



# City of Margate

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

## Meeting Minutes Special 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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Tuesday, November 22, 2022

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers and Zoom.us  
Webinar ID: 879 4295 1002

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87942951002>

### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

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

### MOMENT OF SILENCE - INVOCATION

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 1) RESOLUTION(S)

- A.** [ID 2022-451](#) CONFIRMING CERTIFICATION OF NOVEMBER 8, 2022, ELECTION RESULTS.

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

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

### 2) PRESENTATION(S)

- A.** [ID 2022-455](#) SWEARING-IN OF CITY COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO (SEAT #3)  
MAYOR ANTONIO V. ARSERIO introduced his father, Dennis Arserio, who swore him in.

- B.** [ID 2022-456](#) SWEARING-IN OF CITY COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE (SEAT #5)  
COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE introduced Lesa B. Peerman, who swore her in. She read a statement on her re-election.

- C.** [ID 2022-454](#) PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING MAYOR ANTONIO V. ARSERIO AND OUTGOING VICE MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO  
CITY CLERK JENNIFER M. JOHNSON read a statement pertaining to outgoing Mayor

Arserio.

MAYOR ARSERIO read a statement.

CITY CLERK JOHNSON read a statement pertaining to outgoing Vice Mayor Caggiano.

VICE MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO thanked everybody.

***RECESS***

Meeting Reconvened.

**1) RESOLUTION(S) - Continued**

**B. [ID 2022-452](#) ELECTION OF MAYOR**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Simone, seconded by Mayor Arserio, to insert the name, Anthony N. Caggiano, as Mayor.**

JONATHAN A. KRALJIC, 7357 FLORES WAY, read a statement on selecting the Mayor and Vice Mayor and believed that the residents should make this choice. He spoke in favor of Commissioner Simone.

TERESA L. DECRISTOFARO, 7805 W. ATLANTIC BOULEVARD, APT 101, read a statement pertaining to a petition in favor of selecting Commissioner Simone as Margate's Mayor or Vice Mayor.

**The motion carried as follows:**

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

**C. [ID 2022-453](#) ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR**

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Caggiano, to insert the name, Arlene R. Schwartz, as Vice Mayor.**

COMMISSIONER ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ appreciated the nomination but indicated that the City needed to truly rotate.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Caggiano, seconded by Commissioner Simone, to insert the name, Joanne Simone, as Vice Mayor.**

**A motion was made by Mayor Arserio, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, to insert the name, Tommy Ruzzano, as Vice Mayor.**

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY DAVID N. TOLCES advised that the first motion on the floor was to be considered as opposed to having two separate motions at the same time.

**A motion to amend the original motion was made by Mayor Arserio, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, to insert the name, Tommy Ruzzano, as Vice Mayor.**

MR. KRALJIC read a statement pertaining to the amendment of the selection of Mayor.

MS. DECRISTOFARO referenced playing political games and spoke in favor of selecting Commissioner Simone as Vice Mayor.

ELSA J. SANCHEZ, 6930 NW 15TH STREET, thanked Vice Mayor Caggiano for selecting Commissioner Simone as Vice Mayor and also discussed the behavior of the City Commission.

RICHARD ZUCCHINI, 380 LAKEWOOD CIRCLE E, #B, spoke against Commissioner Simone being selected. He alleged that the City had the opportunity of taking Palm Lakes Golf Course land for free.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ responded to Mr. Zucchini's comments. She questioned the City Manager whether anybody had offered anything to the City since then or since he was appointed.

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS indicated that as far as he was aware, he did not think there were any formal negotiations of that property.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ discussed Mr. Zucchini.

MAYOR ARSERIO said that the course was offered for free recently.

Discussion ensued.

JULIE JONES referenced being selective pertaining to the recent incident. She agreed that Commissioner Simone should be Vice Mayor.

LAUREN BERACHA, 6950 NW 14TH PLACE, spoke in favor of Commissioner Simone and said that she should be Vice Mayor.

TRACY VAN WINKLE, 1020 SW 61ST AVENUE, explained that Commissioner Simone should be Vice Mayor if it was her turn.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE explained that it was time to set the record straight and squelch the rumors pertaining to allegations of backstabbing by her fellow City Commissioners in 2020.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO explained that he was honored to be considered for Vice Mayor. He discussed previous elections and referenced being a team player.

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

- Yes:** 3 - Commissioner Schwartz, Commissioner Ruzzano and Mayor Arserio
- No:** 2 - Commissioner Simone and Vice Mayor Caggiano

**The motion as amended to appoint Tommy Ruzzano as Vice Mayor.**

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ wanted to see everybody move up as intended.

Discussion ensued.

**The motion as amended carried as follows:**

- Yes:** 4 - Commissioner Schwartz, Commissioner Ruzzano, Vice Mayor Caggiano and Mayor Arserio
- No:** 1 - Commissioner Simone

- D.** [ID 2022-466](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, AMENDING A REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING DATE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022.

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

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

MAYOR ARSERIO said it was an honor serving as Mayor and that he was looking forward to returning as a City Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER RUZZANO explained that Mayor Arserio did a great job.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said Happy Thanksgiving.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

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: 879 4295 1002 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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