

January 16, 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, Mr. Blumberg, & Ms. Taube were present. The following department heads were present: Mr. Deaney, Mr. Abbott, Chiefs Wolfson & Tabasso, Ms. McLaughlin, Mr. Verna, Mr. Rubin, Mr. Walberg, Mr. Ricciotti, Mr. Galantino.

Department Reports

Mr. Walberg: Bulkhead Ordinance on tonight's Agenda will change elevation data & raise bulkhead height by 1.3'; recommendation of award for bulkhead repairs will include Summer Avenue return (total bid: \$239,939.00 & all bulkheads damaged by Hurricane Sandy will be covered by FEMA); Gladstone Avenue tank painting bids all rejected again – too high – new bid will only cover inside of tank; updated ongoing projects

Mr. Ricciotti: Money in place for purchase of surf rake; very busy due to weather

Ms. McLaughlin: Introduction of Utility Ordinance tonight; 2013 Annual Debt Statement shows city's lowest net debt; JIF cyber liability will be increased to \$3 million per occurrence with no increase to assessment; recommended renewing Delta Dental for 2 years after comparison of comparable policies (*approved*)

Mr. Deaney: Budget introduction 2/20; capital budgeting helping to lower net debt; debt will shift to utilities when appropriate; MBA contract submitted – recommendation of award will be coming

Mr. Abbott: Explained Ordinance #2 (*flood mitigation*); no scheduled meeting with DEP yet

Mr. Hiltner: Awarding beach vending license - \$88,000 winning bid

Mr. Rubin: Met with Jim Rutala to discuss Planning Board items for possible grant funding & any studies associated with Ordinance #2 may be included; another bulkhead ordinance could be introduced or #2 could be amended to include new considerations (*introduce tonight and then amend*)

Mr. Galantino: New flood insurance bill in Senate (\$1846) would raise rates by 20% - call local senators to voice opinion; supports decision on Ordinance #2

Mr. Verna: Correcting problems with email & website; engaged company to check solar panels on this building & report any benefit, etc.; emptying classrooms to convert this building from a school to a municipal building

Mr. Blumberg: Commission should send another letter to DEP Commissioner since no response from first letter (*Mr. Abbott to assist with draft & Mr. Becker asked for patience*). Mr. Becker: Proud of solid city finances & thanked everyone for help in keeping it so

Public Participation: John Sewell wants DEP Commissioner to come to Margate for public meeting. Jim Lees, S. Huntington Avenue, still has clouded water after flushing system twice (*Mr. Walberg to ask contractor to flush hydrant*). Ann Pancoast asked for explanation of differing bulkhead heights along ocean (*Mr. Walberg: actual height depends on ground elevation so some appear shorter than others*). Richard Armon, Dolphin Drive, asked for explanation of bulkhead heights along bay and ocean (*Mr. Walberg: ocean concern is wave action and bay bulkheads create a wall to hold the soil*). Steve Jasinski asked if extra rooms in City Hall would be rented out. Jane McGregor, N. Hanover Avenue, agreed with sending 2nd letter to DEP Commissioner. Sharon Simon commented on federal/state laws regarding DUNES issue. Steve Altman asked that multi-purpose room sound system be updated during renovations & offered inexpensive solution. Dan Gottlieb asked commissioners' expectations from DEP meeting– Mr. Blumberg: explain entire island should be protected not only ocean side, alternatives to dunes are available for exploration, City already has some dunes and bulkheads along entire beach front, and convince him that 1600 voters do matter (anti DUNES Referendum) & must be considered. Mr. Becker – explore alternatives, express concerns about outfall pipes, street end drainage, sand replenishment, money for bayside protection, as well as, the legality of the Referendum vote. 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 three ayes.

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

Attest: _____ Thomas D. Hiltner, City Clerk