



# City of Margate

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

## Meeting Minutes Regular City Commission Meeting

*Mayor Antonio V. Arserio*  
*Vice Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano*  
*Commissioners:*

*Tommy Ruzzano, 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, November 16, 2022

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers and Zoom.us

Webinar ID: 831 1667 8496

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83116678496>

### CALL TO ORDER

### MOMENT OF SILENCE - INVOCATION

### ROLL CALL

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 1) PRESENTATION(S)

- A. [ID 2022-461](#) ~~PRESENTATION REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE HUNSCHOFSKY STATE FUNDING CHECK PRESENTATION~~

### EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

- B. [ID 2022-422](#) ABRAHAM STUBBINS, ENGINEERING INSPECTOR - ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES - 45 YEARS

ASHLEY CLAIRE MCCARTHY, POLICE LIEUTENANT - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 20 YEARS

CLAUDIA RYEN, POLICE - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 20 YEARS

JOHN WILLIAM HARRISON, POLICE OFFICER - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 15 YEARS

JAMES ROBERT JONES, MAINTENANCE WORKER - PARKS AND RECREATION - 10 YEARS

The City Commission gave CONSENSUS to move Item 8) Discussion and Possible Action up before Item 2) Public Discussion.

## 8) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. [ID 2022-400](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - MAYOR'S CHOICE FOR MARGATE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR.

MAYOR ANTONIO V. ARSERIO explained his choice for selecting the Employee of the Year which was awarded to the Building Department's Lead Permit Specialist, April L. Buddie.

DIRECTOR OF BUILDING, RICHARD R. NIXON, read a statement on Lead Permit Specialist Buddie's achievements.

Discussion ensued.

- B. [ID 2022-445](#) SPECIAL EVENTS FUNDING/DONATION REQUEST PROGRAM - WOMEN IN DISTRESS OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Caggiano, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, to approve this Item.**

COMMISSIONER ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ said that as this was a line item in the Budget, she asked if it needed to appear annually.

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS confirmed that if that was the wish of the City Commission, this could be a line item in the budget for 2024.

Discussion ensued.

BROWARD COUNTY GRANTS MANAGER AND WOMEN IN DISTRESS OF BROWARD COUNTY, SUSAN EVANS, provided an update on her organization and referenced survivors of domestic abuse.

A question and answer session ensued between the City Commission and Ms. Evans.

JONATHAN A. KRALJIC, 7357 FLORES WAY, said that the City was very generous to consider \$1,000 for this charity but believed that the amount should be higher.

TINA N.TOEPFER, 6704 NW 28TH CT, complained about mold at Margate Middle School and referenced the City Commission receiving \$5,000 bonuses.

TRACY VAN WINKLE, 1020 SW 61ST AVENUE, highlighted all formats of abuse.

**This carried by the following vote:**

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

- C. [ID 2022-462](#) DISCUSSION OF A SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CITY OF MARGATE TO SPONSOR A BASEBALL TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY THE MARGATE LEGACY ELITE TRAVEL BASEBALL TEAM LOCATED AT CITY FACILITIES.

CITY MANAGER, CALE CURTIS, informed that The Margate Legacy Elite organization was putting together a Winter baseball tournament at Margate Sports Complex and at Vinson Park Field in December. He asked the City Commission to consider being a partner in this tournament where the City would provide the fields rent-free and then the organization would pay for their labor fees for lining and dragging the field between games. He said that the estimated total which included the rental fees and labor costs would be \$7,000. He also advised that the labor fees were estimated to be approximately \$2,600. He indicated that sports tournaments brought in a number of teams from around the State and from other cities into Margate, it also provided a local benefit and said that there would be a nexus in providing a sponsorship for this event.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Ruzzano, seconded by Mayor Arserio, to waive the fees for this Item.**

COMMISSIONER TOMMY RUZZANO explained that the Baseball league was in partnership with the City and provided further information in support of this Item.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE explained why she was against waiving the fees for this Item.

