

July 22, 2025

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on July 22, 2025.

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

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

ABSENT: None

**** At this time the Mayor asked for a motion to go out of the regular order of business so that the Auditors could speak to us about ongoing personnel/litigation matters.

Motion made by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Closed session minutes are typed separately.

Motion to return to the regular order of business by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Motion to accept the minutes of July 8, 2025 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. Councilman Lorenzo abstained as he was not here for that meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

DOVER BOARD OF EDUCATION - The Clerk said she spoke with the Attorney regarding the A4F Form from the Board of Education. At that time you told me not to sign it as you were waiting on information from the Board. The Attorney said he is still waiting on an answer from them as to how they arrived at those numbers.

The Clerk said she spoke to Jason, our CFO, and he said the holdup in getting our tax bills out is because we haven't signed it yet and sent it back to Dover.

The Attorney told the Clerk to sign the paper but to put on there that we reserve the right to correct this as soon as Dover advises us of the correct amount, per our Attorney.

DISPENSARY - I gave everyone a copy of the letter I received from Alex at the dispensary. He said the sales tax due the Borough was \$186.74 . I haven't deposited his check yet as I was waiting to make sure this was the correct amount he was suppose to submit to the Borough. This is just for the first month of opening.

This is the correct amount.

QUOTATION FOR STEEL DOORS AND FIREHOUSE - Leon went out for quotes on these doors but we never received any quotes back. He just sent it out again but this one was for 4 doors. Councilman Glass said the door on the garage needs to be done also.

Quotes are due back to me by August 12, 2025.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the vouchers? Councilman Suarez said the one for NJ Gas Company - we haven't paid them in three months? Diane called them and they said it wasn't paid. So it is this month and 2 months prior.

There were no other questions on the vouchers.

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

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

VOUCHER REPORTS

Date of Council Meeting:
July 22, 2025

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	<u>Check #</u>
7-33	Viking Pest	monthly	157.46	
7-34	Appraisal Systems Inc.	Reassessment	6,500.00	
7-35	R & L Data Centeres	payroll & late payroll	536.00	
7-36	Realex Holding LLC.	Redeem TSC #24-001	2,038.01	
7-37	Clerk of Morris County	Cahal TSC #24-001	20.00	
7-38	Sunnyside Florist & Greenhouses	arrangement	90.00	
7-39	Optimum Business	monthly	240.99	
7-40	Optimum Business	monthly	11.46	
7-41	MGL Printing Solutions	order #202302	269.00	
7-42	Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch	RVRSa litigation	1,032.50	
7-43	JCP&L	firehouse - monthly	199.52	
7-44	JCP&L	borough hall	429.36	
7-45	Morris County League of Municipalitie	dues	100.00	
7-46	Morris County MUA	shade tree - June	285.75	
7-47	Morris County MUA	roll off / monthly	86.67	
7-48	Navitend	repacement drive	346.25	
7-49	Navitend	server backup / monthly	146.71	
7-50	Hector Lorenzo	payroll	3,138.24	
7-51	Manny Venereo	payroll	2,535.36	
7-52	Diane Feola	payroll	550.00	
7-53	Montville Animal Shelter	Quarterly service	669.04	
7-54	Petty Cash	July	82.22	
7-55	NJNG	past due & current budget pymt	4,215.00	

TOTAL

23,679.54

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING DEPARTMENT - 1 permit issued. Total collected: \$272.00

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of the report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - We received \$106.04 .

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts	Month To Date:	\$ 84,126.16
" " " " " "	Year to Date:	\$1,154,797.32

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

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

Councilman Glass asked about the dispensary signs across the street.. The Clerk said she talked to Kevin about them and he told them they had to remove all the flags. Councilman glass said there is one hanging out in the street and someone is going to hit it. They were told to remove them. I will tell Kevin again.

NEW BUSINESS:

EXTRA HOURS FOR DIANE FEOLA - The Clerk said she needs Diane in the office for more hours. If we can do between 15 to 20 hours per week it would help out a lot.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Montes to give her 15 hours per week. motion seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

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

Councilwoman Hedgepath said that if the Clerk needs Diane for more hours just come back to us and let us know.

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE TAX DUE DATE FOR AUGUST - Everyone has a copy of the Resolution. This is because we haven't signed off on the A4F Form. Tax bills will be going out late.

Motion to approve the Resolution by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Hale nad approved on roll call:

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

(See Resolution Next Page)

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

COUNTY OF MORRIS

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE TAX DUE DATE FOR THE THIRD QUARTER 2025 PROPERTY TAX
PAYMENT

WHEREAS, R.S. 54:4-66.3 states that the third quarter taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of either August 1, the additional 10-day grace period, or the twenty-fifth calendar day after the date that the tax bill was mailed, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 54:4-66.3 also states payments received after the later of August 1, the additional 10-day grace period, or the twenty-fifth calendar date after the date that the tax bill was mailed, may be charged interest back to August 1, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Borough of Victory Gardens has not received the certified 2025 tax rate from the Morris County Board of Taxation, therefore, there will be a delay in the printing and delivery of the 2025/2026 tax bills, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that the due date for the third quarter 2025 property tax payment, which would normally be August 1, 2025 with a 10-day grace period until August 10, 2025 or the first business day thereafter, will be extended to 25 days from the date of tax bill mailing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all subsequent payments in the 2025/2026 billing cycle will be due as pre-printed on the tax bill coupons, with the regular 10-day grace period.

I, Deborah Evans, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at a regular meeting held July 22, 2025.


Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

Dated: 7-22-2025

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

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING -

Jim Janone - In regards to Dianas hours at the last meeting you approved a voucher for \$1,200 for her. It was dated July 1 thru the 15th. Councilwoman Hedgepath said the dates were wrong. It was actually 2 pay periods. She is working 8 to 10 hours a week but if the Clerk needed her more than she worked.

I was looking at the voucher for Anderson & Denzler. I don't know why you don't look into this more. It says sewer operations report for the RVRSA. He charges us \$405 every month for this report. They are saying 2 hours to do the report. Last year it was only 1 hour. There is nothing in here that has changed. The report has 4 questions of yes or no answers. It is always the same. This is like \$5,000 a year.

The Mayor said he is doing more than that.

Dover Schools they are claiming that tuition for this year is going to be 2 million more than last year. Victory Gardens went up 19%. The Attorney said this is what he discussed a few minutes ago. I am waiting on figures from them. I asked for a breakdown on how they came up with that number. Does that include the debt service? No. That isn't supposed to be in with the calculations for Victory Gardens.

I noticed on the Board out front that the Borough is no longer accepting cash payments. What meeting was that discussed at? So if I come in to pay my dog license fee, does that have to be paid in cash or check? Check or money order. The Clerk said it was talked about it in a closed session meeting. The Auditors said not to accept cash and Council said okay.

Joan Cegelka - Why don't you look into having residents pay their bill online? The Clerk said we spoke about this before. There is an extra charge if we set up to do that. An extra charge that the Borough has to put on and an extra charge from the bank and/or the credit card company. Council said no. People are paying on line for other things and I think the people would pay the extra charges. If you do that, it could eliminate a lot of problems. Another thing, if your CFO runs a report for all checks and what was paid out you would know what is happening and who gets paid and how much.

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

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

Submitted By:

Deborah Evans

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk

