

January 2, 2024

Re Organization meeting of the Mayor and Council of thg Borough of Victory Gardens held on January 2, 2024.

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.

STATEMENT OF DETERMINATION:

A Statement of Determination of the Board of Canvassers, relative to an election held in the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, for the election of certain municipal officials and school board officials for the Borough on the 7th day of November, 2023.

Stuart Hale & Ismael Lorenzo Sr. 3 year terms Borough Council  
Victoria Pinales, Maria Solines, Krista Seanor Board of Education 3 year terms

\*\*\* Councilpersons were sworn into office before the meeting.

Roll Call:

Councilman Glass, Councilman Suarez, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo.

Absent: Councilwoman Garcia montes.

Council elected Councilman Suarez as Council President for the year 2024.  
Motion made by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION APPOINTING BOROUGH ATTORNEY -

RESOLUTION # 1

WHEREAS, THERE EXISTS A NEED FOR AN ATTORNEY forthe Borough of Victory Gardens, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for the purpose, and

WHEREAS, the local public contracts law requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitve bids must be publically advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens for the year 2024

1. Philip Feintuch from the firm of ~~Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch~~ is hereby appointed as Borough Attorney for the year 2024.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

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Borough Clerk

Motion to approve the Resolution for the Borough Attorney by Councilman Hale, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved onroll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE BOROUGH AUDITORS -

RESOLUTION # 2

WHEREAS, THERE EXISTS A NEED FOR AUDITORS, for the Borouogh of Victory Gardens, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the local public contracts law requires that the Resolution authorizing the awardof contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bidding must be publically advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens for the year 2024

1. Man Lee from the firm Nicivoccia & Company is hereby appointed as the Borough Auditor for the year 2024.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Serivces" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Borough Clerk

Motion on the Resolution appointing Borough Auditors mde by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE BOROUGH ENGINEER -

RESOLUTION # 3

WHEREAS, THERE EXISTS A NEED FOR AN ENGINEER for the Borough of Victory Gardens, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for such purpose, and

WHEREAS, the local public contracts law requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bidding must be publically advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens for the year 2024

1. William Ryden from the firm Anderson & Denzler is hereby appointed as Borough Engineer for the year 2024.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Borough Clerk

Motion to approve the appointment of the Borough Engineer by Councilman Hale, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Abstain

RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR -

RESOLUTION # 9

RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Victory Gardens, Morris County, New Jersey is obligated to maintain an Emergency Management Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, said position must be filled by a resident of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, David Holeman, Jr. has met the requirements of the position

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that David Holeman, Jr. be appointed to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Victory Gardens for a three (3) year appointment beginning January 2, 2024 and ending on 12/31/2026.

Borough of Victory Gardens  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Borough Clerk

Motion to approve the resolution for Emergency Management Coordinator by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION FOR A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN - The banks are listed in the cash management plan.

R- -24

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, P.L. 1983, Chapter 8, Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 requires that each municipality designate a Cash Management Plan for the deposit of local unit's monies; and

WHEREAS, the Cash Management Plan for the Borough of Victory Gardens is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, that they hereby adopt the attached Cash Management Plan.

Adopted: January , 2024

**BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DAVID HOLEMAN,**  
**MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Deborah Evans,**  
**Borough Clerk**

Motion to approve the cash management plan by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MULTI JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN -

(See Next Page)

RESOLUTION # 10  
RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MULTI JURISDICTIONAL  
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY  
GARDENS, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Victory Gardens is vulnerable to damages from natural hazard events which pose a threat to public health and safety and could result in property loss and economic hardship;

WHEREAS, a multi jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan has been developed through the work of the Morris County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, the Borough of Victory Gardens Hazard Working Mitigation Group and the interested parties within the Borough of Victory Gardens.

WHEREAS, the plan recommends hazard mitigation actions that will protect any property affected by natural hazards that face the Borough of Victory Gardens, that will reduce future public, private, community and personal costs of disaster response and recovery; and that will reenforce the Borough of Victory Gardens leadership in emergency preparedness efforts;

WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-390) (DMA2000) and associated federal regulations published under 44CFR Part 201 requires the Borough of Victory Gardens to formerly adopt a hazard mitigation plan subject to the approval of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to be eligible for federal funds for hazard mitigation projects and activities.

WHEREAS, public meetings were held to receive comment on the Plan as required by DMA 2000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that:

1. The plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Borough of Victory Gardens.
2. The Borough of Victory Gardens officials identified in the mitigation action plan are hereby directed to implement the recommended actions assigned to them. These officials will report quarterly on their activities, accomplishments, and progress to the Borough of Victory Gardens hazard mitigation working group.
3. The Borough of Victory Gardens hazard mitigation working group will provide annual progress reports on the status of implementation of the plan to the Mayor and Council. This report shall be submitted to the Mayor and Council by March 15th of each year.
4. The Borough of Victory Gardens hazard mitigation group will undertake periodic updates of the plan as indicated in the Plan Maintenance Program (section 10) but no less frequently than every 5 years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens adopts the Morris County, New Jersey Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, dated \_\_\_\_\_ as this jurisdictions natural hazard mitigation plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR: \_\_\_\_\_

CLERK: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion on the Resolution by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

Councils confirmation of Jerry Flatt as Animal Control Officer for 2024.  
 Motion made by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

PLANNING BOARD & ADJUSTMENT BOARD	Class I	Mayor	
	Class II	Kevin Lewthwaite	Employee
	Class III	James Glass	Council Member
	Class IV	Janine Adams	
	6 Residents of Borough	Cathy Pogany	
		Frank Litts	
	Angela Ramos		
	John Cegelka		

Motion to approve the members of the Planning & Adjustment Board. Motion by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

Appointments of Council Mnebers to serve on the following committees -

ADMINISTRATION:	Hale	Hedgepath	
PUBLIC WORKS:	Glass	Hale	
RECREATION:	Garcia Montes	Suarez	
EM. MANAGEMENT:	Holeman	Barella	
FINANCE/BUDGETING	Glass	Suarez	Garcia Montes
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:	Hedgepath	Lorenzo	Holeman

Administration - Personnel - Hiring Only  
 Public Works - DPW Only & Their Work  
 Recreation - Youth Parties

RVRSA LIASON: John Cegelka  
 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE LIASON: Councilman Lorenzo

Motion on all the appointments by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgeapth	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION FOR NEWSPAPER PUBLICATIONS -

RESOLUTION # 4

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens,  
 County of Morris, and State of New Jersey, that the newspaper,  
The Daily Record be used for publications  
 and legal materials for the year 2024.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Borough Clerk

Motion to approve the Resolution for newspaper publications by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

TEMPORARY BUDGET RESOLUTION -

**BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS  
RESOLUTION 2024-**

**2024 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

**Whereas**, 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are made prior to the final adoption of the 2024 Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

**WHEREAS**, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, the total appropriations in the 2023 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, Capital Improvement Fund and Public Assistance, is the sum of \$1,494,566.00, and

**WHEREAS**, twenty-six and twenty-five hundredths of one percent (26.25%) of the total appropriations in the 2023 Budget, exclusive of the above-mentioned appropriations in said budget is \$392,323.58.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records.

DATED: January

ATTEST:

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE  
BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

*Deborah Evans*

Deborah Evans  
Municipal Clerk

*David Holeman*

David Holeman  
Mayor

Motion on the temporary budget by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION ON INTEREST ON DELINQUENT TAXES -

See Next page

RESOLUTION # 7

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris, State of New Jersey; that pursuant to the authority contained in Chapter 46 of the laws of 1970, the rate of interest to be charged for delinquent taxes or assessments in the Borough of Victory Gardens be and the same is hereby fixed at 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 ;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the establishment of the aforesaid rates be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Chapter 435 of the laws of 1970 as set forth more therein:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tax Collector of the Borough of Victory Gardens be authorized to process the cancellation of any delinquencies of less than \$10.00 for any charges and fees imposed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Borough Clerk

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion on the Resolution by Councilman Hale, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION APPOINTING PACO OFFICER -

RESOLUTION # 8

RESOLUTION APPOINTING PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Purchase & Property requires that the Borough of Victory Gardens appoint a designated Public Agency Compliance Officer (PACO);

NOW THEREFORE, and in accordance of this requirement and within the powers afforded the Borough of Victory Gardens, the Mayor on this 1/2/2024 hereby appoints David Holeman, Jr. to the position of P.A.C.O. effective immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Borough of Victory Gardens

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, do hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the Resolution passed at a meeting of the Mayor and Council, that was held on January 2, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Borough Clerk



Motion on the PACO Resolution by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suraez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

RESOLUTION APPOINTING TAX COLLECTOR -

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A TAX COLLECTOR  
FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Victory Gardens, Morris County, New Jersey is obligated to maintain a Municipal Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, Angelica Sabatini has met the requirements of the position; and

WHEREAS, Angelica Sabatini has held the position of temporary tax collector for the Borough of Victory Gardens;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that Angelica Sabatini be appointed as the Tax Collector for the Borough of Victory Gardens in the amount of \$12,000.00 per year.

\*\*\* Appointment is for a 4 year term beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2027.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David L. Holeman, Jr.  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion on the Resolution by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

The Mayor said before he opens the meeting to the public he would like to make an announcement.

Please be courteous and mindful of the rights of others when providing comments. Comments may not be abusive, obscene, or threatening. All members of the public attending the Mayor and Council meetings must treat each other and the Mayor and Council with respect. Individuals offering comments are not permitted to make personal attacks on any town employee, the Mayor or members of the Council, other testifiers or members of the public.

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

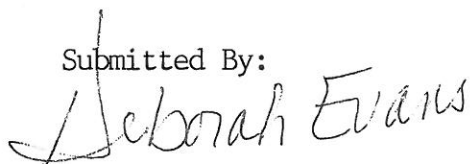
Jim Janone - What are the expiration dates for the Class 4 members of the Planning & Adjustment Boards? I have to get that information from Kevin. Once I get it, I will send it to you. What is the cost for the Auditors this year? \$36,460. Did it go up? Yes. Did we go out for Request for proposals for the professionals? No. How come? Council seems to be happy with those we have. What did you mean when you said you are accepting the professionals until the budget is approved? Councilman Glass said until we do the budget, the professionals will stay with the same pay. Once we see where our budget is then it will be decided if they are getting raises. For the Clerk did you ever hear from the Board of Education Administrator? No.

Aura Dunn , Assemblywoman - I just wanted to come out to tonight and congratulate those coming into office this year. I want to do more outreach with the seniors in our communities. I attended the opening of NOURISH NJ. It has been very successful and a great change for Victory Gardens. I am your representative in Trenton and if you ever need any thing please let me know.

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

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

Submitted By:



Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk