

November 9, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on November 9, 2021.

Mayor Holeman called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country.  
Please remain standing for a moment of silence for our military.

This meeting has been advertised in one newspaper, The Daily Record, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act.

ATTENDANCE: Councilwoman Cheatham, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Lorenzo.

ABSENT: Councilman Hale, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

Motion to accept the minutes of October 26, 2021 as received by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NJDOT - We received a letter from DOT saying that we are getting funds from DOT for the Washington Avenue Improvements Project in the amount of \$105,000.00 .

COVID CASES - We have 2 new cases in the Borough. That brings our totals since all this began to 262.

COUNTY ENGINEER - At the last meeting we had a resident ask about Franklin Road and said that it was a County road. I spoke to the County Engineer County does not own Franklin Road. The only County Road that runs through Victory Gardens is South Salem Street.

Councilman Glass asked if that means our DPW can trim that road? Yes. As Leon said, 10 feet from the curb is Victory Gardens. Any further back from that is the property owners responsibility.

Motion to accept correspondence as received by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments on the vouchers? Hearing none, he asked for a motion to pay the bills.

Motion to approve the vouchers for payment by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on roll call:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Cheatham  | Yes |
| Councilman Glass       | Yes |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo     | Yes |

(See Vouchers Next Page)

**VOUCHER REPORTS**

Date of Council Meeting:  
November 9, 2021

| <b>Voucher #</b> | <b>Payable to:</b>                             | <b>Type of Service</b>         | <b>Amount</b>    | <b><u>Check #</u></b> |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 11/1/2021        | Adams Fire Protection Inc.                     | Bldgs. & Grnds.                | 302.50           |                       |
| 11/2/2021        | Deborah Evans - Petty Cash                     | Clerk OE - Petty cash receipts | 45.60            |                       |
| 11/3/2021        | Dover Court - Shared services                  | Shared Court Services          | 1,623.36         |                       |
| 11/4/2021        | Eric M. Bernstein & Assoc., LLC                | Planning Board OE              | 36.00            |                       |
| 11/5/2021        | Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch, Esq.             | Legal Services OE              | 3,815.00         |                       |
| 11/6/2021        | Morris County MUA                              | Streets & Roads                | 742.50           |                       |
| 11/7/2021        | NJNG - #1 - Fire                               | Fire OE                        | 246.00           |                       |
| 11/8/2021        | NJNG - #2 - Boro Hall                          | Utilities                      | 901.00           |                       |
| 11/9/2021        | Office Concepts                                | Clerk OE                       | 64.39            |                       |
| 11/10/2021       | R&L DataCenters, Inc.                          | Finance OE - Payroll           | 250.00           |                       |
| 11/11/2021       | Verizon - #1 - 263-0001-56                     | Utilities                      | 75.22            |                       |
| 11/12/2021       | State of New Jersey - Div. Pensions & Benefits | Group Insurance                | 5,794.88         |                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>     |                                                |                                | <b>13,896.45</b> |                       |

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ATTORNEY PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT** - Councilman Glass asked if we can hold off on this until the New Year. Councilman Glass said he spoke with the Attorney tonight and we can approve the contract at last years rate. Once we do the budget and see how we are with that, then we can see if we can give a raise. The Attorney said he is fine with that.

Motion was made to approve the professional services agreement for the Attorney for the new year but not settle on the agreement price until after the budget discussions. We are approving at last years rate. Motion made by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Cheatham  | Yes |
| Councilman Glass       | Yes |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo     | Yes |

**APPOINTMENT OF JOHN CEGELKA TO THE RVRSA FOR 5 YEAR APPOINTMENT** - I received a call from RVRSA letting us know that the appointment for John Cegelka as our representative to the RVRSA ends December 31, 2021.

I spoke to John he is still interested in carrying this position. If Council is okay with that we need to reappoint him for a 5 year term. We will need to do a Resolution which we can do at the next meeting. The Clerk asked the Attorney to draw up a Resolution.

Council agreed by motion to appoint John Cegelka to the RVRSA for 5 years. Motion made by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Cheatham  | Yes |
| Councilman Glass       | Yes |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo     | Yes |

**RESOLUTION LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSPER** - The Clerk said we can't do this tonight. I am still waiting on some items from the applicant to give to the state. This is a transfer from Lakeland Liquors to Randolph Liquors.

This will be on hold until the Clerk gets all the information needed. We need the application for transfer from the applicant, the background and fingerprinting I need to get from the State Police.

OLD BUSINESS:

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL UPDATE - The Attorney said we have been working on this. This is just an update by Resolution.

If everyone is okay with this then we can adopt tonight.

Motion was made to approve the revisions to the Policy and Procedure Manual for the Borough employees. Motion made by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Cheatham  | Yes |
| Councilman Glass       | Yes |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo     | Yes |

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UPDATE ORDINANCE - Every one was given a copy of the update. The Attorney said this should be what everyone had asked to be changed. If there is anything else, let me know.

Councilman Glass said he had spoke about signs and that they could be obstructions. I didn't see that in here. And add any other encumbrances.

Page 4 with outdoor storgae, I thought we were taking our childrens toys. There is a line through it. Childrens toys have been excluded.

The last page we were talking about holiday decorations. The Attorney said that part is gone completely,

The Clerk asked the attorney for a clean copy. When she advertises it needs to be a clean copy. He said he would send it over tomorrow.

Councilwoman Cheatham had the following type errors or misspelled - spacing of words on page 1 (Codeof), page 2 (ora), page 3 (orimpair) and also same page (he) should be the. Also, hazardousconditions is one word and should be two.

There were no other comments from the Council.

Motion was made to introduce the ordinance . Corrections will be made and a clean copy will come to the Clerk. She will make copies for the Mayor and Council and advertise the clean copy in the paper.

Motion made by Councilwoman Cheatham seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Cheatham  | Yes |
| Councilman Glass       | Yes |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo     | Yes |

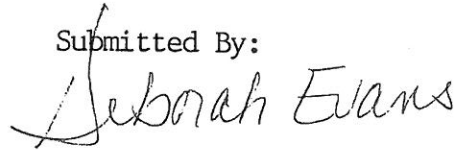
Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Jim Janone - Why are you approving the contract for the Attorney now? What happens if he isn't appointed next year? The actual appointment won't be until next year. When will the policy and procedure manual be ready for the public. As soon as everything gets done that the Clerk has to do. Within a few days it should be ready. On the update for the Property Maintenance - will that be available also? No. Why? Because it is just an introduction. It will go into the paper once I get a clean copy from the Attorney. Until they do a final approval it is still a work in progress. You left something that is vague. About any other encumbrances. That could mean anything. What happens with fences that have been up for 40 years. Will those people have to move their fences? If fences are there now they can stay. This is a new code the attorney said. If something was legal before and a new code comes in you can't change what was already done. You move forward. What ever happened with the American Rescue Plan monies? we still have it. I am waiting for the CFO to get back to me. I want to use part of that for scoping the sewer lines and see what condition they are in. Also, Franklin Road is very dark. Cooldige is dark also. Is there anything that can be done to lighten those streets? We will have to have Leon take a look at it.

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Evans". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed text "Submitted By:". The first letter 'D' is large and loops around the first few letters of the name.

Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk