



# City of Margate

5790 Margate Boulevard  
Margate, FL 33063  
954-972-6454  
www.margatefl.com

## Meeting Minutes Regular City Commission Meeting

*Mayor Tommy Ruzzano*

*Vice Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz*

*Commissioners:*

*Antonio V. Arserio, Anthony N. Caggiano, Joanne Simone*

*City Manager Cale Curtis*

*City Attorney Janette M. Smith*

*City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh*

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Wednesday, April 29, 2020

4:00 PM

Virtual Meeting - <https://zoom.us/j/96450746723>

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### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

Mayor Ruzzano attended in person

Vice Mayor Schwartz attended via Zoom video conferencing

Commissioner Arserio attended via Zoom video conferencing

Commissioner Caggiano attended via Zoom video conferencing

Commissioner Simone attended via Zoom video conferencing

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

City Manager Cale Curtis attended in person

City Attorney Janette M. Smith attended in person

City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh attended in person

### MOMENT OF SILENCE - INVOCATION

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY PRINCIPAL STACY ANGIER via Zoom thanked the Commission and provided an update on Broward Health and North West Regional pertaining to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). She advised that elective surgery would resume on May 11, 2020 and recommended a wellness plan for Broward County residents.

CITY CLERK JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH read a statement pertaining to the City's virtual public meeting pursuant to the Sunshine Law and Florida Governor DeSantis' Executive's Order.

**1) PRESENTATION(S)****A. [ID 2020-148](#) MPO AND SURTAX REHABILITATION & MAINTENANCE PRESENTATION.**

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR, MARK COLLINS via Zoom gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) surtax project which started back in 2018. He provided updates on the Winfield Boulevard improvements, City Bicycle and Pedestrian Greenway system and Firefighters Park/Winfield Bridge projects. He indicated that they were hoping that the three projects, with the contractors in place, would be shovel ready by January 2021.

Discussion ensued including a question and answer session.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR COLLINS also provided an update on two other projects pertaining to replacement curbing in the Paradise Gardens and Oriole Gardens Community. He advised that a report comprising of everything he had discussed at this meeting together with back-up material would be presented to the City Manager next week.

**B. [ID 2020-157](#) A PRESENTATION TO UPDATE THE PUBLIC ON THE STATUS OF PARKS BOND PROJECTS.**

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR MICHAEL JONES via Zoom provided a status update on the Parks and Bonds project. He read through a PowerPoint presentation, discussed the current balance sheet for the bond and gave an overview of the financials. He highlighted the playground renovations including LED lighting at Southeast Park.

Discussion ensued on Southeast Park.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR JONES continued his presentation and highlighted the LED lighting at Margate's Sports Complex. He discussed the Vinson Park improvements and explained how he tried to stay within budget when negotiating the final agreement with contractors.

Discussion ensued on the operational costs for Calypso Cove, the Lazy River/design build project, aquatic architects and parking.

CITY MANAGER CALE D. CURTIS thanked the City Commission for their feedback on this project. He advised that it was a great idea but there were some unanswered questions that they were going to get more fine-tuned in order to advance this project. He advised that if a Lazy River was awarded at Calypso Cove and put in place, rates would have to be increased to sustain the increase in operational costs which would be the bare minimum to break even. He indicated that he would coordinate with Parks and Recreational Director Jones to formulate a game plan and provide the Board with information which they could act upon to see if they want to advance where they were today.

Discussion ensued.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR JONES referenced Oriole Park, provided an update on the design phase and indicated that they would have multiple options on how the park could be. He also referenced Centennial Park and explained that for the design phase, it was the same situation to that of Oriole Park and that they were currently in geo-tech and surveying.

Discussion ensued including adding pickleball to Centennial Park.

## **2) PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

CITY CLERK KAVANAGH explained the options on how to submit a public comment. He advised that 23 people were currently in the public chat and that they were either watching or listening to the meeting via Zoom. He confirmed that there were no members of the public that wanted to talk through Public Discussion.

## **3) COMMISSION COMMENTS**

COMMISSIONER ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO thanked all the staff and requested everyone to continue practicing social distancing and to stay safe.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE thanked residents, essential workers and City staff and that she appreciated their continued service, dedication and sacrifice that had not gone unnoticed. She said that they should be safe, smart and healthy.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO thanked the first responders, doctors, nurses and the City employees. He referenced parks re-opening and advised on the importance of social distancing. He spoke positively about City meetings being streamed through Zoom.

VICE MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ echoed what everybody had said pertaining to Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and advised on how the public could participate in Zoom meetings. She discussed the loosening of restrictions from Broward County's Executive Order but forewarned the public to pay attention and continue with their hygiene, sanitizing practices and social distancing. She thanked those persons that had brought meals for the Fire and Police Departments. She read a statement from North West Focal Point Senior Center (NWFPSC) Project Director Diaz and thanked both her and her staff for their efforts.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO echoed what Vice Mayor Schwartz said about the seniors in the community and the reopening of NWFPSC.

MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO highlighted the City Commission's "Thank You to City Employees" video which was available on Margate's website. He was glad that the marinas were open but said that there was no water. He said that he tried to contact as many Homeowners Associations (HOA) to update them on the changes to the Broward County's and the City's respective Executive Orders and indicated that they had the responsibility to decide on the reopening of their community pools. He explained that the HOAs informed him of the problems they were experiencing with their lakes such as the sprinklers and canal banks and referenced South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). He requested the HOA list be updated. He thanked Wawa who were making contributions to families in Margate. He also thanked Margate resident, Julie Jones, for the Big Daddy's Pizza. He asked the public to continue social distancing as things start reopening and be respectful and safe. He highlighted the City's Birthday Drive-Bys with the fire trucks and that he would be present at one tomorrow.

## **4) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

CITY MANAGER CURTIS thanked the Commissioners for taking the time to put together the "Thank You to City Employees" video which he said was really impactful in showing their gratitude to the staff. He referenced the canal levels discussed at the last City

Commission meeting, where the Board had provided CONSENSUS to draft a letter to the SFWMD. He said that he was finalizing the draft and that the letter would go out by the end of the week. He explained that through the federal government, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) had given all entitled cities an additional allocation of funds for preparing and responding to the COVID-19, namely the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. He asked for CONSENSUS from the City Commission to have Broward County administer the distribution of funds from The CARES Act related to COVID-19. He identified two activities which could quickly be implemented which were Meals on Wheels and rent and activities.

Discussion ensued.

CONSENSUS was given by the City Commission.

CITY ATTORNEY JANETTE M. SMITH received news during the City Commission meeting that Florida Governor Ron DeSantis would be slowly reopening the State of Florida in phased stages but this would exclude Broward County, Miami Dade and Palm Beach. She advised that the City would start their Phase I at a later date and that the rest of the state would re-start on May 4th. She also continued with the Executive Order update on how it would affect the Tri-County. She discussed the Executive Order 2020-003 issued by the City Manager which provided two more strict Regulations pertaining to the operational hours of the parks and the closure of the restrooms. She continued to provide updates on the current Executive Orders. She asked for CONSENSUS from the City Commission to write a letter of support from the City of Margate extending Executive Order 20-69 which related to the relaxing of quorum requirements, as well as have the City of Margate be included in a letter from the Broward League of Cities for the same topic.

Discussion ensued.

CONSENSUS was given by the City Commission to be included in the letter from the Broward League of Cities as well as the City sending their own respective letter.

CITY ATTORNEY SMITH thanked Vice Mayor Schwartz for finding a scrivener's error in a Resolution Item pertaining to the Mellgren Planning Group. She said that she would ensure that the error would be corrected if it passed today.

Discussion ensued on the Tri-County Executive Orders and loosening of the restrictions.

MAYOR RUZZANO referenced a letter from Manny Lugo and questioned if it should have been read during Public Discussion.

CITY CLERK KAVANAGH explained that the only letter he received requested that the same be forwarded to the Commission. He said that as far as he was aware, he had not received a letter from Mr. Lugo.

## 5) CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under Consent Agenda are viewed to be routine and the recommendation will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired by the Commission, the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately. 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 2020-156](#) MOTION - APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES: FEBRUARY 19,

2020 - REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING; FEBRUARY 28, 2020 - CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP; MARCH 4, 2020 - REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING; MARCH 18, 2020 - REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING.

**APPROVED**

## Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

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

## 6) RESOLUTION(S)

- A.** [ID 2020-163](#) APPROVING A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE MELLGREN PLANNING GROUP, INC., FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) 2018-022A - COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT CONSULTING SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RESOLUTION 20-021

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

THE MELLGREN PLANNING GROUP, INC., MICHELE MELLGREN introduced herself via Zoom and discussed this Item.

Discussion ensued including a question and answer session with the Mellgren Planning Group.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SENIOR PLANNER ANDREW PINNEY confirmed City Manager Curtis' assessment that they were past the public input portion of the contract and that those were some of the funds they were repurposing. He said that they were going to do their best to bring it home by November.

Discussion ensued.

**The motion carried by the following:**

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

- B.** [ID 2020-152](#) APPROVING THE 2020 AMENDMENT TO THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BROWARD COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MARGATE PROVIDING FOR DIVISION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE BROWARD COUNTY ADDITIONAL THREE-CENT LOCAL OPTION GAS

TAX ON MOTOR FUEL ORDINANCE AND THE 2020 AMENDMENT TO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BROWARD COUNTY AND MARGATE PROVIDING FOR DIVISION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE BROWARD COUNTY ADDITIONAL FIFTH CENT LOCAL OPTION GAS TAX ON MOTOR FUEL FOR TRANSIT; PROVIDING FOR UPDATED POPULATION FIGURES; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

RESOLUTION 20-022

**A motion was made by Commissioner Caggiano, seconded by Vice Mayor Schwartz, that this Resolution, be approved.**

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

## 7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

### **A. ID 2020-164** DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION - MAYOR POSITION BEING VOTED ON BY THE RESIDENTS.

MAYOR RUZZANO explained that he had questions from residents asking how the Mayor was appointed which was approved by the City Commission. He said that some residents have asked for consideration for the public to vote on this appointment in the future. He said that a lot of the cities in the County picked the Mayor and that it was just a handful where their respective Commission rotated the Mayor. He suggested that in the future, they should look into going into districts and referenced starting a Charter Review Board so that they could place some items onto the Referendum.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO explained that he had previously gone on the record that the Mayor should be selected by the people. He said that he had a lot of questions, for example, whether it would still be a ceremonial position and referenced Coral Springs. He gave an example of why he was not a fan of districts. He recommended that no Charter Amendments should be made during this election cycle as he did not believe it was the right time. He strongly agreed on forming a Charter Review Committee to look at Charter Amendments for 2022 which would be two years after the 2020 Census.

Discussion ensued including whether they should pursue a Charter Review Board, Charter Amendments, the public voting on a Mayor and adding this item to the Strategic Plan.

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ said that she would not recommend putting this into the Strategic Plan and referenced a previous discussion on parking. She agreed that it was time for a Charter Review Board and said that she wanted sight of the 2014 recommendations from a former Committee. She stated that she never wanted to see districting and that she represented all of the City.

Discussion ensued on districts.

COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO echoed Vice Mayor Schwartz's comments and referenced Southeast Park when discussing districts. He said that he was 100% against districting.

Discussion ensued on the South end of Margate Strategic Planning and creating a Charter Review Committee at a future date to be determined.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE said that the whole discussion was premature, that the timing was off, that they had other priorities and that she did not want to see staff spend any time on this issue. She believed that this should be tabled to a later date when they got back to normal and thereafter, they could then have another discussion.

**A motion to table was made by Commissioner Caggiano. This motion failed for a lack of second.**

Discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Arserio, to establish a Charter Review Committee every ten years and add it to the Strategic Plan. This motion failed for a lack of second.**

MAYOR RUZZANO said that by 2022, the City Commission would need to come up with rules to include the selection of Board members and items for discussion for a Charter Review Board.

CITY ATTORNEY SMITH said that by 2022, she would work with the City Clerk and City Manager to come up with something for the City Commission's consideration.

CITY CLERK KAVANAGH played an audio submission from public speaker, Mr. Pellecchia, which provided his full explanation on why they should table this Item to a later date.

Discussion ensued on Mr. Pellecchia's submission and addressing future Charter Amendments.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards

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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.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE CITY OF MARGATE'S VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020 AT 4PM

##### THROUGH THE CITY'S WEBSITE:

Go to [www.margatefl.com](http://www.margatefl.com)

Go to "Agendas & Minutes" > Find the respective meeting date and click "Agenda Summary" to view the agenda items and see the Zoom meeting website address

##### THROUGH COMCAST CHANNEL 78:

If you are a Comcast/Xfinity customer, please go to Channel 78 to view the meeting.

PRIOR to the start of the meeting, email Public Comments to [jjkavanagh@margatefl.com](mailto:jjkavanagh@margatefl.com) (all public comments that are three (3) minutes or less will be read into the record.)

#### ALTERNATE OPTION FOR VIEWING AND PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING:

##### THROUGH ZOOM TECHNOLOGY:

Instructions for Attendees\Participants:

Topic: "City of Margate - Virtual Commission Meeting"

Enter the following link to join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/96450746723>

Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: 1-669-900-6833 or 1-929-205-6099 or 253-215-8782 or 301-715-8592 or 312-626-6799 or 346-248-7799

Webinar ID: 964-5074-6723

To virtually raise hand and be acknowledged to speak:

1. Users who call in can dial \*9 to raise their hand
2. If going through mobile (phone\tablet) app, to raise hand select "Participants", then see option to raise hand.
3. On the computer users should click "Participants" then see option to raise hand
4. Once you have been selected to speak, you will be prompted to unmute your device or stay muted.



