

**MINUTES
WORKSHOP/CAPITAL MEETING
CITY OF MARGATE**

AUGUST 4, 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 was absent. Commissioner Amodeo and Commissioner Blumberg were present. Chief Matt Hankinson, Chief Dan Adams, Jim Galantino, Frank Ricciotti, Lisa McLaughlin, Ed Dennis, Johanna Casey, Roger McLarnon, Fred Verna and Scott Abbott, Esquire were also present.

Engineer Report:

Ed Dennis: Speaks on the progress of the permit applications associated with the Beach Thoroughfare Dredging Project. No update on Flood Proofing of Historic City Hall and Firehouse No.1 Project. Both the 2020 & 2021 CDBG Beach Bulkhead Access-Knight Avenue and Union Avenue Project and the 2022 Curb & Gutter Program, have bid openings on August 25, 2022. Gives an update on the three projects to be done at the Sigmund Rimm Recreational Complex: Walkway Replacement, Wall of Fame and Batting Cage Replacement. Survey and base plans are completed for the 2022 NJ Department of Transportation State Aid Reconstruction of Winchester Avenue Project, so the project is now in the engineering design phase. Permitting application for Shelter Island is being prepared. Speaks on what road work is included in the 2022 Road Program. A Washington Avenue Streetscape Conceptual Design is required to be submitted with a NJ Department of Transportation-Transportation Set Aside Program grant application. The Margate Library Roof Replacement Project has a bid opening date of August 11, 2022. Gives an update on submitted grant applications. Speaks on the Community Rating System and achieving a higher rating, so property flood insurance costs are lower.

Commissioner Amodeo: Speaks on the affect of new construction, house raising and the new bulkhead in regard to Margate receiving a better Community Rating System rating.

Jim Galantino: Specific topics/programs of the Community Rating Systems will only give a max number of points towards a rating. Speaks on programs that are being worked on by the City to provide more points, hence a better rating.

Roger McLarnon: Speaks on new construction vs. old construction in regard to flood insurance costs without the Community Rating System in effect.

Ed Dennis: The next maintenance bond is up in November 2022. Goes over the projects in closeout phase. There are still punch list items that need to be address as part of the Reconstruction of Amherst Avenue Phase I-Douglass Avenue to Clarendon Avenue.

Commissioner Amodeo: Inquires if the city is still holding liquidated damage charges against the project and Mathis Construction's retainer.

Ed Dennis: Yes, the City is holding the liquidated damage charges and the retainer. Mathis Construction has not scheduled a time to complete the items on the punch list. The Reconstruction of Amherst Avenue Phase 2-Douglass Avenue to Gladstone Avenue is completed, but there are still punch list items that need to be finished. No major update on the Municipal Building Interior Renovations Project. Speaks on the 2021 Road Program, which is on hiatus for the summer and will resume in fall 2022. Anticipating the equipment for the HVAC Replacement at the Margate Library to arrive in fall 2022. Core and Main , LP was awarded the contract for the Water Meter Replacement Program Phase 1.

Discussion: 215 North Nassau Avenue

Jim Galantino: States he has received numerous complaints about interior demolition being done at 215 N. Nassau Avenue, so a property assessment was done with Chief Hankinson. Speaks on the poor condition of the home. Suggests all the entrances into the home be boarded up and all the windows be locked from the inside, so the home owner or others cannot get into the home due to unsafe conditions. Suggests putting a lien on the property to cover City expenses.

Commissioner Amodeo: Normally does not want a home boarded up, but for safety reasons supports the request to board up the house.

Chief Hankinson: Speaks on why the home is uninhabitable and not safe. Owner of house is receiving services from the county. Vehicle can stay on property.

Commissioner Blumberg: Inquires as to whether the City is within legal rights to board up the house. Supports the boarding up of the home.

Scott Abbott: Yes, the City is within legal rights to board up the house. Suggests cleaning up the yard as well. Speaks on the process of filing a lien and proceeding with cleaning up the yard and boarding up the home.

Frank Ricciotti: Public Works has done similar yard clean up and boarding up of homes in previous years.

Department Head Reports:

Frank Ricciotti: States a new mechanic is starting in the Public Works Department on Monday, August 8, 2022. The stage and public address system have been set up for this weekend's Margate Memorial Lifeguard Race. Public Works assisted with this past weekend's Margate Business Association's Wine Tasting Fundraiser. Installing a lot of new water and sewer lines to new properties. Beaches are in great shape.

Commissioner Amodeo: Thanks, the Public Works Department for making Margate beaches the best beaches in New Jersey.

Jim Galantino: Thanks Rich Deaney for the resolution contesting the state's proposed increase to the cost of employee health insurance. Speaks on Ordinance #14-2022 being introduced at tonight's Regular Commission Meeting.

Roger McLarnon: States Adeo Santori, who was a long-term member of the Margate Planning Board, passed away last week. Speaks on the reintroduction of the ordinance on third floor decks. Speaks on Atlantic City Electric having an issue with pools being so close to power lines. Receiving positive feedback on construction sites being kept clean. There is a growing issue with people putting signs on poles.

Commissioner Amodeo: States Atlantic City Electric also has issues with other backyard structures too close to power lines. Thanks everyone involved with making sure construction sites are being kept clean.

Chief Hankinson: Atlantic City Electric will remove signs from their poles.

Ed Dennis: Nothing more to add.

Rich Deaney: Tax rate was received from Atlantic County, so tax bills can be processed and mailed. A resolution is on tonight's agenda is to extend the tax payment grace period to September 16, 2022 at 4:00pm. Margate's tax rate is flat. Jim Rutala, Grant Planner, is working on another grant to cover the replacing of water meters throughout the community.

Lisa McLaughlin: Speaks on tax billing and the state's proposed increase to employee health insurance costs.

Chief Hankinson: Has been a good summer season. Invites everyone to attend the Police Department's Annual Law Day on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at the Margate Library. Speaks on calling the police about trailers on street and unkept construction sites.

Commissioner Amodeo: Getting good feedback from residents about construction sites.

Chief Adams: Speaks on a resolution that should be on the August 18, 2022 agenda, allowing Atlantic County Training Center to use an older fire apparatus for training purposes, while still giving Margate Fire Department access to the apparatus if needed. Assisted Longport with a rescue of a person in the water over the weekend. Thanks Andrew Miles, Recreation Director, for having the Fire Department participate in the "Wacky Water Wednesday" recreation program.

Andrew Miles: The grand opening ceremony of Lucy Playground is Saturday, August 6, 2022 at 9:30am. Speaks on the success of the summer recreation programs. Thanks the Public Works Department for all their help with many Recreation Department projects.

Johanna Casey: Nothing to report.

Public Comment:

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

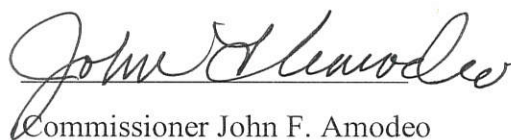
Adjournment:

There being no further business, Commissioner Amodeo 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 3:43 p.m.

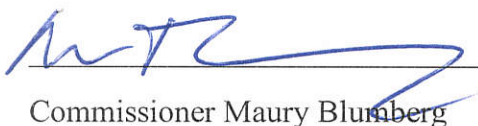
Board of Commissioners of the City of Margate City, New Jersey



Mayor, Michael Becker



Commissioner John F. Amodeo



Commissioner Maury Blumberg

Attest: 

Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk