



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

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

6:30 PM

Commission Chambers and Zoom.us

Webinar ID: 862 8380 5090

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86283805090>

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BROWARD COUNTY MAYOR, LAMAR P. FISHER was honored to be in Margate and explained that his goal as Mayor of Broward County was to visit all 31 municipalities and attend the City Commission meetings where he also highlighted the importance of the need to collectively work together. He offered his services (if required) and congratulated the children who received awards.

1) PRESENTATION(S)

A. [ID 2023-085](#) PRESENTATION TO CITY OF MARGATE'S 2023 DROP SAVERS CONTEST WINNERS

ETHAN KUMAR - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 1 CITY WINNER

OLIVIA HOLMES - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION 1 SCHOOL WINNER

CALEB MCMORRIS - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION

2 CITY WINNER

AJAY PAWAR - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 2 SCHOOL WINNER

REBECCA VASQUEZ - ATLANTIC WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DIVISION 2 SCHOOL WINNER

JOANA RUFINO DE LIMA - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 3 CITY WINNER

PEDRO CARNEIRO - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

GABRIELLE ISMAEL - PHYL'S ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

MACKENZIE WILLIAMS - MARGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DIVISION 3 SCHOOL WINNER

RUTH NUNEZ - RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DIVISION 4 CITY WINNER

LUZ MENDEZ HERNANDEZ - ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - DIVISION 4 SCHOOL WINNER

AFNAN MOGALID - MARGATE MIDDLE SCHOOL - DIVISION 4 SCHOOL WINNER

MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO highlighted that there was a drought across the US and discussed the Drop Savers contest.

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS OF THE MONTH

B. [ID 2023-132](#) ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: FLAVIE OCTEUS (Student), JULIA LUDOLFO (Teacher), (Mrs. Stacy Angier, Principal and/or Mrs. Renate Ramirez, Assistant Principal)

ATLANTIC WEST ELEMENTARY: JOSUE ORTEZ (Student), PATRICIA FALCON (Teacher), (Mrs. Shereen R. Reynolds, Principal and Ms. Yahira Tamayo, Assistant Principal)

BROWARD MATH AND SCIENCE SCHOOLS: IRENE THOMAS (Student), DR. BLANDITE HENRICE (Teacher), (Mr. Hasan Kose, Principal and/or Assistant Principal Mrs. Shahna Clark)

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY: CALANI PALMER (Student), JODI HOBBS (Teacher), (Ms. Vicki Flournoy, Principal and/or Ms. Donna Styles, Assistant Principal)

MARGATE ELEMENTARY: CHRISTOPHER PUSTIZZI (Student), NICHOLAS DECESARE (Teacher), (Mr. Thomas Schroeder, Principal)

MARGATE MIDDLE: CAMRYN MCKNIGHT (Student), IRINA RUIZ (Teacher), (Mrs. Sabine Phillips, Principal and/or Assistant Principal)

PHYL'S ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL: TEREECIA WALLACE (Student), BRIGGETT WILLIAMS (Teacher), (Ms. Afua Baptiste, Principal)

RISE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: LINCOLN DERBY (Student), HANNAH POWELL (Teacher), (Dr. Adriana Guerra, Principal)

WEST BROWARD ACADEMY: CHEYENNE DIEDRICK (Student), DWAIN WHITTER (Teacher), (Mr. Derrick Hugue, Principal and/or Assistant Principal Ms. Rossana Padron)

PROCLAMATION(S)

- C. [ID 2023-133](#) MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH - MAY 2023 - (presented to Donna Linn, Chair - National Alliance on Mental Illness Broward Advocacy Group)

DONNA LINN, CHAIR of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Broward Advocacy spoke on this Item and introduced NAMI Broward County Executive Director, Sandra Cumper Boynton.

MAYOR CAGGIANO spoke on mental illness before reading the Proclamation.

NAMI BROWARD COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SANDRA CUMPER BOYNTON, spoke on this Item.

- D. [ID 2023-134](#) MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK - APRIL 30 - MAY 6, 2023 (presented to Jennifer M. Johnson, City Clerk)

COMMISSIONER ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ read the Proclamation and invited City Clerk Johnson to the podium.

- E. [ID 2023-135](#) NATIONAL PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY - MAY 12, 2023 (presented to Ms. Amy Ungor, Director, Provider Relations, and Mr. Ancel Pratt III, Sr. Director of Communications and Outreach)

EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC., DIRECTOR OF PROVIDER RELATIONS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE, AMY UNGOR, spoke on this Item.

- F. [ID 2023-136](#) NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION WEEK - MAY 14 - 20, 2023 (presented to Community Engagement Officer Diana Maglocco)

VICE MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO spoke on this Item and advised that Chief of Police, Galaska, was in Tallahassee receiving an award.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER MAGLOCCO spoke on this Item.

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO highlighted the forthcoming National Night Out event in August.

The meeting went into recess.

The meeting reconvened.

2) PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

JULIE JONES congratulated Chief of Police Galaska on his accolade. She thanked Police Officer Careccia for doing the narrative for the Chief of Police Galaska and for Florida State Representative Hunschofsky for nominating him.

