



City of Margate

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Meeting Minutes City Commission Workshop

Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano

Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano

Commissioners:

Antonio V. Arserio, Arlene R. Schwartz, Joanne Simone

City Manager Samuel A. May

Interim City Attorney Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A.

City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

5:00 PM

Commission Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

In Attendance:

City Manager Samuel A. May

Interim City Attorney James A. Cherof

City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

1) PRESENTATION(S)

A. [ID 2018-682](#) 2019 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

RONALD L. BOOK P.A., was joined by team members, Rana Brown who communicates regular with the City staff and Kelly Mallette (arrived later). He asked the City whether Ronald L Book P.A. lived up to their expectations. He provided an update and explained that they pursued three projects and questioned whether there were any representatives for other municipalities that did as well in total dollars as the City of Margate. He advised that Commissioner Schwartz spent some time with them in Tallahassee during the last session and had an opportunity to watch how they pursued the process. He said that they were extremely pleased that they were able to get two significant projects in the budget which was not vetoed by the Governor. He thanked the City Commission again for the opportunity to represent them. He said that the City Manager's office had been tremendously responsive in providing further information and detail.

VICE MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO said that when he did his original presentation, he was impressed by his speech. He said that he totally appreciated anybody that returned with \$1,500,000 to help their City and from the beginning, had high hopes which were fulfilled.

MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO said that he would love to see continued things being brought to the City.

Discussion ensued.

COMMISSIONER ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ spoke of her time in Tallahassee and complimented Mr. Book.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO advised the Commission to hire Mr. Book when he was not an elected official. He said that they were able to produce and saw that as the bar being set. He said that he hoped that they could continue to do good things in Tallahassee.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE thanked and appreciated Mr. Book for his efforts for the City.

MR. BOOK said that he wanted to provide an update on where the world was as it relates to Tallahassee. He explained that they just came through the most contentious and ugliest election he had ever experienced and spoke about Florida elections. He advised that the Governor's transition was moving along and that they have found their way to be significantly engaged in that transition process. He advised that the Governor was rolling out transition teams approximately every three days and discussed the Inaugural Committee and the Economic Transition Team who would deal with economic policy, economic development, finance, tax and revenue structure amongst other issues. He said that they managed to place three people on that Transition Team which would equate to eight percent. He advised that they have three representatives on the Environment Natural Resources and Agricultural Transition team. He said that they were supposed to be making a major announcement by naming the Governor's Chief of Staff. He said that it would be good for their community if the Governor's Chief of Staff was from Broward County. He said that this afternoon, they expect them to roll out the new Commissioner of Education which was expected to be Richard Corcoran. He said that Jared Moskowitz will be the new Emergency Management Director which will be of importance to the City when it comes to payouts pertaining to hurricanes. He said that he would expect them to do a significant re-organization of the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) which would create a higher visibility. He gave an example and said that school safety would move to the DEM. He said that ship and sale money was important to local government. He said that he also expects them to roll out the Education Transition Team and indicated that they got one representative from his firm. He indicated that in the new year, there would be a Healthcare Transition Team, a General Government Team and believed that they may be able to get a couple of representatives placed in Public Safety. He said that on Inauguration Day on January 8, 2019, five new people would be sworn in. He advised that the first event that had occurred was the recent Organizational Legislative Sessions which went smoothly as expected. He advised that the Speaker of the House had chosen not to name them all. He said that there was not going to be a majority Democratic house for a long time as in two years, there would be re-districting and he did not anticipate any significant changes in the House. He said that the revenue picture was bleak. He said that whilst there was Medicaid growth, there was significant financial concerns in their state prison system. He advised that they had seriously underfunded prison healthcare and most notably, Hepatitis C. He said that they have enormous pressure in pre-K-12. He advised that the estimates for Hurricane Michael in the Panhandle were \$700,000,000 - \$1,000,000,000 and was not sure where those revenues would come from. He strongly advised people to vote against Amendment #3. He said that the Seminole tribe of Florida's election campaign was misleading and that it was the Constitutional Amendment that gave them control of their future. He spoke about the Sportsbook revenue which may require a referendum. He advised that the Speaker of the House had priorities going into his two year cycle as the Speaker cared tremendously about healthcare and discussed pricing transparency in their hospitals. He also discussed Telemedicine, Scope of Practice, Certificate of Need (CoN) repeal up for debate and the 24 hour vs 48 hours surgery center issue. He also indicated that the assault on local government would not change. He discussed issues pertaining to Home Rule, the Senate President and that transportation would be high on the Agenda. He said that the Senate may take on Tort reform as an

issue and that they would be very focused on the environment.

MAYOR CAGGIANO asked Mr. Book about the list of priorities for the City of Margate.