Discussion ensued.

JULIE JONES questioned how long the tournament would be. She indicated that it would bring revenue into the City and believed in a fifty percent partnership.

ELSA J. SANCHEZ, 6930 NW 15TH STREET, did not agree in waiving fees for this Item as she believed that it was unfair to the residents.

MR. KRALJIC did not agree with the City waiving fees for events.

DALE R. CLARK, 5146 NW 58TH TERRACE, CORAL SPRINGS, thanked the City for considering this Item and discussed baseball tournaments.

Discussion ensued.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, MICHAEL A. JONES, discussed the field rental fees.

Discussion ensued.

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

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

**No:** 1 - Commissioner Simone

## 2) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Anyone wishing to comment on any item on the Consent Agenda should approach the podium now. Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes.

MAYOR ARSERIO explained the protocol for submitting comments to Public Discussion which included the Consent Agenda.

MR. KRALJIC read a statement on the nomination of a City Mayor.

MS. TOEPFER voiced her concerns about matters pertaining to the City and highlighted the conditions of Margate schools.

MS. SANCHEZ congratulated Mayor Arserio and Commissioner Simone on their re-election. She read a statement seeking consideration to elect Commissioner Simone as Vice Mayor at the next City Commission meeting.

MS. VAN WINKLE highlighted the behavior of the City Commission towards residents.

JULIE JONES referenced the recent elections and suggested that changes needed to be made in the City. She sought an update on the Glindmeier property.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY, DAVID N. TOLCES, provided an update on the Glindmeier case.

## 3) COMMISSION COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER SIMONE congratulated all employees and highlighted their value to the City. She read a statement expressing her gratitude towards her "true blue" loyal supporters pertaining to the election. She encouraged people to visit Broward Meat and Fish Co. and the Holy Cow Ice Cream shop. She requested if the City could place a box in the lobby to collect clothing and household goods for the Margate Nursing Home.

CONSENSUS was provided by the City Commission to put a box in the lobby.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ congratulated both Mayor Arserio and Commissioner Simone on their re-election. She discussed her visit to Broward Meat and Fish and reminded that the WinterFest was on December 16th. She advised that Women in Distress should ask for a different amount of money to be added during budget time. She referenced the mold and informed that the City of Margate was not the Broward County School system.

VICE MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO highlighted that the City paid for a second School Resource Officer (SRO) in every school.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ discussed SROs. She explained the City Commissioner's pay rises.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO congratulated Mayor Arserio and Commissioner Simone on their re-election. He highlighted that Margate paid the highest amount for this election.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ discussed the increase in the cost of the election and the voter registration card containing incorrect precinct information.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO highlighted the problems which occurred during the Election and at the polling stations and referenced the City possibly writing a letter to Broward County Supervisor of Elections, Joe Scott.

Discussion ensued on the elections.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO discussed the City's logo and tag line and said that he wished to revert to the previous seal. He referenced property prices increasing.

VICE MAYOR CAGGIANO wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and said that they should be safe.

MAYOR ARSERIO congratulated Commissioner Simone on her re-election and also thanked the two other candidates who also did a good job. He thanked his supporters and discussed that it passed for residents to vote on the Mayor elect. He wished the future City Mayor all the best and discussed people moving in and out of the City.

#### 4) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITY MANAGER CURTIS congratulated Commissioner Simone and Mayor Arserio on their re-elections and looked forward to working with them during the next four years. He announced that today, they had suspended the application portal for the Property Improvement Grant Program (PIP). He continued to provide an update on the PIP information and said that so far, it had been a tremendous success. He informed that they had received over 250 applications totaling more than \$2,300,000 and 35 applicants had been approved to date for approximately \$180,000.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ suggested that they should remind people that it was a reimbursement program as opposed to grants.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES congratulated Commissioner Simone and Mayor Arserio on their reelection and he looked forward to continuing to work with them.

CITY CLERK JENNIFER M. JOHNSON congratulated Commissioner Simone and Mayor Arserio.

#### 6) RESOLUTION(S)

Item 6) B was heard before Consent Agenda.

- B.** [ID 2022-459](#) RESOLUTION - APPOINTING ATTORNEY THOMAS J. ANSBRO AS SPECIAL MAGISTRATE FOR AN INDEFINITE TERM; PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES informed that Mr. Purdy was the former City Magistrate who recently passed and that he had contacted Mr. Ansbro to see if he would

be willing to serve as Special Magistrate.

TOM J. ANSBRO introduced himself.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO wished Mr. Ansbro the best and advised him to be patient with those who attend the Special Magistrate's hearings.

A discussion ensued between Commissioner Ruzzano and Mr. Ansbro.

**The motion carried as follows:**

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

## 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 2022-444](#) APPROVING A DONATION OF \$3,000.00 TO THE "BROWARD VICTIM'S RIGHT COALITION" PROVIDING FOR FUNDING FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND.

**APPROVED**

- B.** [ID 2022-447](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA TO WAIVE BIDDING AND APPROVE AN AGREEMENT OF THE ACQUISITION OF PRODUCTS, WARRANTY, TRAINING, AND SERVICES FROM AXON ENTERPRISES INCORPORATED FOR THE AXON STANDARDS SOFTWARE PROGRAM; AN UPGRADED AND NEWLY CONSTRUCTED INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS AND USE OF FORCE REPORTING SOFTWARE PROGRAM AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$21,260.00.

**APPROVED**

- C.** [ID 2022-458](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WAIVER OF BIDDING FOR THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF WESTECH ENGINEERING, INC. STAINLESS STEEL CASCADE AERATORS FROM MOSS KELLY INCORPORATED SERVICES, INC. (MKI SERVICES, INC.) FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING THE EXISTING COMPOSITE AERATORS IN THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

**APPROVED**

- D.** [ID 2022-460](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WAIVING OF BIDDING FOR THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF LARGE DIAMETER INDUSTRIAL CEILING FANS AND ASSEMBLIES FROM TOM BARROW COMPANY, INC. FOR THE DEES UTILITIES FACILITIES

**APPROVED**

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

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

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

**6) RESOLUTION(S) CONTINUED**

**A. [ID 2022-434](#)** RESOLUTION - APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RONALD L. BOOK, P.A. FOR PROVISION OF STATE LOBBYING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO RENEW THIS AGREEMENT UNDER THE SAME TERMS WITHOUT FURTHER COMMISSION ACTION PROVIDING FOR TERM; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MAYOR ARSERIO discussed when Mr. Book first came on board with the City and the accomplishments he had made.

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

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

**7) ORDINANCE(S) - SECOND READING**

**A. [ID 2022-433](#)** AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET (ORDINANCE NUMBERS 2021-12 AND 2021-13) AND FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET (ORDINANCE NUMBER 2022-12); PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Caggiano, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, that this Ordinance, Second Reading, should be approved.**

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ was concerned about an equity issue that needed to be resolved.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS explained that last year, the City Commission passed Resolution 21-093 which provided them with an equity in retirement contributions. He said that it was brought to his attention that there may still be an inequity that exists in

what was the actual benefit received at the end of a City Commissioner's term when they retired.

Discussion ensued.

MAYOR ARSERIO sought CONSENSUS for the City Manager and City Attorney to look at every City Commissioner and make sure the benefit was all equitable equally.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO requested a reimbursement of legal fees for a restraining order for approximately \$3,000.

Discussion ensued.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES sought permission from the City Commission to research the issue in respect to any reimbursement to see whether it was consistent with the City Code's State law and then he could advise thereafter.

Discussion ensued.

CONSENSUS was given by the City Commission for Interim City Attorney Tolces to research this matter on behalf of the elected official together with the Item on the City Commissioner's benefits.

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

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

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.

[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: 831 1667 8496 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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