

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

**February 1, 2018**

**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 4:00 p.m. The meeting began with a flag salute & roll call: Mayor Becker, Commissioner Amodeo and Commissioner Blumberg were present. The following department heads were present: Acting Administrator Ms. Bascelli, Ms. Casey, Mr. Galantino, Mr. Walberg, Mr. Verna, Chief Tabasso, Chief Adams and Mr. Ricciotti. Mr. McLarnon and Mr. Abbott were also present.

**Acknowledgement:**

**D1. PROCLAMATION:** Fire Chief Anthony Tabasso

At Mayor Backer's request, Commissioner Amodeo presented and read into record a Municipal Proclamation to commend and congratulate Fire Chief Anthony Tabasso, upon his retirement from the City of Margate Fire Department, thanked him for his 40 years of public service to the City of Margate and made this proclamation part of these official agenda minutes:

***WHEREAS***, Margate City Fire Chief Anthony "Tony" Tabasso has been the proud leader of the Margate City Fire Department and its 35 department members since 2011, and

***WHEREAS***, the Margate City Fire Department and Chief Tabasso also oversee the Margate City Beach Patrol's approximately 60 members, and

***WHEREAS***, the Margate City Fire Department, and the Beach Patrol, have long histories of extraordinary member dedication, characteristic bravery in the face of adversity, commitment to ongoing training and professional betterment, and

***WHEREAS***, Chief Tabasso has fostered member enthusiasm, commitment to excellence and critical sense of community throughout his 7 years as Fire Chief, 9 years as Deputy Chief and his inspirational length of service of nearly 40 years; having joined the Margate City Fire Department in April of 1978, and

***WHEREAS***, throughout those 40 years of responding to calls, which have included fire and water rescues, the rebuilding of Fire Station 1, Hurricane Sandy, and even a response to a cardiac event with his Deputy Chief Dan Adams on the very day they were promoted in 2010, and

***WHEREAS***, untold numbers of lives have been saved, inspired, motivated, improved, educated, comforted, and most importantly – touched by Chief Anthony "Tony" Tabasso whose dedication to the residents and visitors to the City of Margate is a source of pride to us all.

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MARGATE CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS*** that upon the occasion of his retirement after 40 years of service to the Margate City Fire Department and the City of Margate, Chief Anthony Tabasso should be commended for his exceptional level of dedication and professional excellence, and deserves the recognition and thanks of the residents of the City of Margate.

Best wishes on your retirement with tremendous thanks from the Board of Commissioners, staff and citizens of the City of Margate.

**Items of Discussion:**

**D1. Annual Municipal Parking Lot Auction:** As a follow up from the last meeting, Ms. Casey addressed the yearly Municipal Parking Lot Auction on Washington Avenue which is up for bid. Ms. Casey asked the Board for permission to move forward with the auction and inquired if The Board wanted to raise the current \$200 minimum bid amount this year. A motion was put forward by Mayor Becker, seconded by Commissioner Blumberg with a vote of three "ayes" to move forward with the auction and keep the minimum bid amount the same.

**D2. North Harding Avenue Street Moratorium – A Request to Open:** Mr. McLarnon asked Governing Body as per city ordinance, for permission to open the street with conditions that they must comply with. Commissioner Amodeo inquired if the request is for gas and if there is a current service stub on that street. Mr. McLarnon confirmed that there is no gas service stub. A motion was put forward by Mayor Becker, seconded by Commissioner Blumberg, with a vote of three "ayes" to grant the permission to open the street.

**Department Reports:**

**Mr. Verna:** Nothing to report.

**Chief Wolfson:** Everything is good in the Police Department.

**Ms. Bascelli:** Ms. Bascelli informed the Board that everything that was up for discussion from the Administrative Office has been included in today's agenda for consideration.

**Mr. Adams:** Mr. Adams reported that the Fire Department has applied for two grant applications; the Assistant to Firefighter Grant Program which if granted will be utilized for turnout gear, and the Regional Grant Opportunity which would be utilized for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) upgrade. Mr. Adams also reported that in the month of January, compared to last year, the department had a 40% increase in call volume and responses.

**Mr. Walberg:** Mr. Walberg reported on existing/pending construction; *The Beach Street End Storm:* a pre-construction meeting was held today and a notice to proceed has been issued, project completion deadline is April 17, 2018, starting at Union Avenue and working back towards Vendome and Ventnor Avenues. *Tennis Courts 5 and 6:* as soon as weather permits construction will begin. *Check Valve Installation:* is currently in progress.

**Mr. McLarnon:** Nothing to report today.

**Mr. Galantino:** Mr. Galantino provided an update on the Flood Maps; in accordance with adopted City Ordinance #08-2017; effective February 28, 2018, the city will be adopting the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Mr. Galantino added that he is looking forward to seeing the new flood maps come out and shared that he is currently working with Mr. McLarnon on the wording and specs to introduce and adopt a new flood Ordinance which will be presented at a later date.

**Mr. Ricciotti:** Mr. Ricciotti reported that Public Works continues to be extremely busy fighting the weather; his staff salted the roads on Tuesday night and was glad that it was done because it resulted on a sheet of ice. In addition, they fixed a water main this week on Iroquois and Atlantic Avenues, completed taking down the holiday lighting.

**Mr. Abbott:** Mr. Abbott informed the Board that things are moving forward with the Dredge Committee. Mr. Abbott expressed his support for Resolution #47-2018, which authorizes the award of contract for professional services to Michael Donio, Esq. and for Resolution #48-2018, which authorizes the award of contract to V-COMM, L.L.C., for telecommunication consulting services for the City of Margate, both included in today's agenda for consideration.

**Commissioner Blumberg:** Regarding Ordinance #02-2018, scheduled for its 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption on today's agenda, Commissioner Blumberg asked Mr. Abbott to explain to the Board if this ordinance would allow the expansion of the existing footprint of structures of the Marinas on the Amherst Avenue Waterfront to which Mr. Abbott explained that it is his understanding that the ordinance would prohibit the expansion, but having the proper approvals from the State, DEP and CAFRA, and depending on whether the State determines if it is a marina related or water dependent use, they may allow an expansion, the final decision would fall under CAFRA's jurisdiction.

**Commissioner Amodeo:** Regarding Ordinance #03-2018, also scheduled for its 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption today, Commissioner Amodeo asked Mr. Abbott for the status of regarding the beach front purchase of the DEP right of way, to which Mr. Abbott explained the purpose of the ordinance and his support for its adoption.

**Ms. Casey:** All is good in the Clerk's office.

**Public Participation:**

**John Sewell:** 22 West Drive: Mrs. Sewell speaks in favor of building a Master Jetty.

**Ed Berger:** 9402 Amherst Avenue: Speaks on the change in zoning addressed in Ordinance #02-2018 and wishes for the Board to consider to table the Ordinance.

**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 4:50 p.m.

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

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Mayor, Michael Becker

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Commissioner John F. Amodeo

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Commissioner Maury Blumberg

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk