

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

FEBRUARY 21, 2019

MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY

THE ATLANTIC CITY PRESS AND THE STAR LEDGER 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 Michael Becker; Commissioner John Amodeo and Commissioner Maury Blumberg were present. The following department heads were also present: Chief Dan Adams, Chief Dave Wolfson, Jim Galantino, Lisa McLaughlin, Fred Verna, Frank Ricciotti, Ed Dennis and Johanna Casey. Scott Abbott and Rich Deaney were also present.

Items for Discussion:

Commissioner Amodeo: Administers the oath of office to Christopher Shea for the Margate Fire Department.

Steve Jasiecki: Speaks on the purpose and the environmental efforts done by the Sustainable Margate Program.

Commissioner Blumberg: Inquiring if Wawa in Ventnor is also subject to charging for bags.

Steve Jasiecki: Yes that Wawa has to charge too. Speaks on the effectiveness of a bag charge.

Commissioner Amodeo: Speaks on the issue of the lot behind Fire House Number 2 to resolve any concerns or questions. Will be bringing the tow lot up to DEP code. Requests the mayor to open up this part of the meeting to public comment on this issue.

Mayer Becker: States anyone who cares to speak may do so.

Public Participation:

Steve Moore: 411 N. Clermont Ave. Requesting to clarify if a tow lot or an impound lot.

Commissioner Amodeo: Replies will not be a tow lot or an impound lot.

Steve Moore: On the plans shown to him this morning it states that no work is to be done without someone contacting a Harry Nichols at the DEP. He said he contacted Harry Nichols of the DEP today, and was told that Harry is unaware of any work being done at this location. If not an impound lot that would be great.

Doug Pierce: 7513 Fremont Ave. Inquiring why there has to be a fence around this location.

Commissioner Amodeo: Per the DEP for safety reasons and protect area beyond the fence. Will be a four foot fence and plan is to add landscaping to cover.

Doug Pierce: Questions why does Margate have a police impound lot and other municipalities do not.

Commissioner Amodeo: Requesting the Police Chief to answer.

Chief Wolfson: Feels it would be a disservice to residents to have to send them out of Margate to retrieve a vehicle. For approximately 50 years, this is how Margate has handled towed cars.

Doug Pierce: Suggests looking into changing where cars are towed. Wants it on public record that this lot is not a tow or impound lot, so wording cannot be changed a week from now.

Mayor Becker: We do not operate that way.

Commissioner Amodeo: It's on the record.

Doug Pierce: Questions who a four foot fence keeps out.

Commissioner Amodeo: Contractors won't be able to go beyond the fence. Can discuss going before the planning board to raise to six feet.

Doug Pierce: Looking to clarify that the only traffic going to this lot will be public works during business hours.

Commissioner Amodeo: Public Works will not be going in and out at 5am or 6am.

Mary Grace Cook: 7513 Fremont Ave. Inquires as to where fence is going.

Commissioner Amodeo: Shows on a map where the fence will be located.

Carmen Bonianni: 401 N. Argyle Ave. Thanks Commissioner Amodeo for clarifying what is being done with this lot. Suggests the city needs to do a better job at maintaining the dog park. Streets between Clermont to Fredericksburg on Fremont Avenue has pot holes.

Commissioner Amodeo: City has a working list of needed repairs based on calls from residents. Requests the city engineer explain about the GIS Mapping of the wet lands area to Steve Moore.

Ed Dennis: Explains how an official wetlands map is developed.

Steve Moore: Questioning if DEP permits were obtained for the development of this lot. Questioning why Harry Nichols would not know about work being done.

Ed Dennis: We have an approved remediation plan from the DEP.

Steve Moore: States this remediation plan is 10 years old, so questions if it is still active.

Ed Dennis: Yes it is still active.

Adam DiBartola: 413 N. Clermont Ave. Presents the changes he has found based on the DEP wetlands map and GEO Mapping he did. Disappointed that there was not any public notice or a hearing before this work was started. Raises concerns over possible environmental and noise impact to area. Suggests to move the workshop and regular meetings to a later time so more people from the community may attend.

Steve Moore: Requesting a cease and desist of the clearing till this can be resolved with DEP. Raises concerns over all the clearing work being done.

Commissioner Amodeo: States not clearing. Only pulling wood and concrete. Questioning if Steve Moore would like to see the lot left as it is.

Steve Moore: Replies his opinion is yes.

Mayor Becker: Thanks everyone for coming.

Department Reports:

Scott Abbott: March 19 is the scheduled superior court date for the Two Daughter's litigation.

Frank Ricciotti: Public Works Department is working on getting city properties ready for the season. The issue with Thurlow Avenue washing out is resolved.

Rich Deaney: The municipal operating budget will be presented at the public hearing on April 4th.

Lisa McLaughlin: Reviews city accounts. Very good shape financially. Tax decrease coming. Surplus higher this year. Will be able to fund some capital projects. Budget draft will be sent to department heads to review.

Johanna Casey: The Capital meeting scheduled for March 7 will be canceled.

Chief Wolfson: All is well.

Chief Adams: All good in fire department.

Commissioner Amodeo: Introduces a program being developed for people to donate benches along the dunes. Compliments Gina and Palma of the Building Department for putting together an informational flyer to update residents on issues related to the building department.

Commissioner Blumberg: Thanks Lisa McLaughlin, Rich Deaney and all the department heads for the time spent working on the budget.

Rich Deaney: Speaks on this year's budget changes.

Mayor Becker: States the commission has agreed unofficially to put the clearing of the lot on hold and have farther discussion and review of plans.


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 5:00 p.m.

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



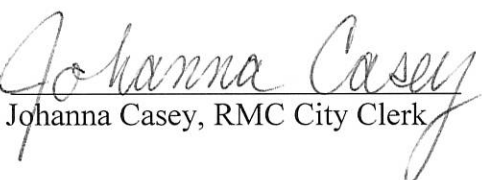
Mayor, Michael Becker



Commissioner John F. Amodeo



Commissioner Maury Blumberg

Attest: 
Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk