



City of Margate

5790 Margate Boulevard
Margate, FL 33063
954-972-6454
www.margatefl.com

Meeting Minutes Regular City Commission Meeting

Mayor Tommy Ruzzano
Vice Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz
Commissioners:
Antonio V. Arserio, Anthony N. Caggiano, Joanne Simone

City Manager Cale Curtis
City Attorney Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman
City Clerk Jennifer M. Johnson

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

6:30 PM

Commission Chambers and Zoom.us
Webinar ID: 832 6898 7642

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83268987642>

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

- Present:** 4 - Commissioner Anthony N. Caggiano, Commissioner Joanne Simone, Vice Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz and Mayor Tommy Ruzzano
- Not Present:** 1 - Commissioner Antonio V. Arserio

Commissioner Antonio V. Arserio attended at 8:35pm by Zoom.

MOMENT OF SILENCE - INVOCATION by Rabbi Michelle L. Goldsmith

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1) PRESENTATION(S)

A. [ID 2024-077](#) PRESENTATION TO CITY OF MARGATE'S 2024 DROP SAVERS CONTEST WINNERS

JUAN CRIOLLO - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 1 CITY WINNER

ARIYA ALI - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION 1 SCHOOL WINNER

EMMA DAILAROSA - LIBERTY ELEMENTARY - DIVISION 1 SCHOOL WINNER

SOPHIA FRITZ - MARGATE ELEMENTARY - DIVISION 1 SCHOOL WINNER

AMEER JOHNSON - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 2 CITY WINNER

CARLY HARDMAN - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY -- DIVISION 2 SCHOOL WINNER

GIO MANZI - MARGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DIVISION 2 SCHOOL WINNER

JOSUE GUEVARA - LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DIVISION 2 SCHOOL WINNER

CALEB MCMORRIS - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION 3 CITY WINNER

DOVBER VASQUEZ - LUBOVITCH HEBREW ACADEMY - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

KYALIA DUNN - MARGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

RIHANA RITOUNE - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

URIEL PIERRE - LIBERTY ELEMENTARY - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

BRILAAN INGRAM - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 4 CITY WINNER

LORNA WALDECK - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION 4 SCHOOL WINNER

ABIGAIL DIAZ - MARGATE ELEMENTARY - DIVISION 5 SCHOOL WINNER

SAIYAH ALLEN - LIBERTY ELEMENTARY - DIVISION 5 SCHOOL WINNER

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS OF THE MONTH

B. [ID 2024-132](#) ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: JARED ORELLANA (STUDENT), SHRYLYN ANDERSON (TEACHER), (Ms. Latoya Dean, Principal and/or Ms. Martha Palhano, Assistant Principal)

ATLANTIC WEST ELEMENTARY: ANTON RAMOUTAR (STUDENT), KRISTY HENNESSEY (TEACHER), (Mrs. Shereen R. Reynolds, Principal and/or Ms. Yahira Tamayo, Assistant Principal)

BROWARD MATH AND SCIENCE SCHOOLS: CHRISTOPHER SANCHEZ (STUDENT), YILSETTE ERAZO (TEACHER), (Mr. Hasan Kose, Principal and/or

Ms. Fabricia Santos Maraclo, Assistant Principal)

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY: AUTUMN WATTERS (STUDENT), CRAIG VANEK (TEACHER), (Ms. Vicki Flourmoy, Principal and/or Ms. Donna Styles, Assistant Principal)

MARGATE ELEMENTARY: LOGAN MACK (STUDENT), PHYLLIS BEJUNE (TEACHER), (Mr. Thomas Schroeder, Principal and/or Ms. Donna Rucker, Assistant Principal)

MARGATE MIDDLE: JADELYN HOYTE (STUDENT), STEPHANIE WILLIAMS (TEACHER), (Mrs. Sabine Phillips, Principal and/or Ms. Krystal Coke, Assistant Principal)

PHYL'S ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL: CALIYAH ATKINS (STUDENT), ANN DAWKINS (TEACHER), (Ms. Afua Baptiste, Principal and/or Ms. Jalaja Cooke, Elementary Director)

RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: DANIELLE PARKER (STUDENT), ELIZABETH FISCHER (TEACHER), (Dr. Adriana Guerra, Principal)

WEST BROWARD ACADEMY: JAYDEN WALLS (STUDENT), STEPHANIE SATURDAY (TEACHER), (Mr. Derrick Hugue, Principal and/or Ms. Rossana Padron, Assistant Principal)

PROCLAMATION(S)

- C. [ID 2024-126](#) HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY - MAY 5, 2024 (presented to Rabbi Michelle L. Goldsmith and Shavie Fagan, President of Temple Beth Am, Margate, Florida)

A representative made a comment on this Item.

- D. [ID 2024-129](#) NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION WEEK - MAY 12 - 18, 2024 (presented to Diana Maglocco, Community Engagement Officer)

- E. [ID 2024-152](#) NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER - MAY 2, 2024 (Presented to Pastor Carlos Lugo, Church on Atlantic)

Meeting went into Recess.

Meeting Reconvened.

2) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ELSA J. SANCHEZ, 6930 NW 15TH STREET, provided feedback on Broward County's Planning Council meeting and referenced the golf course and affordable housing.

JONATHAN A. KRALJIC, 7357 FLORES WAY, read a statement which included comments on the enforcement of water restrictions in April and parking on sidewalks.

JULI VAN DER MEULEN, 2913 NW 68 LN., explained that she had the privilege of joining Station 58 to do a ride-along which she described as an eye-opening experience. She said that first responders needed to ensure that they were getting the staff and resources to do their jobs safely and effectively. She asked for consideration for parking for the seniors at the Sounds at Sundown.

3) COMMISSION COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO discussed the Autism and Acceptance Day, the Tree Giveaway and the Prescription Drug Take Back events and thanked the Police Department and Parks and Recreation for their assistance.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE asked to keep Police Department's Office Specialist III, Jedrey, in their thoughts and prayers for the loss of a family member. She thanked Parks and Recreation Director, Jones and his team for their rapid response in addressing park goers' concerns pertaining to the Dog Park. She said that the Tree Giveaway last Saturday was awesome and the Prescription Drug Take Back was another great event. She thanked the Police Department for addressing cars parked across the sidewalks and forewarned that drivers could be given a citation.

VICE MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ referenced Mr. Kraljic and said that she hoped the Police Department would get to their neighborhoods pertaining to parking across the sidewalk. She reaffirmed everything of what had been discussed on the Tree Giveaway, the Medication Take Back and the Autism and Acceptance Day. She wished everybody a Happy Mother's Day for May 12th.

MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO wished everybody a Happy Mother's Day. He highlighted today's grand opening at Nakama Sushi Thai. He discussed Charley Katz. He said that Parks and Recreation was installing the lights at Andrews Field (AF). He requested that City Manager Curtis write a letter to Broward County School Board (BCSB) to inform them of all the work that the City had completed at AF and suggested that they could partner up and do some sort of matching grant. He advised that the BCSB was closing three schools.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO explained that he spoke against the potential closures to BCSB as he believed that it was a destruction of the school system.

MAYOR RUZZANO discussed developers coming to the City, attainable housing and green space. He was sad that they were losing the golf course and discussed another golf course where he had received comments about retaining it as it was. He heard that Margate Middle School was in consideration for closure.

Discussion ensued.

CITY ATTORNEY DAVID N. TOLCES provided an update on the Form 6 litigation and said that there was a hearing before the Judge on the request for the injunction. He said that they were hoping to receive an Order in the next couple of weeks and advised that in the meantime, they should hold off doing anything until they have received the Judge's ruling. He congratulated his son, Ryan, who was graduating tomorrow from University of Central Florida (UCF).

Discussion ensued.

4) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was no City Manager's report.

5) CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under Consent Agenda are viewed to be routine and the recommendation will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired by the Commission, the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- A. [ID 2024-139](#) MOTION - APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES: APRIL 3, 2024 REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

APPROVED

- B. [ID 2024-147](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, AWARDED BID NO. 2024-007 - SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF AVIGILON EQUIPMENT TO CSI VIDEO & SECURITY, LLC; PROVIDING FOR 30% OFF OF AVIGILON'S PUBLISHED MSRP PRICING FOR ALL PRODUCTS AND ACCESSORIES; PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHED TECHNICIAN LABOR RATES OF \$75.00 PER HOUR FOR INSTALLATION AND \$65.00 PER HOUR FOR SERVICE WITH A 10% ADD-ON TO SAID LABOR RATES FOR NECESSARY ANCILLARY INSTALLATION ITEMS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

APPROVED

- C. [ID 2024-150](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERATION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

APPROVED

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Simone, seconded by Commissioner Caggiano, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Caggiano, Commissioner Simone, Commissioner Arserio, Vice Mayor Schwartz and Mayor Ruzzano

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ explained that prior to the City Commission meeting, she met Federation of Public Employees' Representative, Jack Marziliano, outside who asked that once this Item had been voted upon, to thank the City Commission, on behalf of his union for passing this.

MAYOR RUZZANO said that he also met with Mr. Marziliano, who said that it was a tough negotiation but it went smooth.

Discussion ensued.

6) RESOLUTION(S)

- A. [ID 2024-131](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, ALLOCATING \$849,938.00 OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS FOR THAT PORTION OF WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS WHICH ARE PART OF THE NW 8TH STREET ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Caggiano, that this Resolution, should be approved.

JONATHAN A. KRALJIC, 7357 FLORES WAY, was in agreement and stated that this Resolution was what the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money was intended for in building back Margate's city and infrastructure.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Caggiano, Commissioner Simone, Commissioner Arserio, Vice Mayor Schwartz and Mayor Ruzzano

- B. [ID 2024-133](#) RESOLUTION - CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024 TO DETERMINE IF A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF MARGATE APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF WATER AND WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COST OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR THE FORM OF BALLOT QUESTION; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF SAID REFERENDUM; PROVIDING FOR THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE BROWARD COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS; AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

A motion was made by Commissioner Caggiano, seconded by Vice Mayor Schwartz, that this Resolution, should be discussed.

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ questioned whether the City was still allowed to educate the public when there was a Referendum going on the ballot.

CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES said that it had changed and that the City was restricted in not being able to use any funds with respect to advocacy or educating. They could not distribute material but they could include items that reference facts pertaining to the Resolution on the City's website or if the City was distributing the quarterly newsletters where they could include factual information in there, as long as they were not expanding any additional funds to educate, promote or advocate for that. He advised that there was

supporting back-up documentation from Estrada Hinojosa and representatives were available from that organization if the City Commission had any questions. He said that the information from the PowerPoint presentation which would be included as part of the Agenda materials could be referenced in anything they upload on the City's website or newsletter.

Discussion ensued.

MAYOR RUZZANO described himself as proactive who looked towards the future and highlighted his two concerns on a Reverse Osmosis (RO) waterplant. He believed that if they were going to spend a significant amount of money to install an RO, he thought that it would have been appropriate to have that included in this Resolution and complete it at the same time rather than having to return for another bond.

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ said upon taking a tour of the wastewater plant. She indicated that it was long overdue and referenced receiving complaints about odors.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO explained why it was vital to have this implemented.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO explained that this bond was technically paid for by user fees. They raised the water rates by 25% and that it was to enable to obtain this bond which would prevent an additional increase on the tax bill.

RICHARD ZUCCHINI, 380 LAKEWOOD CIRCLE E, #B, requested to hear the presentation by staff before submitting public comments.

Discussion ensued on whether the presentation on this Item should take place.

THE CITY'S MUNICIPALITY ADVISER, LOURDES REYES ABADIN, explained that she had been working with staff on a presentation that included a lot of information on the water and wastewater project. She advised that the back-up for this Agenda Item was not to give a presentation just to include everything. She also informed that it would be a repository for where they could extract data to educate the public at a later time.

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ read an extract from the organization's first page.

MS. SANCHEZ sought clarity on how the public could obtain information on how the system works.

CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES explained that they needed to work with City staff and the City Commission to make sure that they comply with the limitations placed on the City under Florida Law with respect to not being able to spend money to advocate, send out flyers or produce materials. He advised that the City would be able to present the information in a way that complies with State law.

Discussion ensued on the process.

MAYOR RUZZANO questioned whether the City Commission could advocate for this.

CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES advised that it was a fine line between what the City could do versus what the City Commission could do as politicians in their amendment rights to speak on behalf of issues.

Discussion ensued.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Caggiano, Commissioner Simone, Commissioner Arserio, Vice Mayor Schwartz and Mayor Ruzzano

7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. [ID 2024-153](#) CALYPSO COVE WATER PARK PASSES FOR ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATES AND MARGATE SPORTS TEAMS

MAYOR RUZZANO explained that he placed this Item on the Agenda as they were going to open up their park again, similar to a grand reopening and referenced that in past practices, they gave passes to the children that were graduating and those who joined their sports league. He indicated that the park would be showcased as the children would be accompanied with others.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS advised that if they considered all the public and charter schools, he estimated approximately 4,000 passes. He said that it would be \$6 for an adult pass and that they would allow teachers and veterans to get in.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO indicated that the parents could buy adult beverages and concessions.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO looked at this as a loss leader but said it would be an opportunity to get people in.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE questioned if there was an age restriction.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS confirmed that the minimum age restriction was 12 years old without a parent.

Discussion ensued on evaluating the age limit.

MAYOR RUZZANO questioned if the pass could say that the child had to be accompanied by an adult.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS indicated that they would come up with the appropriate language.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO questioned if the pass could have a special ID to know that it was working.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE requested that an expiration date to the passes should also be applied.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS confirmed that the passes were good for 12 months from the date they were issued.

CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES provided advice on the motion.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO wanted this Item to be brought back at a future Agenda to reevaluate the age.

A motion was made by Commission Caggiano, seconded by Vice Mayor Schwartz, to authorize the City Manager to provide passes for the graduating students with the restriction that the individual be accompanied by a paying adult.

MR. KRALJIC explained his opposition to this initiative suggesting that they should consider the financial impact it would have on the City.

MAYOR RUZZANO informed that the City increased the number of lifeguards at that facility quite recently.

Discussion ensued on Mr. Kraljic's comments.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Caggiano, Commissioner Simone, Commissioner Arserio, Vice Mayor Schwartz and Mayor Ruzzano

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards


Jennifer M. Johnson, City Clerk

Date: 6/6/2024

PLEASE NOTE:

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, the person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone desiring a verbatim transcript shall have the responsibility, at his/her own expense, to arrange for the transcript.

[Appendix A – Zoning – Section 3.3] Any representation made before any City Board, any Administrative Board, or the City Commission in the application for a variance, special exception, conditional use or request for any other permit shall be deemed a condition of the granting of the permit. Should any representation be false or should said representation not be continued as represented, same shall be deemed a violation of the permit and a violation of this section.

Any person with a disability requiring auxiliary aids and services for this meeting may call the City Clerk's office at (954) 972-6454 with their request at least two business days prior to the meeting date.

One or more members of the City of Margate advisory boards may be in attendance and may participate at the meeting.

Members of the public are invited to view this meeting through Zoom using Webinar ID: 832 6898 7642 or can listen via telephone by calling one of the following phone numbers: US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099.

- A copy of the Agenda for this Meeting is posted on www.MargateFL.com and on the main bulletin board outside City Hall located at 5790 Margate Blvd, Margate, FL 33063.

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Go to www.margatefl.com

Go to "Agendas & Minutes" > Find the respective meeting date and click "Agenda Summary" to view the agenda items and see the Zoom meeting information

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