

March 6, 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, Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Larkin, Mr. Ricciotti, Mr. Rubin, & Ms. Freed.

#### **Department Reports**

Discussion on dates for this year's **city-wide yard sale**: it was decided that the sale would last 2 days May 10 & 11 with clean up on May 11 from noon – 6 pm. Mr. Abbott updated the commissioners on the **bulkhead at 308 N. Rumson Avenue**: owner has agreed to raise the bulkhead to the current standard of 7.5 elevation therefore this matter has been completely resolved. **Free beach badges for veterans** was the second topic Mr. Abbott brought up: draft ordinance was presented allowing active members (& family) of the military to get free badges while veterans would only receive one free badge; the concern is for the administration of the program; Mr. Abbott will check other municipalities especially Ventnor; 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance is scheduled for next meeting. Also updated was city response to Dunes letter from Attorney General's Office (*City letter available to public*).

Ms. Larkin: Information /comparison with other municipalities re: penalties charged for certain violations presented as requested (*increases approved*); court renovation plans (*1 S. Washington Avenue*) sent to AOC for approval

Mr. Ricciotti: Fire hydrant flushing scheduled for March 17-21

Ms. McLaughlin: Explained Resolution #63 and Ordinances #7 & #9; revised pension bill from State (*lower than expected*); beach badges available for sale on March 24th

Chief Wolfson: Operation "take back" scheduled for April 26 (10-2pm) at the Police station & a drop box will be in the station available 24/7 for drug disposal

Mr. Rubin: Zoning for decks requires intensive study & there may be grant money available for same; this matter will be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting & then brought back to commissioners.

Mr. Blumberg: Thanks to Public Works for good work during recent storm; suggested creating a city policy for dedicating city-owned property & wait to name the Dog Park after Anne Pancoast as Mr. Deaney proposed in an email to him – there are other programs in place to honor residents & requested commissioners pull Res. #62 for further discussion (*both commissioners disagreed*)

Ms. Taube: Concerned about Res. #66 on tonight's agenda since there is no pending litigation & was not sure of the subject to be discussed – Ms. Taube thought that it may be (1) her letter to Ford Scott prior to their audit (*that letter made available tonight to the public*), (2) the removal of a \$5,000 stipend to a city employee for grass cutting for Board of Education, (3) beach shack advertising (*Mr. Blumberg explained his reason for calling the executive session - the recent firing of 4 P.W. employees & then rehiring only 3 of them*). Ms. Taube also stated that she just learned that she cannot delete emails regarding city business. (*She previously stated that she had deleted emails re: Dunes Project due to a problem with her computer*)

**Public Participation:** John Sewell: solicitor should try to strike down the governor's executive order re: Dunes Project; questioned the \$5,000 awarded the MBA for taking over the Margate calendar publishing. Mr. Berger explained that this is for the 2015 calendar & the city can no longer continue with it ; explained the purpose of tonight's resolution re: Tree Recovery Campaign (*free seedlings available to residents to help counteract Superstorm Sandy destruction of same*). Mr. Weinstein: concerned over high salary of head librarian & additional money paid to him. (*Mr. Becker explained the extra money is for working on the computers which is separate from the library position & Mr. Blumberg suggested comparing his salary to other NJ towns that have comparable programs*). Mary Slomine offered positive remarks about head librarian. Art Cautilli questioned Ordinance #7 and exact costs associated with it. Sharon Simon spoke on high legal fees in budget. Steve Woerner in favor of naming Dog Park after Anne Pancoast; head librarian salary too high; Dunes will be coming into Margate. 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.

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

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas D. Hiltner, City Clerk