

# **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Present:**

Tommy Ruzzano, Chair  
Anthony Caggiano, Vice Chair  
Lesa Peerman  
Arlene Schwartz  
Joanne Simone

#### **Also Present:**

David Tolces, Board Attorney  
Diane Colonna, Executive Director  
Kim Vazquez, Project Manager  
James Anaston-Karas, RMA

The special meeting of the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency having been properly noticed was called to order at 6:37 p.m., Wednesday, April 19, 2017 by Chair Tommy Ruzzano. There was a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, Roll call was taken.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MARGATE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ("MCRA"), AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 438 AND DESIGNATING JAMES ANASTON-KARAS, AS THE CONTRACTURAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MCRA, KIMBERLY VAZQUEZ, AS DESIGNEE IN THE ABSENCE OF JAMES ANASTON-KARAS, AND THE MARGATE CITY MANAGER AS DESIGNEE IN THE ABSENCE OF BOTH JAMES ANASTON-KARAS AND KIMBERLY VAZQUEZ; PROVIDING FOR A COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE DESIGNATIONS CONTAINED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Tolces, Board Attorney read the item title.

The following motion was made by Ms. Peerman, seconded by Mr. Caggiano:

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION OF THE MARGATE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ("MCRA"), AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 438 AND DESIGNATING JAMES ANASTON-KARAS, AS THE CONTRACTURAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MCRA, KIMBERLY VAZQUEZ, AS DESIGNEE IN THE ABSENCE OF JAMES ANASTON-KARAS, AND THE MARGATE CITY MANAGER AS DESIGNEE IN THE ABSENCE OF BOTH JAMES ANASTON-KARAS AND KIMBERLY VAZQUEZ; PROVIDING FOR A COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE DESIGNATIONS CONTAINED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Diane Colonna, Executive Director explained under the current Redevelopment Management Associates (RMA) contractual obligations for staff and because of her resignation effective the end of the month, RMA is recommending Mr. Anaston-Karas to fulfill the Executive Director's position for the CRA.

Mr. Caggiano questioned Mr. Anaston-Karas salary and experience in running CRA's. Ms. Colonna responded you have an agreement with a private consulting firm who vetted candidates for this position. RMA's contractual amount will remain unchanged and his salary is paid by RMA. Ms. Colonna stated Mr. Anaston-Karas comes to you with vast governmental experience, and he has worked with several CRA's over the years.

Mr. Tolces stated the Board is providing for authorization and naming Mr. Anaston-Karas as the Executive Director for operations oversight. It is up to RMA as per their contractual obligation to provide an Executive Director. If the Board is not satisfied with the person named, then the Board can direct RMA to make changes for those services.

Ms. Peerman said she trust the recommendation of RMA and has faith they have chosen the proper person for the position. If for any reason the Board is unhappy with Mr. Anaston-Karas, then RMA will provide another candidate for the position.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Antonio Arserio, said the Board should consider appointing an interim director until more information has been provided by the consulting firm on their vetting process and a qualified person is chosen by the Board for the position.

Rick Riccardi, 4829 South Hemmingway Circle, said he was impressed with Mr. Karas' past experience in governmental work especially in Tallahassee. He is an employee of RMA and you hired RMA to provide a service which includes staffing the agency. He said he is perplexed why the Board is appointing a director.

Discussion ensued by the Board regarding tabling the item or appointing an interim director until all the Board members could meet with Mr. Anaston-Karas one-on-one and decide at the May CRA meeting.

The previous motion was withdrawn by Mr. Caggiano.

The following motion was made to amend the resolution by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Caggiano:

**MOTION:** APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE MARGATE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ("MCRA"), AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 438 AND DESIGNATING KIMBERLY VAZQUEZ, AS THE CONTRACTURAL INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MCRA, AND CITY MANAGER AS DESIGNEE IN THE ABSENCE OF KIMBERLY VAZQUEZ; PROVIDING FOR A COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE DESIGNATIONS CONTAINED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**ROLL CALL:** Ms. Schwartz, Yes; Ms. Peerman, No; Ms. Simone, No; Mr. Caggiano, Yes; Mr. Ruzzano, Yes. The motion passed 3-2.

Having no other business, the meeting ended at 7:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Transcribed by Kimberly Vazquez

Tommy Ruzzano, Chair