

**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION – MARGATE CITY**

DECEMBER 21, 2017

MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY

THE PRESS AND THE DOWNBEACH CURRENT WERE NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING AND A COPY OF SAME WAS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND THE MUNICIPAL WEBSITE

The Margate City Board of Commissioners held a work meeting on the above date at 4:05 p.m. The meeting began with a flag salute & roll call: Mayor Becker, Commissioner Amodeo and Commissioner Blumberg were present. The following personnel were also present: Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Casey, Mr. Galantino, Mr. Adams, Mr. Walberg and Mr. McLarnon. Mr. Deaney and Mr. Abbott were also present.

Mayor Becker requests a moment of silence to honor the memory of former Commissioner Tom Markowski, who departed on December 20th, 2017.

Items of Discussion:

D1. Proclamation for Franz Adler: Mayor Becker, Commissioners Blumberg and Amodeo presented a Municipal Proclamation to commend and congratulate Franz Adler, upon his retirement, thanked him for his 47 years of public service to the City of Margate City and in his honor, proclaimed Thursday, December 21, 2017, as Franz Adler Day.

Department Reports:

Mr. Walberg: Nothing to report and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. McLarnon: Thanked Franz for his service to the city. Mr. McLarnon announced that the Planning Board approved the Miniature Golf Course last week, and that Planning Board has four or five new cases in the month of January on the schedule. Mr. McLarnon shared that he approved 12 plans for new construction in the month of December, and that in purchasing; he is working on several contracts for next year.

Mr. Galantino: Wished everyone in attendance Happy Holidays and reported to the Board of Commissioners that the Building Department continues to be very busy and that this week four new permit applications for new construction were received. Mr. Galantino also shared that he is working with Mr. Walberg and are discussing flood gating the Library and in closing, he shared that he is very much looking forward to next year.

Mr. Abbott: Mr. Abbott thanked and praised Rich Deaney for the great job he did negotiating the contracts, it shows the value of having someone with his background and experience work for the city and added that he is extremely impressed with his knowledge. Mayor Becker seconded that motion and thanked Rich for his work and for being in Margate. Mr. Abbott proceeded to discuss Resolutions #250-2017 and #251-2017, which authorize the City of Margate to enter into a contract with Rutala Associates for the administration of funds for the FEMA Mitigation Grant Program and referred to other cities having issues due to not being able to reimburse homeowners after having their work done due to mishandling of grant money. Mr. Abbott stated that he is confident that Margate won't have that problem and will do a great job handling the funds which will involve the

home elevation of six homes. Mr. Abbott added that in his opinion, Margate takes the lead from all of the Shore communities. Mr. Abbott proceeded to discuss the flood maps and informed the Board about a potential proposal that it is in the works that will increase freeboard and asked for Mr. McLarnon' assistance in explaining the proposal; Mr. McLarnon explained the proposal and how it will help and affect homeowners. Mr. Abbott will have to take a closer look at the drafted ordinance to be considered next month.

Ms. Casey: Ms. Casey stated that she has nothing to report. All is well in the Clerk's Office.

Ms. McLaughlin: Ms. McLaughlin thanked and congratulated Franz Adler on his retirement and stated that she has nothing to report other than that she is currently working on the 2018 budget and has a document drafted that needs to be reviewed. She is looking to provide a draft to the Board in the next several weeks and is planning on introducing the Budget on the second meeting in February. She closed by wishing everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Adams: Mr. Adams thanked and congratulated Franz Adler on his retirement, wished everyone Happy Holidays and as a safety reminder, Mr. Adams reiterated the importance for those who have a live Christmas tree at home to keep the water filled at all times.

Mr. Deaney: Mr. Deaney thanked Mr. Abbott for his remarks and added that he is very pleased that the City has contracts with the PBA, the FMBA and the Employees Association of Margate and their representatives, and that based on their votes, they have executed these contracts which are ready for the Boards approval today. If approved, once signed by the Mayor and the City Clerk, they will be in effect as of January 1, 2018. Mr. Deaney thanked Chief Wolfson, Chief Tabasso, Chief Adams, Frank and Pat Powers for their cooperation in the negotiation process. Mr. Deaney thanked the Commissioners for their input throughout the year in sharing their visions on where we were headed as a community and also thanked Commissioner Amodeo, for seating with him at every contract negotiation and for his guidance and trust which resulted in all three contract goals being approved. Mr. Deaney added that there are still some flaws and that there may be amendments during the time period rather than wait until a new contract. Mr. Deaney also stated that from January to June, those employees who are considering retirement after age 62, but prior to age 65, having worked for the city for a minimum of 25 years, will receive a supplemental pay on a monthly basis to be used to contribute towards health insurance until they qualify for Medicare. Mr. Deaney also announced one of the last retirement incentives from the contracts; for those employees interested, if they are eligible and qualify for retirement, between January 2018 and June 2018, they should notify the Police Chief or Fire Chief within 60 days' notice (could be waived), and instead of getting paid at a prorated sick time rate, they will receive their full daily salary rate. In closing, Mr. Deaney also announced that all employees' anniversary dates will be changed to January 1st.

Commissioner Blumberg: Commissioner Blumberg spoke on the loss of former Commissioner Tom Markowski and shared how much he meant to him personally and to the City of Margate during his tenure.

Commissioner Amodeo: Commissioner Amodeo seconded Commissioner Blumberg's sentiments and remembered Mr. Markowski's time as President of the Atlantic County New Jersey League of Municipalities, and reiterated that Mr. Markowski will definitely be missed. Commissioner Amodeo also seconded Mr. Deaney's remarks regarding the contract negotiations since August; Commissioner Amodeo is very proud of the two negotiations he sat in on both sides. Thankful that both sides recognized that they worked in a great town and that we recognize the fact that we have great employees. Commissioner Amodeo is happy that everything worked out, thanked Mr. Deaney for his

WORKSHOP MEETING

DECEMBER 21, 2017

expertise, and pointed out that we couldn't have done it without him. In addition, Commissioner Amodeo shared that last night he attended the Margate Terrace Christmas Party and wanted to thank the Margate Terrace Board of Trustees and Fred Verna for their hard work with their involvement in the renovation project, and for putting a smile in the residents of Margate Terrace. In closing, Commissioner Amodeo wished everyone a Healthy and Happy Holiday Season and New Year.

Mayor Becker: Mayor Becker wished everyone a very Happy, Healthy Holiday Season and Good Health, and closed sharing that he loves taking care of the City, and opened the floor for public comment.

Public Participation:

John Sewell: 22 West Drive: Following up on the remarks regarding renovation, stated that we are very outdated and on the impact of the 2020 census and the effect being to close a school. Mr. Sewell stated that we cannot afford any tax increases and suggested downsizing Government.

Steve Worner: 103 N. Sumner Avenue: Spoke in favor of the contract agreements and thanked everyone of their hard work. Mr. Worner commended Mr. Deaney for all he has done.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mayor Becker called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Whereupon, the motion was made by Commissioner Amodeo and seconded by Commissioner Blumberg to adjourn the meeting. A unanimous voice vote was taken adjourning the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Commissioners of the City of Margate City, New Jersey

Mayor, Michael Becker

Commissioner John F. Amodeo

Commissioner Maury Blumberg

Attest: _____
Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk