



City of Margate

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

Meeting Minutes City Commission Budget Workshop

Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz
Vice Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano
Commissioners:
Lesa Peerman, Tommy Ruzzano, Joanne Simone

City Manager Samuel A. May
Interim City Attorney Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A.
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

7:30 PM

Commission Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 5 - Commissioner Lesa Peerman, Commissioner Joanne Simone, Commissioner Tommy Ruzzano, Vice Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano and Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz

In Attendance:

City Manager Samuel A. May
Interim City Attorney James A. Cherof
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

1) PRESENTATION(S)

A. [ID 2018-380](#) FY 2018-2019 BUDGET WORKSHOP.

MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ introduced the Second Budget Workshop and said that it would be followed by two Public Hearings in September.

VICE MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO referenced his request for a two percent reduction in the last budget for expenses of the Police and Fire Departments. He said that he realized that it would net the City approximately \$70,000 - \$80,000 in savings. He also spoke about the \$25,000 Homestead Exemption on the November ballot and that they were going to lose over \$1,000,000 in revenue. He said that he had revisited his request for a two percent cut across the entire budget which would save the City approximately \$1,500,000.

COMMISSIONER LESA PEERMAN suggested that the Commission lower their own budget by going back to the \$28,000 salary and spoke about a raise of two percent.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE explained that taxpayer money needed to go into public safety and regular maintenance. She spoke about the trimming back of recognition and award programs. She said that they should decide once per year at budget time on a fixed amount and what organizations to donate to. She spoke about the process of how this should be done and said that other cities provide a matching grant which can be reviewed each year. She said that it was not the Commission's place to cut individual budgets and that it was the responsibility of the City Manager. She advised that the Commission should only receive the option of single health insurance coverage. She spoke about steps and lunch pay for employees and also discussed the turnover rate of skilled and trained employees.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO spoke about health insurance benefits and the Commission awards.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO spoke about his message posted on Facebook and the Homestead Exemption. He also spoke about raising taxes and that they should look into a Police Assessment.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that in 2003, she continually fought for medical, pensions and raises for City Commissioners. She spoke about domestic partner benefits for the employees of the City, cutting the millage rate, the budget and City projects.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO spoke about property values increasing with amenities offered. He also repeated his request to save two cents on a dollar.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN referenced an article pertaining to property values increasing by eleven percent in 2017 and spoke about development. She referenced Page 244 for renovations of \$500,000 at Southgate Park and discussed Steps.

Discussion ensued on steps, Capital Improvements, the Dog Park and Commission salaries.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN suggested making amendments to the budget for the Commissioner's salary and referenced Page 244, for Southgate Park, as they had the possibility of receiving a grant.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ polled the Commission and asked that if they receive a grant, whether they wanted to cut Southgate Park by \$500,000 or failing that, would they prefer to postpone it.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN – Yes

COMMISSIONER SIMONE - Yes

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO - Yes

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO - No

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR MICHAEL JONES explained that Southgate Park was a previous grant and that they had applied for a new Land and Water Conservation grant which was a \$200,000 match on a \$400,000 budget. He advised that it was two grants for the same park development and if it was removed from the budget, they would not be eligible for that grant as they were reimbursement grants for the Land and Water Conversation.

Discussion ensued on the Capital Improvement Program description.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN suggested putting \$400,000 in the Park and if we do not receive the grant, they should remove it.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR KELLY SCHWARTZ advised that Southgate Park was being funded as a transfer from the Cellphone Tower Direct Trust Fund which was not impacting the General Fund. She asked for direction on the Dog Park as it would need to be rebudgeted in fiscal year 2019 which was estimated at \$850,000.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ requested a CONSENSUS from the City Commission and polled them on removing this item.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that she would remove the Dog Park for this year.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE made a statement on the Dog Park and said that there were many benefits for having a Dog Park. She said no.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ spoke on the Dog Park.

Discussion ensued on parks.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO said the Dog Park was budgeted for.

Discussion ensued on parks.

CITY MANAGER SAMUEL A. MAY said that the money for the Dog Park was from the Recreation Trust Fund money.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said it was from the General Fund and not the Cellphone Tower money.

Discussion ensued on parks, projects, new positions and salaries.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ said that all personal services from 2016 actual to 2019 budgeted had increased by 26 percent. She also advised that there were Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) positions that were now in the City budget that as the City had taken that role on, rather than contracting it out.

Discussions ensued.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ explained that all the projects listed for fiscal year 2019 were paid for in the budget that they proposed. She said they were also doing the design for the Blueway Trail improvements. She said that for future years, there were projects which were indicated as bond projects which were contingent upon the Bond passing. She said that there was no funding currently as of fiscal year 2018/19 budgeted for those projects and if the bond failed, they would need to come together as a team to prioritize what projects that they were going to do.

Discussion ensued on projects.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ said that they should go through the budget by each department.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO suggested making a motion to cut the budget by two percent.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that the budget was balanced and pretty lean in most departments.

Discussion ensued on why they should cut the budget by two percent.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said they should use the \$1,000,000 in the City

Commission's budget from the Resource Recovery Fund.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO said that they should let the City Manager decide where that \$1,000,000 should come from to find the money.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Caggiano, seconded by Commissioner Peerman, that they cut the budget two percent and they give the City Manager the ability to make a decision where those cuts are and find \$1,400,000.

Discussion ensued on cutting the budget and on the Home Exemption.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO spoke about the School Resource Officers (SROs).

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ explained that the fiscal year 2019 budget included \$264,000 for four new part-time SROs. She explained that the previous meeting determined not to fund it and that it would be eliminated.

Discussion ensued on the SROs.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that she removed the motion at the previous meeting to approve the four SROs which was \$264,000.

Discussion ensued on the SROs.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ spoke about changing vehicles from Ford to Dodge. She asked how much they would save to retain the vehicles that they were going to replace.

CITY MANAGER MAY explained that on an annual basis, they only replace 10 percent of their Police vehicles. He advised that if they defer it for a year, they would drive the average age of vehicles up and that they would have to pay for it later.

Discussion ensued on purchasing Police vehicles.

CITY MANAGER MAY advised that he would work with all the departments to come up with a plan on cutting the budget. He explained that they had made a lot of cuts from which was originally presented. He said that it was a very fiscally conservative budget.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that this was their budget as she could not see where they could cut anymore money.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ spoke about putting in an Animal Control Officer and a Ford F-350 and questioned the size of that vehicle. She said that a smaller vehicle would suffice. She also spoke about employees taking cars home who worked a 4 day work week. She said that as the cars were used for City work, she questioned why employees could not drive their cars to work, park them, take the work vehicle as needed and take their own car home. She also spoke about the loss of expenditure for gas and insurance on City car vehicles that were used for personal use.

Discussion ensued on the use of City vehicles.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that they should cut the City Commission Budget and spoke about donations and awards.

Discussion ensued on cutting the City Budget.

TODD E. ANGIER, 1913 NW 79TH TERRACE spoke about the City Manager and Assistant Finance Director's comments on the budget. He said that as the Homestead Exemption revenues would not take effect until January 2020, he did not understand why the Commission was trying to cut \$1,400,000. He said that they should stop being irresponsible in what they say.

Discussion ensued.

TONY SPAVENTO, 3194 W. BUENA VISTA DRIVE spoke about the motion and the two week deadline for the City Manager to adjust the budget. He advised that they should give the City Manager direction that they did not want him to spend the money and cut everywhere and start working on next year's budget in November 2018.

Discussion ensued.

The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Peerman and Vice Mayor Caggiano

No: 3 - Commissioner Simone, Commissioner Ruzzano and Mayor Schwartz

A motion was made by Commissioner Peerman, seconded by Commissioner Simone, that they go back to a City Commission salary of \$28,000 salary and give them a two percent raise, if desired. This failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Peerman and Commissioner Simone

No: 3 - Commissioner Ruzzano, Vice Mayor Caggiano and Mayor Schwartz

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the City Manager's budget.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO spoke about the Contract Administrator and asked if the Grants Manager could provide this.

CITY MANAGER MAY spoke about the accountability of the Contract Administrator's position and said that the Grants Manager would not provide this. He also advised that the Grants Manager should be writing grants.

Discussion ensued on grants.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the Finance Department's budget. She asked about contracts in the Purchasing Department.

