

December 10, 2024

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on December 10, 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.

ATTENDANCE: Councilman Suarez, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: None

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk said there is no correspondence. However, just to let everyone know, we did put the ad in the paper for the leaf vacuum. We are accepting bids on December 16 at 10:00 a.m.. Bids starting at \$2,500.

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

Motion to accept the minutes of 11/26/24 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Abstain - Absent at Meeting
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor 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 Councilwoman Montes and approved on roll call:

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

(See Vouchers Next Page)

**Voucher Reports**  
**Mayor and Board Council Meeting**  
**December 10,2024**

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
12-01	Dover Water Comission	Utilities	\$ 301.63	
12-02	Vision Service Plan	Group Insurance	\$ 160.00	
12-03	R & L Data Centers Inc	Clerk OE	\$ 280.00	
12-04	NJNG Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 700.00	
12-05	JCPL Fire House	Fire OE	\$ 91.43	
12-06	JCPL Street Lights	Street Lighting	\$ 755.06	
12-07	Anderson & Denzler Associates Inc	Engineering OE	\$ 1,435.20	
12-08	NJ State League of Municipalities	Mayor/Council OE	\$ 342.00	
12-09	NJNG FireHouse	Fire OE	\$ 297.00	
12-10	Protective Systems Service	Clerk OE	\$ 300.00	
12-11	Viking Pest Control	Buildings and Grounds	\$ 157.46	
12-12	Gannett News paper Tax Sale	Clerk OE	\$ 590.20	
12-13	JCPL Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 622.37	
12-14	New Jersey Conferences of Mayors	Mayor/Council OE	\$ 400.00	
12-15	Navitend Phone and emil service	Clerk OE	\$ 1,366.20	
12-16	Interstate Waste	Trash Removal	\$ 12,635.60	
12-17	RVRSA	RVRSA Shares	\$ 5,025.00	
12-18	Dover Court -Shared Court	Shared Court Services	\$ 1,655.83	
12-19	Dover Board of Education	School Taxes	\$ 97,057.00	
12-20	Training Unlimited LLC	Clerk OE	\$ 240.00	
12-21	Feintuch Porwich & Feintuch	Legal OE	\$ 2,204.22	
12-22	Home depot Inc	Buildings and Grounds	\$ 136.77	
12-23	Morris County Mua	Buildings and Grounds	\$ 130.50	
12-24	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,377.60	
12-25	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,853.12	
12-26	Leticia Diaz	Clerk Sw	\$ 1,872.00	
12-27	Leticia Diaz	Clerk Sw	\$ 2,198.40	
12-28	Manuel Venereo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,550.00	
12-29	Manuel Venereo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,400.00	
<b>TOTAL VOUCHERS</b>			<b>\$ 141,134.59</b>	

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION TO RESTORE 150 MILLION IN MUNICIPAL AID -

(See Resolution Next Page)

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

RESOLUTION TO RESTORE 150 MILLION IN MUNICIPAL AID -

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS CALLING FOR GOVERNOR MURPHY TO RESTORE \$150 MILLION IN MUNICIPAL AID THAT WAS ELIMINATED

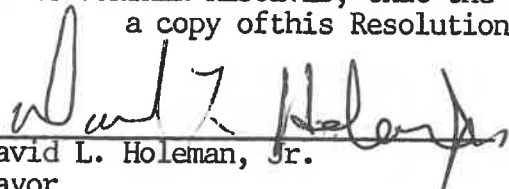
WHEREAS, the State FY 2025 Appropriations Act eliminated a \$150 million municipalities category known as the "Municipal Relief Fund" and

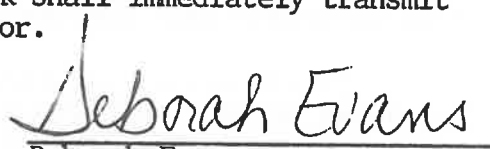
WHEREAS, the elimination of the Municipal Relief Fund would otherwise be reflected in municipal budgets in the Spring of 2025; and

WHEREAS, State Aid reductions will exacerbate the impact of inflation and State mandates as more particularly set forth in the attached letter from Senator Bucco to Governor Murphy:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, that the Governor is requested to propose fully restoring \$150 million of aid for the Municipal Relief Fund in the State budget he next presents to the Legislature and allow municipalities to anticipate the aid as part of the CY 2025 budgets

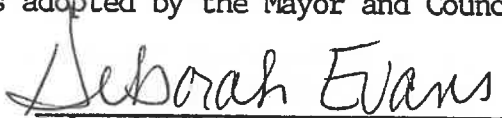
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk shall immediately transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Governor.

  
David L. Holeman, Jr.  
Mayor  
Borough of Victory Gardens

  
Deborah Evans  
Municipal Clerk  
Borough of Victory Gardens

ATTEST:

I, Deborah Evans, Clerk for the Borough of Victory Gardens do hereby state that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council at a meeting held on December 10, 2024.

  
Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

Motion to approve the Resolution by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

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

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

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

Jim Janone - My flier was on my lawn and it was all wet by the time I got it. Mine was in my mailbox. Who is our CFO? Right now it is Joe. Jason is our Treasurer. Come January our CFO will be Jason. What do we get in Municipal Aid? I'm not sure. It could be around \$75,000. Are we done with the BOE litigation? No. The Attorney said he has a conference with the Judge next week. We have an issue with the money we are holding back. Also, we are waiting to go over the debt service issues. The Clerk said we released a lot of money to them but the Attorney said we are still holding about \$600,000. We are paying the monthly amount but not paying the debt service. If we were paying the debt service, how much more a month would that be? Maybe around \$8,000 more. We had a meeting last night with the BOE and they said there is no reason why they can't give a list of names to the Clerk. They are supposed to be working on it. They will mark it Confidential so it doesn't go anywhere else. I also told them at the meeting that the bus drivers are not checking bus passes and that we have kids from Salem Village coming up into VG and riding the buses. They said they will check into that. I sent them the emails for both Debbe and Letty.

The Clerk said she doesn't know if anyone else notices this or not, but we have kids at the bus stop at the firehouse and at Polk. I followed the bus around one day and it seems, especially on Washington that they stop at practically every house. Jefferson is a stop and the apartments are a stop. Councilman Suarez said he noticed it also.

Councilman Lorenzo said he notices about 6 buses dropping kids off in here. I only see 1 or 2 kids on the whole bus. I know, the Clerk said that we have a bus for the high school then there is one or two for East Dover and North Dover.

The Clerk said we asked Dover about this several times because we get complaints that the buses aren't full and why are there so many in here.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said that the high school kids get picked up at 6:49 a.m..

Are we doing anything with the Cannabis In Kind gift that Joe talked about. He was supposed to let us know what Wharton was doing. I don't think you can do that the Clerk said until they actually move in. Tangerine is no where getting where they are moving in. The other place, has the permits. He is working over there. He also said that he was going to have a job fair to hire from the town if they can. See if we can find out when he will be opening.

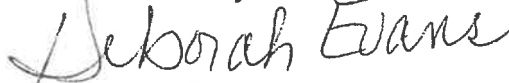
Councilwoman Hedgepath said that the bus schedule is A thru G and there are 7 stops.

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

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

Mayor Holeman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday season.

Submitted By:



Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk