

September 27, 2022

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on September 27, 2022.

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 Hale, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: Attorney Feintuch.

Motion to accept the minutes of September 13, 2022 as received by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilman Hale. Councilwoman Hedgepath abstained as she was not present for that meeting. All others voted yes. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NOURISH NJ - They are doing a free farmers market. The date is Saturday October 8th from 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon. They are asking the Mayor and Council if they would like to volunteer. If you are interested, please let me know so I can tell them.

Councilwoman Montes and Councilman Lorenzo said they would volunteer. The Clerk said she would be there also.

JCP & L - Robert called me today from JCP&L and they are finally going to get started on the pole and transformers. It will take almost all day to do and we will have to close for the day. He said it will be either October 19th or 20th. He will let me know for sure once he confirms with the other businesses on that line.

MEETING DATES FOR NOVEMBER - The Clerk said when she advertised our November meetings for the year, I advertised November's meeting for the 15th and 29th. The reason I did that was because election day fell on our first meeting of November 8th. So I moved the dates. So, I need to know if you want 2 meetings in November or just one? If we do 2 then they will be back to back meetings. One on the 15th and one on the 22nd. If you only want to do one meeting in November it will be on the 22nd.

The only reason I am bringing this up is because we got an email from Dover Board of Ed. They want to come to a meeting to let us know about the school referendum in December. They gave me a few dates for them to come to a meeting. I thought that if they come to the meeting of November 22nd, that is close enough to the time for the referendum that the people will remember.

Council said they are okay with having just one meeting in November which would be November 22nd. They also gave the Clerk permission to cancel the other 2 for that month.

DOVER WATER - I got in touch with Dover Water and they will have someone at our meeting on October 11th.

SICK AND VACATION PAYOUTS FOR EMPLOYEES - The Clerk said at the last meeting Councilwoman Montes asked for a payout on sick and vacation times for our employees. She wanted it for the three full time people and wanting to see what these figures are if everyone decided to retire at the end of the year.

I just received these from Joe today! I gave everyone a copy tonight. I can put this on for the next meeting for discussion.

Motion to accept the Correspondence as received by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

VOUCHER REPORTS

Date of Council Meeting:
August 23, 2022

VOUCHERS :

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
09-16-2022	Anderson & Denzler Associates	Legal OE	\$ 14,843.60	
09-17-2022	AT&T	Utilities	\$ 41.43	
09-18-2022	Henry O Baker	Other Insurance	\$ 299.00	
09-19-2022	Home depot	Bldns and Grounds	\$ 675.74	
09-20-2022	Interstate Waste Services	Trash Removal	\$ 11,910.25	
09-21-2022	JCP&L	Utilities	\$ 285.38	
09-22-2022	JCP&L	Utilities	\$ 325.20	
09-23-2022	JCP&L	Utilities	\$ 666.64	
09-24-2022	JLM Computers	Monthly Service	\$ 404.07	
09-25-2022	Johnson Truck accessories	Road OE	\$ 62.92	
09-26-2022	Morris County MUA	Road OE	\$ 751.50	
09-27-2022	New Jersey Natural gas	Utilities	\$ 381.01	
09-28-2022	Protective measures Services	Fire OE	\$ 238.84	
09-29-2022	Tek Chang & Subhagwati Kumar	Block 17 Lot 15.01-15.02 Sewer Overpa	\$ 420.00	
09-30-2022	Training Unlimited LLC	Clerk OE	\$ 450.00	
09-31-2022	Verizon	Utilities	\$ 154.80	
09-32-2022	Viking Pest Control	Bldg & Grounds	\$ 104.00	
09-33-2022	Wex Bank	Road OE	\$ 614.00	
09-34-2022	Eddie Martinez	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 3,218.60	
09-35-2022	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 1,821.60	
09-36-2022	Leticia Diaz	Admin SW	\$ 1,310.00	
TOTAL			\$ 38,978.58	

Mayor Holeman asked if there were any questions or comments on the vouchers? Hearing no questions the Mayor asked for a motion to approve the vouchers.

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

- Councilwoman Cheatham Yes
- Councilman Glass Yes
- Councilwoman Hedgepath Yes
- Councilman Hale Yes
- Councilman Lorenzo Yes
- Councilwoman Garcia Montes Yes

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Building Department - 4 permits issued. Total value of construction: \$24,800

Property Maintenance - Everyone has a copy of the report.

Tax Collector - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: \$282,685.53
" " " Year to Date: \$1,465,970.57

Registrar - 3 marriage license issued. We are still not collecting any money as the Governor put a hold on paying for them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Nothin from the Council.

Motion to accept and put on file all reports by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

IDEAL AIR CONTRACT - We have a new contract. It went up \$100.00 for the year. Total price for the year is \$1,600.00.

Motion was made to approve the contract by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

MONTEVILLE ANIMAL CONTRACT - the Clerk said she just recieved this in the mail today. They did not go up very much in the actual contract price with us. Thetotal per month that it went up was \$\$13.84.

However, they have a new cost for everyone that belongs to the shelter. There is a capital contribution of \$1,200. This is a one time fee for the new contract years which is October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. This fee is for the improvements to the shelter. we can make the payment in 2 installments.

Motion was made to approve the new contract and also to approve the \$1,200 for improvements to the shelter. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
CouncilmanLorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

SCOPING OF SEWER PROJECT - Leon brought me in a map of the scoping of the sewer lines and what they found. I will pass the map around so you can see where the problem is.

Leon said that 20 feet below manhole 24 there is a point repair that needs to be done. Also, between manhole 15 to 16, sewer needs to be lined as a result of a many cracks and breaks in the clay pipe.

Leon has asked National Water Main for a proposal to adress these problems.

We can take the money from the Rescue Plan. If it doesn't cost above the bid threshold then we can have the company that did the scoping do the work. If it is a large amount of money we will have to go out to bid as soon as possible. Leon just wanted to get an estimate first from the people that did the actual scoping.

This is the section of Washington Avenue to where Washongton meets and all the side streets.

OLD BUSINESS:

SICK TIME POLICY & HEALTH BENEFITS POLICY (CURRENT) - At the last meeting Councilwoman Montes asked about the payout amounts for the 3 full time people. Joe gave me the infromation today and I gave it to Council tonight. I did give everyone the current policy manual pages where we talk about this. We should have the Attorney here when we discuss.

Councilwoman Montes asked if this change would affect Hector? No. Any changes would be for new people coming in. We will discuss at the next meeting.

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

Jim Janone - Will a flier go out to the residents about the Dover Board of Education representatives coming to our meeting? I can do that however, they are addressing the Mayor and Council. I'm bot sure if they will take questions from the residents.Howcome we aren't getting proposals for the sewer? If we need to go out to bid we will. Leon wants to know an estimate. If the estimate is under the bid threshold then we can just do it on that. If it is over then we bid on the project. They are going to rip up the road. They don't have to rip up the road to put a liner in. If they have to totally replace a line then they will have to rip up the road. Who is responsible for the sewer lines at the condos? We are. Do we still have the policy for life time benefits after retirement? Yes. Didn't the State change the law? Yes for those hired after 2010. The State is saying you have to sign up for Medicare. Anyone that turns 65 has to sign up for Medicare. Employees will have to sign up for Medicare at age 65. They will also have to get the Medicare Part B.

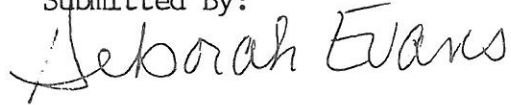
PUBLIC PORTION CONTINUED:

Jim Janone Continued - If an employee refuses to get Part B because it costs them money, they will not be able to be in the State Health Benefits Program. So, in order for them to keep the coverage with us after retirement, they have to take Medicare Part B. What was the \$14,000 voucher for anderson & Denzler for? I'm surprised that no one asked about it. The Mayor read what the voucher said.

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

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

Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Evans".

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk