



# City of Margate

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

## Meeting Minutes Regular City Commission Meeting

*Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano*

*Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano*

*Commissioners:*

*Antonio V. Arserio, Arlene R. Schwartz, Joanne Simone*

*City Manager Cale Curtis*

*Interim City Attorney Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman*

*City Clerk Jennifer M. Johnson*

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Wednesday, August 23, 2023

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers and Zoom.us

Webinar ID: 850 6624 9934

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85066249934>

### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Antonio V. Arserio, Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano, Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano, Commissioner Arlene R. Schwartz and Commissioner Joanne Simone

### MOMENT OF SILENCE - INVOCATION

MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO highlighted Hawaii's wildfires and the devastation it had caused.

Discussion ensued.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 1) PUBLIC COMMENTS

MAYOR CAGGIANO explained the protocol for speaking under Public Comments and the Consent Agenda.

JONATHAN A. KRALJIC, 7357 FLORES WAY, requested select items be removed from the Consent Agenda to enable a discussion. He read a statement pertaining to an Item on the Community Redevelopment Agency's (CRA) agenda from an out of town carnival operator to be heard at tomorrow's meeting.

JULIE JONES questioned whether Zoom for residents' participation could be placed as an Agenda Item at a future City Commission meeting.

DONNA L. FELLOWS, 6108 NW 9TH COURT, thanked the Police Department for the Annual National Night Out Against Crime. She explained that she had discussions with some businesses in Margate and indicated that the feedback was not positive and suggested that the City should interact with the owners to listen to their concerns.

RICH ALIANIELLO, 7631 NW 23RD STREET, welcomed back the City Commission.

MARGATE RESIDENT, KAREN ORTEGA, discussed a neighbor dispute.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY, DAVID N. TOLCES, indicated to Ms. Ortega that this was a private legal matter and the City was not in a position to provide any legal assistance.

Discussion ensued.

SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES – FLORIDA, 3681 NW 59TH PL, COCONUT CREEK, FUNDRAISING MANAGER, JENNA CRAFT provided an update of their organization's successes which included 16 reunifications and thanked the City for their continuous support. She asked the City for consideration for the 2024 budget.

## 2) COMMISSION COMMENTS

VICE MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO explained that they did everything they could to help the City's businesses and highlighted that there was a Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) meeting tomorrow. He also referenced developers who charged astonishing rent and believed that Margate was one of the most business friendly around. He highlighted the forthcoming grand opening of Serino Park and requested people to drive carefully as schools had returned. He wished Broward School District's new superintendent the best and referenced the lack of cursive writing being taught in schools. He also referenced the slides in Orlando and discussed the height being raised at Calypso Cove and asked if it could be reconsidered and revert back to its previous size.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO said that he did not understand why the height of the slides were raised and discussed the same.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked how an Item could be placed on an Agenda.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES advised that he would need to ask his fellow City Commissioners if they would like to put the Item on for the following meeting.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked for Zoom calls to be added to the Agenda.

Discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Ruzzano, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, to discuss Zoom calls as a Discussion and Possible Action Item, at the next City Commission meeting.**

Discussion ensued.

**The motion carried as follows:**

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

MAYOR CAGGIANO agreed with Vice Mayor Ruzzano and highlighted that drivers were speeding through school zones causing accidents. He referenced the lack of cursive writing for children.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO explained that when he attended a conference, he was approached by a few different companies. He referenced a new law in Florida that pertained to school zones and advised that during the time when children were released/dropped off, there was new technology of a video enforcement where they could obtain footage of drivers going in excess of 10 miles per hour over the speed limit. He said that there were some questions that he had and that he would be meeting with an organization to discuss the same and would also welcome resident feedback. He said that it would not be used for surveillance but could only be used to capture the license plate and speed and would appreciate if City Manager Curtis and Chief of Police Galaska could listen or partake in the meeting. He believed that this technology would be very effective.

MAYOR CAGGIANO said that the Annual National Night Out Against Crime was stupendous and thanked the Chief of Police Galaska and staff who organized the event.

COMMISSIONER ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ stated she discussed her concerns with Margate Middle School with a School Board member. She explained the height of the slide requirements for Calypso Cove and referenced a potential lawsuit if it was not adhered to.

MAYOR CAGGIANO forewarned that he did not want to put the City at financial risk if it was not covered under the insurance.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO responded to Commissioner Schwartz and Mayor Caggiano's comments on liability issues for adjusting the height of the slide.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ said that she would pull Consent Agenda Items 4) B. and 4) C. for Mr. Kraljic.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE congratulated Assistant City Clerk, Robinson, who had earned the designation of Master Municipal Clerk (MCC). She thanked the Department of Environmental and Engineering Services' (DEES) staff members and for the tour of the WasteWater and Water Treatment plants. She referenced the code for overgrown trees infringing on neighbors' property which was discussed at a prior City Commission meeting. She indicated that the decision made was not to change the code but she believed that it was an Item that needed further discussion and requested if this could be discussed at a Workshop in the near future.

### **3) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS thanked Public Works Director, Batista, NorthWest Focal Point Senior Center (NWFPSC) Project Director Terry Lieberman and Assistant to the City Manager, Popick, for their work with the State Legislators during funding process for the NWFPSC and the stormwater fund. He advised that they met with their lobbyist today to begin next year's fiscal legislative process and funding request. He thanked the Police Department for being out in full force and referenced school zones and wished the children a successful school year.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO requested the City Manager to look at appropriations and establish when Mr. Book recommended that the City Commission/staff should visit Tallahassee.

Discussion ensued.

CITY CLERK JENNIFER M. JOHNSON said that they have a great team at the City Clerk's Office and thought that Assistant City Clerk, Robinson was doing a great job and thanked the Commission for their support.

#### 4) CONSENT AGENDA

Items 4) B. ID 2023-264 and 4) C ID. 2023-265 were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

- A. [ID 2023-230](#) MOTION - APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES: JUNE 21, 2023 REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING, JULY 5, 2023 REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING @ 630PM, JULY 5, 2023 REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING @ 700PM AND JULY 11, 2023 CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP

**APPROVED**

- D. [ID 2023-272](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE REJECTION OF ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR BID NO.2023-011 LIFT STATION NO. 20 RENOVATION FOR BEING OVER BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL FROM SOUTH FLORIDA UTILITIES, INC., DATED AUGUST 17, 2023, PIGGYBACKING THE CITY OF PLANTATION ITB 013-20 FOR RENOVATION LABOR; PIGGYBACKING BROWARD COUNTY CONTRACT PNC2122960B1-01-03 WITH CHAMPION CONTROLS FOR ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS, AND APPROVING A SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF MECHANICAL PUMPS FROM PSI TECHNOLOGIES AUTHORIZED BY CITY SOLE SOURCE RESOLUTION NO. 22-075, WITH A TOTAL BUDGET NOT EXCEEDING \$550,000.00, PROVIDING FOR THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION WITHIN EIGHT WEEKS, WITH THE ENTIRE COMPLETION CONTINGENT ON THE EQUIPMENT'S DELIVERY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**APPROVED**

- E. [ID 2023-279](#) APPROVING A WAIVER OF BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SOLE SOURCE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE, RENTAL, PARTS, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT FROM ALTA EQUIPMENT COMPANY FOR THE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CITY FRONT LOADER VOLVO MODEL L70H; AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,485.65; PROVIDING FOR ONGOING PURCHASE SO LONG AS THE VENDOR REMAINS THE SOLE SOURCE FOR THE ITEM SPECIFIED; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**APPROVED**

#### Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

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

#### 4) CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- B. [ID 2023-264](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF MARGATE, FLORIDA URGING THE BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSION TO EXPLORE AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCES AND THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A COUNTY-WIDE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OR OTHER APPROPRIATE PUBLIC FUNDING STRUCTURE TO FUND LOW INTEREST LOAN PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH PARTICIPATING LENDING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN EMERGENCY AND NEED-BASED CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS AND OWNERS REQUIRING EMERGENCY STRUCTURAL REPAIRS AS A RESULT OF A 25-YEAR RECERTIFICATION INSPECTION OR AN EQUIVALENT RECERTIFICATION PROCESS IN SUBSTANTIAL ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA SENATE BILL 154 (CHAPTER LAW 2023-203), AND SUBSEQUENT RECERTIFICATION PROCESSES; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO sought further clarification on this Item and referenced adding another tax to refund these reserves.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES explained that this Resolution and Item 4) D. ID 2023-265, they were going to the Broward County Commission to establish some type of assessment process so there could be a funding mechanism so that the Condominium Associations could go out and get a loan for their development that they would be able to pay off over time.

Discussion ensued.

MR. KRALJIC read a statement on this Item and said that he applauded anything the City could do to help the seniors to be able to afford, stay and live in Margate.

MARY FRANK, 6984 W ATLANTIC BLVD., referenced that there were too many car accidents around her area.

MAYOR CAGGIANO advised Ms. Frank to provide her details to City Clerk Johnson.

Discussion ensued.

**This carried by the following vote:**

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

- C. [ID 2023-265](#) RESOLUTION - URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO EXPLORE AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCES AND THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FUNDED LOW INTEREST LOAN PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH PARTICIPATING LENDING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN EMERGENCY AND NEED-BASED CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS AND OWNERS REQUIRING EMERGENCY STRUCTURAL REPAIRS AS A RESULT OF A 25- YEAR RECERTIFICATION INSPECTION OR AN EQUIVALENT RECERTIFICATION PROCESS IN SUBSTANTIAL ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA SENATE BILL (SB) 154 (CHAPTER LAW 2023-203) AND SUBSEQUENT RECERTIFICATION PROCESSES; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Simone, that this Resolution, should be approved.**

MAYOR CAGGIANO said that he spoke to Florida Division Of Emergency Management, Mr. Moskowitz, this morning who indicated that the dysfunction of the house was making laws impossible. He said that he was in favor of this Item.

Discussion ensued.

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

## 5) RESOLUTION(S)

- A. [ID 2023-249](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, SELECTING THE FIRM OF \_\_\_\_\_ TO PROVIDE AUDIT SERVICES TO THE CITY OF MARGATE; PROVIDING FOR NEGOTIATION OF TERMS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) NO. 2023-008 - AUDIT SERVICES.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS recommended the top ranked firm, Keefe McCullough & Co. CPA.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner**

Arserio, to insert the name, Keefe McCullough & Co CPA.

Discussion ensued.

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**B. [ID 2023-262](#)** RESOLUTION - APPROVING APPOINTEE AND ALTERNATE TO THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS PROCESSING AUTHORITY OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO wanted to nominate Mayor Caggiano as an Appointee.

MAYOR CAGGIANO explained why he wanted to nominate Vice Mayor Ruzzano as the Alternate.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO appreciated the offer but explained why he would decline the nomination as the Alternate and believed that the property should be sold.

MAYOR CAGGIANO responded to Vice Mayor Ruzzano comments and explained that they were running out of places to dispose the garbage.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO explained that he had mixed views on this Item but he had always voted to move it along as he was not too vested and questioned at what point did the City have to make a decision.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS clarified that the City had already approved an interlocal agreement (ILA) where they have joined on with the other cities and Broward County for this process to move forward. He explained that they were going through the process of selecting their appointment to the governing board.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ discussed her experience at a previous meeting pertaining to this Item and referenced City Manager May being employed at the time. She recommended that Vice Mayor Ruzzano should be the Alternate as he was knowledgeable on this matter.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO spoke further on this Item.

Discussion ensued on recycling.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Arserio, seconded by Vice Mayor Ruzzano, that:**



**Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano be the Appointee and;  
Commissioner Arlene R. Schwartz, be the Alternate.**

**This carried as follows:**

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

## **6) ORDINANCE(S) - FIRST READING**

- A. [ID 2023-250](#)** ORDINANCE - AMENDING CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS AND ARTICLE IV. TRAFFIC CONTROL; PROVIDING FOR CITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES AND FEES, APPEAL TO THE SPECIAL MAGISTRATE; NOTICE AND FORMAT, AND COLLECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**A motion was made by Commission Arserio, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, that this Ordinance, First Reading, be discussed.**

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO said that he wanted to support this Item as he had received many resident complaints. He said that he had constantly seen 18 wheelers parked in the neighborhoods and was concerned that he did not see the word "towing" in this Item.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS advised that they had the ability in their code if it was a hazard to a right of way or if it was parked in a tow-way zone, etc. but the current structure they had for issuing fines was a notice. He explained that they had the civil citation process in their code but the appeal process currently went to Broward County but this Ordinance would provide that the appeal process would go to their Special Magistrate. He also informed that there would be a fine structure in place.

