

November 23, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on November 23, 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 Meetings Act.

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

ABSENT: Councilwoman Hedgepath and Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

Motion to accept the minutes of November 9, 2021 as received by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter from resident at 372 Washington Avenue - I have pictures for Council to look at. 372 Washington Avenue has a storm water drain right in their driveway. It is at the curblineline. as you can see by the pictures it is pretty bad. I had Leon go out and take a look at it. It surely needs to be taken care of. The whole inlet, according to Leon, needs to be reconstructed. It is 6 feet deep and the curbing has to be done also. It is a total reconstruct according to Leon. The cost he says will be about \$4,000 to \$6,000.

I need Council to say something. The people have small children and we don't want anyone getting hurt.

Councilman Glass said it seems to be a little high for the estimate. You are only doing one. It costs less if you do more than one. Eddie and Leon went out and looked at other storm drains but Leon said they aren't bad and they can wait.

Councilman Lorenzo said maybe we can get one of the companies that have done work for us before to come in and do it. They may give us a better price. The Clerk said she would ask Leon.

Motion was made to fix the inlet at 372 Washington, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

Motion to accept the correspondence as recieved by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

VOUCHERS:

Mayor Holeman 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
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

(See Vouchers Next Page)

VOUCHER REPORTSDate of Council Meeting:
November 23, 2021

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
11/13/2021	Anderson & Denzler Assoc., Inc.	Various Accts.	2,589.22	
11/14/2021	AT&T	Utilities - Long distance phone service	89.02	
11/15/2021	D&L Paving Contractors, Inc.	DOT Grant	23,385.00	
11/16/2021	Denville Twp. Dept. of Public Works	Streets & Roads	134.10	
11/17/2021	Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch, ESQ	Legal Services - Monthly	2,204.22	
11/18/2021	Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch, ESQ	Services dealing with Bd. Of Ed. Claim	3,797.50	
11/19/2021	Gannett New Jersey Newspapers	Clerk OE	47.30	
11/20/2021	Hodes Veterinary Group	Dog OE	150.00	
11/21/2021	Ideal Air Inc.	Bldgs & Grnds. - Boiler in Boro Hall	13,000.00	
11/22/2021	Interstate Waste Services, Inc.	Trash Removal	10,933.33	
11/23/2021	JCP&L - #1 - Fire	Fire OE	45.36	
11/24/2021	JCP&L - #2 - Main	Utilities - Boro Hall	396.37	
11/25/2021	JCP&L - #3 - Street Lighting	Street Lighting	650.44	
11/26/2021	JLM Computers	Clerk OE	68.00	
11/27/2021	NJ Advance Media	Clerk OE	181.45	
11/28/2021	New Jersey Div. of Alcohol Bev.	Clerk OE	6.00	
11/29/2021	Optimum	Clerk OE	11.45	
11/30/2021	Protective Measures Security & Fire	Bldgs. & Grnds. - Panic buttons	1,495.00	
11/31/2021	RVRSA	RVRSA Share	10,608.00	
11/32/2021	Staples	Clerk OE	59.98	
11/33/2021	Verizon - #2 - 366-5312	Utilities	154.34	
11/34/2021	WEX Bank - Shell Gas	Streets & Roads - Fuel for DPW vehicles	577.36	
		TOTAL	70,583.44	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING DEPARTMENT - 4 permits issued for a total value of construction of \$8,400.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of the report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - We received \$785.20 from the court.

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: \$ 234,606.93
Total Tax Receipts Year To Date: \$1,921,939.68

REGISTRAR - There was 1 marriage license issued for total collected \$28.00

COMMITTEE REPROTS:

Councilwoman Cheatham - We had a Community Development meeting. It was a zoom meeting for the new budget for 2022. All applications must be submitted by January 7, 2022.

Councilman Lorenzo - Eddie is going on vacation for 3 weeks. We should have someone to help Hector if there is a big snowstorm. There is a sewer manhole in front of my house that looks like it is caving in. Can we send Leon over to look at it? I will call him tomorrow. Maybe we can get that fixed when we are doing the item at 372 Washington Avenue.

Motion to accept the reports and put on file by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

QUOTE FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR CAMERAS AT FIREHOUSE - The Clerk said that everyone has a copy of the quote. The quote is \$1,950.00 . This is for 4 cameras.

The Mayor said we talked about this before. Councilman Lorenzo said you may be able to connect the program and cameras up there with what we have here. I asked him about that and he said you can't do that. It won't work. Councilman Lorenzo said you have to have internet to do it. The Clerk said we do not have internet at the firehouse. We had it at one time but when we shut down there was nothing. Does this run 24/7 or is by motion? Councilman Lorenzo said you can set it up either way. The quote is for 4 cameras. It would be better if we have at least 6 Councilman Lorenzo said.

Council said they are interested in doing this but we will hold off until the new year.

BEST PRACTICES - The Clerk said that the Best Practices Checklist has been sent to the State. This is a bunch of questions that the State asks and you have to answer them. They score you. If you get under a certain amount of questions wrong you will lose state aid. We haven't lost any aid yet. I just had to mention that it was done and submitted.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION - The Clerk said everyone has a copy of the Resolution. We are transferring \$10,000 from Roads O & E to Legal O & E. Councilman Glas asked why the transfer? It is because of all the litigation with RVRSA and the Board of Education.

Attorney Feintuch said we are waiting on the Judge regarding RVRSA. There was a motion made to reconsider. That was filed today. The matter will be heard when the Judge has time. We don't have to pay any more money. There were a number of projects in question as to whether or not Jersey City should be paying a portion of those projects. The decision was unclear so that is why a motion was made for reconsideration. This was made just to clear up a lot of the misunderstanding we all have based on the Judges decision. We should be getting a lot of money back the Attorney said.

Motion was made to approve the Transfer resolution by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

(Resolution Next Page)

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

2021 APPROPRIATIONS TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in the below listed account(s) to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the current year, and

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in the below listed account(s) over and above the amount deemed necessary for the balance of the current year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58, part of the surplus in the account(s) heretofore mentioned be and same are hereby authorized as transfers to the account(s) mentioned as being insufficient, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Officer is hereby directed to make the following transfers:

FROM	AMOUNT	TO	AMOUNT
Roads O/E	\$ 10,000.00	Legal Services O/E	\$10,000.00

Adopted: November 23, 2021

Deborah Evans
Municipal Clerk

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

David Holeman, Mayor

**Borough Council of Victory Gardens
Morris County, New Jersey**

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

RES# EMERGENCY TRANSFER APPROPRIATION -

Adopted: November 23, 2021

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2021, the Borough Administrator declared an Emergency at the Victory Gardens Borough Hall due to the failure of the HVAC; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator did submit the required Certificate of Request for Emergency Purchase and the quote for the repairs from _____ New Jersey, all of which are on file with the Administrator's Office; and

WHEREAS, the repairs must begin as soon as possible as the lack of a fully functioning HVAC system is a risk to the public health, safety and welfare, and as such a contract may be awarded without public advertising for bids and bidding in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6, Emergency contract; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Borough Administrator, the repairs shall be done for an estimated total cost of \$19,000.00, using Borough Ordinance titled Reconstruction of Borough Hall ; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a Certificate of Availability of Funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris in the State of New Jersey that a contract be awarded as follows:

Budget Line Item: Ordinance "Reconstruction of Borough Hall"
Total Amount not to exceed: \$19,000.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens in the County of Morris in the State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to execute said agreement as prepared by Borough Counsel.
2. This resolution take effect immediately.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	
SECONDER:	
AYES:	
ABSENT:	

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens in the County of Morris at a regular meeting on November 23, 2021.

Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

Motion on the Resolution by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN CEGELKA TO 5 YEAR APPOINTMENT FOR RVRSA -
The Clerk said we made the motion at the last meeting but didn't have
the resolution. We have already approved it.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN CEGELKA AS
VICTORY GARDENS' MEMBER TO ROCKAWAY
VALLEY REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
(RVRSA)**

WHEREAS, Victory Gardens is a member of RVRSA and as such is required to have a
representative appointed to serve on the executive board of RVRSA; and

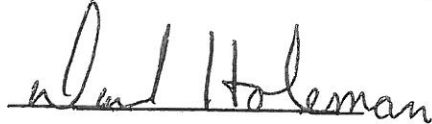
WHEREAS, the current representative's term expires on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, John Cegelka, a resident of Victory Gardens has served in that capacity for a
considerable period of time, including presently; and

WHEREAS, John Cegelka has served the Borough of Victory Gardens well; and

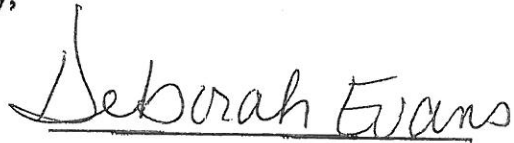
WHEREAS, John Cegelka has once again volunteered to serve as the Borough's
representative to the executive board of RVRSA for the period of January 1, 2022
through December 31, 2021;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory
Gardens hereby appoints John Cegelka as its representative to RVRSA commencing on January
1, 2022 through December 31, 2027.



DAVID HOLEMAN, Mayor

I, Deborah Evans, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, do hereby certify that this is
a true and exact copy of a Resolution passed at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council,
which meeting was held at the Borough Hall on Tuesday,



DEBORAH EVANS, Borough Clerk

Approved 11/12/2021

The Clerk asked the Attorney if we have to revote and he said no. The vote
was taken at the last meeting.

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

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING -

Jim Janone - This RVRSA litigation, is this almost over? This will be going for awhile. Someone won't be happy with the Judges decision and will most likely appeal. We have to wait and see what the Judge says about the motion to reconsider.

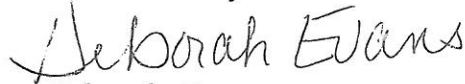
About the cameras at the firehouse. You need to know that there is a lot of space up there that needs to be covered. You should probably look at getting 8 cameras. And you can not connect the two systems together. The \$13,000 for boiler replacement seems like a lot of money. It could have been alot more if pipes froze and burst. Drain repairs we still have some storm drains that have the wide openings where an animal or small child can go down. As we repair or redo storm drains we are taking those ones out and replacing them. From looking at those pictures, I think you can get a steel plate to go over the opening until you get more drains done. Community Development are we going to put in for a generator at town hall? We know these storms are getting worse. We have put in for a generator before the Mayor said and we never got it.

Regarding vacation, I thought Council said no one can take vacation during the winter months because of snow. The Clerk said she is sure there is nothing in the policy manual that says you can't take vacation at that time of year. I believe it was discussed at one time, but I don't think there was ever a decision made. I still have not heard from the Board of Education. Neither have we. I continue to email Jom said but never hear anything back.

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

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

Submitted By:



Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk