have to provide your name, some form of contact information. You can't be anonymous unless it's considered a health and safety.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Any other questions from the council for Mr. Simmons or the last resident that stood up? No, we're good? Go ahead

Mr. Pascal: Pascal [unintelligible 01:24:30], 177 Northwest 90th Street. Just a quick question about GovPilot. We, obviously, have never seen that software as hosts on short-term rentals. Is there a place or will there be something that will train us or tell us what we need to do in order to comply with that? Then I have one other thing for you.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: When it comes to applying--

Mr. Pascal: How to use it, what to do with it as a host.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Registration still will go through--

Village Manager Alou: Yes. There will be. The application will be online and the how to-- Your step-by-step will also be there and also your checklist of all the things that are needed for your package.

Mr. Pascal: Okay, perfect.

Village Manager Alou: Yes, we'll have that for you.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mr. Pascal: Just as an aside, I think that's interesting to you too. Airbnb changed their policy. I'm not sure about the other short term rentals, about two months ago where it's now not legal for them on the platform to have party houses. They actually have a phone number. I don't know what it is, but I'll get it to the council. My wife knows it, where you can call and say, "Hey, there's an Airbnb next to me. They're throwing a party." Airbnb will shut them down and remove them from the platform.

Completely outside of anything the council's doing, you can go directly to those people and they have a number to call. If they deem that that was a party that's violating their rules, not only will they get a fine from the village, but they won't be able to utilize that short-term rental platform anymore.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: That's Airbnb specific is what--

Mr. Pascal: Airbnb specifically does it. They change it where now they don't allow you to have parties on the platform.

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you. Anybody else from the audience? Hearing none. Any last questions or comments from the council? Hearing none.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: No, no, I do.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, go ahead.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Village manager.

Village Manager Alou: Yes.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Thank you. You hired the right man.

Village Manager Alou: Oh, I know.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes, you do.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes. I agree. Sometimes you kiss a frog or two to get to the prince.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Thank you. I appreciate it. I'm happy to be here and I love to be here for the long haul, so thank you.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Not literally. Of course.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. We appreciate you Mr. Simmons and looking forward to seeing you Saturday. I have something special for you on Saturday.

Mr. Fitzgerald Simmons: Absolutely. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: I appreciate you. All right. Moving on, so we have a new H6 now in H7, which was the former F3 and F4.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Hold on.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: No, do you have a motion to approve? I was just about to ask for the motion. Do you have a motion to approve resolution H5

Councilwoman Darian Martin: One question. When's the number? Are we just accepting the manager's recommendation for the--

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Okay, perfect.

Councilman Luis Pirela: 700750200.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Do I have a motion to approve resolution H5.?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Move by Councilperson Pirela. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by Councilperson Martin, who's the chairperson of Planning and Zoning, who was the one that formed it. I know Councilperson Pirela has been fighting for this for a long time so it's going through, you guys. Both of you guys deserve kudos for this. Madam Clerk, may I please have a role call.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, you guys. We appreciate it.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: That's it.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moving on. Very good, guys.

[applause]

Councilman Luis Pirela: We appreciate it.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Mayor, the former F3 is now H6 because it was pulled. The resolution to the village council. The village of El Portal Miami-Dade County, Florida, providing for the replacement of a police storage unit for the village of El Portal and Miami-Dade County providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Councilperson Pirela, Go ahead. The floor is yours.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Councilman Luis Pirela Well, yes. I guess we'll need the public works officer or--

Village Manager Alou: We have a police major present to discuss if you need to understand that as well as the public works director and public works coordinator.

Councilman Luis Pirela Perfect, thank you. My question about this is, because I see the three quotes, and I see one of the ones that have been recommended. Out of the three quotes and I don't see this corporate work that needs to be done. I don't know what the requirements for the storage unit should be for the police equipment and stuff like that being that is a little sensitive. If it's the unit was required to be built with steel walls since we have-- Actually, we have two quotes being actually from companies that build steel units. The last one is actually built with wood.

It also caught my attention that one of the least expensive quotes is by a company that was just formed like a month after they gave us a quote. That was my concern. It needs to be actual, because I know the other quotes are like \$18,000 more than the recommended one but what their specifications are. Like it's one built with steel walls. I prefer that even though it's \$18,000 more than the one that's all in wood.

?Speaker: [unintelligible 01:30:00]

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [unintelligible 01:30:00] Piggybacking. How old is the current shed and how long has it been old?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Let me just chime in really quick and then you guys can get to that. This might answer part of your question, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. First of all, let me just say this. This shed will be paid for through funding. It's not taxpayer dollars. The first thing is funding. The second thing is that one of the main problems and main issues is that the old shed was just that. It was just a shed, like how you think about a regular shed in the back of somebody's yard or something like that. The problem with that is that a lot of the papers and documents were going bad-

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Point of order. I can hear you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes. A lot of times, the papers and documents were going bad, you guys, and so this shed will be ventilated and so it will keep all the important papers and documents that we need to keep as far as that goes. I know that's part of it. I'm going to let you

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

guys chime in after that, but the main point I just want to make is this is going to be paid through funding. This is not taxpayer dollars. That's the main point I wanted to make.

Major Tom Harrison: Right. As the manager was saying what was destroyed inside we have - [unintelligible 01:31:22], we have to keep records. Obviously, in that case, not air conditioned, not ventilated, paperwork was destroyed, rotting, what have you, animals getting inside there. Evidence that we had stored in there, bicycles, and have you, rusted and went bad, basically.

Councilman Luis Pirela: My question is the requirements for the shed, if it's been used for police equipment or police records, should it be more-

Major Tom Harrison: The term is weatherproof.

Councilman Luis Pirela: It doesn't matter whether it's steel walls or wood walls.

Major Tom Harrison: It may be treated wood, as long as it stays weatherproof or where it can't be damaged by any water getting in or if it's humidity, has the proper ventilation, I prefer we have air conditioning if we can.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: It's full of steel, complete insulator-

Village Manager Alou: [unintelligible 01:32:17]

Mr. Carlos Agerra: My name is Carlos Agerra. I am the [unintelligible 01:32:26] coordinator in the city of El Portal. The specification of the shelter is full steel. Only if the base is attached to the floor is hurricane proof all the time. It has air condition. It has insulation and it has full ventilation inside for control the full humidity inside of the unit.

Councilman Luis Pirela: All right. Also, the quote that you guys are recommending for \$40,000, this company is not because of what I see in the specs of the materials, it's a sheet of wood with a stucco.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: No wood.

Councilman Luis Pirela: No wood. It's going to be steel.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: It's metal all the time.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilman Luis Pirela: It caught my attention that the company has only been formed for a month. I don't want somebody to just get the money and run away.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: We can supervise the control, the building of the house because the full building in front of us by me.

Councilman Luis Pirela: These people they do have experience by building houses and stuff.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: Absolutely.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Okay. That was my question.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [unintelligible 01:33:37] warranty long?

Mr. Carlos Agerra: Warranty, I think, is five year or four year, I don't remember. [unintelligible 01:33:43] for warranty. Let me see. Right here. I think the warranty is 10 years.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: The warranty is 10 years. Is it good now?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes. Okay. Perfect. Sounds good. Thank you.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: You're welcome.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Any more questions or comments from the council for any of these individuals? Any questions from the audience regarding the police shed? Again, this is through funding, no taxpayer dollars. All right. Thank you very much. I appreciate that, you guys. Do I have a-

Major Tom Harrison: [unintelligible 01:34:22]

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: We can have a question right there.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Okay. Thank you.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: The floor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes, councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. You have the floor.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: How far is the floor from the ground because we're flat over here?

Mr. Carlos Agerra: The floor of the ground is around 12 feet.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: It's a foot?

Mr. Carlos Agerra: [unintelligible 01:34:45]

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: The concrete--

Mr. Carlos Agerra: Mostly, it's steel, full of steel in the base. This steel is attached to the floor and the whole floor is in the top of the metal.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Is it concrete or is it wood?

Mr. Carlos Agerra: No, it's not concrete.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: What is it?

Mr. Carlos Agerra: It's metal.

Major Tom Harrison: Steel.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: It could rust?

Major Tom Harrison: No, steel doesn't rot.

Mr. Carlos Agerra: [unintelligible 01:35:06] is already do rot-- Do not rot in the floor. Do not rot.

Major Tom Harrison: If you're using a shower, I think it can withstand water.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Oh, now, you're answering my question. That's all I can say because it floods back there.

Major Tom Harrison: [unintelligible 01:35:22] correctly. It's basically weatherproof or watertight.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: All right. See why I asked, because it floods back there.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Perfect. Thank you very much.

Major Tom Harrison: Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Thank you very much, Councilperson Pirela. Do I have any other further questions or comments from the council? Do I have any questions or comments from the audience? Do I have a motion to approve resolution H6?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: So moved.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Moved by Councilperson Martin. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Second.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Thank you very much. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call for resolution H6?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call. Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Attorney Geller, the floor is yours.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Thank you, Mayor. Now, the new H7, formerly F4 resolution of the Village Council, the village of El Portal, Miami-Dade County, Florida providing for the pave repairs for the Village of El Portal in Miami-Dade County, providing for incorporation for recitals, providing for an effective day.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. Councilperson Pirela, the floor is yours.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Thank you, Mayor. Now, about 87, I just have a question for the manager. Are these funds also from [unintelligible 01:36:35] 87? Are those funds from the CITT fund?

Village Manager Alou: No, no. We are using CITT funds for that.

Councilman Luis Pirela: CITT funds for that?

Village Manager Alou: Yes. That's road.

Councilman Luis Pirela: I see mostly all the intersections where it has papers like the bricks.

Village Manager Alou: Yes, so 87th street at Northeast 2nd and 82nd street right here at the Rotunda.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Right. I see that the-- I'm sorry. You have a--

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: No, go ahead and finish.

Councilman Luis Pirela: I see also that-- I just passed by those intersections and I don't see much of that, only the ones over here by the Rotunda that are actually sinking and stuff. The other ones, I don't see the bricks actually falling off or sinking.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Village Manager Alou: There is a sinking on one at the intersection of 87th. There is a sinking there and that has been complained about from motorists as well, but there is at that intersection, Northeast 2nd and 82nd.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Thank you. We spoke about the ones over here that was actually fixed less than two years ago.

Village Manager Alou: Maybe a bit more than two years ago.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Right. Yes. It was a year and a half, almost two years ago. It's the same company that we're using now?

Village Manager Alou: No.

Councilman Luis Pirela: It's not [unintelligible 01:37:55]

Village Manager Alou: We're using Osuna. Osuna's got it.

Councilman Luis Pirela: We're using Osuna for that. Oh, okay.

Village Manager Alou: They came in with a lower bid and we're going to give them a chance and see if they can deliver.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Okay. Perfect. No, that's great. That was my concern. If you're using the same company that just repaired a year and a half ago, I don't know whether they did a good job or not.

Village Manager Alou: Well, we thought they did. They showed up. That was our biggest concern two years ago. We're using Osuna this time.

Councilman Luis Pirela: Okay. Sounds great.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Mr. Mayor.

Village Manager Alou: Yes, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: We're laughing but you're right. It didn't last. Thank you. That was my main concern. If it is not the same person, that this time they're going

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

to make sure, because that thing broke so quickly, the last time, as you just mentioned. It broke so quickly and then they kept bandaging it with a new brick, whereas it's not supposed to break like that. I'm thinking something else is under there that's causing it, and if they got to do it right, we don't want them. Thank you very much for finding somebody else.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

Councilman Luis Pirela: I like it sinking so people don't speed that much, but that's all.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Councilperson Pirela. Anybody else from the council, questions or comments? Anybody from the audience, questions or comments? All right. I appreciate this. Do I have a motion to approve resolution H7?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Motion.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Motion to approve by councilperson Pirela. Do I have a second on this?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Yes.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Second by councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Roll call. Councilperson Martin?

Councilwoman Darian Martin: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: Oh, yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela?

Councilman Luis Pirela: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Vice Mayor Urbom?

Vice Mayor Anders Urbom: Yes.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Mayor Nickerson?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: Motion passes five to none.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: I appreciate that, you guys. Thank you very much. We're moving on to the reports. Madam Manager, your report, please. Let me just say while you're getting your report together, Madam Manager, while you're pulling it out. I know you have it together.

Village Manager Alou: It's together. Oh, yes.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: While you're pulling it out, let me just say, once again, I appreciate you guys. I appreciate everybody up here. It just goes to show, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, that even if there's the intention at the end of the day, we still all have ultimate respect for one another and we still always come together and we smile in the end. Vice Mayor Urbom, you've been up here with me and Councilperson Pirela. It used to not be like that. Things are so much better. Even if we debate or whatever, we still smile at the end. Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, you know I love you. I know. Madam Manager, the floor is yours.

Village Manager Alou: Thank you very much. This month, the state of Florida was hit with Hurricane Ian, with most damage occurring on the Gulf Coast of the state. In preparation for Hurricane Ian, Mayor Nickerson and the Public Works Department and the Village of El Portal Police Department and the administration, we all prepared and delivered sandbags to members of the community who needed them. The most we suffered was flooding in our usual spots. I was out there the day that it struck. Residents were really happy and they expressed that delight that we were able to provide them sandbags.

We'll be ready for the next go-round. Hopefully, we'll have a peaceful end to the season, but as the Vice Mayor stated, Thanksgiving, you never know what happens. We did receive our appeal amount of \$448,998.21 for our debris and other appealed Hurricane Irma expenses on Monday, September 26, 2022. I'm pleased. We are all. That's great news. We will continue to fight for the rest but that really contributes to that bottom line of what is owed to Synovus Bank for our note.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

We owe \$695,551.21, so we'll be very close to about 200,000 approximately that we will owe remaining. I think that puts us in a fantastic light. Hopefully, we'll get through this season with no issues, so then we'll be even more prepared for next year. We're pleased about that. Thank you all for just remaining diligent with me. We worked it.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Madam Manager.

Village Manager Alou: Yes.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Don't give away my whole state of the village now.

Village Manager Alou: Oh, sorry. I'm happy about this.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Just for the record, this administration, we've been here for two years when we came into office, FEMA debacle, we were like at 1.4 million, now we're down to 200,000. That's part of my state of the village address, but I'm just going to put that out there.

Village Manager Alou: That's for the kudos for this administration, absolutely. I will say that for the village of El Portal parks renovations, the plants are still being finalized. They're almost there but we are almost ready to do a request for proposals so that we can find the contractor who will be doing the renovations. Information and renovation, this will be distributed to the residents via the village website. As a special project, Councilperson Luis Perella who is the Chair of Public Works Committee, will be vetting muralist for the mural project that he has envisioned for the entrance of the top lot.

That will be forthcoming as well. The village of El Portal electric circulator is continuing to do good work for our village of El Portal residents and taking them to and from work peacefully. We are going to be utilizing the El Portal electric shuttle at the This is our Village event this Saturday. They typically don't work on Saturdays or Sundays, but they will come out to contribute their assistance to our residents who are on the west side, just providing shuttle service to and from the village hall from the nature trail so that residents don't have to come over here and park since parking will be very limited at the event. The shuttle will be running from 1:30 PM to 6:30 PM to bring residents back and forth from the west side if they so choose to utilize the shuttle.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

I will tell you that our Kavista development project in the El Portal annex area is continuing. They've made significant progress. If you happen to have an opportunity, do ride over on Northeast 83rd Street. You will see things have changed over there and they continue to progress. We have been getting a number of complaints from some residents in the city of Miami about the noise.

Kavista continues to follow the letters of the regulations to the T. They always apply for special events permits when they have special pours. Unfortunately, those pours, they start at three o'clock in the morning to 8:00 AM because they have to get to the plant to get the cement transported back to the Village of El Portal to do the pour, and it has to be done during darker hours when it's cooler so that they can do a good pour. We want this to be done right and this is the way it has to be done, unfortunately.

We are looking forward to them ending the whole summit pours by December. Fingers crossed, and they're hoping for that as well, but it looks like they're almost done and those residents in that area will be able to sleep a little better at night. They will not be doing a cement pour over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Just an FYI. Police Chief Mendez, our El Portal police department and myself participated at the Miami-Dade County League of Cities 10th annual Best Practices Conference. Two of the most attended and most vibrant sessions of the Best Practices Conference were moderated by our own village mayor Omarr Nickerson.

There were some robust discussions. It was a lot of fun. Chief Mendez participated in the panel regarding humanizing the badge, community policing and enforcement. I participated on another panel related to how to recover after disaster, how to bring the municipality back to success. They were well-attended and we've been getting pats on the back ever since. We're looking forward to new opportunities with other municipalities and with the county.

We will participate, well, I won't, but our mayor and our El Portal Police Department, will be participating in the Miami-Dade County Hometown Heroes parade on this Sunday, October 30th in downtown Miami from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. It's limited. They're only allowing one car from El Portal so the mayor will go with the major, but we're happy to have representatives in the parade because we want to celebrate them as well. In the building department, we have Cindy Elazo joining the department as a permit clerk until Ms. Deane Escobar returns from her maternity leave.

If you didn't know already, she did have a wonderful little baby boy. We missed that time because we had to cancel the September Council meeting so I wasn't able to make that

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

announcement. The mother and baby are very healthy and happy. Ms. Cindy Elazo will be taking over until she's able to return in December. We're happy for that. Let's see if there's anything. I tried to highlight everything. The biggest thing, and I'm sure the mayor will talk about his own. This is our village information expo.

I'm going to save the details for him to discuss with you, but I will just reiterate that we do have the free shuttle service that will allow people to go back and forth from the west side to the east side. The village did host, Mayor Nickerson and the Sustainability and Resiliency Taskforce chairperson and I hosted the National Science Foundation Workshop Tour here at the village hall. They are doing a resiliency tour of Miami-Dade County, really looking at the issues related to the C7 little river canal, and what's happening to it, what can we do to improve the situation.

They met with us here in village hall at the beginning of the month and we had a great discussion and information sharing with people from Tennessee and California. It was a really good group, to find out what's happening in their communities and maybe share some best practices. Finally, I did attend the Miami Shores Village Gay Pride event which was October 16th, where Mayor Nickerson participated in the parade.

I saw several El Portal residents present because it was the inaugural event to support the LGBTQ community of Miami Shores. Of course, we support our own community here in El Portal, but we want to always be there to support our neighbors as well. That concludes my report. It is on the village website. If you want to get more details, feel free to reach me directly. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you, Madam Manager. Really appreciate that. I do want to give a shout-out to Shores Pride, Miami Shores, the LGBTQ community over there. I just wanted to say that I was honored that I was awarded at that event as best dressed. I was awarded as best dressed. If anybody follows us on Instagram, just look at the Instagram you'll see all the work I put in because I was here the night before until like 2:00 in the morning. What I did was I had huge flags, the three by five and four by six flags. I had eight of them.

I laid them out. Then I had probably about 24 of every type of Pride flag that was out there for trans Pride, lesbian Pride, the traditional Pride flag, every Pride flag. I also had a shirt made and on the front, it was in pink and purple glitter. On the front it says LGBTQ. It says For us Pride. Then right on the back it said mayor in pink and it said Omarr in purple glitter. I was

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

out there. I was doing it and my flags were so huge, Madam Manager, you could see them from a mile away.

I had all the flags together. I had four on this side and four on this side, so I'm just walking in my flags and flying in the air. I won best dressed for that so I appreciate Miami Shores and Shores Pride for that. That was really a humbling experience and something I'll never forget. Let me say this, I was blessed to-- You guys know I was blessed to be named Mayor of the Year for Miami-Dade County. Part of that comes with being the individual that was so lucky that I was able to get two sessions and create two sessions at the Miami-Dade League of Cities, the county-wide best practices event, which the manager touched on.

I got two sessions to do that. Let me just say for the record, that even though I got those two sessions, the first one was humanizing the badge, community policing, communication, and enforcement. The reason why, and the manager, she alluded to this, that after this was over, everybody was talking about it. The news contacted me. Everybody was talking about it. The reason why was because when I started to put these together, I was like, "Man, I want to start to do things or say stuff that not everybody has said before."

When I started out and when I first started out that session at this event, I said, "I know that I'm going to make a lot of people angry on this." I said, "But I'm going to say a lot of things. I'm taking things from angles that nobody else would take things from." The whole humanizing the badge, community policing, communication, and enforcement, this was my explanation when I first started the session and proposed it, this is what I sent in to get approved for my session. This was the first one.

What I sent in was, "This session will entail an honest and transparent discussion regarding the current state of law enforcement, community relations. We will address the history of those relations, the issues that still persist today, and the methods and practices that can be implemented to resolve said issues. We will discuss our law enforcement officers, what they feel, what they think, and how they balance community policing with enforcement. We will discuss the importance of communication between law enforcement officers and the various communities as we humanize the badge."

Basically, in a gist, what that basically means and the stance I took where a lot of people I knew wasn't going to like, and I did that on purpose, and I'm glad they didn't like it, was how do police officers feel and what do they go through mentally? Whenever something happens, the news automatically always goes to the family of the victim or whatever happened. They

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

interview them and they talk to them and they have one-on-one conversations, and they're on *Good Morning America*, and all that.

Nobody ever talks to the police officer's family. Nobody ever checks up with the police officer eight months down the road or a year down the road to see how they're dealing with things mentally. You never hear from that side. I took it from that side, and I wanted people not to like it because that's something that never ever gets talked about. I put a panel together. In the panel, people were still saying, "Mayor, how did you put that panel together? We never see these individuals together."

It was Mayor Anthony Defilippo from North Miami Beach, Mayor Rodney Harris from Miami Gardens, Mayor Bovo from Hialeah. People were like, "Mayor, how do you even get--" It took place over here on Biskane downtown, right Major? They were like, "How do you get Mayor Bovo from Hialeah even come over here? Mayor Bovo don't even leave Hialeah. Mayor Bovo from Hialeah, he doesn't come this far East."

Mayor Bovo from Hialeah, I got the vice president of the FOP, Felix Del Rosario, and I got our chief, Alex Alejandro Mendez, Chief Mendez and I got Pepe Diaz, the chairperson of Miami Day Commissioners, Jose Pepe Diaz. He never comes out for these type of events. I got all of them to come out and it was a great panel. Madam manager was there. We talked about so many different things that was so real and so true, and everybody after was coming to me like, "We've never heard that take on this situation before, and we've never heard that take on this subject before."

I continue to get calls from news media saying that they want to do an interview about that and just that particular take on that. The second one that I did that day was succeeding in municipal government, the calm after the storm. I actually got this title from our village clerk. I appreciate that. The calm after the storm, succeeding in municipal government, because after the storm we went through, we had to find some calm and we did and we've been successful.

That's how it came to us when we first came up with it, myself and the clerk. I took that and just made it big and broadened it. Right here, my description of it said, when I went out and proposed it, it said, "As a mayor, as a vice mayor, as a commissioner, as a councilperson, as a manager of a municipality, how do you achieve success? What are the steps to become successful? What does success look like? There will be problems and challenges that will confront you while working in municipal government. Whether you inherited these challenges as you began your administration or you were faced with them during your administration,

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

how do you find the calm after the storm? What are the steps that you need to take? Who do you need to have in place to assist you? Who don't you need to have working alongside of you? What type of personalities, what type of characteristics do they have to have? We will get answers from some of those in our county who have been successful in municipal government."

On this panel was Juan Carlos, JC Bermudez, who's the mayor of the Darol and just one county commissioner, vice chairperson, Oliver Gilbert, who everybody knows. First black mayor of Miami Shores, Crystal Lager, Mayor Cunningham, Karyn Cunningham from Palmetto Bay, our manager, Ms Christia Alou, and the Surfside Mayor, Mayor Danzinger, and Madam Manager. We were talking about the calm after the storm, and I was so happy because I said, all these individuals on this panel will take different aspects to this subject matter.

When Mayor Danzinger, Madam Manager in my line, when Mayor Danzinger from Surfside, Major Harrison in my line, with Mayor Danzinger from Surfside spoke about the building falling. For about 20, 25 minutes, correct, he spoke about that really calm, straightforward, and gave us an inside look at the detail step-by-step. Did he not? That whole room was quiet for 25 minutes, so touching, so powerful. It was so good right next door, Male Levine Kava was holding her own session.

Their people started to come over there, the [unintelligible 01:57:53] was over. They said, "Man, we didn't know you guys were over here." We were like, "Man, who's over there because their session is the one to be at." Even when I saw her at the Pride Parade, she said, "Remind me never to have a session next door to your sessions." It was really good, you guys, and I really appreciate them and I really appreciate the county and I really appreciate like all the support for that.

It was wonderful and we got so much done and spoke about so many issues that was just so truthful and straightforward. This upcoming Saturday, October 29th, two o'clock PM, right here in Village Hall. Make sure you're com you come out. We're going to be talking about the 85th anniversary. I'm going to do my state of the village address. El Portal Police Department meet and greet Law enforcement Appreciation Day. We're going to talk about Crime Watch and recommencing that.

We're going to have a business mixer. Every El Portal resident who's a business owner, we have-- How many, Major? We did the whole walkthrough today. We have like 30, 40, 50 tables coming with chairs for El Portal residents. I've been getting so many contacts. If you're a

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

business owner, we're giving you your own tent, table, and chair, two chairs, full table with your own tent so the sun doesn't hit you.

We're going to bring-- Mayor Daniella Levine Cava has us a 40-foot stage that she paid for and she's giving us for the entire day. We got bands playing from El Portal. Residents who are band members, we got them playing that day. We have the Home of the Year award. Councilperson Pirela is picking the Home of the Year award all to himself. That's the man right there. No pressure. If you get mad, if your house doesn't get picked for the Home of the Year, contact Councilperson Perilla.

