



City of Margate

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

Meeting Minutes City Commission Budget Hearing

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

Thursday, September 3, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85681200134>

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 via Zoom

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) PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- A. [ID 2020-281](#) PUBLIC HEARING ON TENTATIVE BUDGET AND PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE.

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

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS explained that this evening's meeting was in regard to

the Millage rate and the public budget hearing and public input in that process. He introduced Finance staff to recap the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Budget.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE KELLY SCHWARTZ welcomed everyone to the first Public Hearing Fiscal Year 2020/21 Budget. She gave a PowerPoint presentation and recapped on the Public Workshop held in July 2020. She explained that at this hearing, they would give an update on the City by covering some of the accomplishments of Fiscal Year 2020 which included highlighting several of the major projects and initiatives and detailing what changes were made to this proposed Budget book since the July 2020 Workshop draft.

MAYOR TOMMY RUZZANO thanked Assistant Director of Finance Schwartz for her presentation and invited questions from the City Commission.

Discussion ensued on a question and answer session and the rest of the City Commission thanked the Finance Department for their efforts in devising the Budget.

COMMISSIONER JOANNE SIMONE asked the City Commission to consider removing \$15,000 from the ReadingPals program and referenced the payment of tax dollars to the School Board.

Discussion ensued.

MAYOR RUZZANO opened the hearing for Public Discussion.

CITY CLERK JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH read an email from Jacques Toussaint pertaining to the increase in property taxes.

MAYOR RUZZANO responded to Mr. Toussaint's query and referenced Commissioner Arserio's question to Marty Kiar at the last City Commission meeting.

COMMISSIONER ANTONIO V. ARSERIO responded to Mr. Toussaint's query.

VICE MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ responded to Mr. Toussaint's query.

Discussion ensued on the tax rate in Margate.

2) RESOLUTION(S)

- A. [ID 2020-282](#) APPROVING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY OF MARGATE FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF 7.7383 MILLS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF ASSESSED VALUATION (WHICH INCLUDES .6212 FOR VOTED DEBT SERVICE); THAT THE OPERATING MILLAGE RATE OF 7.1171 IS 5.48% HIGHER THAN THE ROLL-BACK RATE OF 6.7471.

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

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

- B. [ID 2020-283](#) ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE 2020/2021 FISCAL YEAR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO OPERATE ON SAID

TENTATIVE BUDGET AS AMENDED PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE UNTIL ADOPTION OF THE FINAL BUDGET FOR SAID FISCAL YEAR.

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

Discussion ensued.

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ said that she agreed with Commissioner Simone's comments pertaining to the \$15,000 for the Reading Pals program.

CITY CLERK KAVANAGH spoke on this Item.

Discussion ensued on whether the ReadingPals program should be left in the Budget.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3) ORDINANCE(S) - FIRST READING

- A. [ID 2020-284](#) ADOPTING AN OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; PROVIDING FOR A BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND, SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS, AND INTERNAL SERVICE FUND; PROVIDING FOR A MILLAGE RATE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion was made by Commissioner Caggiano, seconded by Vice Mayor Schwartz, that this Ordinance, First Reading, should be approved.

MAYOR RUZZANO thanked everyone who was responsible for putting together the Budget book.

Discussion ensued on thanking the Finance team for the Budget book.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

MAYOR RUZZANO asked the City Commission if they had any comments.

COMMISSIONER ANTHONY N. CAGGIANO thanked the staff.

COMMISSIONER SIMONE thanked the staff for their hard work which was greatly appreciated.

COMMISSIONER ARSERIO thanked City Manager Curtis, City staff, the Finance Department and other Department Heads for going through the Budget and answering questions which he raised. He said it was a good Budget and that they did not raise the Millage rate. He was also happy that they were able to do more things than they had in previous Budgets. He was looking forward to the grand opening of Culver's Restaurant this Saturday. He also thanked the City workers in the streets for making this happen.

VICE MAYOR SCHWARTZ agreed with Commissioner Arserio's comments pertaining to the City staff. She also discussed her pre-Budget Workshop meeting with respective staff and also appreciated the format of the City's achievements throughout the current fiscal year.

MAYOR RUZZANO said that there was a lot of work going on in the City during the pandemic and that he heard on the news that people were moving from up North down to South Florida which was one of the hot spots. He referenced a meeting he participated in this afternoon, held by Broward League of Cities and discussed The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act money.

CITY MANAGER CALE CURTIS thanked the City Commission for recognizing the staff's diligence work on the Budget and referenced Finance Director Beazley, Assistant Director of Finance Schwartz, Budget Manager Smith-Burke and the Finance Department.

Discussion ensued.

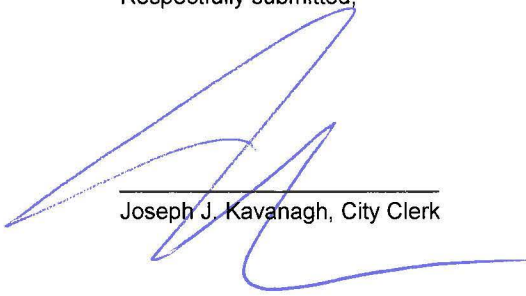
COMMISSIONER CAGGIANO echoed Commissioner Arserio and Vice Mayor Schwartz's sentiments pertaining to City staff and thanked them for their service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Salene E. Edwards



Joseph J. Kavanagh, City Clerk

Date: 10/22/2020

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 is holding a virtual public hearing on September 3, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. This statement explains the City of Margate's findings related to the need to hold the virtual public meeting, and the ability of the public to access the virtual public meeting.

The City of Margate's findings and 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 August 7, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-193, extending Executive Order 20-69 regarding local government public meetings until 12:01 a.m. on October 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 clients 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 communications. Members of the public are invited to join this virtual meeting by going to www.zoom.com and entering Webinar ID: 856 8120 0134 or by calling in via telephone by dialing one of the following phone numbers: 312-626-6799 or 929-205-6099 - Webinar ID: 856 8120 0134
- 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: JJKAVANAGH@MARGATEFL.COM

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE CITY COMMISSION BUDGET HEARING VIRTUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020, AT 6:00 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 - Margate City Commission Budget Hearing"

Enter the following link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85681200134>

Telephone:

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

312-626-6799 or 929-205-6099

Webinar ID: 856 8120 0134

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.