



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, September 4, 2024

6:30 PM

Commission Chambers and Zoom.us

Webinar ID: 840 8870 7609

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84088707609>

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE - INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A. [ID 2024-290](#) ZAHARA GARCIA AND KING BOOKER, 1ST GRADE, PHYL'S ACADEMY

1) PRESENTATION(S)

- A. [ID 2024-292](#) RECOGNITION OF MARGI PATTIN FOR BACKPACK GIVEAWAY
MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO explained this Item and paid homage to Ms. Pattin.
MARGI PATTIN thanked the City and spoke on this Item.

PROCLAMATION(S)

- B. [ID 2024-244](#) BROWARD MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT DAY - SEPTEMBER 12, 2024
(presented to Simone Edwards, Committee Member of Broward Mental Health Summit)
SIMONE EDWARDS spoke on this Item.
- C. [ID 2024-282](#) SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH - SEPTEMBER, 2024 (presented to Peggy Thomas, League Member of the Gun Violence Prevention Committee - League of Women Voters of Broward County)
COMMISSIONER ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO spoke on this matter.

2) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

MAYOR RUZZANO explained the protocol for submitting comments to Public Discussion.

THE LEGACY CLOSET, MARGI, requested the use and fee to be waived for the Community Center on December 14th, 2024 from 10:00am - 1:00pm as they would like to organize a City Commission Breakfast with Santa with the homeless identified families in Margate which she said was an annual event held in different cities.

MAYOR RUZZANO asked the City Commission for CONSENSUS to allow for the use of the City's Community Center.

Discussion ensued.

CONSENSUS (Commissioner Arserio sought more information but said it sounded like a good event), was given by the City Commission to allow the use of the Community Center and fee waiver on December 14th, 2024 from 10:00am - 1:00pm for a City Commission with Santa event for 40 - 60 children.

MAYOR RUZZANO requested City Manager Curtis to provide Commissioner Arserio with more information.

TRACY VAN WINKLE referenced the Department of Environmental and Engineering Services (DEES) Assistant Director, Reczko at Mayor Ruzzano's Town Hall meeting and sought clarification on what water plant was going to be installed.

ROB REINER, 110 EAST PALM DRIVE, thanked Mayor Ruzzano for giving them a voice at his recent Town Hall meeting. He informed that there would be opportunities that were brought before the City to help people and he encouraged that these should be reviewed, processed and embraced as he believed that Margate was a shadow between the surrounding cities.

MAYOR RUZZANO responded to Mr. Reiner.

DONNA L. FELLOWS thanked Vice Mayor Schwartz pertaining to donating \$2,000 to homeless charities and she encouraged others to do likewise. She said that the homeless did not deserve to be put in jail and needed help.

JOAO D. BRANDAO explained that the City Commission recently appointed him to serve on the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC). He said that last Wednesday, the CAC hosted its monthly meeting where they unanimously voted to approve an amendment for the fiscal years of 2025 - 2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Florida Department of Transport (FDOT) along with the Roll Forward Report with staff recommendations. He informed that they also voted to recommend that the MPO approve the draft 2020 federal functional classification along with that, they heard numerous presentations from MPO employees pertaining to high frequency bus services but Broward County Transit (BCT) was not present for questions. He said that they also received an update from the Broward Safety Action Plan on their killed and serious injuries (KSI) pertaining to 11 projects which include two within Margate.

JULIE JONES said that she sought the opinions from the Majors on the homeless situation through a telephone conversation and also referenced a quote from Broward

County Sheriff Office (BSO) Gregory Tony.

LAUREN BERACHA highlighted a Margate Alliance of Condominium (MAC) and Homeowners Associations, Inc. meeting next Monday where City Manager Curtis was scheduled as the guest speaker to discuss the water plant. She said it was a rewarding experience volunteering at the Legacy Closet's Community Giveback Event.

3) COMMISSION COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO highlighted forthcoming City events and discussed hurricane preparedness.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE sent her condolences, prayers and thoughts to the victims of the families of the Georgia school incident. She highlighted a forthcoming Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics Collection and Document Shredding event. She thanked Director of Building & Building Code Services for handling a roofing permit issue with a resident. She also thanked the Department of Environmental and Engineering Services (DEES) Director Keyser and Public Works for also assisting in a residential matter.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO also discussed a good deed and empathy showed by a Police Officer to a resident.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO thanked Mr. Brandao for the updates and discussed his time serving on the MPO board. He referenced the City Commission's donations and sought a balance of his allowance for considering to make any further contributions before the current year end. He asked City Attorney Tolces if he could discuss the bond.

CITY ATTORNEY DAVID N. TOLCES advised that outside of a public meeting, Commissioner Arserio could exercise his own first amendment rights to do so.

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ discussed her attendance at Doc Reno's 7th Annual - Bacon, Beer & BBQ Festival. She also commented on replicating the City of Tamarac's initiative on their homelessness program. She listed some of the other complimentary items that were available at the Legacy Closet's Community Giveback Event.

MAYOR RUZZANO thanked Margi for contacting a family pertaining to the Legacy Closet's Community Giveback Event. He discussed the school tragedy in Georgia and encouraged parents to get their children involved in Margate's sports programs. He explained the forthcoming Ordinance for 6) A. ID2024-260 pertaining to the the State's law on the homeless. He highlighted that one of his daughter's would be cheerleading for the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Owls.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO discussed the Georgia school tragedy.

Discussion ensued.

THE LEGACY CLOSET, MARGI, corrected an earlier statement made pertaining to BSO Tony's stance on homeless people and referenced that he would not be issuing

trespassing tickets. She also highlighted that she would be attending the Broward County Commission meeting tomorrow evening.

MAYOR RUZZANO requested the return of the Margate College.

4) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS thanked Mr. Brandao for his update on the MPO projects and said that the organization had scheduled a meeting for this month to host a community outreach on the two Margate projects.

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 2024-268](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A DRONE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT/APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTING UP TO \$75,000.00 FOR THREE DRONES

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO provided clarification on this Item and explained that governments could no longer buy drones from China.

APPROVED

- B. [ID 2024-277](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING THE NARCOTICS INTERDICTION TASK FORCE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING; AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATION TO RENEW OR EXTEND THIS AGREEMENT UNDER THE SAME TERMS, FOR COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS OR FOR AN INCREASE IN FUNDING, WITHOUT FURTHER COMMISSION ACTION; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE

APPROVED

- C. [ID 2024-286](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING A STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND THE CITY OF MARGATE; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE

APPROVED

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Schwartz, 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

6) ORDINANCE(S) - SECOND READING

- A. [ID 2024-260](#) ORDINANCE - AMENDING CHAPTER 33 - POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT; OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS, ARTICLE 1 - OFFENSES, MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS, ADDING NEW SECTION 33-34 PUBLIC CAMPING OR SLEEPING PROHIBITED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES requested that this Item be moved to the City Commission meeting on September 18th as Broward County recently distributed documentation that required further review.

A motion was made by Commissioner Caggiano, seconded by Vice Mayor Schwartz, to continue this item until the City Commission meeting scheduled for September 18th, 2024 at 7:00pm.

Discussion ensued.

This 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 7:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards

Jennifer M. Johnson, 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.

[Unified Land Development Code – Section 40.300(C)] 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 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: 840 8870 7609 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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