We got the Home of the Year award. We have Citizen of the Year award. We're honoring our El Portal residents who are military veterans and those in the armed forces. You guys saw that flyer going out. Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, Dr. Lightfoot-Ward, one and only. Recognition of our first responders who are El Portal residents. Learning about our El Portal organizations, engage the government officials, employees and contractors. Acknowledgement of our junior-- I'm getting a lot of these acknowledgement of our junior El Portal Future Stars. El Portal Junior Future Stars.

We're getting a lot of kids. While we were sitting here, a mother said-- gave me her daughter's name, 14 years old, and said that she goes to El Portal Junior Future Stars. "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mikayla Washington, age 14, El Portal resident since birth. 9th Grade at Miami County Dade. Please advise if you need more info or her picture. Thank you very much. Mother, Michele Washington."

I'm getting them all the time. I just got that while we were sitting here. I'm getting them all the time, so this is going to be a great event, you guys, on Saturday. The fun part, myself and the village clerk-- Madam Clerk, we've been working hard. Myself and the village clerk have. We've got ponies coming out on Saturday. We've got pony rides for the kids. I have three bounce houses. I have one bounce obstacle course. I've got a bounce house for the little kids.

Councilperson Martin was like, "Mr. Mayor, when you do it, don't forget about the babies. Give them their own separate bounce house so that they don't get hurt." I've a bounce house for the babies. I've got a bounce house for the big kids, and I've got a whole obstacle course of a bounce house. This whole place is going to be cut off. We're cutting the street there. All of these, where you see all of these from where the circle is, all of that is going to be empty. No parking in front of the [unintelligible 02:01:22]. It's all going to be things going on.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

We've got a whole train coming, Major Harrison. What we were talking about today. The Mayor was out there. We've got a whole train for the kids. It's going to be going around this whole parking lot right here. We've got a miniature train for the kids. We've got circus. We've got fire-breathing women coming out on Saturday. We've got clowns and mimes. The mimes are going to be walking through the crowd. Madam Clerk set up the mimes. You guys know Carnival. We've got carnival.

How many times we told the guy, like eight times, we said, "Make sure-- fully clothed. Make sure they're fully clothed." "This is a family event. Make sure they're fully clothed." We've got Carnival coming out. We've got Halloween characters. They've got three characters coming out. I told them, I said, "Send me somebody who's dressed like a princess. Send me somebody who's dressed like a superhero, and send me somebody scary." Right, Major?

Major said "Make sure we get one scary. It's Halloween. One of them is got to be scary." I got all the candy myself. I'll be giving it to them when they come in costumes. They'll be handing out candy to the kids in the [unintelligible 02:02:23]. We've got an exotic wildlife animal show. I got honey bear. I got all types of crazy stuff coming out. The wildlife exotic show, they're bringing up, I think, he said 12 or 14 exotic animals. I've got a bear coming out. There's a bear coming out here. We've got that. We've got food trucks, we've got music, we've got DJs. We've got everything. We've got free beverages. We're going to have a bar here, free beverages. I've got all types of sponsorships. Madam Manager, we've been working hard.

Councilwoman Lightfoot-Ward: Did you call God? Ask him not to rain?

[laughter]

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: [unintelligible 02:02:57]

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: [unintelligible 02:02:57]. We have so many tents that even if we do-- No, I don't even want to talk about that. Even if we do, we have so many tents, you guys. I have wide tents that are covering up almost all this area so we'll be so good. Come out Saturday, 2:00 PM. We're going to have a good time. We've got everything. I've got ponies you all. I worked hard to get those ponies, you all. I've got them small enough so that babies can ride them too. I've got little ponies. I've been working hard, you guys. I've been working hard. I appreciate it. Attorney Geller, If you have a report, the floor is yours.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

Attorney Joseph Geller: Mayor, I just didn't know you've been named the Mayor of the Year. I hadn't heard that. Congratulations. That's quite an honor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: I appreciate that. Thank you very much. I appreciate that.

[applause]

Attorney Joseph Geller: My report is, nobody sued us and we haven't had to sue anybody. That concludes my report.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Attorney Geller. I appreciate that. [unintelligible 02:03:50] in welfare. I was going to say before I ask for motion to adjourn. I'll ask [unintelligible 02:03:54] if anybody wants to come and talk about anything at all. You have three minutes. Your name and address for the record. The floor is yours.

Councilwoman Lightfoot-Ward: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Yes.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: I want to make sure we didn't miss a thing. Did we do the [unintelligible 02:04:04] bathroom this time or we held it over?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: No, it was part of the consent. It's through. We got it through.

Councilwoman Lightfoot-Ward: It's through, okay. Let me ask the last one. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. It got through?

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: It got through. Consented and it got through.

Councilwoman Lightfoot-Ward: You all will be talking in all kinds of ways and I'd be going, "Yes." Okay. Thank you. I wanted to make sure.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: I appreciate that. Thank you for your support, Councilperson Dr. Lightfoot-Ward. We really appreciate having you here on the council, 100%. I love this council, you guys. I've been up here for 12 years. All right. Here we go. Motion to adjourn.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351

www.fullmooncreative.com

(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59

Councilwoman Darian Martin: One more thing before we go. Early voting is under way from October 24th to November 6th. You should know why you should vote. Go to miamidae.gov to figure out exactly where you can vote. That's all.

[applause]

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much. Voting is very important, you all. Very, very important. Let me just say this one last thing. I do want to say. This is my last thing. I just do want to say something before the Major comes up. You all, it's so different, and you guys might hear. I'll say I've been here for 12 years but it's so different when you're in a certain position to where you have the chance to look through and go through every aspect of the finances and all the ins and outs on a daily basis and you really can make the changes in a positive way that you really want to make.

I just want to say that I go out of my way and I love you guys. I don't want you guys to ever feel like I failed when I was a councilperson all those years. Whatever is on your mind, whatever you ever want to say, whatever you ever want to ask about, there's no questions to where I'm going to shoot my eyes and give you a dirty look or anything like that. I'm always respectful. Even when people come mad at me, I'm still respectful. You know what I'm saying?

Whatever you guys want to know, I never want-- because it was like we were kept in the dark for so many years, Madam Clerk. The leadership at that time just didn't let us really speak or express ourselves. I always want you guys to know that it's always open-door policy. Whatever you want to say, I will never shut you down. Never try to tell that you can't say something or you can't do nothing. Just always know that so that you guys will never feel the way I felt for a long time.

Attorney Joseph Geller: Mayor, if you don't mind my saying this. Having watched this council in a lot of incarnations for a lot of years, this is what it looks like when there's a council working together, working with each other in a positive way for the good of the residents. We haven't always seen that but we're seeing it and it's nice to see it.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you, Attorney Geller. I appreciate that.

Councilwoman Lightfoot-Ward: Mayor, I'd like to ditto before he talks. That's exactly right. When I was mayor, it was very contentious and you remember that. They did want nothing done, but we got a lot done. Anyway, it was just so combatant till it was awful. This is one of

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10/25/22
Meeting Start: 7:02 PM
Meeting End: 9:12 PM
Meeting Length: 02:08:59**

the best councils. I can understand why they wanted us to stay as a group now. For the residents that don't know, we were all unanimously basically asked to come back as a unit. I'm putting it on the record, we had no opponent and everybody said, "Keep doing what you're doing." We appreciate you and if we haven't said thank you for voting for us, thank you for your support and your continued support for the five of us. Thank you.

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: Thank you very much, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Get ready because you're going to give a speech. I have a place in the program on Saturday for you. You are going to give a speech. I'm giving you a little signal. You're already getting an award for your military service now. I'm just letting you know. You're getting a military award for your service. You and Mr. Garvin, I'm just going to let you know that right now, so you've got to show up.

The second part but I'm not going to tell because it's a bigger surprise, well, not a bigger surprise but it's a big surprise. I also have a spot where you're going to discuss the history, because at one point, the mayor who was up here at that time, way back then, they were trying to make us be part of Miami Shores at one point.

Councilwoman Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward: [unintelligible 02:08:28]

Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson: You're going to tell the story on Saturday. You all come on Saturday now. We've got all types of stuff going on. Major Harrison.

Major Tom Harrison: Major Tom Harrison, Miami-Dade Police Department. I'll be quick. I just want to piggyback, like Ms. Lightfoot-Ward said. What the mayor was saying on Saturday, we're going to have 99% of the police department there. I encourage everyone to make contact with the officers. We want to basically become the community policing department of the future. I want everybody to know everybody by their first names. Where we know who you are

[02:08:59] [END OF AUDIO]

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622