



# City of Margate

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## Meeting Minutes City Commission Workshop

**Mayor Joanne Simone**  
**Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano**  
**Commissioners:**  
**Joyce W. Bryan, Lesa Peerman, Frank B. Talerico**

**City Manager Douglas E. Smith**  
**City Attorney Eugene M. Steinfeld**  
**City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh**

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Wednesday, July 15, 2015

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Lesa 'Le' Peerman, Commissioner Frank B. Talerico, Commissioner Joyce W. Bryan, Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano and Mayor Joanne Simone

#### In Attendance:

City Manager Douglas E. Smith  
City Attorney Eugene M. Steinfeld  
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

### 1) PRESENTATION(S)

#### A. [ID 14-1241](#) GEHRING GROUP - EMPLOYEE HEALTH CLINIC

*DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES JACKIE WEHMEYER explained the in the continued efforts to provide great benefits for the employees at a reasonable cost to the residents, she was presenting the concept of an Employee Health Clinic. She stated that this effort would be aimed at trying to shift costs away from the Health Plan and towards the Clinic at a lower price. She noted that it could also provide a medical home for employees who did not have a regular physician, but could receive wellness screenings, treatment of chronic illnesses and other issues. She said that cost savings could be found when triaging Worker's Compensation and Pre-Employment Physicals and Drug Testing. She explained that the plan was to do this as a consortium, and that Coral Springs, Parkland and other municipalities were interested in the idea. She stated that by the end of the presentation, she would ask for a consensus to move forward with the Gehring Group and doing a consortium Request for Proposal (RFP). She explained that the City would not be locked in, but would provide an idea of what vendors could do for the City. She noted that the Gehring Group was the City's insurance broker.*

*CHRISTIAN BERGSTROM, Gehring Group, said that he had mutual clients in the area. He explained that it was actually the City of Parkland who requested different alternatives for their employees to receive health care. He added that he had been in discussions with not only Margate and Parkland, but with Coral Springs, Coconut Creek, Deerfield Beach, Sunrise and Tamarac. He showed a slide presentation and explained that the concept of Clinics in Florida referred to Health Centers or Wellness Centers. He showed examples of other municipalities that had Wellness Centers. He showed the City of West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Martin County, the Martin County Sheriff and the City of Stuart, who all were in a consortium together and utilized one Clinic under a*

mutual agreement for all employees. He stated that the same was true of the City of Clearwater, Dunedin, City of Lake Mary, City of Sanford, Oldsmar and the City of Tarpon Springs. He added that the City of Delray Beach and the City of Plantation also had a Clinic. Mr. Bergstrom explained that Margate was a close knit community with potential partners, and that when in groups, the Cities had buying power and leverage; therefore, having the economies of scale by offering it to more individuals versus just offering to Margate employees. He explained that if operating a Wellness Center for only Margate, the Center would only be open for 30 hours per week; however, if having a Wellness Center for all of the groups, it would be open for 80 to 90 hours per week. He showed the standard model of 1,000 employees or retirees for a full-time Clinic for 40 hours or more per week. He noted that the 300 to 1,000 range provided about 20 to 40 hours. Mr. Bergstrom explained that it was very important to have the Wellness Center centrally located to the employee population, which would provide readily available access. He added that with regard to insurance, it would be outside of the insurance arena, but it worked best being under a self-funded, minimum premium contract or participating contract with the insurance company to be able to share in the savings derived from the employees utilizing the Wellness Center. He explained that the typical scope of services were acute illness evaluations, urgent care, chronic illness treatments and management for Diabetes, Cholesterol, Hypertension, Asthma and other chronic illnesses. He added that in most Centers there was a prescription drug dispensing with over 140 prescriptions being dispensed. He stated that it drove for increased use of Generic medications and lower cost alternatives. He noted that X-rays and Lab work could also be performed on site. Mr. Bergstrom stated that savings were achieved by shifting services to the Clinic at a lower cost than when provided through the Medical Plan. He said that it was done through primary care and specialty visit utilization, going to the Clinic, emergency and urgent care and prescription drug dispensing. He added that usually at Wellness Centers, Health Risk Assessments were done, which identified high risk individuals so they could be put on a treatment path. Mr. Bergstrom explained that for chronic disease identification and medication compliance led to medical trend reduction significantly, especially if having utilization in the over 60 percent range. He noted that Worker's Compensation and Occupational Medical services could be performed on site as well. He said that a benefit was that it would provide easy access to care to employees and dependents, and it could be offered to retirees. He said that there was a focus on preventative medicine. He noted that all services being offered would be at a lower cost than offering it through the Medical Plan. He stated that there would be studies done to make sure it was lower. He added that there was a lot of increased employee productivity because they were actually not out of work as long as they standardly were. He stated that this was 100 percent voluntary; therefore, employees would have the option of whether or not to use this Center. He stated that their Health Plan would remain intact, and nothing would be excluded from what they had. Mr. Bergstrom explained that typically in most models, there was no cost for the employees, retirees or dependents that were covered under the Health Plan. He said that it helped mitigate health insurance trend and premium increase and would reduce the City's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability. He stated that there was no charge for services or prescriptions for the employees. He stated that there was an average of 6 Primary Care Physician (PCP) visits per employee per year. He provided some cost examples and noted that the typical average cost of a primary care visit and specialist visit under a Health Plan in the area was approximately \$191, which included the office visit, labs, professional service fees, etc. He stated that the average cost at the Employee Health Center was around \$111 a visit. He said that the most generous savings was with prescriptions, and that it was typically about \$75 after a co-pay; however, the cost would be about \$12 per prescription through the Employee Wellness Center, because it was purchased at cost. Mr. Bergstrom explained that all of the City's Prevention Programs would be run through the Wellness Center as well, such as annual risk assessments, Nurse and Physician

Outreach Programs and coaching from physicians. He noted that most employees currently used Urgent Care; however, they did not always see the same doctor; however, the Wellness Center would establish more of a medical home. Mr. Bergstrom explained that there were pros and cons of the Wellness Center. He noted that one con was an additional cost exposure if savings were not realized in the Health Plan. He stated that cost increases could be provided in the first year of a Health Plan, because new illnesses were now being identified. He added that there could be additional Staff time. He stated that the facility space and administration could be an issue with regard to location and accessibility for all Margate's employees and dependents. He said that there would be different needs between employee groups, such as Fire, Police and public services. He explained that the City did not have a Health Savings Account (HSA) Plan, which was good or employees would have to be charged to go to the Clinic. He said that if not self-insured or had a participating agreement, all of the savings would not be realized immediately. Mr. Bergstrom mentioned paying for the program, and he explained that the goal was to shift costs from the Medical Plan to a Clinic at the lower price to make it a cost neutral event. He explained that other things to consider as part of the RFP process was the access to the employees and dependents, where the facility was located, whether it would be an existing facility, number of locations, whether or not to modify the benefit offerings at the City, will Worker's Compensation and Occupational Health services be provided and how the Clinic's success would be monitored. He said that patient satisfaction and the calculation for the return investment must be established up front. Mr. Bergstrom stated that currently there were about 15 vendors and local providers responding to the RFP's; therefore, there was a lot of competition. He stated that other options were to negotiate with existing vendors and facilities, having a stand-alone pharmacy model and a Nurse Practitioner model was very popular for delivering the care. He noted that the Inter-Local Agreement would need to be discussed, as well as other topics of discussion. He stated that the process included RFP's, the contract negotiation, facility selection, provider selection, implementation and ongoing utilization. He noted that this was a long process, and that if directed to proceed with the RFP, he will speak with the other Cities; however, it would take time. He would then come forward with a recommendation and then proceed with the contract.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO questioned who would administer the Center.

MR. BERGSTROM said that would be done through the RFP process and a vendor would be found to administer the program.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked whether it was a free-standing facility.

MR. BERGSTROM said that it could be free-standing or in an existing Medical Office Complex, which was typically an option.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO clarified that this would not be a multi-specialty group, and that individuals would have to go outside for professionals. He questioned whether there would be money available to pay those providers and would the PCP be the one to make the decisions about treatments when patients want to go to a specialist. He also questioned whether this was similar to a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO).

MR. BERGSTROM said that it was not at all like an HMO. He said that there would be an administrator, who would be paid and administrative cost. He stated that the providers in the facility would be paid a salary and not paid based on a fee for service. He said that if someone needed to see a specialist, the administrator company would work with the current insurance company to find the best providers with the best outcomes and efficiency for establishing referrals to.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO noted that many employees did not live within a certain radius and lived in farther Counties, and he questioned what group was being targeted.

MR. BERGSTROM said that employees were being targeted, and that in the initial stages of the RFP process, Geoplot of all of the residences where everybody lived in the partnering Cities to determine which radius was best for the majority of the individuals to access.

DIRECTOR WEHMEYER noted that the Town of Jupiter had an Employee Clinic and about 30 percent of their employees live in Martin County or St. Lucie County. She said that the majority of the employees were in Jupiter; therefore, they established it as part of Jupiter Medical Center to service the employees when they were close to work when living outside the area. She noted that having partners like Coral Springs and Parkland was a benefit because we were close and might be able to find commonalities between all of the organizations in this local area.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked whether the contract was yearly with providers.

MR. BERGSTROM said that typically, the contracts were 3 to 5 years.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked noted that physicians worked for hospitals that covered their Malpractice Insurance, which was a big issue of contention. He questioned whether the City would be providing Malpractice Insurance or would the physicians have to carry their own or practice bare.

MR. BERGSTROM stated that the requirement was for the physicians have Malpractice Insurance via the administrator company.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether Margate was the first of the Cities to look at the proposal.

MR. BERGSTROM stated that the City of Parkland and Coral Springs were already moving forward and provided a consensus to come back with an RFP.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether Margate would just scale back the hours if the other municipalities did not join with Margate to provide the 80 to 90 hours.

MR. BERGSTROM agreed.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN clarified that all Cities would have to agree to the location.

MR. BERGSTROM agreed.

DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that another option was to have multiple locations to serve all of the organizations; however, all would have to agree.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether this plan would exclude an employee from using their PCP.

MR. BERGSTROM said that it did not.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked about a timeframe for switching over.

MR. BERGSTROM said that it could be done anytime.

DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that it was just a choice as to who you would visit. She said that someone could decide to visit a PCP, an Urgent Care, and Emergency Room or a Clinic. She noted that it was a voluntary option for an employee. She clarified that if incentivizing it with a zero cost to use the Clinic; the employee would be more likely to go to that location as a medical home.

MAYOR SIMONE asked whether it would be open 7 days a week.

MR. BERGSTROM said that typically they were open 6 days a week; however, with the economies of all seven Cities participating, it could be open on Sunday and 7 days a week.

MAYOR SIMONE questioned the hours.

MR. BERGSTROM said that they were usually scattered. He stated that they would begin early in the morning; however, with an 80 hour Clinic, it would be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. He said that employees typically wanted it opened earlier in the morning because of blood work and fasting.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked whether high utilization was the goal.

MR. BERGSTROM explained that the goal was to have 60 to 65 percent of the appointment slots filled.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO questioned whether it would take the place of a physician's office or a Walk-in Clinic, and whether it would also be a Wellness Center.

MR. BERGSTROM said that it would be a combination of all.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked how many people were involved in the Jupiter Center.

MR. BERGSTROM said that there were approximately 350 employees with about 800 enrolled in the Health Plan. He noted that there were 2 facilities, which were located in the Jupiter area. He added that the City of West Palm Beach had two locations. He said that there was a location in downtown West Palm Beach and in the City of Stuart. He explained that they had an employee population of approximately 3,000, and that about 15 percent of their dependent population was seen at the Stuart location.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked whether the hours of operation would be determined by the amount of people in Margate or by the amount of visits.

MR. BERGSTROM explained that it was standardly done by the amount of lives that would be eligible to participate. He clarified that if it was open for long hours but the appointment slots were not being filled, the amount of hours open would be scaled back.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked whether the past facilities already existed or where they built.

MR. BERGSTROM said that the facilities were both new and existing.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN asked whether it would be easier to use something statewide, such as MDNow.

*DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that employees would not see the same provider every time, such as with MDNow. She said that some RFP's get limited, and that some vendors like MDNow might take the contract, but would only limit it to a certain number of facilities in the local area and could not go statewide.*

*MR. BERGSTROM said that MDNow had a contract with the Village of Wellington in Palm Beach County. He noted that the facility located nearest to Wellington was the primary facility that the employees could use at no cost, but the employees could also use the surrounding MDNow facilities for a lower co-payment than if going into another Urgent Care Facility.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN asked what was needed from the Commission.*

*DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that a consensus was needed to move forward with an RFP to see what could be found. She noted that Coral Springs and Parkland already had consensus to move forward and Margate would like to be the third municipality of the group.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peerman, seconded by Commissioner Bryan, to go with Gehring Group's recommendation to move forward with RFP.**

*MITCH PELLECCIA, 6890 NW 9th Street, reminded the City Attorney that any side speaking must be on the record and must be audible. He stated that there was nothing about the Ghering Group or a bid in the backup. He said that it sounded like something needed to be sent out to bid. He noted that he came to the meeting about the Budget, and that the Department Heads did not know anything about this either. He felt that other health groups needed to be bought into the conversation. He asked whether the Commission had more information than the public, because if they did not, a determination could not be made. He said that the whole thing was bizarre and he questioned why this was being discussed.*

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

**Yes:** 5 - Commissioner Peerman, Commissioner Talerico, Commissioner Bryan, Vice Mayor Ruzzano and Mayor Simone

**Following a brief recess, the meeting reconvened.**

**B. [ID 14-1242](#) BUDGET WORKSHOP**

*CITY MANAGER DOUGLAS E. SMITH reviewed background information related to the current draft proposed Budget. He explained that the goal was to have the Commission provide a consensus on setting the maximum millage rate to be reported to the County. He showed a slide presentation and read the new Mission Value Statements, "Margate is a family friendly community that embraces a hometown feel, partnering with our community to provide highest quality services in a progressive and cost effective manner and with our values of responsibility, integrity, service and excellence."*

CITY MANAGER SMITH reviewed several charts in a comparison fashion to show how Margate lined up with other Cities with regard to the current Budget. He noted that he would show Cities in Broward County that provided their own Police and Fire, with the exception of Coconut Creek because Margate provided their Fire service.

CITY MANAGER SMITH showed the Fiscal Year 2015, adopted General Fund Budget number and the current population, to determine a General Fund Budget number per person, which was about \$950. He noted that compared to the other Cities, Margate was at the lower end of the scale.

CITY MANAGER SMITH showed how the Budgets compared over a course of time. He said that the first column showed the 2011, Adopted Budget with the 2014 and 2015 in the next two columns. He said that the comparison points were looking at how much was changed in the last year. He noted that Margate's went down and the other Cities had a level of increase from 2.5 percent to 11 percent. He added that from 2011, Margate's Budget was up about 4.5 percent versus the other Cities that were in double digit increases.

CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that taxable values had declined over a period of time starting in 2008; however, the last few years showed an increase trend, which was a positive sign for the City and for the economy. He explained that the current total taxable value was about \$2.4 billion. He said that looking since 2013, the percentage increases were shown for every year and was now in the neighborhood of 7 percent a year. He showed a chart indicating how much lower the millage rate was back in 2008, and showing the differential. He noted that the millage rate had increased to about 7.9 percent, but had then been brought down incrementally over the last few years since 2012. He stated that the current millage rate proposal for next year was 7.3093 percent. He explained that over time the incremental changes added up and did have an impact on a year to year basis. He further explained that over time, the Budget stayed flat. He stated that an increase of 5 percent was being proposed this year, and noted that there had not been a lot of increases since 2008.

CITY MANAGER SMITH showed comparisons of other Cities. He said that when viewing the average single family home value with the millage rate and how much in City taxes. He stated that Margate was at \$477. He noted that Lauderhill was at a lower value had to have a higher millage rate to reach the \$464 to be in the neighborhood of Margate. He showed many variations due to higher value and lower millage rates that could generate more revenue. He noted that Hollywood and Miramar had a 1 mil difference, but generated about the same dollar value. He stated that the millage rate was part of the picture but not the whole picture. He explained that the \$477 was 28 percent of the total tax bill, and that the amount that came to the City was actually much less. He stated that Margate had over 2,000 residential properties that paid no taxes to the City.

CITY MANAGER SMITH showed slide comparisons with regard to the fund balances. He stated that when comparing the General unassigned fund balance for 2014, and actual expenditures for 2014, Margate was at about 16 percent as of September 30th. He noted that the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommendation was a minimum of 15 percent that would vary based on size. He said that Margate was in the mid or upper middle group with the 16 percent; however, there were other Cities that had significantly more. He showed the combination of some categories together, such as the unassigned fund balance and the assigned categories. He noted that Coral Springs had theirs in a committed designation, and that Coconut Creek, Margate, Miramar and Pembroke Pines were in the \$20 to \$30 million dollar range of the group of fund balances combined together.

CITY MANAGER SMITH spoke about the amount that was actually budgeted from reserves over the past period of years. He said that back in 2008, it was over 1.5 million. He said that it was not used for a couple of years and was now on an upward trend. He noted that this year a significant amount was budgeted and broken into some categories. He emphasized that the funds were not all expended every year, and that the graphic being viewed was just what was budgeted. He showed how the assigned category was assigned to a number of different categories in the audit this year; however, that could be changed and re-designated moving forward.

CITY MANAGER SMITH mentioned the unassigned figure shown in the amount of \$7.7 million dollars. He explained that the City was proposing to use some of the money out of the assigned categories this year. He noted that \$500,000 was for health insurance; \$300,000 was for future employee payouts; \$500,000 was for other post-employment benefits; \$575,000 was for vehicle replacement, and the total was \$1.875 million dollars. He stated that with the unassigned number of \$967,000, the total was about \$2.84 million dollars. He said that with a good scenario, some of the money could be put back. City Manager Smith explained that the Building Department Reserve was a restricted category, which had \$170,000 budgeted this year and was budgeted at \$138,000 last year. He said that a little over \$1 million was budgeted in the 2015, Budget; therefore, it was a significant difference this year. He showed the next slide that was a projection of what there would be if the revenue increased two percent every year and expenses increased five percent every year. He said that could change due to spending less or better revenue increases. He noted that the gap would increase to \$13 million dollars over time, if not filling in from the assigned and unassigned fund balance. He spoke about cost impacts such as salaries, pensions and health insurance costs that continued to increase. He noted that some of the increases for 2015, and 2016, pertained to the cost of living and step increases for employee bargaining units. He said that in 2016, there were bargaining unit increases to the Budget for several of the agreements and funds were budgeted for other groups. He stated that those percentages were not yet determined by the Commission and were going through negotiations. He explained that when combining those two years, an increase for 2015 was a compounding increase with 2016. He noted that there were some pension changes to FRS rates this year, which created additional pension costs for the City.

CITY MANAGER SMITH explained that since 1999, nationwide health premiums for family coverage increased over 130 percent. He stated that in 2015, the City budgeted for a 4 percent increase, when the actual increase received was 7 percent, which was based on a calendar year and not a fiscal year. He noted that for 2016, an 11 percent increase was being budgeted for, but the actual increase was not known now. He said that the Gehring Group did some projections that were 10 percent and 15 percent. He explained that the City began with Humana in 2013, which was the last time the insurance was put out to bid. He recommended that the City go forward with the bid process, which would then come back to the Commission. He said that the City did not have to change from the current provider; however, it would allow the City to see what was available on the open market.

CITY MANAGER SMITH spoke about the taxable value increase from 2015, which was about 7 percent. He mentioned the \$1 million dollar increase in the Ad-Valorem Tax Revenue, assuming that the millage rate would stay the same. He noted that the current Budget did not have a millage rate increase planned, there was no increase in the Fire Assessment Fees adopted and there was no increase adopted for the Building Permit Fees. He showed slides indicating the total Budget with the General Fund making up about 55 percent and Water and Wastewater at over 30 percent. He explained that the



\$101 million dollar total did not include the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center (NWFPSC) or the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). He stated that the proposed General Fund Revenue breakdown for next year was 26 percent for taxes; 28 percent for Public Safety Revenues, which included the Fire Assessment Fee. He said that some major revenue categories were shown. He pointed out the \$14.4 million dollars seen and noted that about \$2.1 million dollars was transferred to the CRA, which would reduce the net amount to about \$12.3 million for City operations. He clarified that  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a million was about \$600,000;  $\frac{1}{2}$  a million was about \$1.2 million; and 1 million was about \$2.4 million. He further explained that taxable value for a single family home in Margate for  $\frac{1}{4}$  million was approximately \$16.00 per year;  $\frac{1}{2}$  million was about \$32.00 per year; and the million was about \$65.00 per year.

CITY MANAGER SMITH showed the expense breakdown by departments indicating that the Police and Fire were the largest. He stated that the total Personnel Budget was over \$3 million dollars for this year. He explained that the Operating Budget was proposed to be lower this year and the Capital Outlay showed a large percentage increase; however, \$475,000 was for a new Fire engine replacing a 1996 unit.

CITY MANAGER SMITH provided department breakdowns. He explained that there was a significant change to the Finance Department because Utility Billing was moved to Water/Wastewater Fund and was no longer budgeted in the General Fund. He stated that in the Non-Departmental Budget \$3.4 million dollars were in the Operating Account and included the CRA transfer of the \$2.1 million. He said that the City Attorney, Police and Fire, Building, IT, Public Works and Parks summaries were shown. He highlighted some new items in the Budget this year. He stated that the City Manager's office was including funding for a new Newsletter to be distributed in the new utility bill format recently approved. He said that the City Clerk's office had funding for the new Granicus Video Streaming included, as well as a Boards Module. He noted that the City Attorney's office had funding for the new search firm for the City Attorney's position due to his upcoming retirement. He added that the agreement would come before the City Commission after their break. He said that the City Attorney's position was budgeted for the entire year, because it was in the hiring process and this would allow the individual to bring input as to what they might like to see in terms of structure for the department. He said that amendments and adjustments could be made to that Budget as needed. He explained that the Human Resource Department included funding for new job application software that would allow for online job applications. He mentioned a small allocation in the Non-Departmental Budget for Public Art, though the program was to come back to the Commission for approval. He said that there was funding added to Parks and Recreation Budget to bring back the Fall Festival. He added that the Police Department was budgeted for a software upgrade from the older HTE technology in a partnership with Broward County that provided the software at a lower cost than if acquiring the system separately. He said that it could be spread out over a 5 year period, and that the software maintenance cost for the new system was significantly less than the old system. He noted that one item not included was a maintenance item. He explained that it was project for Calypso Cove Slides, because the existing slides were in need of refurbishment. He stated that refurbishment had a 10 year life span, and that the slides were 10 years old. He said that a gel coating would be placed on the slides, and that the budget amount was \$150,000. He stated that the plan was to start the bid process and come back to the Commission for approval to use Contingency Funds from the current year's Budget. City Manager Smith mentioned personnel changes and noted that the City Attorney's office had no other position changes. He said that in the City Manager's office, an Executive Assistant position was an unfilled position that was removed. He said that the Building Department had some part time Inspectors that were additional; Economic Development proposed a new Business Development Coordinator was proposed that

would be 75 percent funded by the CRA, as well as a Local Business Tax Specialist position to prepare for a retirement position. He added that a new Solid Waste Coordinator position was planned for DEES. He stated that the Fire Department had additional positions for the new Coconut Creek Station that will be open in January of next year, as well as a proposed increase of a part-time for a full time Fire Inspector. He noted that other Cities had less population, but had a higher level of Fire Inspector Staff. He said that Margate had one full time and one part time Fire Inspector positions. He clarified that this change would bring the total to 2 full time Inspector positions. He explained that the Police Department reclassification count included 3 Captains, 7 Lieutenants and 1 Deputy Chief. He noted that the current Deputy Chief was retiring this year and the position would not be filled after he left. He stated that there would be 3 Captains instead. City Manager Smith mentioned the elimination of the School Crossing Guard position and the proposed contracting of the School Crossing Guard Service, which would alleviate having to replace Guards when they did not show up. He noted that other Staff. He noted that currently other Staff, such as Code Compliance, Community Service Aides or Police Officers needed to fill in, which took them away from normal duties. He stated that the company would be responsible for that and would hire our current employees. He mentioned a new proposed Accounting position to report to Finance and to be funded by the CRA and the NWFPSC. He noted that the position was not in the General Fund. He mentioned other departments that had position reclassifications were DEES, Finance, Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Roads.