FINANCE DIRECTOR MARY BEAZLEY discussed contracts. She also spoke about the Finance Department's software and advised that it was estimated over several million dollars to change it. She said that her department was very automated and that their current system was doing what it needed to do.

Discussion ensued on whether a Consultant was required to look at the Finance Department's software.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the Non-Departmental, Human Resources, Development Services and City Clerk's budgets and that there were no additional changes.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the City Attorney's budget.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BEAZLEY advised that they were changing the salary to \$178,000 and that they eliminated the vehicle allowance.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ asked about the \$39,000 vehicle purchased for the previous City Attorney and said that it should have remained for a charter officer and questioned why it was given to another employee.

CITY MANAGER MAY said that he thought the direction of the Commission for that vehicle was to go to Public Works.

Discussion ensued on the previous City Attorney's vehicle.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the Police Department's budget.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO referenced Salaries and Wages Extra Detail on Page 107. He asked if the City made any money when they did a Walmart detail and asked about the percentage.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ explained that it depended on the detail and whether it was holiday or non-holiday weekend and there was a small percentage that the City made as an administrative fee which was a set hourly rate. She advised that if they request a Supervisor or if they needed so many Officers to staff a Supervisor, they had to pay the higher fee. She said that the City Manager approved a new amount which was in a contract with whoever hires the detail.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO asked if the City could not implement a policy that any store with over 10,000 square feet that was opened 24 hours has to have security.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY JAMES A. CHEROF explained that they could not mandate that to commercial businesses. He advised that Walmart paid taxes to have the Police Services provided to them like the general public did. He said that the operational hours of Walmart may not be in the City's Code or Charter but said that he would research the Code for dictating the hours of operation based on size.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO spoke about the Police Department acquiring computers with a value of \$4,000 per unit.

ACTING POLICE CHIEF JONATHAN SHAW referenced the \$4,000 per unit computers and advised that they were more expensive because they were built for durability and contained more software.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO referenced line item ending 1401 on Page 107 and said that he would like to reduce the overtime amount from \$203,000 to \$150,000.

ACTING POLICE CHIEF SHAW explained that they watched their overtime very carefully but it was very difficult to calculate. He spoke about the emergencies which could potentially arise.

Discussion ensued on overtime.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO referenced 34.02, Teletype Coconut Creek and asked if it was a service.

CITY MANAGER MAY advised that it was a service that increased by five percent per year.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ asked about the hourly rates for Police Officers that serve Walmart.

Discussion ensued on the hourly rate for Police detail and Florida Retirement System (FRS) salaries.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ asked about vehicles.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO said that they should defer buying vehicles for a year.

Discussion ensued on the vehicles.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ advised that they added the additional Animal Control Vehicle since the last Workshop. She said that the three other Police vehicles were for Animal Control, Crime Scene and one unmarked administrative vehicle.

Discussion ensued on Police vehicles and Fund Balance.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ asked about the Grants-in-Aid.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ said that there was a Fund Balance for Homeless Outreach for contributions that the City received dedicated for that.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the Fire Department's Budget. She asked the Fire Chief how long he served as a Fire Marshal.

FIRE CHIEF DAN BOOKER said that he had served since 2005 and advised that there should be two separate positions for Fire Inspector and Marshall. He also advised that he serves as the Emergency Manager which he said was also normally a separate position. He explained that at the end of August, it was one of the projected timeframes to establish the proposal for the Coral Springs Firehouse for service and the 911 system.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO thanked the Fire Chief and noted that they had cut their overtime.

Discussion ensued.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced the Building Department and Information Technology (IT) Department's budget. She asked the IT Director if the networking had improved for the Fire Stations.

IT DIRECTOR JAMES WILBUR indicated that it would depend on which Fire Stations they were talking about but advised that no one had reported any problems to him about the Fire Station situated on Rock Island Road. He explained that they had fiber optics since approximately 2001 to all of their outline areas. He advised that they budgeted to replace the WiFi transmitters in all of the buildings in 2019.

Discussion ensued on the City's WiFi.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN asked if Code Compliance was under the Building Department, whether it would be paid for out of the Building Department budget. She said that she heard that the Building Department could fund Code Compliance.

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR MARY BEAZLEY advised that it would still be paid for out of the General Fund. She explained that it would depend on what the Code Department was doing for it to come out of the Building Department but that it would also come down to a legal interpretation.

Discussion ensued.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY CHEROF said that it did not make a difference with respect of the funding for those services. He advised that they could put it under any department they want but it could only be funded from one particular source.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO said that it was something that they should look into. He also questioned that if they removed Code Compliance from the Police Department, whether it would open up more revenue for the Police.

Discussion ensued.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced Public Works' budget. She also asked the City Manager about the Ford vehicles.

CITY MANAGER MAY said that they would still have Ford's parts but eventually, they would switch them over to Dodge parts.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ referenced Parks and Recreation's budget and spoke about the service workers.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ advised that four Part-Timers were in Parks and Recreation. She advised that for the number of hours worked under the health insurance, you would still have to pay Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and FRS.

Discussion ensued on part-time benefits and FRS.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that she mentioned at the last meeting that she would like to see a Biking and Multi-Cultural Event added to the Budget as a line item through

the Parks and Recreation Department.

Discussion ensued.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR JONES advised that they used to have line items for each event and that they put it all under seasonal holiday programming events. He advised that he would have to do more research in terms of a budget with the City Manager as he did not know what scope and scale they were looking to go towards. He also advised that he would seek sponsorship.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that she wants a quality event but not excessive for both events.

Discussion ensued on the two events.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN advised that they should add \$25,000 for both events and that she would remove it from the \$264,000 that they save.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ spoke about her concern to remove plaque money from employees and kids. She said that a Multi-Cultural event could be incorporated into other City events such as Winter Fest or Sounds of Sundown.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that she agreed with incorporating the events but she still wanted a biking event.

Discussion ensued on incorporating a City event with a Multi-Cultural event and a separate Biking event.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO asked who oversaw the City Parks and Recreation projects. He spoke about the projects for Sports Park Covered Field, Dog Park, Veteran's Park bathrooms, Southeast Restroom/Refreshment area, David Park and asked the Commission if he could provide his input to review those projects.

CITY MANAGER MAY advised that it was Cotter Christian who oversaw the City's Parks and Recreation projects.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ said that she asked the Interim City Attorney that as long as Commissioner Ruzzano was not paid, he could do that and provide his input. She also spoke on the appearance of City events and overseeing projects. She said that she had concerns about the Sports Complex project for the National Night Out.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR JONES said that they manage projects in terms of oversight. He said he was advised not to interfere with contractors' work and as he did not come from a field of construction, he would defer to somebody who had more knowledge in that background. He also spoke about how the electrical got hit in the preparation for National Night Out and that they were documenting everything.

Discussion ensued on the \$10,000 from the contractor's payment to cover the cost of the repair.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR JONES advised that they would withhold final payment until everything had been rectified and resolved collectively from the City and contractor.

Discussion ensued on the legal implications for the \$10,000.

Discussion ensued on the CRA projects and hiring a Project Manager.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ advised that they would not have those issues if they hired an in-house architect.

Discussion ensued on hiring an in-house architect.

CITY MANAGER MAY explained that they had an in-house Project Manager that did all the plant work at Department of Environmental and Engineering Services (DEES). He advised that the Project Manager was looking into going to school to become a general contractor.

Discussion ensued on the in-house Project Manager, hiring an in-house architect and City Projects.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ asked if someone could research the cost for an in-house architect.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peerman, seconded by Commissioner Simone, to pass the Budget as is from the previous Budget Workshop, minus the School Resource Officers (SRO), plus all the changes that occurred at the last Budget Workshop.

No vote was taken on this motion.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR SCHWARTZ explained that it was for all of the changes that occurred at the last Budget meeting and that they were moving the Dog Park from fiscal year 2018 to 2019. She advised that as there would not be a purchase order cut at the end of 2018, they need to re-budget the money. She advised that the max millage would remain the same that was voted on the last time. They said that all of the changes would be incorporated in the August 15th budget.

MAYOR SCHWARTZ she asked if there was any impact on whether the cars stay or go on the Budget at all. She asked for a list of take home cars which did not include the Fire or Police.

CITY MANAGER MAY thanked Decia, Kelly and Mary for all their hardwork on the budget.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards

Joseph J. Kavanagh, City Clerk

Date: _____

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.

DRAFT