

ORDINANCE No. 2006-15-96

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA CREATING A YOUTH COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTION PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR A TERM; PROVIDING FOR PARENTAL CONSENT; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it would like to create a Student Youth Council ("Youth Council") that will be composed of students who attend Miami Norland and Miami Carol City High Schools, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Youth Council will provide an opportunity for the youth of the City of Miami Gardens to acquire a greater knowledge of, and appreciation for, the American political system through active participation in that system, and

WHEREAS, Youth Council will, among other things, serve the City of Miami Gardens in a number of ways including, keeping the Mayor and City Council abreast of the issues that affect the City's youth. Assisting with the planning of social, educational, cultural and recreational activities for youth, and working with the Mayor, City Council, and City staff on providing service and leadership opportunities for the youth of the City, and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it appropriate to establish guidelines for appointment and membership of Youth Council,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF

MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, as follows.

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS: The foregoing Whereas Clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true, and the same are hereby made a specific part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2. CREATION. There is hereby created a Student Youth Council ("Youth Council") in the City of Miami Gardens. The Youth Council shall be comprised of seven (7) members.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS. Members of the Student Youth Council are required to be High School Students, in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grades, attending either Miami Norland or Miami Carol City High School. Members of the Youth Council shall maintain at least a 2.5 Grade Point Average, must maintain good citizenship, and must demonstrate an interest in the community, and a willingness to serve the youth of Miami Gardens.

SECTION 4. APPOINTMENT/REMOVAL PROCESS: The student bodies of Miami Norland Senior High School and Miami Carol City High School shall elect the seven members of the Student Council, commencing with the 2007/2007 school term, and annually thereafter. Terms shall commence from the date of the election and shall terminate after 365 days. The student with the highest number of votes from either School will be elected as Mayor. The three students at Miami Norland and Miami Carol City High Schools with the next highest votes, respectively, shall be elected as Student Council Members. The elections for the members of the Student Council shall be conducted in coordination with the Miami-Dade County School Board and the

participating Schools.

SECTION 5: NOMINATION OF VICE-MAYOR PARLIAMENTARIAN, AND CLERK

At the annual organization meeting, the Student Council shall select a Vice-Mayor, Clerk and Parliamentarian from amongst the Student Council members. The Mayor shall serve as the presiding officer for all meetings, and the Vice-Mayor shall serve in that capacity in the Mayor's absence. The Mayor shall be entitled to participate in all discussions, but shall not be entitled to vote except in the case of a tie vote. The Clerk shall be responsible for keeping and preparing minutes of all meetings and agenda. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for ensuring that the Robert's Rules of Order are complied with.

SECTION 6. TERMS OF OFFICE: The terms of all Student Council Members shall commence upon confirmation of the election results by the City Clerk or selection by the Student Council. Once elected, the Members of the Student Council shall serve a one-year term, unless a member is removed as provided for in Section 7.

SECTION 7. REMOVAL/RESIGNATION: Student Council Members may be removed by the City Manager for cause. Upon the removal or resignation of a member whose term is not expired, the City Mayor and Council shall select a member to serve out the remaining term of the member that has been removed. Such member shall be from the same school as the Student Council member who resigned or was removed.

SECTION 8. PARENTAL CONSENT/APPLICATION: Each Student Council Member shall as a prerequisite for serving, take an Oath of Office and complete an application and parental consent form.

SECTION 9 ATTENDANCE: Any Student Council Member, who fails to attend two (2) consecutive regular meetings of Student Council, without being excused by the Student Council Mayor, shall be subject to removal by the City Manager. The Student Council Mayor may excuse members from attendance for the following reasons: school or work conflict, personal or family illness or death. The Student Council Mayor shall not excuse any member for more than three (3) meetings in any calendar year.

SECTION 10. BYLAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS: Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of committees and non-statutory boards.

SECTION 11. MEETINGS: At the annual organizational meeting, or as soon as practicable thereafter, a regular meeting date, location and time, shall be established for the Student Council. Minutes and records shall be kept of all meetings, and all meetings shall be public.

SECTION 12. QUORUM: The presence of a majority of the Student Council shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 13. REPORTING: The Student Council shall make recommendations to the City Council by written memoranda, on the first day of October, January, March, and June of each year, or more frequently as deemed necessary by the City Council. The Student Council should make every effort to attend the meetings of the City Council where the recommendations and/or written memoranda of the Student Council are to be presented and considered.

SECTION 14. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The Student Council

shall have the Following duties and responsibilities:

1. To develop and adopt, by majority vote, a Student Youth Charter, which shall be approved by the City Council.
2. To carry out the purposes of the Youth City Government as outlined in the Charter.
3. To keep the Mayor and City Council informed of the issues that affect the City's youth
4. To give advice to the City Manager and the City Council with respect to issues that affect the City of Miami Gardens' youth.
5. To recommend social, educational, cultural and recreational activities for youth and to assist with the implementation of those activities at the direction of the City Manager or City Council.
6. To work with the Manager and City Council on providing service and leadership opportunities for the youth of the City.

SECTION 15. CONFLICT: All ordinances or Code provisions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 16. SEVERABILITY: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance

SECTION 17. INCLUSION IN CODE: It is the intention of the City Council of the City of Miami Gardens that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miami Gardens and that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered and the word "Ordinance" may be changed to "Chapter," "Section," "Article" or such other appropriate word or phrase, the use of

which shall accomplish the intentions herein expressed; provided, however, that Section 1 hereof or the provisions contemplated thereby shall not be codified.

SECTION 18. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage.

PASSED ON FIRST READING IN FULL ON THE 28th DAY OF JUNE, 2006.

ADOPTED AND PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH DAY OF JULY, 2006.

ATTEST:


SHIRLEY GIBSON, MAYOR


RONETTA TAYLOR, CMC, CITY CLERK

Prepared by SONJA K. DICKENS, ESQ.
City Attorney

SPONSORED BY: Councilwoman Barbara Watson

MOVED BY: Councilwoman Watson

SECONDED BY: Vice Mayor Braynon

VOTE: 7-0

Mayor Shirley Gibson	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)
Vice Mayor Oscar Braynon, II	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)
Councilman Aaron Campbell	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)
Councilman Ulysses Harvard	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)
Councilwoman Barbara Watson	<u>x</u> (Yes)	___ (No)