CITY MANAGER SMITH gave an overview of some of the Capital items in the Budget. He said that Police Vehicles were budgeted for \$100,000; \$214,000 was budgeted for Fire Department equipment; \$475,000 for the replacement Fire Engine; Technology upgrades and equipment for Parks and Recreation. He stated that in the Capital Projects Fund there was funding proposed for a Holiday Springs Boulevard irrigation and median project and beautification project for \$80,000. He added that \$1.5 million dollars was being proposed for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Priority Project. He said that explained that some projects that might be prioritized for the next Fiscal Year would be funded from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund monies, as well as monies from the Capital Project Fund surplus. He mentioned several Water and Wastewater Projects, such as water line replacement and the Lift Station Renovation Project.

CITY MANAGER SMITH provided a breakdown of the millage rate, and stated that the current year Fiscal 2015, proposed 2016, had a current operating millage of 6.2761 with a debt service millage of 1.0332. He said that the total was 7.3091; therefore, the proposed debt service millage needed for next year was .9691 and the operating millage would have a slight change to 6.34 that would create the total millage staying the same at 7.3093. He recommended that the millage rate be kept at that rate and think about the future Budget sustainability moving forward. He said that the Commission consensus would be taken this evening and would then be reported to the County as the maximum millage rate. He noted that the official Budget Hearings and adoption would come in September with his Budget message and final proposed Budget document would come before the Commission by August 15, according to the Charter. He noted that the Public Hearings would follow that.

MAYOR SIMONE stated that she would like to discuss each department. She said that if the Commission had any comments or questions, they should be directed to her and she would direct them to the City Manager who would then call up the Department Head. She noted that if the public wished to speak they needed to direct their questions to the Chair and not to the Department Heads.

- CITY COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN reiterated her prior recommendation from last year that the City Commission health insurance be discontinued as of the 2016 election. She felt that it was a part-time position and health insurance was not offered to other part-time positions within the City.

MAYOR SIMONE said that she agreed, and that she previously spoke with the City Manager about it. She felt that the health insurance needed to be revamped. She understood it was a negotiation tool; however, she asked that the City seriously look into the health insurance. She noted that the City's health insurance cost was \$500,000, and she felt that thought the Commissioners worked full time, their position was part-time and they should not have insurance.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN said that she only utilized the Dental Insurance. She stated that she was against taking the insurance away from the Commissioners.

MAYOR SIMONE asked that if not taking the insurance away, an alternative could be to have the Commission pay for their family. She noted that the City paid 79 percent of the high option family plan and the employee paid 21 percent. She said that the City could pay for the employee's health insurance; however, the Commission could pay for their own family. She noted that the School Board paid most of the employee cost and the employee could add their family at a reduced rate. She said that it would be cut to part-time insurance for a part-time employee.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN said that she had no family involved with getting insurance; therefore, she was still in favor of having the employee and family get City insurance.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO agreed with Commissioner Bryan. He felt that it was unfortunate that the Commissioners against it were already receiving City benefits. He noted that he had four children and he did not understand how cutting a few dollars would help. He said that cutting his insurance or anyone else's insurance was the right move.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked for clarification of Mayor Simone's suggestion for regular employees.

MAYOR SIMONE said that she suggested that the employee families be covered but at a reduced rate.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO mentioned the union contracts and health insurance being part of the package.

CITY ATTORNEY EUGENE STEINFELD agreed that the health insurance was included in the contracts, and that some of the contracts were for one year and that the FOP contract would be negotiating. He said that the City had reopeners for health insurance. He stated that it was a wage and condition of employment; therefore, it had to be bargained. He said that any change that would affect the union members would have to be bargained.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that it was a good way to keep people coming to Margate to work. He stated that the City might not give something, but the City should not take things away.

MAYOR SIMONE clarified that her suggestion was not for all employees, but that the City Commission should pay a reduced rate.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that the Commission was listed as a full-time position.

MAYOR SIMONE stated that it was indicated in the Budget Book as part-time.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that it was full time on the pay stub, and that he did not see harm in providing the insurance to the Commission.

MAYOR SIMONE said that because she felt so strongly about this issue, another option was to put it out to the voters in 2016.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that such issues should not be left for the voters. He felt that the Commission's job was to make decisions about insurances. He felt that it could get out of hand. He reiterated that he was not in favor of cutting the health insurance.

MAYOR SIMONE asked whether the Commissioners were interested in seeing what other Cities did. She asked Joseph Kavanagh, City Clerk, to pass out a chart from December 2013.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN felt that an elected official was a different position than someone applying for a job in the Human Resource Department. She stated that people put the Commission in the job. She noted that she had her own insurance and that she had a job. She said that if the Commission did not want to eliminate the health insurance or have the Commission pay for their families, she strongly suggested that Margate follow the Cities that did not provide the insurance to their Commission, but provided the extra money to the rest of the Commission; therefore, making the Commission all equal. She said that it was not fair for a Commissioner to make \$15,000 more than she made, because of the health insurance provided.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO felt that there was an easy solution for those receiving insurance from another place, and he mentioned whether he could receive travel money back if he did not travel.

MAYOR SIMONE stated that she was paying for her own insurance and was not receiving it. She stated that some Cities did give back the money.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that because some Commissioners did not receive it, they should not hurt the other people. He felt that it was not right or realistic to take away the insurance. He spoke about his children getting sick.

MAYOR SIMONE said that the Vice Mayor was making this a personal issue towards her. She stated that she had health insurance that she paid for and was not received free.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that he was totally against it.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN stated that some Cities gave the Commissioners that did not take the money the same amount towards insurance. She noted that some Cities gave back a \$10,000 check at the end of the year if not traveling. She reiterated that an elected position was different from an employee position. She stated that she was repeatedly told that it was a part-time position, though the hours worked were more. She said that there were part-time employees and she felt that the Commission was no different than those employees. She stated that the insurance should be made fair and

*be offered to those employees that were working part-time.*

*MAYOR SIMONE said that she had no problem with the City paying for the Commission and the Commissioner paying for their family, or paying for the family at a reduced rate like a lot of other Cities. She noted that many Cities pay 100 percent for the Commissioner for single coverage with buyout option. She said that for dependent coverage it was given at a reduced rate. She stated that in Margate, the City paid 70 percent for the dependents and 30 percent for the Commissioners, which she felt was wrong because the City was paying a small amount for the employee, but much more for the family. She clarified that she was not trying to take away anybody's insurance, because we all need health insurance, but she was trying to make it fair.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that he wanted to see the actual numbers. He asked what the spouses had to pay if the City paid 100 percent for the Commission. He said that he would be willing to wait to see the figures before making a decision.*

*MAYOR SIMONE noted that the figure indicated would go up in 2016, as high as 11 percent. She asked for a consensus to see what the dollar amounts were from other Cities for the employee and for the dependents.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that the information could be sent to the Commissioners. He clarified that the \$500k coming from the assigned category was not for the total health insurance cost. He noted that the whole Budget for health was greater than that.*

*MAYOR SIMONE added that the City Commission General was previously \$5,000, but was back up to \$10,000 this year. She stated that she wanted it dropped back to \$5,000. She referred to Page 13, under Grants and Aids. She explained that in 2014, it was \$12,000; in 2015, it was lowered to \$5,000 and was now being put up to \$10,000.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO questioned why it was going up \$10,000.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that it was going up to \$10,000 because a Workshop was held on contributions and the Commission agreed on \$10,000 with a \$250 cap. She noted that the policy still had to come back before the Commission.*

*VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked whether Commissioner Peerman was referring to the Workshop with \$10,000 and a \$1,000 cap.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN agreed that it was \$1,000 and not \$250.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO had a general question about the Budget. He noted that the City Manager spoke about looking down the road with regard to cost increases and contracts. He asked what the impact was going to be if major changes were made. He expressed concern about dipping into reserves to balance the Budget and felt that the City had to plan ahead a little.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH agreed that the City had to plan ahead.*

*• CITY MANAGER*

*MAYOR SIMONE said that on Post and Printing the cost was \$131, but was now \$22,500.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH replied that the amount now included the new newsletter that would start this year.*

- *FINANCE DEPT – There was no discussion about the Finance Department.*
- *NON-DEPARTMENTAL*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN spoke about the Repair and Maintenance category that was indicated in almost all of the departments. She asked what that referred to and what was being repaired and maintained for \$60,000 in everybody's Budget. She clarified that in the City Manager's Budget it read that the \$60,000 paid for the annual cost of the Public Stuff Mobile App.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that there was an explanation below for all departments showing repair and maintenance services, maintenance agreements, software, HTE Sunguard, etc. He added that rentals and leases was primarily office copiers, printer leases, or a storage contract in the City Clerk's office.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that she would like to see a line item indicating what it was being used for. She questioned whether the software needed to be maintained and repaired every year.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH explained that for software packages there was usually a repair and maintenance fee. He noted that for some departments, such as the Police Department, there were multiple items within that category. He said that he could provide a more detailed breakdown.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO mentioned that the debt service millage went from 1.032 to 0.9691, and he questioned whether that had anything to do with refinancing bonds.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that it was due to fluctuation due to the taxable value to get the amount of dollars needed on the debt service side.*

- *CITY COMMISSION (Commissioner had a question she did not ask previously under City Commission.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked about the new contribution Health Trust that was in the Budget for the first time.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that it was being reallocated from a different account number.*

- *HUMAN RESOURCES*

*MAYOR SIMONE stated that there were no new employees in Human Resources; however, education and training went up \$4,000.*

*DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES JACQUELINE WEHMEYER said that the increase to education and training was to have the ability to bring in outside trainers to do some training for employees, which had not been done a lot. She said that professionals were needed to provide training for Supervisors, as well as providing retraining for employees on soft skills and not technical things that were learned in a department.*

*MAYOR SIMONE asked for an example.*

*DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that somebody could come in doing leadership skills for*

*supervisors and conflict management, drug free workplace, violence in the workplace for general employees.*

*MAYOR SIMONE asked whether any training was done last year.*

*DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that some was done; however, people needed to be kept up to date and to have the ability to bring in outside trainers to supplement times when she could not do it.*

*MAYOR SIMONE questioned the \$4,000, and DIRECTOR WEHMEYER said that trainers were not cheap.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether that would be for the entire City, and DIRECTOR WEHMEYER agreed.*

- *ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN stated that she did not like salary wages of Senior Management being added in with the salary wages of the other employees, because she wanted to know how much the Department Heads were making. She felt that the residents would want to know that as well; therefore, she asked that it be put back in.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that one item that was affected had to do with the payroll system, and that it helped to combine those figures. He said that he did not know if that still applied with the new system.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that she would like it shown in the Budget. She stated that in 2014, there was \$88,000 in Economic Development and in 2016, there was nothing because it was added into the salary wages and regular. She wanted to be able to tell what the Department Head made to be able to determine whether Margate was even with other Cities in an attempt to keep the employees.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that in the past everybody was listed by name, salary, etc., which was standard procedure. He asked whether it was very difficult to put it back that way.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH suggested going with the more streamlined approach. He said that the information was public record if someone wanted to see it, but that other Cities did not have that in their documents.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked whether an internal list could be provided for the Commission, and CITY MANAGER SMITH said that he would provide whatever the Commission wanted.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that she wanted the Department Heads in the Budget. She noted that having all the employees and what they received gave the Commission the ability to know of any City vacancies. She said that without knowing the vacancies, the positions would not get filled.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH explained that it was changed because the payroll system was automated.*

*DIRECTOR OF FINANCE MARY BEAZLEY explained that it pulled from a file and the way the file was set up it would pull one General Ledger account per department.*

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN noted that there was now a Budget Manager, and she asked whether when doing the Budget Book for the Commission, salary ranges for Senior Management could be put down.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that perhaps it could be a foot note.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN clarified that she wanted to be able to look at the Budget and know what the Department Heads were making. She agreed to have a foot note added showing the Department Head's salary.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN said that she was against listing everybody's salary in the Budget.

- CITY CLERK – There was no discussion about the City Clerk's Department.
- CITY ATTORNEY

MAYOR SIMONE questioned the increase from \$650 to \$5,600 for Office Equipment.

CITY ATTORNEY STEINFELD said that was for new furniture for the incoming City Attorney.

MAYOR SIMONE asked whether that was needed.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that she would not try to guess what a new City Attorney would need in the office. She said that it was budgeted though it might not be used.

MAYOR SIMONE said that she did not realize that some of these items were for the new City Attorney. She mentioned the Subscription and Membership, which was \$267 and was now \$1,000.

CITY ATTORNEY STEINFELD said that was because of the Joint Secretary and Paralegal and items that the new City Attorney may require.

- POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN felt that it was a good idea to contract the School Crossing Guards. She said that it was discussed about three years ago. She stated that it took a lot of resources when someone did not show up, because either a Code Officer or Police Officer had to be used. She asked why the Community Service Aide titles were changed.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that might have been tied in with part of the FPE negotiations or when doing the department transition.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN questioned whether there was a difference in pay or job.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that one position was a lateral move, but one would have an increase in pay. He said that he was not sure whether they would be using the Community Service Aide (CSA) cars.

POLICE CHIEF DANA WATSON clarified that their specific job description would now be the title they would receive in October if approved. He said that they were currently in



*those positions because people with specialized training were needed for those positions of Crime Analyst. He noted that the past Crime Analyst was Stephen Miner who took over the Records Commander job. He stated that the Crime Analyst position was important and needed one person dedicated to it. He noted that they would not be doing CSA functions. He said that the Crime Analyst would be required to go into the community; therefore, they might need a vehicle. He clarified that the CSA's did not have the privileges of taking home a vehicle.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether preference would be given to Margate residents to apply for the School Crossing Guard. She noted that her husband was a School Crossing Guard for 10 years and was now retired. She asked whether a substitute pool of people who could perform the job was considered, rather than using the Police Officers or Code Officers.*

*CHIEF WATSON explained that the Crossing Guards were part-time employees, and that there was a vetting process requiring background checks, etc. He noted that the pay was very minimal and was usually filled by retirees, who wanted something to do, or mothers and family members who want to be with the kids. He stated that it was not about the money. He said that he could not have a pool with having people on call for minimal dollars. He noted that part of the reason for privatization was to be able to have individuals that were qualified. He said that some of the seniors got to a point where they were more of a detriment than a help. He said that having a pool of people on standby was not realistic. He added that the people would have to have training and be vetted and updated.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether it did not work efficiently and was a cost factor.*

*CHIEF WATSON stated that this was more efficient, because the company would be responsible for filling in when someone called out sick. He said that on a daily basis, somebody from Staff had to be pulled and placed in those spots.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN said that the City would have no control, because it was a contracted company that would handle anything. She asked whether a stipulation for Margate residents could be made.*

*CHIEF WATSON said that the company would be required to fill the posts, but the City would still be overseeing and monitoring the company for the safety of the children. He added that the company would have supervisory oversight as well.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked whether it would be a long term contract or a Pilot Program.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that the terms could be determined when the contract and the company come before the Commission. He stated that at that time it could be revisited and evaluated with Commission input.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked whether there was a Contingency Plan in case nobody showed up and the company had nobody to fill the position. He questioned whether the contract would allow the City to place someone there from the City departments.*

*CHIEF WATSON assured the Commission that he would put officers there to protect the children if need be; however, it was the company's contractual obligation to fill the posts.*

MAYOR SIMONE thanked the departments that cut the overtime salaries.

- FIRE DEPARTMENT

COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that several years ago he started a Defibrillator Program for public facilities, such as churches, synagogues, etc.; however, it was not very successful. He noted that the program allowed the City to pay half of the cost of the Defibrillators, and he asked whether the City was interested in re-establishing such a program.

CITY MANAGER SMITH suggested that such a program be evaluated and reported back to the Commission.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO questioned the ambulance revenues going down again and whether it was because of reduced payments from insurance companies.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that the Finance Department was aware of that, and he would review the matter with the Finance Department and the Fire Department and report back. He stated that he was unaware of a bigger percentage being taken.

- BUILDING DEPARTMENT – There was no discussion about the Building Department.

- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) – There was no discussion about the Information Technology Department.

- PUBLIC WORKS

MAYOR SIMONE noted that Public Works dropped overtime salaries.

- PARKS AND RECREATION

COMMISSIONER TALERICO stated that he was a proponent for the swimming lessons for infants and toddlers, and he wanted to see the City offering free swimming lessons. He questioned how much was collected for the swimming lessons. He noted that the City was receiving zero funding from Swim Central this year. He felt that children needed to learn how to swim. He noted that he visited Calypso Cove recently and that it was safe with more Lifeguards watching, but there were no Lifeguards at home or in at the canals.

DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION MIKE JONES stated that the swim lessons and the free swim lessons were ongoing, and he believed they were consolidated into one of the accounts so each specific revenue account was not shown. He stated that Swim Central was part of the Measure up Margate Performance Measures. He said that all of the swim lessons would be reported back to the Commission at the end of the year, because the pool was only open seasonally. He noted that the swim lessons had been increased and additional free swim lessons were available to the public through Broward County Swim Central in a Voucher Program; however, Margate offered that free of charge. He said that the individuals had to register with Swim Central, obtain the voucher and bring it to Margate. He said that Margate would then provide them a specialized Swim Lesson Program. He clarified that the Swim Central funding was increasing, but would not be a specific line item in the Budget.

MAYOR SIMONE noted that the Salary and Wages was up from \$6,600 to \$9,000 overtime, but realized that the City was having more events.

*DIRECTOR JONES agreed that was the reason for the overtime. He stated that in previous Budgets it was never budgeted separately from daily operations or special events. He said that it was previously budgeted in the actual expense of those events, and that money not expensed were transferred back to balance. He said that it was now showing what was true and actual for special events.*

*MAYOR SIMONE said that the total revenues generated from the City's Basketball League was indicated in the Performance Measures as \$25,000, and the total revenue generated from the Swim Team was \$5,000. She asked whether generated revenues were received from other teams in the City.*

*DIRECTOR JONES explained that those were the only two City run Sports Leagues. He stated that each program was cost neutral so the money brought in was equal to the money expensed out, with no extra cost to the City.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN mentioned receiving many complaints about the credit card system at the pool being slow. She asked whether the City could look into getting the Square Credit Card.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that something proposed was the RecTrac Software Program, which would be looked into and reported back to the Commission. He explained that it would provide the opportunity for online registrations, a point of sale system and could increase the functionality.*

*DIRECTOR JONES said that it would be a more productive and better system in terms of how it functioned, but the speed would have to be researched further with the IT Department to determine how to increase the speed of the Internet service. He stated that all of the Automated Merchant transactions were through the Web and were based on the speed and technology.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that the speed needed to be increased for the credit cards.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that there was money in the IT Budget next year for upgrading wireless at some locations, and that the pool was one of the locations.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN stated that outside Calypso Cove there were nice little Palm Trees on the corner. She suggested adding a sign stating that there were free swimming lessons or classes or swim meets. She stated that there was no advertising driving west to east on the corner. She added that it could also be added to the other side where the building was going east to west. She stated that there was nothing indicating the days of operation, hours of operation or anything else. She suggested getting a changeable copy sign for advertising.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that he would review the situation working in conjunction with the new Sign Code to determine what might work best.*

*MAYOR SIMONE agreed that would be a help. She noted that last year there was an event for swim lessons, but nobody knew about it and could not find it because it was not well advertised. She stated that the people that were going to donate their time suggested putting a sign at Calypso Cove to show occurring events.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN noted that it was the McGovern Foundation that made the*

suggestion. She said that she and Commissioner Peerman attended the Northwest Elected Officials Meeting in Sunrise on Monday. She stated that one of the concerns expressed was that the #saferby4 was not working and several children had drowned since then. She asked that everyone try to think of something that could be done to get the message across. She noted that all 31 Cities in Broward County had signed on and passed resolutions; however, something was not working.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO questioned whether wireless Internet was being considered for the parks.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that the discussion was regarding Calypso Cove, and he did not know if it was open access wireless or if it was just for the administration there.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO felt that the City should consider installing wireless Internet in all of the parks, and Commissioner Peerman agreed.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that it needed to be priced to see the span of reach and the cost involved.

The Commissioners all agreed and COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said it was discussed previously last year, but no further information was provided.

CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that the Director of Parks and Recreation indicated that it could be included in the visioning portion of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan process.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO mentioned the Defibrillators and noted that the one at Banks Road was upstairs and could not be accessed. He said that individuals asked whether it could be brought down to be accessible.

DIRECTOR JONES said that he would meet with the Fire Department to provide the best location or adding another Defibrillator downstairs.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked about having a mural painted by an Artist on the wall at Calypso Cove.

DIRECTOR JONES said that type of project would fall into the new Art Program; therefore, it should be specified and broken down in the program when it came before the Commission.

- RECREATION TRUST FUND – There was no discussion about the Recreation Trust Fund.
- ROADS FUND – There was no discussion about the Roads Fund.
- POLICE OFFICER TRAINING FUND – There was no discussion about the Police Officer Training Fund.
- THE FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUND – There was no discussion about the Federal Forfeiture Fund.
- THE STATE FORFEITURE FUND – There was no discussion about the Federal Forfeiture Fund.

- *STATE HOUSING INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP (SHIP) FUND*

*VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked whether the SHIP Fund was the program where people were allowed to upgrade their housing.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that there were several different programs.*

*VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked whether the funding could only be used on the interior, and he noted that some of the money was in the amount of \$50,000 to \$60,000.*

*DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BEN ZISKAL explained that the money that was used to rehabilitate existing residences came from both the SHIP and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. He noted that SHIP was State money and CDBG was Federal money. He stated that both funds were received each year and went into the Home Rehabilitation Fund Project. He said that the rehabilitating a residence was limited to Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines. He noted that most of the guidelines dealt with making the residence handicapped accessible or hardening the home for storm related items, such as new doors, new windows, handicap accessible bathroom and new kitchens. He stated that revisions to the exterior that were just beautification projects that did not address handicapped accessibility or hurricane and weather hardening were not eligible.*

*COMMISSIONER BRYAN acknowledged Adam Reichbach, Assistant to the City Manager, for the format of the Budget design.*

*ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER ADAM REICHBACH thanked the Finance Department for coming up with the design; however, the Performance Measurement was something new for 2015, and would be incorporated into the Budget for 2016.*

- *COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) GRANT – There was no discussion about the CDBG.*
- *NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM (NSP) – There was no discussion about the NSP.*
- *HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAM FUNDS – There was no discussion about the Home Rehabilitation Funds.*
- *PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACT FEES FUND – There was no discussion about the Public Safety Impact Fees Fund.*
- *DEBT SERVICES FUND – There was no discussion about the Debt Services Fund.*
- *CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND – There was no discussion about the Capital Projects Fund.*

*COMMISSIONER TALERICO asked whether Neighborhood Improvement Projects would go into the Capital Projects Fund. He said that discussions were about \$25,000 or \$50,000 into fixing entrances to neighborhoods and entrances. He questioned whether it was the CRA or both.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that it could be both depending on what the area in the CRA was and depending on the cost level.*

COMMISSIONER TALERICO said that he wanted to see it as a separate line item.

CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that there was nothing allocated for it right now, but it could go as a project within the fund depending on the cost. He said that would have to be reviewed. He stated that he could work with the CRA to come up with dollar parameters and determining how much to plug in.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO stated that a plan was needed as well.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO mentioned the Parks and Recreation Capital Expenses, and said that \$1.5 million dollars was indicated for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He questioned whether everything listed was above and beyond that amount and did not include the \$1.5 million dollars.

CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that the long list of items indicated were shown because they were the previous year budgeted projects; therefore, the projects indicated in the right hand column were the projects for this year and the \$1.5 million dollars was the big allocation of funds for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He noted that it was not intended to cover the whole program, but to be used for priority projects that the Commission may agree to do as a result of the plan. He stated that after seeing what was entailed in the plan, the strategy could be developed for moving forward with future funding.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO questioned when that would be talked about.

CITY MANAGER DOUGLAS said that the visioning part of the program was to come back and the final report would be submitted after October 1st. He stated that the last timeline he saw was around the November timeframe. He noted that the Commission might have a draft prior to that to start reviewing. He stated that having that block of money would allow some things to begin moving right away.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO mentioned that Coconut Creek was putting in a Dog Park. He noted that Margate spoke about a Dog Park, which he was in favor of. He said that there was a prior discussion pertaining to Flag Football. He noted that currently the Soccer Teams were going to different Cities because they could not play on Margate's Soccer Fields. He stated that three years ago he spoke with the past City Manager about getting the fields up to date with something such as Turf. He stated that fences were needed for the Baseball Tournaments. He said that Commissioner Peerman previously spoke at a meeting about shade canopies, but nothing was done. He wanted to see things get going and getting some things done that the people want without waiting on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

CITY MANAGER SMITH encouraged the Commission to wait until Staff got to the conclusion of the process to see everything that comes in. He said that after seeing everything that came in, the Commission could then have the opportunity to prioritize the things they wanted to start first.

MAYOR SIMONE asked whether Doggywood was on the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that it was just in the first three years with the \$75,000 matching grant.

CITY MANAGER SMITH stated that it was not in the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund

*Budget page.*

*DIRECTOR JONES said that it was referred to open space for \$75,000, which was for the Doggywood Park Phase 1 and Phase 2. He noted that Phase 1 was completed two Budgets ago and Phase 2 would be completed in this Fiscal Year Budget. He said that it was two \$75,000 grants that were awarded to the City of Margate from Broward County. He stated that those would be closed out by this year and the funds were expensed and there were no new grants for that project.*

*MAYOR SIMONE said that Doggywood appeared in two places in the Budget. She stated that it was in the Capital Project Fund and in the Parks and Recreational Trust Fund. She noted that it was a priority of the Master Plan, as well as outdoor exercise equipment, which she previously discussed with Director Jones. She said that Pompano installed the outdoor exercise equipment by their pier and it was receiving a lot of use. She felt that it would be a great hit in Margate. She suggested looking into a grant, because Miami-Dade received a grant for that. She said that with the right equipment in the right location in the shade would be a big hit.*

*DIRECTOR JONES stated that the outdoor exercise equipment did come up in the survey results. He explained that the Master Plan was going to map out all the City's needs for recreation and infrastructure that the public provided input on. He said that once there was a final adopted plan, any grants coming up would not be missed and the City would be able to capitalize on the grant opportunities. He noted that previously the grants came at the last minute and the City was not prepared for it.*

*VICE MAYOR RUZZANO suggested having a bathroom at Veteran's Park, as well as some little grills.*

*DIRECTOR JONES said that all of the Commission comments were noted and could be provided to the consultants when they come back for the visioning portion. He mentioned receiving e-mails from the public as well, which he provided to the consultant for the visioning process.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that years ago money was put away in the Capital Project Fund for a five year project plan for Doggywood, and she questioned where that money was.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that it might not have been designated specifically; however, moving forward he would designate it.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN noted that it was to cost \$750,000, and that \$200,000 or \$250,000 was put in the Budget for the next five years.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that he would look back at the past Budgets. He stated that if the intent of the Commission in the past was to set \$100,000 for a dog park, he could take some money out of the designated Parks and Recreation Assigned Fund balance to apply towards the dog park at a future time.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that the Commission previously put away \$25,000 a year away for the shade canopies; however, the canopies were received in David Park and Serino Park, but then it stopped being shown in the Capital Funds. She said that the City was supposed to be putting money aside for these items, and that the City should have had the money for the dog park by now. She felt that the Commission had been patient waiting for these things. She noted that she did not want to have to pay \$475,000*

*out of the fund for a Fire Truck because the money was not set aside.*

*MAYOR SIMONE noted that a big expense of Doggywood was the parking. She said that she suggested partnering with the Temple, because they had a large lot they only used on their high holy days. She said that the City could pave it and let the Temple use it when needed. She said it would be ideal for both the City and the Temple.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH said that could be looked into.*

*VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked the Commission whether a line item could be added for Doggywood Park to move along with it. He said that it had been many years now. He noted that he built the dog park in Tamarac, which he was proud of as it was considered the busiest dog park. He suggested putting \$350,000 in for the dog park and moving on.*

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano, seconded by Commissioner Lesa 'Le' Peerman, to add a line item in the Budget for \$400,000 for Doggywood Park.**

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN felt that the City waited long enough and listened to the residents who want a dog park long enough. She mentioned discussions of a bridge from Firefighters Park over to Doggywood Park, which took three years to get the pricing for. She said that at that time, the County wanted the City to pay \$65,000 to put in a right turn lane, but the option was the bridge. She stated that the Commission would ask for \$400,000 to put in Doggywood Park this year.*

*MITCH PELLECCCHIA, 6890 NW 9 Street, appreciated the vim and vigor on the dog park. He said that there was a lot of Bark for your Park stuff that was appreciated. He stated that he was informed by the Parks and Recreation Director that a dog park was a money pit. He said that putting in a dog park was great; however, he asked whether the Commission wanted to spend \$400,000 on the park. He noted that when building the park, a lot of people from other Cities would come to use the park; however, Margate would encumber the cost. He stated that the Commission previously wanted other things done too; therefore, he wanted to know if they were thinking from the position of fiscal knowledge or was it just something that sounded good. He questioned what the survey said from the Bark for the Park promotion. He said that if the survey showed it as high up, then the City should go for it; however, he wanted to know what else was high up on the survey. He mentioned the Volleyball Courts that were stalled when they first were installed, but were now being used. He said that if using \$400,000 on a dog park the Commission should remember the fiscal responsibility and fiscal upkeep that came along with it. He stated that he was not against the park; however, he felt that the Commission should speak with Director Jones, determine if it was going to be a money pit, determine if it was a \$400,000 investment with a half a million dollars every year to re-turf, etc. He said that with other Cities coming, a concession should be set up to get their money. He felt that there were other moving parts that needed consideration. He said that the Commission should go for it but think it through.*

*MAYOR SIMONE noted that it was 5th on the list out of 7 high priorities at 31 percent with the highest at 50 percent for walking and biking trails. She asked what the Tamarac park cost.*

*VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that it was a design build that cost \$530,000, which included a whole different project than what was entailed now. He felt that Margate was 30 to 40 percent completed compared to the Tamarac project that started from scratch.*



MAYOR SIMONE stated that a fence a washing/bathing area was needed.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO stated that Tamarac did have a washing/bathing area with a small dog separation. He noted that it had cool drinking fountains for the dogs and was a very unique park that was packed all of the time. He stated that the dog park in Parkland was also packed all of the time. He said that the Commission was here to provide services to the residents, and that this was a service that would definitely be used. He felt that it was a good thing to get people in from other Cities.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN stated that it was time to do this, and that the Master Plan will cover many things needed; however, the dog park should be designed now. She noted that there should not be a pointed fence area, which was considered a kill zone. She believed with \$400,000 something could be done, even if it had to be in phases.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN wanted to know how feasible this plan was.

DIRECTOR JONES explained that the location for the park was south of Firefighters Park on Rock Island Road. He said that the parcel of land was less than three acres. He stated that the Master Plan was supposed to map out the true demand from the public with regard to their needs were for a dog park. He said that he could not state whether the location would meet the demand received. He said that it was the proposed location; however, he was not aware if it was the desired location, and he believed that there were other opportunities available. He felt that the Commission should wait for the finalized Master Plan to map out the proper plan for the design of the park. He expressed concern about the Master Plan stating that it was more preferable to have it in a different larger location to be more accommodating to the residents. He stated that his recommendation was to wait for the final Master Plan before designating the true project.

MAYOR SIMONE asked whether the City would have a dog park somewhere in Margate within a year.

DIRECTOR JONES said that depended on the design and how elaborate it was. He stated that if it was a basic design it could probably go into construction and be completed very quickly. He noted that it was a matter of getting the design approved by the Commission based on the amenities and the infrastructure. He noted that the cost would be lower at the previously proposed location because it had paving, landscaping and picnic benches. He stated that if it was moved, it might take a little longer in the process but be more beneficial to the public.

MAYOR SIMONE clarified that something could be started, and Director Jones agreed.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that a certain line item could be designated for the project by either modifying the amount for the priority projects or by transferring funds in from the designated recreation funds in the fund balance.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN suggested keeping the \$1.5 million dollars for the Master Plan. She asked what other areas could be used for the park.

DIRECTOR JONES mentioned the Florida Power and Light (FPL) easement was utilized in other neighboring Cities to put parks in. He said the RFP Linear was approved for park usage. He stated that the design and construction plans were needed to make sure it was feasible and able to build on the current land. He stated that there was an untapped opportunity of land in that area.

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

**Yes:** 5 - Commissioner Peerman, Commissioner Talerico, Commissioner Bryan, Vice Mayor Ruzzano and Mayor Simone

*CITY MANAGER SMITH asked whether the Commission would provide a consensus on putting in a budgeted amount for the Neighborhood Sign Program. He said that if it was the preference of the Commission, he could determine a recommended amount in conjunction with the CRA and add something in the proposed Budget.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN said that there was something in the Budget for the Neighborhood Identification Signs from the CRA and the Capital Funds. She said that money needed to be put in for the areas that were not indicated. She noted that Winfield Boulevard was in the CRA.*

*MAYOR SIMONE referred to page 165.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN reiterated that there was something in the Budget for the Neighborhood Identification Signs and for Winfield Boulevard. She said that money from the City needed to be put in to cover other areas that were not in the CRA section.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH suggested putting in \$25,000 to match it.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN clarified that would allow entryways to be done in CRA areas, as well as in non-CRA neighborhood entryways.*

*THE CITY COMMISSION consensus directed the City Manager to bring the item back to them.*

- *STORMWATER FUND – PUBLIC WORKS – There was no discussion about the Stormwater Fund.*
- *WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND – There was no discussion about the Water and Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Fund.*
- *WATER AND WASTEWATER RENEWAL AND REPLACEMENT FUND – There was no discussion about the Water and Wastewater Renewal and Replacement Fund.*
- *INSURANCE FUND – There was no discussion about the Insurance Fund.*
- *CAPITAL OUTLAY – There was no discussion about the Capital Outlay.*
- *CAPTIAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN thanked Parks and Recreation for the project being done on the Holiday Springs Boulevard median.*

*CITY MANAGER SMITH explained that the \$400,000 would show up here on the Capital Projects Fund side.*

*COMMISSIONER PEERMAN commended everyone for their work on the pictures and the Budget.*

MAYOR SIMONE thanked the City Manager and Staff for the Budget, and said that the book looked a lot like the performance based Coconut Creek Budget Book.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO questioned whether the City properties could be consistent with regard to colors so that the City buildings could be recognized as Margate buildings.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that he could review that.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN suggested that the millage rate not be lowered, because \$400,000 was allocated to the dog park. She did speak about having the millage and the Fire Assessment Fee as equal as possible, and that in the future, she would like to increase the Fire Assessment Fee because it was used by everyone in the City.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that the millage rate was lowered last year, and he asked where the \$500,000 came from.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that Staff provided him with a summary of changes made. He noted that a large part of the \$500,000 was due to Coconut Creek funding the Fire Apparatus, which was over \$500,000. He noted that there were other changes made as well.

COMMISSIONER PEERMAN stated that the department had also dropped their Budgets last year for the millage rate.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that Margate took in more in taxes this year, and that \$900,000 was coming back from the Resource Recovery Board and he questioned where that money would go.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that it was actually \$1 million.

CITY ATTORNEY STEINFELD stated that the money was taken from Solid Waste purposes, and Staff felt it was best to be assigned to Solid Waste purposes.

CITY MANAGER SMITH said that the money could be assigned at the end of the fiscal year through the audit to Solid Waste activities.

CITY ATTORNEY STEINFELD said that if the Commission believed that there was some other use made of the money, it could be transferred; however, at this point his recommendation was to assign it to Solid Waste purposes.

CITY MANAGER SMITH clarified that it would go into the General Fund Budget in an assigned or restricted category that could be used for Solid Waste purposes.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that he wanted to see the money moved and earmarked now so it could be used if needed. He mentioned the new garbage contract, which would save the City money. He added that the City was going to get \$1 million dollars back in taxes.

CITY ATTORNEY said that the Staff was hoping to wait for the Solid Waste situation to clear up and then the money could be reassigned, assuming that the City had the contract. He noted that at this point, the recommendation was to assign or label it for Solid Waste purposes, at least until the Solid Waste issue was cleared up.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that he did not want to see the departments cut and

wanted to see what was best for the residents.

COMMISSIONER TALERICO agreed with setting the money aside.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN and MAYOR SIMONE stated that they were in agreement with keeping the millage rate where it currently was.

MAYOR SIMONE said that the Unbalanced Fund was at 16 percent, which was where it should be, and that the City was in good shape and the departments did a really good job streamlining.

CITY MANAGER SMITH thanked the Commission for their consensus, and stated that he would report to the County the operating millage of 6.3402, the debt service millage of .9691 and the total millage of 7.3093, as the maximum millage rate at this point for the next fiscal year.

MR. PELLECCIA he asked that from meeting to meeting, the Commission have Staff put the fiscal impact into the Agenda when discussing money. He also requested that the "why" and the "where with all" for spending the money, as well as the reasoning for spending the money be presented. He noted that the City of Coconut Creek received \$1,083,000 from the Resource Recovery Board settlement, which was being put into the General Fund for the Commissioners to decide how to spend it. He stated that it had nothing to do with the garbage contracts and would let the Commissioners manage the money. He stated that as a taxpayer, he was not in favor of transferring any tax dollars from the City to the CRA, because they made their own money as a separate government. He said that funding another Fire Engine was bizarre, and that millions of dollars was spent previously on a new apparatus. He felt that maybe Coconut Creek needed to absorb some of the cost. He felt that the Commission should get their own insurance, because with City insurance they were actually paid almost \$40,000 to be on the Commission, which he felt was not right. He spoke about Defibrillators, which he felt were dust collectors in restaurants. He felt that more money should be spent on Police information, the way information was disseminated and the resources Police have and possibly more Public Information Officers (PIO) to provide the public with information. He asked that the swimming lessons be given for free to children, which would increase people wanting to live here. He agreed with having more line item accountability to allow taxpayers to know what the line items were. He suggested that the City consider having private schools tap into the Law Enforcement Trust Fund for their School Resource Officers (SRO). He agreed that the SHIP and CDBG money was being allocated too thickly. He thought that the power lines at Temple Beth Am were County land, which should be looked into with regard to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He stated that this was one of the best conversations regarding a Budget that he heard from the Commission in a long time and he thanked everybody.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Carol DiLorenzo

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Joseph J. Kavanagh, City Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_