Discussion ensued on the fine structure, the definition of an offense and towing.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT CODE COMPLIANCE SUPERVISOR, JOSEPH H. SCIMECA, believed that the Interim City Attorney Tolces and City Manager Curtis' discussions were not whether it was legal but the enforcement of the Ordinance and what would give the City more leverage. He explained that the City's current system for the parking citations was \$150 and it did not have that much teeth. He advised that it was all about being on public property but if it was on private property, they would go after the property owner.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ questioned whether there was a City Ordinance pertaining to tractors being parked in an owner's driveway and whether it would be illegal.

Discussion ensued on citations.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT CODE COMPLIANCE SUPERVISOR SCIMECA, interpreted the City Manager comments as posting signs as a tow-away zone to differentiate between towing a tractor trailer and towing a regular passenger vehicle as currently, the only way they could tow on a public street if it was obstructing traffic or inoperable.



Discussion ensued.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS indicated that the City would have to discuss how they define commercial vehicles as there was an undecided debate as to what this may be considered as. He admitted that the City had been considerably lax on enforcing commercial vehicles as the code was currently written as it would result in them finding plumbing and electrical vans and the blue color workers.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO had issues with commercial vehicles which resulted in residents parking other cars on the grass or in the street. He expressed that although he did not want to go after the working person, he would have a problem if the residents had three boats and two were parked on the grass.

**A motion to amend was made by Commissioner Arserio, seconded by Mayor Caggiano, to increase the second offense on semi-trucks (tractor trailers) to \$500 and thereafter.**

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ suggested collating all the City Commission Minutes that they all voted upon with pictures identifying what a commercial vehicle was and believed that they had not been lax. She requested a Workshop to discuss the same.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS advised that if he was wrong on the direction he received, that the City Commission should advise him tonight.

Discussion ensued on parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO discussed commercial vehicles parked in residential areas and anticipated that they would never all agree on how to differentiate a vehicle. He asked if Code Compliance Officers would issue tickets on commercial vehicles and also questioned if residents would be ticketed for blocking the sidewalk. He said that he was very lenient and did not want to see people with businesses get hurt.

MAYOR CAGGIANO said that he did not want to chase people out of their neighborhoods as they park a commercial vehicle on their driveway and questioned recreational vehicles (RV).

Discussion ensued on commercial vehicles being parked on the grass.

TRACY VAN WINKLE, 1020 SW 61ST AVENUE questioned if a truck could be parked without the trailer.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS said no.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO responded to Ms. Van Winkle's question.

MR. ALIANIELLO referenced a tractor trailer being packed with a South Carolina number plate.

Discussion ensued.

MS. FELLOWS discussed the drivers of the tractor trailers.

Discussion ensued.

MR. KRALJIC discussed the City's Ordinance about the parking of commercial vehicles.

**The motion as amended approved by the following vote:**

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

## 7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

**A. [ID 2023-238](#) SPECIAL EVENTS FUNDING/DONATION REQUEST PROGRAM - JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Arserio, that this Item, should be approved.**

Discussion ensued.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SOUTH FLORIDA, GRANTS & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MANAGER, DANIELLE KOPPELMANN thanked the City for their continued support and she hoped to continue with the partnership. She confirmed that they served every fifth and eighth grade student. She advised that not all of the cities in Broward County have a grants program but those that did, they had a very high retention rate for funding.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that the program was incredible and thought \$1,000 was cheap and wanted to increase the donation.

**A motion to amend was made by Vice Mayor Ruzzano to increase the donation from \$1,000 to \$5,000. This failed for a lack of second.**

MAYOR CAGGIANO said that he would like to see this as a line item in their budget book every year.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO did not believe that the donation could be increased as the policy was maximized to \$1,000. He supported this Item as a line item in the budget.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS received CONSENSUS to add this as a line Item for \$5,000.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ understood that the budget could be amended from now on when they have their budget meeting next month.

Discussion ensued.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS suggested that they could do the \$1,000 and budget \$5,000 for the next funding cycle.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE explained the reason why she was not in agreement with this donation and referenced that the School Board should be paying for this donation and that they should be made accountable for the way that the tax dollars were being spent. She advised that she would be voting against this Item.

MAYOR CAGGIANO requested Ms. Koppelman to provide details to City Manager Curtis of the percentage of what the School Board donates to their organization.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ recommended that Ms. Koppelman also provided a list from all contributors.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO repeated that it was a good program and that the organization should keep it up despite what the School Board was supposed to do.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO discussed the School Board's lack of contribution in the City.

MR. KRALJIC agreed with Commissioner Simone's comments and that it was a force generosity of the taxpayers of the City.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO advised that they have it set up that each City Commissioner received \$2,000 for donations.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ responded to Mr. Kraljic's comments.

**The original motion was carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Commissioner Arserio, Vice Mayor Ruzzano, Mayor Caggiano and Commissioner Schwartz

**No:** 1 - Commissioner Simone

**B. [ID 2023-239](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - STATUS AND REOPENING CONSIDERATIONS**

CITY MANAGER CURTIS informed that they were approximately into a year through the Property Improvement Grant Program (PIP) which had been very successful. He said that the City had expended a little over \$911,000 from \$1,500,000 allocated and that they have approximately \$348,000 earmarked for projects. He explained that the City had closed the program and stopped accepting applications after they received more than the amount they had allotted. He advised that the total spent and earmarked was approximately \$1,259,000 and that there was currently \$240,000 and that he was looking for authorization to reopen the grants cycle to take applications for that remaining balance.

MAYOR CAGGIANO asked for a starting date and said that he did not have a problem with the City Manager Curtis' request.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO was in favor of reopening the PIP and wanted to increase the amount. He questioned how much money was left in this type of fund and what the City intending to do with the rest of the money.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS informed that the City had approximately \$5,500,000 left.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO highlighted some of the issues that arose when the PIP was first opened and that he wanted to give residents proper notice of when this was going to start. He also advised that some residents did not receive estimates from organizations that visited their property and that he wanted to add \$500,000 to the PIP.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS explained that if there was a motion to add money to this, he would suggest that they did this through the budget process and they could reopen it on October 1st on the new fiscal cycle and that they would market this through the appropriate channels. He confirmed that the parameters would not be changed.

Discussion ensued on the PIP.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO questioned whether the notification of the PIP was too late to be added to the City's Our Margate quarterly magazine. He said that this was a good program and congratulated those who took advantage of it. He agreed with Commissioner Arserio and believed that the current balance should be increased. He asked if contractors associated with the City were able to give quotes and conduct the work.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS indicated that if the City's magazine, Our Margate, had not gone to the printers, they could forewarn the residents to watch their website as the PIP would be reopening.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES advised that based upon the facts, he did not see an issue pertaining to Vice Mayor Ruzzano's question on contractors as there was no direct agreement between Vice Mayor Ruzzano and the City of Margate.

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO referenced installing polyvinyl chloride (PVC) fencing on Rock Island Road by Southgate Boulevard and questioned if some of this money could be used towards that.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS said that money could be used but challenges could arise pertaining to private property of installing the fence. He advised that the City was being recognized and that they were a finalist for the Annual Civic Experience Award as it related to the PIP and the software they used to implement it. He gave kudos to Assistant to the City Manager, Nancy Popick, who initiated the software and made it so easy. He referenced that CivicPlus would be visiting City Hall and would conduct a video shoot that would help promote this idea and recognize it for the PIP.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO suggested that they could seek the permission from a resident to feature in the video where they could explain how the grant had assisted them in making the change and improvement to his property.

Discussion ensued on how the residents have to pay for the work through the PIP.

CONSENSUS was given by the City Commission that they would like to plan out the remainder of the \$5,500,000.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that before they agree to increase the PIP, she questioned what the City's plans were for the rest of the money past the \$1,500,000 they had already agreed.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS indicated that in the simplest terms, this was essentially 'found money' and that they were allowed to use \$10,000,000 as an allowance towards revenue replacement which would go into their fund balance. He advised that every year, they had capital projects which were deducted from the fund balance. He informed that there was necessarily a need to identify specific projects for these funds and that they were not looking at 'wish list' items.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO believed that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) should get designated. He referenced creating a list of areas/topics which the residents could vote upon.

Discussion ensued on the future use of the ARPA funds and how to reopen and market the PIP.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards

  
Jennifer M. Johnson, City Clerk

Date: 9/21/2023

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: 850 6624 9934 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](http://www.MargateFL.com) and on the main bulletin board outside City Hall located at 5790 Margate Blvd, Margate, FL 33063.

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