



City of Margate

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Margate, FL 33063
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Meeting Minutes Regular City Commission Meeting

Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano

Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano

Commissioners:

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

City Manager Cale Curtis

*Interim City Attorney Weiss, Serota, Helfman, Cole & Bierman,
P.L.*

City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

7:00 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 Cale Curtis
Interim City Attorney Robert Meyers
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

[ID 2019-318](#) MADISON JOHNSON, MARGATE RESIDENT

1) PRESENTATION(S)

- A.** [ID 2019-319](#) MAYOR'S FITNESS CHALLENGE 2019 OVERALL WINNERS:

ATLANTIC WEST ELEMENTARY - BREONNI SMITH AND BRETT SMITH

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY - ALEXIA BREAU AND DALLAS BRYCE

MARGATE ELEMENTARY - EMILY MOORE AND RASHARD FLOWERS
- B.** [ID 2019-341](#) SPECIAL RECOGNITION - DAVID J. LEVINE, LIBERTY ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL FROM 2007-2019.
- C.** [ID 2019-331](#) CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION TO MARGATE CITIZENS ACADEMY GRADUATES - 2019.
- D.** [ID 2019-305](#) OFFICER OF THE MONTH - NICHOLAS THOMPSON.

- E. [ID 2019-342](#) MARGATE - COCONUT CREEK ALS TEAM AWARD - 1ST PLACE - "FIRST THERE, FIRST CARE" ALS COMPETITION.
- F. [ID 2019-328](#) ~~HOME OF THE MONTH - JUNE 2019~~
(Alma and Bob Lippke, 6984 N.W. 19th Court)

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

- G. [ID 2019-334](#) U11 SOCCER: LUCAS SARA VIA
(Margate Youth Soccer)

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

- H. [ID 2019-285](#) DENISE P. STEELE, RECREATION COORDINATOR - SENIOR CENTER - 35 YEARS
- ANDREW JAMES IRELAN - POLICE OFFICER - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 15 YEARS
- DREW R. GERMANN - POLICE OFFICER - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 10 YEARS
- PHILIP LOUIS ESPOSITO - ELECTRICIAN II - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES - 10 YEARS
- JENNIFER M. JOHNSON - ASSISTANT CITY CLERK - CITY CLERK'S OFFICE - 5 YEARS

PROCLAMATION(S)

- I. [ID 2019-332](#) ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY - JUNE 15, 2019 (presented to Karin Diaz, Northwest Focal Point Senior Center Project Director)

2) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

RICH ALIANIELLO saluted the employees who were recognized for years of service. He said that there were a few issues in his neighborhood which Code Enforcement was aware of and referenced rental of houses and big trucks. He also advised that the City Commission should recognize the residents who were wearing Keep Margate Green t-shirts.

BARBARA ALBRECHT, ORIOLE GARDENS II reminded the City Commission to Keep Margate Green and referenced the Executive Golf Course. She said that they have over 1,000 names on their petition.

PETA ZUNE, ORIOLE GARDENS II thanked Vice Mayor Ruzzano, Commissioner Schwartz and Commissioner Arserio for attending their meeting last week. She said that Elder Abuse recognition resonated very well and referenced the potential construction on the golf course.

ELSA J. SANCHEZ, 6930 NW 15TH STREET discussed Commissioner Arserio's behavior at Margate's meetings. She also commented on Vice Mayor Ruzzano and Mayor Caggiano and referenced the hiring of Assistant City Manager Vignola.

CHARLIE ARTNER, 6631 NW 22ND COURT said that they should do away with the three-day bulk pickup. He also discussed the hiring of Assistant City Manager Vignola.

DARA KUSTLER advised on the traffic situation which would impact the area of Oriole Gardens I, II and III, Oriole Golf & Tennis and those in the surrounding community.

RICHARD ZUCCHINI, 380 LAKEWOOD CIRCLE E, #B thanked Commissioner Arserio for his efforts and that he was doing a good job as a new Commissioner. He requested an update from a City Commission meeting in August 2018 when City Manager May was supposed to instruct an engineering firm to evaluate Margate's canal walls and system.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS said that they would look into this and report back to the Commission.