MR. BOOK said the City's issues of concern were Charter Schools, Home Rule, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and Pre-Emption. He said that he was aware of the City going back after the piping rehab project and Stormwater pipe replacement lining project which he would encourage the City to go forward with and to police the mobile command vehicle which he said were great issues. He advised that he did not know today how the Governor was going to respond in the veto process. He said that he would prefer if they go out there on a couple of things and see where it was. He also advised that they may want to be out there with those things in year one in the hope of being a better year of less vetoes and then use that over the next seven years to argue when the City could put substantially similar things in the budget. He indicated that they never get enough things in the Criminal Justice Budget and that he loved the Police mobile command vehicle although he would not give the City a high level of expectation as the Legislator was not likely to fund a lot of them. He said that he preferred even numbers to be as close to a real number. He referenced the Sportsfield lighting and indicated that the chances of them getting a line item for that was eight to ten percent but advised that they should submit it in year one.

MAYOR CAGGIANO said that they would like to see a higher level for the The North West Focal Point Senior Center (NWFPSC) and said that it was very important for the senior citizens for their City. He also said that any money for fixing the seawalls was equally as important.

MR. BOOK advised that he did not see the State Legislator funding seawalls. He hoped that with the new Governor, there would be less micro-managing of what Water Management District revenues have and what they could tax and suggested that it could go back to the way it used to be. He explained that the funding had been dramatically reduced to local governments due to the shrinking of their base for Water Management Districts and Inland Navigation Districts and that was the reason why the transition teams were important. He advised that the Legislator had been kind to senior related things such as elderly meal programs and that they were reticent to give a lot of operating dollars to Senior Centers. He indicated that they would not receive a lot of capital dollars. He cautioned about throwing too many projects on a list and said by his count, there were approximately 12. He advised that they need to be at three or the maximum of four and that there was always next year. He referenced the tightness of the revenue and said that they did not want a diminished return on consideration of the things they put before the House and the Senate Committee. He explained that every project would become the subject of an individual Bill and advised that they should give an approved list to his firm in a prioritized order. He discussed the process and possibilities of what may occur if they put one or two projects forward.

MAYOR CAGGIANO discussed the problems with aging and failing seawalls and asked whether there was an ability to tag it as a regional concern throughout South Florida.

MR. BOOK explained that he was well aware that there many communities in Miami-Dade that have problems with seawalls which received no funding.

CITY MANAGER SAMUEL A. MAY explained that the preliminary list they presented was not in a prioritized order but more to see what the climate was in Tallahassee as Mr. Book would know what was relevant.

MR. BOOK explained that he was expecting a mass approved list from the City. He expressed his liking for the water items, the Police mobile command and understood where they were on seawalls and the Senior Center and that those projects were potential opportunities. He advised that they should give them the ability to play with it to see if they could find any alternative pathways as they were there to provide guidance and counsel. He said that he would have a conversation pertaining to seawalls and flood control to see if they could get Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to give Emergency Management some seawall money.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ explained that they were now faced with the issue of not enough water pushing back against the seawalls and referenced FEMA.

Discussion ensued on seawalls and FEMA.

COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ discussed the 911 system and said that it was a top priority. She asked what week she should go to Tallahassee to lobby.

MR. BOOK discussed the 911 system and the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School statewide School Safety Commission and said that they were holding a myriad of hearings and meetings. He advised that the School Safety Commission has spoken extensively about the 911 system. He explained that the County will fund the new radio system and the contracted municipalities were paying for their respective systems. He believes that when the report was issued in January 2019, there would be a chapter written on 911 and communication system.

Discussion ensued on the 911 system.

MR. BOOK recommended weeks commencing January 22, February 4 and 11, 2019 times for the Commission to visit Tallahassee.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO referenced a mandate for the 911 for a County-wide system in each County and said that they were debating whether to go with Coral Springs.

MR. BOOK recommended not doing it.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said he would appreciate whatever Mr. Book could get for the City. He discussed that a couple years ago, they tried to get a Special Assessment Bill for Law Enforcement.

Discussion ensued on Homestead.

MR. BOOK suggested that the local Bill deadline was rapidly approaching and that they should submit it sooner than later although it could still be blocked.

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO advised that there was a problem with the Stormwater during the last hurricane and the CRA had to come in and fund it which was approximately \$200,000 and said one of their control systems that failed. He highlighted that Margate was one of the first cities to put in a School Resource Officer (SRO) in their schools and this year, they passed it to put in two SROs for safety and asked for funding.

MR. BOOK indicated that the SRO was the most important issue that was raised in this meeting. He advised that the County School Board should be funding this. He thanked

them for the opportunity and wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Kwanzaa.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards

Joseph J. Kavanagh, City Clerk

Date: _____

PLEASE NOTE:

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, the person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone desiring a verbatim transcript shall have the responsibility, at his/her own expense, to arrange for the transcript.

[Appendix A – Zoning – Section 3.3] Any representation made before any City Board, any Administrative Board, or the City Commission in the application for a variance, special exception, conditional use or request for any other permit shall be deemed a condition of the granting of the permit. Should any representation be false or should said representation not be continued as represented, same shall be deemed a violation of the permit and a violation of this section.

Any person with a disability requiring auxiliary aids and services for this meeting may call the City Clerk's office at (954) 972-6454 with their request at least two business days prior to the meeting date.