DONNA L. FELLOWS, 6108 NW 9TH COURT, congratulated Chief of Police Galaska, on his accolade and said that he ran a good ship.

STACY L. ANGIER, 1913 NW 79 TERRACE, appreciated the Police Department and was proud of Chief of Police Galaska. She referenced both Chief of Police Galaska and the City Manager Curtis, in assisting with a local non-profit organization. She highlighted Teacher Appreciation Week and appreciated the City recognizing all the schools in Margate. She announced that it would be her last year working for Abundant Life and said that Latoya Dean would be taking over as Principal.

PETA ZUNE, 7700 NW 5TH COURT, ORIOLE GARDENS II, read a statement pertaining to two incidents that occurred at Oriole Gardens II and also referenced rezoning of the golf course.

TRACY VAN WINKLE, 1020 SW 61ST AVENUE, congratulated Chief of Police, Galaska, on his accolade. She highlighted next week's National Nurses week and discussed the safety of children.

RICH ALIANIELLO, 7631 NW 23RD STREET, saluted parents pertaining to children and referenced the Students and Teachers of the Month.

3) COMMISSION COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE questioned whether the City could contact Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) to repaint the light poles along Margate Boulevard and referenced a pole on the South side which was leaning. She asked whether the City was working on a revision for the Roof Ordinance as she received questions from residents relating to potential issues that could arise if roof tiles were unavailable.

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS advised that if it was the wish of the City Commission to re-look at that Code that they passed, then they could certainly do that. He informed that the possibility of a leak in a house would be the homeowner's responsibility.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY DAVID N. TOLCES explained that the City would not be responsible for any leaks in the house.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE congratulated City Clerk Johnson on her award and her entire

staff. She thanked Parks and Recreation and referenced the Tree Giveaway event and said that it was very well organized. She thanked the Police Officers and also highlighted that the City's crime rate was down in all areas. She congratulated Chief of Police, Galaska, on his recognition.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ explained that she had asked Police Officer Careccia to send her the nomination for Chief of Police, Galaska and that the decision arrived too late for anyone to accompany him to Tallahassee. She read a supporting letter from one of Chief of Police Galaska's colleagues. She thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the Tree Giveaway event and those who were involved in the International Day Festival (IDF). She wished everybody a Happy Cinco de Mayo and a Happy Mother's Day. She questioned if there was a law against discharging of a firearm within 500ft in the City limits.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES said that he would defer the firearm question towards the Police Department but advised that there were limitations on the ability of the City to enforce statutes other than what was in State law. He informed that he was working with the City Manager and Police Department to see if there was anything further the City could do while they continue to look at the issue.

Discussion ensued.

MAYOR CAGGIANO highlighted this Saturday's Sounds at Sundown. He concurred with Commissioner Schwartz comments pertaining to the IDF and said it was a beautiful occasion. He explained that the City Commission did not find out until late April 2023 that the Chief of Police Galaska would be presented with an award and he continued to discuss the same.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO referenced the last City Commission meeting where two recipients were informed that their request for a contribution would go on today's Agenda but somehow, it was denied. He questioned the City Commission if that Item could go on the next City Commission Agenda for discussion.

MAYOR CAGGIANO confirmed that the Item would be placed on the next City Commission Agenda.

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO highlighted the City's 4th July event. He said that he would miss Ms. Angier when she departed from Abundant Life. He referenced that the City Manager and the Police Department had been working on a video with Ms. Angier and hoped that he could explain this initiative if this Item was on the Agenda at the next City Commission meeting as the Proclamation ended this month. He highlighted that this Friday, he would announce something big in the City on radio station, Big 105.9.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO congratulated Chief of Police Galaska and advised that he received notice on his accolade at the very last minute. He complimented staff on the very successful IDF and thanked the City Commission for getting this off the ground. He referenced that he pushed for a Multi-Cultural board when he was the City Mayor and said that he was a strong proponent of getting sponsorships for these type of events.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS believed that the City generated approximately \$18,000 in sponsorship funds and the IDF cost around \$9,000.

4) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITY MANAGER CURTIS echoed the City Commission's comments by congratulating Chief of Police, Galaska, on being honored and recognized as a law enforcement officer. He provided an update on the alleged black mold at Station 98 and explained that reports found no evidence of this.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ visited the firehouse the following day after the City Commission meeting and advised that there was a report of a shower with mildew and read an extract from the same on the air quality control. She informed that there was never any mold at the Fire Station and that the person who brought that to the attention at the previous City Commission meeting was misinformed.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS referenced the Residential Rental Unit Inspection Program and advised that the City did not do interior inspections unless there was a need to do so but he could understand the confusion that this may have caused. He also advised that the City did not perform background checks on any renters.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO believed that the Owner had to perform a background check through the certified process.

Discussion ensued.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS congratulated the staff on their hard work on a number of recent City events. He shared that their funding request at the State had been approved and that they were receiving \$600,000 in storm water funding and another \$250,000 for Senior Center funding and thanked the staff who were involved in that initiative.

Discussion ensued on the term "approval."

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES advised that the legislative session was ending in the next 10 days and would follow up with the City Commission on any new legislation. He informed that many of the new legislation would have to do with pre-emption and that they would be working with City staff and the City Manager with any questions they may have.

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 2023-131](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, APPROVING WITH CONDITIONS A TEMPORARY USE PERMIT FOR THE ANNUAL BRAZILIAN FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT SAINT VINCENT CATHOLIC CHURCH, LOCATED AT 6350 NORTHWEST 18TH STREET, FROM JUNE 3-4, 2023; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

APPROVED

- B. [ID 2023-107](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF THE POSITION OF AQUATICS MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR TO HEAD LIFEGUARD; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

APPROVED

- C. [ID 2023-127](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING THE PARTIAL FUNDING OF THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT TO BE HELD AUGUST 1, 2023, TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICE-COMMUNITY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIRIT AND POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS, AND TO ENCOURAGE NEIGHBORHOOD CAMARADERIE AS PART OF THE FIGHT FOR SAFER STREETS; APPROVING WAIVING OF BIDDING FOR POLICE AWARENESS PROMOTIONAL ITEMS & SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 FROM THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM GENERAL FUND AND DONATIONS.

APPROVED

- D. [ID 2023-145](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF FOUR (4) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS IN ATLANTIC WEST ELEMENTARY, MARGATE ELEMENTARY, LIBERTY ELEMENTARY AND MARGATE MIDDLE SCHOOLS FOR AUGUST 16, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 8, 2023; AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATION TO RENEW THIS ANNUAL AGREEMENT UNDER THE SAME TERMS WITHOUT FURTHER COMMISSION ACTION; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

APPROVED

- E. [ID 2023-146](#) RESOLUTION - APPROVING SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM OF EBONY BLOUNT AGAINST THE CITY OF MARGATE FOR \$45,000 WITHOUT ADMISSION OF LIABILITY.

APPROVED**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

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

6) RESOLUTION(S)

- A. [ID 2023-089](#) APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF CITY OF MARGATE DIRECTOR, FIRST ALTERNATE, AND SECOND ALTERNATE TO THE BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2023-2024.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Arserio, to approve the following appointments for:

**Director: ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO
First Alternate: ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ**

Second Alternate: TOMMY RUZZANO

Discussion ensued.

This carried by the following vote:

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

B. [ID 2023-112](#) ~~A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT RELATED TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS PROCESSING AUTHORITY OF BROWARD COUNTY, BETWEEN BROWARD COUNTY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES IN BROWARD COUNTY.~~

C. [ID 2023-140](#) APPROVING APPOINTMENT(S) OF _____ (CHAIR AND CITY COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE), _____, AND _____, AS VOTING MEMBERS OF THE THREE-MEMBER MARGATE AUDITOR SELECTION COMMITTEE. APPROVING _____, AND/OR _____, TO SERVE AS NON-VOTING ADVISORY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE. APPROVING _____, AS A FIRST ALTERNATE, AND _____, AS A SECOND ALTERNATE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE AUDITOR SELECTION COMMITTEE IF NEEDED.

MAYOR CAGGIANO asked the City Commission for their Chair elect.

Discussion ensued.

CONSENSUS was given by the City Commission to insert, ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO, as Chair.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS read the list of names for the other nominees and advised that the information was in the back-up and he provided instruction to the City Commission.

Kim Moskowitz, Finance Director, City of Coral Springs

Sherry Walker, Assistant Director of Accounting, Broward County

First Alternate: Frank DiPaolo, Chief Financial Officer, City of Dania Beach

Second Alternate: Kay Grant, Finance Director/Chief Financial Officer, Town of Miami Lakes

Advisory Member(s): Ismael Diaz, Finance Director, City of Margate and/or

Jacqueline Chin-Kidd, Deputy Finance Director, City of Margate

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES advised that there was approval of recommendations indicated on the Agenda memo.

This carried 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 2023-087](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES 66TH ANNUAL GALA, SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 17, 2023.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO questioned what options were presented.

MAYOR CAGGIANO advised that there were three options but he was looking at the middle tier.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ expressed a problem that they could buy 10 seats for \$1,500 and six seats for \$3,500.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS advised that there were 10 individual tickets at \$150 per piece which would guarantee that everybody would be sitting at the same table.

Discussion ensued on whether they should buy individual tickets or a table.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that he recently attended the Mayor's Gala and explained that it was all about networking and recommended that they should select the top tier. He referenced that the Broward League supported the City in legal matters and believed \$5,000 was an investment.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arserio, seconded by Vice Mayor Ruzzano, to purchase a table of 10.

MS. FELLOWS asked who paid for this event.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TOLCES advised that the money derived from the City's General Fund.

MS. FELLOWS disagreed with paying \$5,000 for this Item.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO responded to Ms. Fellows' question.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE expressed her difference of opinion from the rest of the City Commission. She suggested that if the City Commission were attending for networking purposes, it would be a better benefit to the City to sit at another table with other elected officials so that they could discuss and share ideas rather than they all be placed together in the same area.

The motion approved as follows:

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

No: 1 - Commissioner Simone

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

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: 862 8380 5090 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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