JULIE JONES, 7871 NW 1ST STREET said that she campaigned for the City of Coral Springs and congratulated Shawn Cerra on his win as a Commissioner. She spoke about her time at the 2018 elections and mentioned Mr. Vignola.

MANNY LUGO, 1129 EAST RIVER DRIVE echoed Mr. Zucchini's comments about a study of Margate's flood control system and referenced Broward County's new building standards.

3) COMMISSION COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE reminded the residents that the Florida East Coast Industries (FECI) Brightline Railway Corridor throughout Broward County was now officially a quiet zone. She provided an update on The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Joint Walking Audit initiative which took place in May, 2019. She said that once they receive all the feedback, they would be looking for a Resolution in support of improving Southgate Boulevard. She also provided an update on the grants program for Complete Streets and other Localized Initiatives Program (CSLIP) at the MPO meeting. She said that she hoped to see everyone at Margate's July 4th event.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO said that he appreciated Ms. Sanchez's comments and that he responded to her email of June 8th. He said that he would like to meet with Ms. Sanchez to discuss her concerns.

COMMISSIONER ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ highlighted Margate's 4th of July Parade. She spoke about the HR Department's office renovation and praised the City staff who made the furniture. She discussed the Special Planning and Zoning (P&Z) meeting and suggested that the City should pass a Resolution to allow some of the projects that they would like to pass.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE advised that the next cycle for CSLIP was due in November 2019 and that it would be brought to the Commission before the staff.

VICE MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO congratulated City Manager Cale Curtis. She congratulated the citizens of Margate's Citizen Academy. He said that the Advance Life Support (ALS) Fire team was awesome and indicated that during the Budget, he would like to fund two of the teams. He referenced Mr. Alianiello's comments pertaining to the rental of homes and discussed the rental agreement fee which other cities have which

Margate should look into.

Discussion ensued on introducing fees to homeowners who rent their property, Homestead and bulk pick-up.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO said that he agreed with Vice Mayor Ruzzano's initiative pertaining to a rental agreement fee.

Discussion ensued including Homestead and Homeowners Association (HoA).

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO highlighted the 4th of July parade. He spoke about a recent softball get-together. He addressed the Marquesa Project pertaining to a 200 apartment rental complex. He advised that they should learn from past mistakes and that those type of projects should initially go before the Commission. He asked for CONSENSUS to put this on the next Agenda.

MAYOR ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO explained that he spoke to the City Manager about this project and that he would need to hear the legal pros and cons before putting it on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Discussion ensued.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY ROBERT MEYERS laid caution to any preliminary review and that the applicant had the right to submit an application which would need to be heard in an unbiased fashion.

Discussion ensued including setting up a Workshop.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO said that he would like to incorporate any sort of Land Use being appropriated and referenced re-zoning and that he would also like to have a Workshop on this. He said that he would be holding a Town Hall meeting very soon and that he would address the Keep Margate Green and seawall issue.

MAYOR CAGGIANO welcomed Cale Curtis to his first meeting as the new City Manager. He highlighted the 4th of July event.

4) CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under Consent Agenda are viewed to be routine and the recommendation will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired by the Commission, the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately. Anyone wishing to comment on any item on the Consent Agenda should approach the podium now. Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes.

- A. [ID 2019-330](#) MOTION - APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES: MAY 1, 2019 - REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING, MAY 7, 2019 - CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP, MAY 15, 2019 - SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simone, seconded by Commissioner Schwartz, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

5) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS advised that improvements at Fire Fighters Park were scheduled to begin next week and listed the work to be implemented. He confirmed that the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant zipline would be installed. He said that Finance had been working diligently on finalizing the fiscal year 2019/20 proposed budget. He advised that the budget would be released on June 24th, 2019 and that they would be holding a series of public hearings and workshops over the next few months. He said that the US Department of Energy had recognized Margate in their 2019 Better Buildings Initiative Progress Report. He said that Margate joined an energy saving challenge in 2011 and during that time frame, they ranked seventh in the nation for energy savings.

6) RESOLUTION(S)

- A. [ID 2019-303](#) AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR BOND RELATED PROJECTS AT SOUTHEAST PARK, PHASE I TO INCLUDE CONVERSION OF TWO (2) ARTIFICIAL TURF SOCCER FIELDS, AND A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED PLAYGROUND, UTILIZING ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENTAL CONTRACT PRICING; ALL PHASES SHALL NOT EXCEED \$1,900,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schwartz, seconded by Vice Mayor Ruzzano, that this Resolution, should be discussed.

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO identified this as the first of the Bond money which was going to be spent. He invited the Public to touch the sample of the artificial turf.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR MICHAEL JONES spoke about the artificial turf samples and said that they would conduct further research and report back to City Manager Curtis.

MS. KUSTLER recommended a temperature gauge and severe testing for the artificial turf.

Discussion ensued including the temperature differential between the regular astro-turf and the green crumb rubber.

MR. ALIANIELLO said that it was a good idea, but seemed a little pricey. He also congratulated new City Manager Curtis.

Discussion ensued on putting artificial turf in the Code as an alternative to grass as it may not be interpreted as green space.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- B. [ID 2019-322](#) AWARDING BID NO. 2019-002 - 2018 WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE II TO MARCDAN, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,497,921; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

VICE MAYOR RUZZANO asked if this Contractor had ever done work in Margate.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS indicated that according to the backup, the Contractor had been a Sub-Contractor in the City.

Discussion ensued.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES (DEES) KENNETH GRIFFIN discussed this Item and also confirmed that they had done Sub-Contractor work in the City.

Discussion ensued on Contractors and payments.

MR. ALIANIELLO asked for further clarification on this Item.

Discussion ensued.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- C.** [ID 2019-326](#) APPROVING AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH JANETTE M. SMITH AS CITY ATTORNEY OF THE CITY OF MARGATE; PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT AS CITY PROSECUTOR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simone, seconded by Vice Mayor Ruzzano, that this Resolution, should be approved. This carried by the following vote:

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

COMMISSIONER SIMONE confirmed that the new City Attorney would start on June 20, 2019.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY ROBERT MEYERS said that it was a honor and privilege to serve as Interim City Attorney and that they would offer their services during the transition.

7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A.** [ID 2019-324](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERTO LORENZO AS FIRE CHIEF; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS referenced an employment agreement which was consistent with the agreements which were passed for the Police Chief and the Assistant City Manager. He advised that the terms of that agreement outlined salary and payout of accrued leave, termination benefits such as severance at eight weeks. He said that the salary that was discussed with Fire Chief Lorenzo was \$142,000.

Discussion ensued on positions, contracts and salary.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE read a statement and said that Chief Lorenzo should prove himself for a minimum of six months before obtaining this salary.

Discussion ensued on the salary range and benefits for the Fire Chief position.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arserio, seconded by Vice Mayor Ruzzano, to approve the contract as presented and insert a base salary of \$142,000.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS confirmed that they were still doing the sick leave payout at 60 percent and not 100 percent.

MR. ALIANIELLO discussed this Item and said that he agreed with Commissioner Simone's comments pertaining to experience.

Discussion ensued on experience, qualification and salary.

MS. SANCHEZ said that she agreed with Commissioner Simone and Commissioner Schwartz. She said that if Chief Lorenzo did not have the experience, he should not start at the salary of \$142,000.

MS. KUSTLER discussed salaries being a public record and questioned Chief Lorenzo's length of service and current salary.

MAYOR CAGGIANO confirmed that Chief Lorenzo was currently earning \$126,500 and that he had been with the City for 22 years.

MS. KUSTLER spoke further on this Item and said that Chief Lorenzo should have the experience.

Discussion ensued on experience, qualifications and salary.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - Commissioner Simone

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:35pm.

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.

One or more members of the City of Margate advisory boards may be in attendance and may participate at the meeting.