



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

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

5:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81905334979>

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioner Caggiano attended via Zoom

Commissioner Simone attended via Zoom

Commissioner Arserio attended via Zoom

Vice Mayor Schwartz attended in person

Mayor Ruzzano attended in person

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

1) PRESENTATION(S)

B. [ID 2020-233](#) ANTONIO CARECCIA, POLICE OFFICER - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 30 YEARS

SCOTT DEDI, POLICE SERGEANT - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 30 YEARS

CHARLES KONECKE, POLICE LIEUTENANT - POLICE DEPARTMENT - 30 YEARS

ALBERTO ARANGO, FIRE LIEUTENANT - FIRE DEPARTMENT - 30 YEARS

JEFFERY STEVENS, FIRE LIEUTENANT - FIRE DEPARTMENT - 25 YEARS

PAUL ALAN CARTER, FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC - FIRE DEPARTMENT 20 YEARS

DANNY CUJAR, FIRE LIEUTENANT - FIRE DEPARTMENT - 20 YEARS

MARK A. HALE, DRIVER/ENGINEER - FIRE DEPARTMENT - 20 YEARS

PATRICK ROBERT LAPRADE, FIRE CAPTAIN - FIRE DEPARTMENT - 20 YEARS

RAUL PEREZ, FIRE CAPTAIN - FIRE DEPARTMENT - 20 YEARS

SCOTT O. SCHWARTZ, FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC - FIRE DEPARTMENT 20 YEARS

RICARDO S. ALMEIDA, PLANT OPERATOR - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES- 20 YEARS

DARRYL DANIEL MAURO, UTILITY MECHANIC - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES - 20 YEARS

RUTH ANGEL ANNABEL, CUSTODIAN - PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - 15 YEARS

Item 1B. was heard before Item 1A.

A. [ID 2020-242](#) PRESENTATION BY NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER KRISTEN LINDENBOOM

Item 1A. was heard after Item 1B.

NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER KRISTEN LINDENBOOM provided an update on the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) which included changes that had been implemented at the hospital during the pandemic and she explained the current status of the hospital. She indicated that there had been an increase in hospitalizations but currently, they were not experiencing any capacity issues.

Discussion ensued on a question and answer session.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO calculated that the Employee Recognition had combined a total of approximately 320 years of dedicated Margate workers and he thanked them for

their service.

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK, JENNIFER M. JOHNSON read a statement pertaining to the City's virtual public meeting pursuant to the Sunshine Law and Governor DeSantis' Executive Order.

2) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

CITY CLERK JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH explained the protocol for submitting public comment.

ELSA J. SANCHEZ, 6930 NW 15TH STREET commended the City for putting on a great Parade that was appreciated by many. She requested status updates on Firehouse 58 and the Veteran's Rehabilitation/Detox House.

MAYOR RUZZANO informed that they were going through a process for the Veteran's Rehabilitation.

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS advised that Firehouse 58 was at 100% design and that it was going through a planned review in the Building Department. He also said that it was on schedule and that they were going out to bid for that project at the end of July or at the beginning of August. He said that they would likely be rewarding a contract in September and would commence construction in October.

Discussion ensued on Firehouse 58.

3) COMMISSION COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO thanked all staff for the great job that they were doing and requested that people should show respect by continuing to wear masks in public and to maintain social distancing.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE congratulated employees for their years of service and said that they were truly appreciated. She thanked the entire Parks and Recreation staff for a wonderful July 4th Parade and Firework display. She also thanked Sergeant Stransky and his road patrol for taking care of them during the Parade route. She thanked staff member and her personal driver for the day, Ronald, as well as the residents for making it a wonderful occasion.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO congratulated employees for their years of service, first responders, medical care workers and City staff. He said that the July 4th event was incredible and a huge success. He received positive feedback on the style of the Parade and said that the whole event captured the attention from the New York Times. He said that schools had been a big topic with COVID-19 and explained that he had received feedback from both sides. He referenced a Broward County survey that he had posted on his Commissioner Facebook page and encouraged parents to complete the same. He highlighted a picture of a yard sale, discussed the problems it encountered, made reference to addressing Code and asked the City to look into it.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS said that he discussed this matter with Police personnel and the City Attorney Smith. He said that they could place a temporary measure citing the individual and requesting them to clean up their area.

Discussion ensued on yard sales.

VICE MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ reiterated many of the things that were already heard pertaining to the Parade and thanked Julie Jones and other residents. She appreciated the assistance from the Police Department and recommended that they wear reflective gear at night time to direct traffic. She advised that parents had until Friday to complete Broward County's school survey and referenced making a choice of three models. She thanked State Representative Anika T. Omphroy for coming out and being their Grand Marshal and for her involvement in the mask giveaway. She referenced the 911 system and discussed feedback on calls made to the non-emergency number pertaining to fireworks. She explained that people were either placed on hold for a long duration or the phone was unanswered. She said that this was totally unacceptable and indicated that the system needed to be reviewed.

MAYOR RUZZANO discussed the school survey and said that the decision should be left up to the parents. She thanked staff again for the years of service and referenced Officer Careccia. He echoed the comments from the rest of the City Commission on the Police and Fire Departments and Parks and Recreation pertaining to the Parade and firework display. He said that the fireworks were awesome and that a picture of the display featured in the New York Times. He highlighted the special mask giveaway for this Saturday. He referenced the upcoming 2020/21 Budget and said that he did not have any plans to raise the Millage rate as businesses and residents were hit hard by COVID-19. He said that they had millions of dollars from Code violation codes and suggested setting up an amnesty program. He discussed a previous idea where they were considering setting up a license fee for residents who rented and if they did not keep their property up to compliance, the license would be revoked. He said that the City Commission should be creative and consider other revenues other than raising taxes as they were going to have a tight budget this year. He said that he wanted to show a picture of a resident's yard which was in comparison to what Commissioner Arserio previously illustrated which would drive down the property values and neighborhoods.

Discussion ensued on raising revenue, property values and curb appeal, license for renters, Homestead and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Code issues and Special Magistrate Liens.

MAYOR RUZZANO discussed Code issues and photos from residents' front yards with Code violations and yard sales.

Discussion ensued on Code issues and the pictures that had been shown on nuisance properties pertaining to Section 3.16.

4) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITY MANAGER CURTIS read out the following City's events and meetings:

- July 11th - The City had partnered with State Representative Omphroy for the mask giveaway for Margate residents.
- July 16th - A Special City Commission Meeting pertaining to the CDBG housing plan.
- July 16th - Budget Workshop for adoption in September.
- July 18th – The City was partnering with Innovative Transfusion Medicine (ITM) for a blood drive in exchange for a free antibody COVID-19 test.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS highlighted two letters of appreciation that he received over the last couple of weeks. He read a letter from a Cindy Lawry pertaining to July 4th event

and praised the Police Department and in particular, Sergeant Stransky and Police Officer Crabtree.

Discussion ensued on the July 4th event.

CITY MANAGER CURTIS discussed another letter pertaining to a helicopter crash in Coconut Creek at Tradewinds Park which Margate/Coconut Creek Fire Rescue had responded to. He read the email of gratitude addressed to Fire Chief Lorenzo from a former Margate firefighter who now worked for Miami Dade County. He said well done to the respective Fire Departments that assisted in that crash.

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 2020-223](#) MOTION - APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES: MAY 12, 2020, CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP; MAY 20, 2020, REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simone, seconded by Commissioner Caggiano, that this Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

- B. [ID 2020-232](#) RESOLUTION - AMENDING THE CITY OF MARGATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) 2015-2019 CONSOLIDATED PLAN, FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH BROWARD COUNTY RETROACTIVE TO MARCH 27, 2020; PROVIDING FOR CDBG CARES ACT FUNDING, ADMINISTRATION, ACTIVITIES, AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

RESOLUTION 20-040

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ advised that she had spoken to Broward County Mayor Mark D. Bogen and said that she had a real problem with the County withdrawing 20% from The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to administer this Item. She explained that they should not take the 20% as it was meant to go to people who needed it. She asked for CONSENSUS from the City Commission to ask the City Manager to write a letter which would be sent to the Broward League of Cities for Broward County not to take money from anyone's CARES Act fund.

Discussion ensued.

CONSENSUS was given by the City Commission.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Simone, seconded by Commissioner Caggiano, 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) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. ID 2020-245 UPDATES TO MARGATE 2.0 SINCE JUNE 4TH, 2020 WORKSHOP

CITY MANAGER CURTIS gave a brief introduction from the Mellgren Planning Group, Inc., and explained that they engaged in a public workshop on June 4th to present the draft goals, objectives and policies on the future land use element. He advised that this item was being brought forward to the City Commission to review changes made to the review plan, based on that Workshop. He believed that the majority of the draft language that they accomplished was put together from the direction of the City Commission at the June 4th meeting.

MAYOR RUZZANO indicated that these were some of the main highlights from the last meeting that they were going to discuss right now. He also advised that this was going to be reviewed before the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Board.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR ELIZABETH TASCHEREAU explained that team members had been working very hard for approximately four months with Michele Mellgren on the Comprehensive Plan. She said that the City Commission had their one-to-ones which Development Services Senior Planner Pinney was going to discuss.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SENIOR PLANNER ANDREW PINNEY explained that there were three policy changes specific to the Activity Center (AC) and they have included a visual aid to help them talk about the essential business district. He apologized and corrected a statement he made at the June 4th meeting by incorrectly stating that City Hall was not an essential business district. He clarified by saying that City Hall was in the essential business district but they had a couple of options based on the discussion from the last City Commission Workshop. He turned the discussion back to the City Commission for any notes or queries they may have so he could relay their comments to the Consultant.

Discussion ensued including the use of track changes made to the PDF document, light rail system followed by a question and answer session.

MAYOR RUZZANO said that they were good to move this item to the P & Z Board.

Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards



Joseph J. Kavanagh, City ClerkDate: 8/28/2020

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.

The City of Margate's procedure for the virtual public meeting are as follows:

- Pursuant to Governor DeSantis' Executive Orders 20-51 and 20-52, in which the Governor declared a public health emergency and a state of emergency, there is a recommendation to limit public gatherings.
- On March 20, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-69, suspending the quorum requirements for public meetings held by a local government body, and the requirement that a local government body must meet at a specific public place.
- On June 23, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-150, extending Executive Order 20-69 regarding local government public meetings until 12:01 a.m. on August 1, 2020.
- Consistent with the authority contained in the Governor's Executive Orders, and in order to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the City of Margate's residents and employees, the City of Margate finds that it is in the best interest of the City of Margate to hold this virtual public meeting.
- Therefore, the City of Margate will be holding this virtual meeting through the use of electronic communication. Members of the public are invited to join the City of Margate meeting by accessing the meeting through Zoom using Webinar ID: 819-0533-4979 or can call in via telephone by calling one of the following phone numbers: US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099.
- A copy of the Agenda for this Virtual Meeting is posted on www.MargateFL.com and on the main bulletin board outside City Hall located at 5790 Margate Blvd, Margate, FL 33063.
- Any comments related to any item on the agenda can be submitted to the City of Margate via the following e-mail address: JKKAVANAGH@MARGATEFL.COM.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE CITY OF MARGATE'S VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M.**

THROUGH THE CITY'S WEBSITE:

Go to 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 (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: "Virtual Meeting - Regular City Commission Meeting"

Enter the following link to join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/81905334979>

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: 819-0533-4979

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.