

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP-CAPITAL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION-MARGATE CITY**

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY

Call Meeting to Order – 10:00 a.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 Collins, Commissioner Blumberg and Commissioner Horn were present. Chief Dan Adams, Chief Matt Hankinson, Andrew Miles, Jim Galantino, Pat Power, Lisa McLaughlin, Ed Dennis, Johanna Casey, and Scott Abbott, Esquire were also present.

Department Head Reports on Capital Budget:

Lisa McLaughlin: Speaks on the spreadsheet presented at this meeting, which encompasses 2024 capital projects requested by municipal departments.

Mayor Collins: Inquires about project costs relating to the General Capital Ordinance and the Utility Capital Ordinance.

Lisa McLaughlin: Speaks on approved capital projects not starting till funding is confirmed. Speaks on a bond sale to be held later in the year for the City's general capital fund. Speaks on the operating budget. Speaks on capital project funding being spread out over multiple phases of a project.

Ed Dennis: Speaks on the anticipated I-Bank Assistance funding for the Lead Service Line Replacement Program. The City is in the third year of a state ten year mandate for the lead service line replacement program.

Pat Power: Heard there is an option to extend the lead service replacement program an additional four years after the ten years.

Ed Dennis: Speaks on hiring a contractor to check for the status of lead pipes throughout the City. The main driver of the Ventnor Avenue Bridal Path is drainage improvements. Speaks on phase one of the Citywide Dredging project once the permit is approved. There is a list of roads being considered under the 2024 Road Program. Adams Avenue Pump Station will be under design and permitting for a while. Funding for the Mini Creek Drainage Improvements project is being sought from outside sources. Phase one of the Bayshore Drive project is part of the 2023 Road Program, while phase two has the option of being a standalone project or packaging it with other road programs. Continuation of the Curb & Gutter Program is a decision that will have to be made.

Lisa McLaughlin: The FY2022 and FY2023 Beach Bulkhead Access (Sumner Avenue & Benson Avenue) is already included in the 2024 operating budget.

Ed Dennis: State funding will be sought to cover some of the cost of doing the last section of the Reconstruction of Atlantic Avenue (Huntington Avenue to Mansfield Avenue). Speaks on projects related to upgrades at the Sigmund Rimm Recreational Complex. The Benson Avenue Playground has been on the capital project list for a few years.

Andrew Miles: In audible.

Ed Dennis: Bayshore Court and Seaside Court Storm & Sewer Repairs are to be one project. Water accumulating by the Fire House on Belmont Avenue has to be tied into the drainage system.

Chief Adams: Speaks on the lack of water draining by the fire house on Belmont Avenue.

Ed Dennis: Speaks on the reasons for needing new traffic signage and traffic calming.

Chief Hankinson: Speaks on the reasons for needing new traffic signage and traffic calming.

Ed Dennis: Edgmar Circle is a road reconstruction project. The FY Safe Street to Transit (Washington Avenue & Ventnor Avenue) project and the Washington Avenue Streetscape Improvements project will take longer to get to the point where it can go out to bid.

Mayor Collins: Requests Ed Dennis to create a timeline for the FY Safe Street to Transit (Washington Avenue & Ventnor Avenue) project and the Washington Avenue Streetscape Improvements project, so a committee may be formed to get public input. Speaks on the consideration to expand the bicycle lanes on Amherst Avenue and the continuing of painting bicycle lanes green along Atlantic Avenue.

Chief Hankinson: Speaks on having to develop a long-term goal of high visibility bicycle lanes the whole way of Atlantic Avenue.

Ed Dennis: Commissioners will have to let him know how to move forward with the Margate Library Roof Replacement project. Speaks on the costs involved in each phase of the Lead Service Line Replacement project. Will have to figure out how the I-Bank funding fits into other utility projects.

Lisa McLaughlin: Inquires about the estimated cost of each phase of the Lead Service Line Replacement project. Inquires if there would be a decrease in the costs of the Lead Service Line Replacement project due to water pipes being installed with new construction.

Ed Dennis: When inspections done to map out where lead pipes exist, areas not needed to be replaced will be noted.

Pat Power: Public Works already has a list of where piping has been replaced due to new construction.

Commissioner Blumberg: Inquires about how other municipalities are handling the replacing of lead pipes.

Ed Dennis: Other municipalities are relying on I-Bank as well.

Pat Power: NJ America Water Utility is adding fees to every bill to cover the replacement costs.

Ed Dennis: Wilson Avenue, Belmont Drive and Brunswick Drive are on the list to be considered as part of upcoming road programs.

Chief Hankinson: Will defer the police department's needs to the long-term capital committee.

Mayor Collins: Speaks on the need to have a long-term committee to look to the future.

Andrew Miles: The bathroom at the Jerome Avenue Field is a top priority. Speaks on the list of future projects that need to be done at the Sigmund Rimm Recreational Complex.

Chief Hankinson: Lighting in the area of the Jerome Avenue playground, basketball courts and bathrooms is a safety priority.

Ed Dennis: Speaks on the lighting associated with the replacing of the walkway at the Sigmund Rimm Recreational Complex. The Jerome Avenue basketball courts will have to be ripped up and replaced.

Andrew Miles: The Martin Bloom Pavilion's deck has not been utilized because it needs to be replaced. Recommends a pavilion be built on field next to the Lucy playground, so it can be rented out. Fencing around Tighe and the Jerome Avenue fields need to be replaced. The Wall of Fame at the Sigmund Rimm Recreational Complex is still undetermined.

