

March 20, 2014
Margate City, New Jersey

THE PRESS AND THE DOWNBEACH CURRENT WERE NOTIFIED OF THESE MEETINGS AND A COPY OF SAME WAS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AND THE MUNICIPAL WEBSITE

The Margate City Board of Commissioners held a work meeting on the above date at 4:00 p.m. The meeting began with a flag salute & roll call: Mr. Becker, Ms. Taube & Mr. Blumberg were present. The following department heads were present: Mr. Abbott, Chief Wolfson, Mr. Walberg, Chief Tabasso, Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Larkin, Mr. Galantino, Mr. Rubin,

Department Reports

Ms. Taube:

Possible smoking ban on the beaches; Sustainable Margate - \$2000 grant received (*\$1000 will be used for this along with \$1000 from the Public Works budget*), Stockton College students will study Margate's carbon foot print, move forward with a resolution

Mr. Hiltner & Chief Tabasso:

Fireworks for July 4th – barges unavailable so beach shoot this year, Margate Mothers Club assisting with all prep

Mr. Abbott:

Little League Lease – 10 years with option for additional 10 years approved by Green Acres; SJ Gas Municipal Consent Ordinance – objection to using “exclusive” in the ordinance but recommendation to move forward

Emergency at Amherst Avenue bulkhead – temporary repairs but should last for many years, KG Marine contracted for work (*resolution on tonight's agenda*), further discussion on ownership of the bulkhead (*private v. city*), ordinance states property owner is responsible for repairs (*Lamberti's leases his 500' section and is responsible for repairs*)

Mr. Blumberg:

City policy re: comments to the media & public regarding employees – trying to be proactive since lawsuits have increased over the years (*No support from commissioners*)

Contract award to Michael Barker, Esq. regarding Marketplace Realty/ beach shack advertising matter – objection raised to \$10,000 contract when an apology may suffice, questioned charge given to Mr. Barker (*only to respond to the recent letter as presented by Mr. Gallagher, Esq. or to look into as a criminal matter*), executive session only needed if strategy was to be discussed not the reasons for the hire (*Ms. Taube believed this should be discussed in executive*), wait to award contract & try to have city rep contact Mr. Gallagher to discuss resolution (*Ms. Taube and Mr. Becker opposed*)

Mr. Becker:

Updated March 21st meeting with DEP, ACOE, Longport, Ventnor & AC representatives – no real changes by State agencies, support expressed for hiring an attorney specializing in this matter, analyze the entire Dunes project before any challenge, Mr. Blumberg asked about higher bulkheads in lieu of dunes which would be effective and less costly, no further information from State on easements & drainage concerns, Mr. Becker has written letters but has not received response, work to get the “best deal” for the city

Mr. Walberg: Updated projects and explained emergency at Gladstone Avenue water tank

Ms. Larkin: Moving forward with several ordinances for fee increases

Mr. Galantino: Working on draft ordinance with solicitor for demolition of structures

Mr. Rubin: Yard Sale ads to begin next week

Public Participation: John Sewell: apologize to Marketplace Realty instead of hiring an attorney; consider master jetty & not dunes. Steve Altman: suggested broader use of calendar to disseminate city information. Sharon Simon: media policy needed & Ms. Taube should pay for her own attorney on Marketplace matter. Mr. Miskalsky: commented on beach advertising. On motion by Ms. Taube this portion was closed with a vote of three ayes. On motion by Mr. Blumberg the meeting was adjourned with a vote of 3 ayes.

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

Attest: _____ Thomas D. Hiltner, City Clerk