

October 3, 2013
Margate City, New Jersey

THE PRESS AND THE DOWNBEACH CURRENT WERE NOTIFIED OF THESE MEETINGS AND A COPY OF SAME WAS AVAILABLE ON WWW.MARGATE-NJ.COM & THE MUNICIPAL BULLETIN BOARD

The Margate City Board of Commissioners held a work session at 4:00 pm on the above date. After the flag salute the roll was taken: Mr. Becker, Mr. Blumberg, and Ms Taube were present. The following department heads were present: Mr. Abbott, Mr. Deaney, Ms. McLaughlin, Chiefs Tabasso & Wolfson, Mr. Galantino, Mr. Verna, Mr. Rubin, Mr. Walberg & Ms. Freed.

Discussion(s)

Mr. Abbott: Read aloud from the **Governor's Executive Order regarding Dunes Project** & easements needed to build dunes (10 easements needed in the City & a comprehensive title search should be done on the beach front homes for certainty); Cindy Randazzo (NJ DEP) was contacted for legal advice on the matter; meeting scheduled in Trenton next week to discuss State position on obtaining easements – Mr. Becker to attend with solicitor & Mr. Blumberg suggested Mr. Walberg and Mr. Deaney also attend; Ms. Taube asked solicitor to reach out to Attorney General regarding referendum question on Dunes Project (Mr. Abbott has already spoken to Deputy AG on this matter); referendum question to stand on the November ballot & should be treated accordingly by voters

Ms. Taube: Read a statement offering her opinion on **Adopt-a-Beach Program** (put on hiatus & take forms off website, keep signs up for 5 years to be fair to everyone), her opposition to all **beach advertising**, questioning “side deals” made for beach umbrellas & stated there was “missing money” from beach shack advertising contracts; Mr. Blumberg strongly disagreed: Ms. Taube making decisions outside her purview, objected to manner this is being handled, such inflammatory statements should not be made in public. Mr. Blumberg is willing to take Adopt-a-Beach Program over. Mr. Blumberg & Mr. Hiltner both strongly objected to the statements concerning “missing money” and “side deals” & explained that there is no “missing money” nor were there any “side deals” to get the beach umbrellas (they were donated by Gigi Rosenberger from Marketplace Realty – no money was exchanged). Mr. Becker: Review Adopt-a-Beach and make changes before getting rid of the program & stated he previously voted for beach advertisements to help small businesses in the City.

Mr. Hiltner: Asked for input regarding the Ice Cream Vending License auction –scheduled for tonight's Agenda - it was agreed to pull the authorizing resolution to review details (possibly change terms of license).

Department Reports

Mr. Walberg: Updated projects & provided report on same; failure of paint on Benson Avenue water tank being addressed; schematic for repurposing of municipal building available
Chief Tabasso: Fire Prevention Week activities scheduled for public

Ms. McLaughlin: Best Practices completed & the City will again receive its State Aid based on the score (commissioners had the opportunity to ask questions but had none); explained change in title and text of budget regarding Lifeguard Pension Fund (\$20,000 moved into the Fund from Lifeguard Salary & Wages) for next Agenda; State rep in City Hall next week for open enrollment in Health Benefits Program

Mr. Deaney: *Post Sandy \$30,000 Planning* Grant awarded now a planner must be chosen for same; Ford Scott Auditing presented proposal not to exceed \$37,000 (requested commissioners input before awarding contract)

Mr. Abbott: Thanked Lifeguard Pension Committee & Mr. Hiltner suggested amending present ordinance to reflect “buy out options” recently offered to the guards (solicitor to review); Jim Swift, Esq. spoke to BOC as the attorney for Margate Terrace & requested an extension of the present lease for at least another 9 years for mortgage refinancing (BOC approved)

Mr. Hiltner: Explained tonight's resolution re: adjustments to water & sewer bill for one resident (missed the previously adopted resolution); dispute settled for \$16,000 re: July 4th fireworks barge charges & specs will be drawn up for next year's fireworks display to avoid this problem in the future (Mr. Deaney explained that the City paid this & it was less than the usual OT submitted by different departments & was funded by department budgets); added resolution for tonight for a tax lien redemption

Mr. Rubin: Presented a graph showing development approvals in the City

Mr. Galantino: Extension approved by State for filing flood claims

All commissioners thanked everyone involved with the FunFest – great success

Mr. Becker: Governor's Mobile Cabinet will be in City Hall on October 8th from 3-7 pm to offer assistance to the public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Sewell, 22 West Drive: prepare for possible litigation due to Governor's Executive Order for Dunes Project

Fred Weinstein, 15 S. Cedar Grove Ave.: commented on above Order; sent check in for Adopt-a-Beach within the past 2 weeks and asked status of the program; requested Beach Badge sales accounting (Ms. McLaughlin provided); asked that going forward disagreements between commissioners be expressed behind closed doors and not in the public as was tonight's case.

Dan Gottlieb, 407 N. Nassau Avenue: member of an anti-Dunes committee and expressed concern that the Executive Order will "nullify" the local referendum vote.

Paul Van de Ryn: expressed concern about ice cream vending license (he is the present holder) & suggested multi-year license – pros and cons for both license holder and City to be further considered (Resolution pulled from tonight's Agenda)

Anne Pancoast, 200 N. Osborne Avenue: opposed to all beach advertising

Steve Woerner, 103 N. Sumner Avenue: asked for accurate accounting of the beach shack advertising money.

Ed Berger, MBA president: tasteful advertising is an asset for small businesses in the City

With nothing further this portion was adjourned at 5:30 pm on motion with a vote of three ayes.

On motion 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