Mayor Collins: Inquires if the Martin Bloom Pavilion deck is included in the Library Park suggested improvements. Replacing the fencing at the Tighe field is important.

Ed Dennis: Will get an estimated cost to replace the deck since it is part of the Margate Library list of improvements. The Margate Library evaluation report is completed.

Chief Hankinson: Inquires if the Pavilion deck could be used as a wedding venue.

Chief Adams: The deck at the Martin Bloom Pavilion was closed for safety reasons. Speaks on fixing the deck so it may be used.

Pat Power: The deck at the Martin Bloom Pavilion needs to be replaced.

Jim Galantino: The building department has nothing in the capital budget.

Pat Power: Requests more funding for the replacing of the public works building. Lisa already discussed the water meter program. The 200 block of Belmont, Brunswick and Wilson should be a road program priority. Curb & Gutter program takes care of 10 to 20 City problems a year.

Mayor Collins: Future funding for the Curb & Gutter Program needs to be discussed.

Chief Adams: Speaks on the beach patrol's list of requests in the capital budget. Speaks on the expansion of Fire Station #2. The upgrading of stretchers in two ambulances is requested in this year's capital budget. A future capital budget request will be for the replacing the Quinn vehicle in 2027. Comfort stations for the lifeguards has been resolved.

Mayor Collins: Speaks on large expenditures needing to be considered by the long-term committee.

Lisa McLaughlin: Speaks on minor expenditures for the lifeguards in the operating budget.

Pat Power: Speaks on public work's projects in the current operating budget.

Scott Abbott: Speaks on getting an estimated cost for the reconstruction of the street end bulkhead at the street end at Osborne Avenue. This information will be needed for the sale of municipal property, Osborne Avenue Street End. Speaks on the hiring of an internal IT person.

Chief Hankinson: Speaks on the system the IT person uses to be aware of the relevance of when issues have to be addressed.

Commissioner Blumberg: Does not want there to be a perception of the person hired for IT services being paid to do two jobs at the same time.

Scott Abbott: Speaks on the City assisting in the paying for the improvements to Lucy Park.

Mayor Collins: There needs to be discussion with the Lucy Committee on who is responsible for oversight of the improvements to Lucy Park.

Lisa McLaughlin: The City is to receive an updated cost estimate for the improvements to Lucy Park.

Mayor Collins: The Lucy Committee is looking to go to award the contract for Lucy Park improvements in September 2024. Current and future capital requests will have to be prioritized for their financial affect. Recommends doing multiple bond ordinances during the year after speaking to the municipality's accountant, Leon Costello of Ford-Scott & Associates.

Lisa McLaughlin: A capital schedule has to be incorporated with the budget. Smaller approved projects can be included in the operating budget

Mayor Collins: Commissioners should digest this information given today and take it back to their departments for feedback. Suggests having the capital schedule to Lisa McLaughlin by next week.

Commissioner Blumberg: Agrees that a capital schedule can be done by next week.

Ed Dennis: Will get a timeline done of the capital projects reviewed today.

Mayor Collins: Capital projects included as part of each bond sale will have to be determined.

Lisa McLaughlin: Some capital projects are already a part of last years capital budget. When determining dates of projects, it has to be kept in mind that there is an introduction meeting and adoption meeting required for each bond ordinance. Speaks on potential cost savings to the Horizon Health Insurance plan.

Mayor Collins: Agrees with the health insurance broker attending the workshop meeting on March 7, 2024 to discuss this potential cost savings to the Horizon Health Insurance plan.

Scott Abbott: Suggests representatives of employee bargaining units be made aware of this presentation.

Public Comment:

Seeing that there were no public comments, a motion to close Public Comments was put forth by Commissioner Horn, seconded by Mayor Collins, with a vote of three ayes.

Resolution:

A motion to adopt the **Resolution #65-2024**, declaring a closed session, was put forth by Commissioner Horn, Seconded by Mayor Collins, with a vote of three ayes.

**RESOLUTION #65-2024
DECLARING CLOSED SESSION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Margate, County of Atlantic as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

C1. Personnel
3. It is anticipated at this time that the Municipal Clerk shall on a six (6) month basis, review the minutes of closed sessions of the City of Margate and make a recommendation to the Governing Body which minutes should be considered for public record. The minutes which are made public shall not thereafter be treated as confidential, but may be seen and copied by any person(s) in the same manner as any meeting minutes of the City of Margate.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately

Reopen Public Meeting

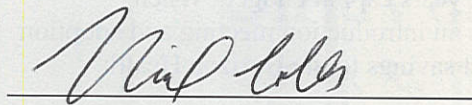
A motion to reopen the public meeting was put forth by Commissioner Horn, seconded by Mayor Collins, with a vote of three ayes.

Scott Abbott: During the closed session the commissioners discussed personnel issues concerning titles, annual employee evaluations and employee handbook.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mayor Collins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Whereupon, the motion was made by Commissioner Horn, and seconded by Mayor Collins, to adjourn the meeting. A unanimous voice vote was taken adjourning the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

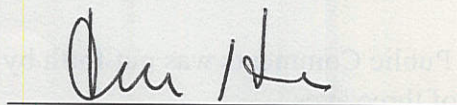
Board of Commissioners of the City of Margate City, New Jersey



Mayor Michael Collins



Commissioner Maury Blumberg



Commissioner Catherine Horn

Attest: Johanna Casey
Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk

