

March 14, 2023

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of thte Borough of Victory Gardens held on March 14, 2023.

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.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Garcia Montes, Councilman Lorenzo.

*** Attorney Feintuch was also absent at this meeting as he is away on vacation.

Motion to accept the minutes of February 28, 2023 as received by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconde by Councilman Hale and approved onverbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NOURISH NJ - I received a call from Terry today from Nourish. She is asking for a letter of support from the Mayor and Council. They are looking to apply for funding for program expansion costs for their building from the Congressional Appropriations .

I asked her if she could give me a little more detail as to what they are wanting it for? She said the money, if approved, will go for food, employment, housing and mental health services to be used for their building in Victory Gardens. Funding will assist with the preparation and distribution of meals and fresh produce,an inhouse 10 week employment program to help people get full time jobs in the community, housing assistance for back rent/ mortgage payments and rapid rehousing for people facing eviction and mental health services onsite offered in English and Spanish.

Mayor and Council said they would give a letter supporting them. Motion was made to send them a letter. Motion made by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - I spoke with Linda Clark from Community Development. They want to know how we are paying for the rest of the project for Washington Avenue paving?

The total cost of the project is \$130,898.13 . Of that, the grant amount if \$104,500. That leaves \$26,398.13 that we have to come up with for this project to be completed.

I told her we would take it from the American Rescue Plan money that we still have some of. If not that, then we will take it from Capital.

I did ask Joe about this but have not heard back from him yet. I will send this information to Linda and let her know where we plan on taking the money from. The longer we put this off the longer it will take to secure the money from them and for the project ot begin.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the voucehrs? Hearing none, he asked for amotion to pay the bills.

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

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes

VOUCHER REPORTS
COUNCIL MEETING
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Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
03-01	Advance Auto parts	Roads and Grounds	\$ 7.99	
03-02	Barco Products Dog waste bags	Streets and Roads	\$ 264.24	
03-03	Dover Board OF Education	School Taxes	\$ 96,200.00	
03-04	Dover -Court	Shared Court Services	\$ 1,655.83	
03-05	Feintuch	Legal Services	\$ 2,204.22	
03-06	Henry O Baker	Other Insurance	\$ 10,436.00	
03-07	Home depot Credit services	Roads and Grounds	\$ 214.41	
03-08	Ideal Air Inc	Clerk OE	\$ 2,331.00	
03-09	Interstate Waste Services	Trash Removal	\$ 11,910.25	
03-10	NJNG Firehouse account	Fire OE	\$ 83.69	
03-11	R & L Data Centers	Clerk OE	\$ 274.00	
03-12	RVRSA	Rvrsa Share	\$ 9,624.00	
03-13	verizon 250-784-263-0001-56	Utilities	\$ 82.09	
03-14	Verizon 450-784-289-0001-62	Utilities	\$ 309.27	
03-15	Viking Pest Control	Building and Grounds	\$ 145.80	
03-16	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 3,045.13	
03-17	Leticia Diaz	Clerk SW	\$ 1,440.00	
03-18	Manny Venero	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,612.50	

TOTAL \$ 142,840.42

NEW BUSINESS:

WASHINGTON AVENUE PAVING PROJECT - We already discussed this.

Councilman Glass said we had a problem with one of the salters. He found someone that could fix it and it was taken care of. The total cost of the repair was \$165.00 .

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

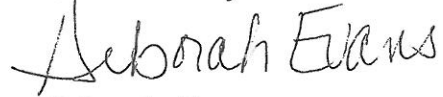
Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Jim Janone - How come Debbe that you didn't mention the GRC complaint that I filed? I never mention them. I wanted the audio from the Planning Board and I was told that I couldn't have it. You were told that by the Attorney, not by me. I never heard back from you about the trucks that are parked behind the house on Cooldige. I gave it to Ron to take care of. I told you that. What happen with the discussion on the Housing Officer? Council said that they weren't hiring anyone at this time. The CFO year end report - I filed an OPRA for it and never got it. That is because we never got it. The Council asked for that information from the CFO almost a month ago, and I keep reminding him to get it to us and we still don't have it. The agreement for Nourish when did that go into affect? Was it the day they took title or the day they open for business? Well they aren't open for business yet. It was from they took title. That money from the Board of Education \$750,000 - somewhere around there - will that be discussed as part of the budget? We have the money because we never gave it to Dover. However, until an agreement is reached between the Attorneys to present to the bodies involved, nothing will be done. Dover is supposed to do up the agreement and then it comes to us. Some towns are using the American Rescue Plan money to businesses in their towns. How come we aren't doing that? It's used for payroll and losses they may have had. The Clerk said she doesn't think that is American Rescue Plan money. That is a different program. American Rescue is for infrastructure. Also, we still have a project planned and that is if we have money left we will do the other section of town for the schoping of sewer lines. Are we still paying for pest control? Yes. why? The Mayor said if you have infestation of bugs or anything else, you have to continue to treat. It is prevention. Do they do the firehouse? No, we don't have a problem up there. The phone bill is very high. That is alot of money. It says it is an overdue amount. If it was paid already, it will not get paid again.

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

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

Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Evans". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name.

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk