

June 22, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on June 22, 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: Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilwoman White, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Cheatham.

\*\* Attorney Feintuch was also present at this meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of June 7, 2021 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed. Councilman Glass abstained as he was not present at the last meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

RESIDENT AT 79 FRANKLIN ROAD - The guard rail was hit again at this property. He said he needs something in writing saying that the guard rail belongs to him. I told him that at an earlier meeting when this was discussed the Council, at that time, said the guard rail was his property. The owner is asking us to reduce the speed limit. I explained to him that in that area, in the curve, there is a sign there that says 15mph. I also told him that we can not reduce the speed. We have to ask DOT to do it and get approval from the County. Leon said the DOPT won't reduce it to less than 25mph.

Councilman Lorenzo asked about the guard rail and maybe he should put a fence up. I said that the guard rail I would think would be the safest thing. At least a guard rail will offer some protection. A fence, I think would just knock over once a car hits it. I don't know if the guard rail is secured in the ground the Clerk said. I think if he cements it into the ground it might offer more protection.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments on the vouchers? Councilwoman Montes asked if we are paying the Dover Board of Education? We are writing them the check but we are still holding their checks until this matter gets straightened out. So you have to approve it but the check is being held.

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

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilwoman White	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

(See Vouchers Next Page)

**VOUCHER REPORTS**

Date of Council Meeting:  
June 22, 2021

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payable to:</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Amount</u>
6/16/2021	Anderson & Denzler Assoc., Inc.	Gen. Eng., 64 Adams Escrow & Victory Highlands Escrow	2,634.65
6/17/2021	AT&T	Utilities - long distance	47.62
6/18/2021	Barco Products	Dog OE	267.82
6/19/2021	Dover Board of Education	School Taxes	92,746.67
6/20/2021	Feintuch, Feintuch & Porwich, ESQ	Legal	1,942.50
6/21/2021	Feintuch, Feintuch & Porwich, ESQ	Legal	350.00
6/22/2021	Feintuch, Feintuch & Porwich, ESQ	Legal monthly services	2,150.46
6/23/2021	Gannett New Jersey Newspapers	Clerk OE	100.19
6/24/2021	Home Depot Credit Services	Streets & Roads	123.97
6/25/2021	Home Depot Credit Services	Clerk OE	305.28
6/26/2021	Interstate Waste Services, Inc.	Trash Removal - June services	10,933.33
6/27/2021	JCP&L - #1 - Fire	Fire OE	101.06
6/28/2021	JCP&L - #2 - Main	Utilities	366.42
6/29/2021	JCP&L - # 3 - Street Lighting	Street Lighting	621.57
6/30/2021	JLM Computers	Clerk OE - May services	95.00
6/31/2021	Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors, Inc.	Streets & Roads - 3 inlets on Franklin Rc	3,000.00
6/32/2021	Morris County MUA	Streets & Roads - tires	158.00
6/33/2021	NJNG - #2 - Borough Hall	Utilities	759.00
6/34/2021	Optimum	Clerk OE	11.45
6/35/2021	Postmaster General - Dover	Clerk OE - postcard stamps for sewer billing	122.40
6/36/2021	RVRSA	RVRSA Share	10,608.00
6/37/2021	Training Unlimited, LLC	Clerk OE - class 8/6/2021	50.00
6/38/2021	WEX Bank - Shell Gas	Streets & Roads	566.25
6/39/2021	Verizon #2 366-5312	Utilities	261.15
6/40/2021	VSP Insurance	Group Insurance	98.70
		TOTAL	128,421.49

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING REPORT - 3 permits issued for a total value of construction of \$8,500.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of Rons report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - We received \$171.06 from the court.

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: \$ 304,053.25  
Total Tax Receipts Year To Date: 1,000,645.00

REGISTRAR - 1 marriage license issued for a total collected of \$28.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS : None

Councilwoman Montes asked if the van parked on Franklin Road were they told they could put gravel down? Yes, they were given a letter and still haven't done what they are told so I believe another letter will go out and then a court appearance will be required.

Motion to approve and put on file all reports by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote, None opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES - We discussed the panic buttons before the Mayor said. We received an estimate which everyone has a copy of. The quote is for \$1,495.

Councilman Glass said it would be for 3 wireless buttons that will be communicated through the existing fire alarm monitoring system. They will test once a month. There will be no cost. There will be 1 honeywell security panel that the Clerk will let them know where they will be installed.

Councilwoman Montes asked what they are for? The Mayor said it would be for an emergency. One will be here in the courtroom and the others we can't tell where they will be for security purposes.

Motion to accept the proposal from Protective Measures for 3 panic buttons at the cost of \$1,495.00. Motion made by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilwoman White	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

AUDIT APPROVAL FOR 2020 - Everyone was given a copy of the Audit. You needed to read the Comments and Recommendation. We have the Resolution and I need you to sign off.

Motion was made to approve the Resolution for the Certification of the Annual Audit. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilwoman White	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garica Montes	Yes

OLD BUSINESS:

PROPERTY CODE UPDATE AND CANNABIS ORDINANCE - Attorney Feintuch said we are approaching this the wrong way. We have to really review these two items and we need to have this at a meeting just alone. They are significant ordinances and we need everyones input. This way we can get both done and be happy with it.

The Clerk said she needs to set up a workshop meeting and I would like to do it between the 2 meetings we have scheduled for July.

The Mayor said we will hold off on this and the Clerk will schedule a meeting and let us all know when that will be.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ATTORNEY LETTER - Everyone was copied with the Attorneys answer to cross petition for the Board of Education. This went to the Commissioner of Education.

The Clerk asked the Mayor if we could go back to Old Business. There is one thing I had on my agenda and that was the bids for the Borough wide sidewalks. We recieved bids for the sidewalks. the grant from Community Devleopment was for \$22,400. The lowest bidder on the project was D&L Paving at a cost of \$29,938.00 . This makes it over by \$7,538.

Leon said they have done work for us before and they are a good company. The have the resources to get the ovrk done. Materials have gone very high sincethe pandemic. Leon believes if we were to go try and rebid, the bids would come in higher.

Councilwoman Montes asked if this was for sidewalks all over Washington Avenue? They are on parts of Washington. Just the areas that need to be done.

Councilwoman Montes said the sidewalks need to be done and it won't be any cheaper any time soon.

Councilman Glass asked if there is a warranty onthe project. I believe that it is. That would be the bid specs. Attorney Feintuch said that all this is covered and there is a set standard for the work that has to be done.

Motion was made to approve the bid sent in by D&L Paving in the amount of \$29,938.00 . Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SIDEWALKS GRANT - Roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilwoman White	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

Councilwoman Montes asked about the trees in town and has the contractor done the work yet? They were in here and they did cut the trees down. However, when Leon inspected there was a stump, I believe the one on Washington Avenue that was ground down, but the grindings weren't cleaned up. There was no top soil down and no grass seed. There was another one where the stump was not grinded. He called the company, the owner was upset that they didn't do it all the way he specified and he said they will get back out to finish the job.

The Attorney said he needs authorization for the Mayor and Clerk to sign off for the contracts for Riverview Paving for Jefferson, Monroe and Coolidge Avenues paving.

Motion was made to give the Mayor and Clerk permission to sign off on the contract for Riverview Paving in the amount of \$92,722.55 for the paving on Jefferson, Coolidge and Monroe Avenues. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilwoman White	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

\*\*\* The Attorney will let Riverview know they were awarded the bid.


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

Jim Janone - The bid you awarded tonight, it wasn't on the agenda. I didn't get the paperwork till late the Clerk said. No, you don't have to make a special notice that says you are awarding on a particular date. I had this on my agenda but all other agenda went out the Friday before our meeting. Why don't we have someone from the Council as a liason to the Board of Education? Someone should go to the Board meetings and report back to the Council. Jim said it is not spelled out that busing is included in the costs we pay Dover monthly. Do we have to pay whatever Dover Board of Ed tells us we have to pay? I tried getting information from Dover but they wouldn't give it to me Jim said. Are you aware that all of New Jersey schools are getting a pooled amount of money? Yes. Dover is supposed to be getting 2/2 million. Are we going to get any of the money? Did anyone here apply for it? The Attorney said no one applied for it. The Department of Education will tell us who gets what. American Rescue Plan has to be applied for by June 3 and June 24th. Monies will be allocated around 11/24/2021. Dover is supposed to get 11 million over 2 years. When you spoke about the ordinances - I agree with you about having a meeting by itself to discuss. I doubt anyone up on Council read the ordinance in full or had questions on anything. I believe that in our ordinance it says that sidewalk repair is the homeowners responsibility. The Clerk agreed she said it does say that. The attorney said we just don't have enough people in town to enforce all the ordiannces. Also, the sidewalk work that is to be done it should come with some type of warranty. What they have to do is in the contract bid documents.

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

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

Submitted By:



Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk