

MINUTES
WORKSHOP/CAPITAL MEETING
CITY OF MARGATE

APRIL 21, 2022

MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY

Call Meeting to Order – 3:00 p.m.

Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been satisfied; a copy of the Annual Meetings Notice was sent to the Atlantic City Press, and the Star Ledger, posted on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building, the Municipal Website, and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Johanna Casey, City Clerk: Reads the statement of compliance, followed with the flag salute and roll call is taken.

Roll Call – Board of Commissioners:

Mayor Becker, Commissioner Amodeo and Commissioner Blumberg were present. Fred Verna, Chief Adams, Chief Hankinson, Lisa McLaughlin, Jim Galantino, Roger McLarnon, Bob Smith, Joe Johnston, Johanna Casey, Scott Abbott, Esquire, and Rich Deaney were also present.

Presentation:

Jeremy Bingham, COO of Save Lucy Committee-Speaks on the progress and issues facing the renovations to Lucy the Elephant. Tentative completion is scheduled for mid-August, early September.

Richard Helfant, Executive Director, Save Lucy Committee: Speaks on interior renovations to Lucy the Elephant with a tentative start in January 2023. There are plans for the gift shop to be demolished and reconstructed in 2024.

Commissioner Amodeo: Inquires as to the status of the snack bar on the Lucy the Elephant property.

Richard Helfant: As of this movement the snack bar is be left as is. Speaks on possible plans for redoing the snack bar area in the future. Interior tours only of Lucy the Elephant will resume May 27, 2022.

Beach Barbeque Discussion:

Rich Deaney: Requests the Commissioners to make a decision about beach barbeques this summer.

Chief Adams: Speaks on having beach barbeques on the weekends July 4th and Labor Day. At the next commission meeting resolutions regarding the opening and closing of the beach will be on the agenda.

Chief Hankinson: Speaks on the possibility of having barbeques on the beach on Saturday, Sunday and Monday of July 4th and Labor Day weekends because of the holiday being on a Monday.

Johanna Casey: Inquires about beach barbeques on the weekend of Memorial Day.

Chief Adams: Traditionally there is no beach barbequing allowed on the weekend of Memorial Day.

Mayor Becker: Public Works can deal with the three days of barbeques on the beach.

Commissioner Amodeo: Confirms doing a resolution this year for barbeques on the beach on Saturday, Sunday and Monday of July 4th weekend and Labor Day weekend.

Engineer's Report

Joe Johnston: Jim Rutala is submitting a grant for the restoration of Shelter Island.

Rich Deaney: Speaks on the contract wording with Stockton University Coastal Research Center.

Scott Abbott: A new resolution should be drafted to clarify that Stockton University is the payee.

Johanna Casey: Speaks on the Stockton signing the contract before the Mayor.

Joe Johnston: FEMA has not acted on the scope change for the Flood Proofing of Historic City Hall and Fire Station No.1. No update on the Ventnor Avenue Bridal Path Reconstruction (Northside). A decision on moving forward with Bayside Court and Seaside Court Storm Sewer will have to be made.

Commissioner Amodeo: Inquires as to where on the street improvement list is Bayside Court and Seaside Court.

Joe Johnston: Bayside Court and Seaside Court was just added to the list after the storm sewer evaluation was done. Grant money was approved for the FY2020 CDBG Knight Avenue Beach Street End ADA Access and the FY2021 CDBG Union Avenue Beach Street End ADA Access. No update on the FY2022 State Aid Reconstruction of Winchester Avenue Project. Speaks on the FY2022 CDBG application due on May 2, 2022.

Commissioner Amodeo: Speaks on the Ackerman family paying privately to cut through a sea wall at Mansfield Avenue and making public access to the beach.

Commissioner Amodeo, Commissioner Blumberg: Sumner Avenue should be the street end submitted with the FY 2022 CDBG application.

Bob Smith: Speaks on releasing of maintenance bonds and projects in closeout phase. Reconstruction of Amherst Avenue- Phase I Douglas Avenue to Clarendon Avenue will be discussed during the closed session. Fire Station No. 2 Addition punch list work should be completed by April 26, 2022. Reconstruction of Amherst Avenue-Phase 2 update is given. Municipal Building Interior Reconstruction demolition is to start April 25, 2022.

Chief Hankinson: A dumpster will be on the corner of Union Avenue and Winchester Avenue during the demolition phase.

Rich Deaney: Speaks on the continuation of municipal operations during the interior renovations project. Building will be closed on April 29, 2022 due to the demolition of the hall.

Bob Smith: Speaks on the 2021 Road Program. HVAC units for the HVAC Replacement at the Margate Library still need to be delivered.

Department Head Reports:

Scott Abbott: Nothing to add till closed session meeting.

Roger McLarnon: Speaks on the progress with the Historic City Hall Façade Project. The Planning Board will be discussing the possibility of allowing third floor decks.

Rich Deaney: Nothing

Chief Hankinson: Putting together a program on on-line elder scams.

Lisa McLaughlin: American Rescue Fund report is due.

Rich Deaney: American Rescue Funds are being use to replace water meters

Chief Adams: The April 10, 2022 Fire Station No. 2 opening and Easter Egg Hunt were great events. Working with Public Works on the landscaping water system at Fire Station No.2.

Johanna Casey: Clerk’s office is working on liquor license renewals and making sure financial disclosure statements are submitted. Voting districts 3 & 4 will be moved to Thighe School for the June 2022 primary election due to the construction being done at the municipal building.

Mayor Becker: Municipal voters should be made aware of the change in voting location as soon as possible.

Commissioner Amodeo: Speaks on the Salem tree that will be planted by Fire Station No.2.

Commissioner Blumberg: Requests an explanation be given to the public as to the purpose of Ordinance No. 9-2022, which is being introduced at tonight’s Regular Meeting.

Chief Hankinson: Explains the purpose of Ordinance 9-2022. Press releases will be done to make the public aware of the implementation of meter parking on a specific area of Amherst Avenue.

Public Comment:

Kathy Heitzman, 22 S. Adams Avenue: Speaks on the implementation of meter parking.

Chief Hankinson: Speaks on how the public will be able to make meter parking payment and how it is administered.

Commissioner Amodeo: Clarifies how a person cannot park in the area more than twelve hours at a time.

Seeing that there were no more comments, a motion to close Public Comments was put forth by Commissioner Amodeo, seconded by Commissioner Blumberg, with a vote of three ayes.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mayor Becker called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Whereupon, the motion was made by Commissioner Blumberg and seconded by Commissioner Amodeo to adjourn the meeting. A unanimous voice vote was taken adjourning the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

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



Mayor, Michael Becker



Commissioner John F. Amodeo



Commissioner Maury Blumberg

Attest: 

Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk