

September 4, 2013  
Margate, 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 MUNICIPAL WEBSITE

The Margate City Board of Commissioners held a work meeting on the above date at 2:00 pm. The meeting began with a flag salute and roll call: Mr. Becker, Mr. Blumberg, and Ms. Taube were present. The following were present: Mr. Abbott, Mr. Deaney, Mr. Ricciotti, Mr. Walberg, Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Freed, Mr. Galantino, Chiefs Wolfson & Tabasso, and Mr. Verna.

**John Fish** of Commercial Utility Consultants, Inc. (CUC) gave an overview for the Energy & Natural Gas Aggregation Program which the city may join & be lead agency. Mr. Fish: CUC has been in business for 38 years & the DCA has completely vetted the program; this is about supply of energy not delivery (*AC Electric will continue to be the delivery agent*); live auction for pricing open to all; the winning company pays CUC not the city; anyone using a budget will continue; outreach program scheduled for 30 days; opt-out program designed by BPU; no cost to city; several other municipalities will join when Margate commits; only change on bill will be name of supplier; if already using a 3<sup>rd</sup> party supplier then no changes; rates hold for 1 year; if rates increase at contract end then the supplier will automatically revert to AC Electric without penalty and hidden costs; if rates should decline during the year low rate will be matched

Mr. Blumberg: requested 3 references from CUC; asked solicitor to review contract & advise; will there be a point person (*usually BA*); how much approximate time needed from city to administer/monitor the program (*approximately 20 hours*)

**Reports:**

Mr. Walberg: updated projects; receiving quotes for boilers (*will remedy Black Seal issue*) with approximate cost of \$8,700; former City Hall building must be brought up to code before use (*especially with court usage and all its requirements*) should be reimbursable by FEMA as mitigation; meeting with Mr. Galantino next week re: bulkhead heights for bay and ocean and the permitting process and zoning issues; 2012 Road Program to include Argyle Avenue as much utility work is needed; updated progress at pump station – met with Ventnor mayor, public works, and engineer, and ACUA – structure very good condition inside & out, removal of old building will provide area to become “park-like” with estimate of \$1.4 million for grant – ACUA will be lead on this

Mr. Abbott: explanation of Resolution #171 on tonight’s agenda (*already approved by Planning Board*) & Mr. Blumberg would like to review plans before adoption; thanked Chief Wolfson for assistance with new police department regulations

Chief Tabasso: replacing damaged equipment from recent accident & claim now to insurance

Mr. Ricciotti: October 7-11 hydrant flushing; schools ready to open; Randazzo Surf Tournament and LeTour planned for this weekend

Ms. McLaughlin: working on 2014 budget

Mr. Deaney: explanation of PBA contact final draft & recommendation to ratify; recommended awarding contract to Cairone & Kaupp for conceptual design work (*landscaping*) for Parkway area not to exceed \$20,000; Mr. Blumberg: if lost trees from hurricane can costs be recovered through FEMA – only electrical and irrigation but not vegetation losses may be recouped

Mr. Hiltner: several complaints about Action Landscaping & dogs possibly becoming ill after walking in Parkway grasses – Board of Health report due; explanation of water & sewer adjustments on tonight’s agenda (*homes substantially damaged from hurricane*)

Mr. Galantino: street opening close to bulkhead on Essex and the beach (*Mr. Walberg to review*)

Chief Wolfson: preparing for weekend activities in town and FunFest

Mr. Rubin: 11 new cases for September Planning Board; \$30,000 available to raise homes [www.renewjerseystronger.org](http://www.renewjerseystronger.org) for information

Mr. Blumberg: requested that a discussion be held at next commission meeting regarding Adopt-A-Beach Program, Ms. Taube alone should not make decision to abandon the program - should be commission decision, and money in that account should be frozen

Ms. Taube: kudos to Public Works with temporary summer hires; defended her decision to drop Adopt-A-Beach Program. Mr. Becker: September 16<sup>th</sup> back to blinking lights on Atlantic Avenue

**Public Participation:** John Sewell, 22 West Drive questioned engineering report. Shane Conesky PBA president, thanked city for ratifying the contract. With nothing further the meeting was adjourned on motion with a vote of three ayes.

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Board of Commissioners of the City of Margate City, NJ

Attest:

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Thomas D. Hiltner, City Clerk