

May 28, 2013

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on May 28, 2013.

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, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilwoman Garcia Montes and Councilman Glass.

Absent: Councilwoman Hall and Councilman Lorenzo.

Motion to accept the minutes of May 14, 2013 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Valerie Williams - Council has a copy of this email. She is asking for all her complaints sent to health departments, local board of health and court proceedings spanning the past 4 years pertaining to the property located at 13-19 Adams Avenue.

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

VOUCHERS:

Are there any questions on the vouchers? Hearing none the Mayor asked for a motion to pay the bills.

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

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

VOUCHER #	PAYABLE TO:	TYPE OF SERVICE	ACCT.#	AMOUNT
5 036	OFFICE CONCEPTS	ADM & EXEC OE	001C	\$319.48
5 037	PHILIP FEINTUCH	LEGAL SERVICES	016	175.00
5 038	NJ DEPT OF TREAS.	ADM & EXEC OE	001E	1,050.00
5 039	A T & T	BLDG & GRDS OE	006B	36.08
5 040	PHILIP FEINTUCH	LEGAL SERVICES	016	437.50
5 041	J.C.P.& L.	STREET LIGHTING	023	660.46
5 042	DOVER AMERICAN LEGION	PUBLIC RELATIONS		100.00
5 043	MATUTE & ARGUETA	TAXES		867.24
5 044	HORIZON BS BC	ADM & EXEC MEDICAL		704.67
5 045	VERIZON	BLDG & GRDS OE		187.16
5 046	NJ DIV. ALCO BEV	ADM & EXEC OE		6.00
5 047	HECTOR LORENZO	STREETS & ROADS S&W		1,450.56
5 048	EDUARDO MARTINEZ	STREETS & ROADS S&W		2,485.44
				<hr/>
				\$8,479.59
5 049	VERIZON	AID TO FIRE DEPT.		\$82.76

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Building Inspector - 4 permits issued. Total value of construction was \$14,166.00 .

Clerks Receipts - Taxes	\$11,035.34
Dog Licenses	99.00
Food Licenses	150.00
Sewer Payments	271.40
Total	\$11,555.74

Property Maintenance - The property located at 108-110 Monroe has had the tree removed off the house. The property still needs to be cleaned up. The property located at 128-132 Monroe still needs maintenance.

The properties on Roosevelt Avenue who had damage from the Sandy storm have removed the debris and trees. I received an email from Valerie Williams regarding the property at 13-19 Adams Avenue and I looked at the property. The grass needs to be cut and a tree limb should be removed. The majority of properties I give you are owned by banks and are abandoned. I feel it would be in the Boroughs best interest to place liens on these properties. It is unfortunate that our residents are held to one standard and the banks are not.

Municipal Court - We collected \$1,281.36 .

Tax Collector - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date:	\$ 77,392.60
Total Tax Receipts Year to Date:	\$485,144.80

Registrar - 2 marriage licenses issued for the month of April, 2013. Total collected was \$56.00

Finance Officer - Everyone has a copy of Amys report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Cheatham - No Report.

Councilman Glass - DPW cleaned up debris on Franklin Road.

Councilwoman Hedgepath - The Freeholders put on a luncheon for all the volunteers for the committees that work on Community Development. That was held on 5/21/13.

Councilwoman Garcia Montes - Nothing at this time under recreation.

Motion was made to approve and put on file all reports. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

911 RESOLUTION FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

(See Next Page)

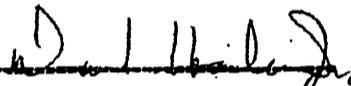
**RESOLUTION FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS**

**WHEREAS, the County of Morris, New Jersey has presented a 911 Dispatching Contract to the Borough of Victory Gardens regarding rendering of 911 Services to the Borough, and**

**WHEREAS, The Borough of Victory Gardens has reviewed said Contract and discussed same at a regular Council meeting, and**

**WHEREAS, The Governing Body of Victory Gardens has determined that this Contract serves the best interests of the Borough and has voted to enter into said 911 Dispatching Contract;**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013 that the Borough Victory Gardens does hereby enter into the 911 Dispatching Contract as presented by the County of Morris.**

  
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**DAVID HOLEMAN, Mayor**

**I, Deborah Evans, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, Morris County, New Jersey, do hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough at a regular meeting scheduled and held on May 28, 2013.**

  
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**DEBORAH Evans, Borough Clerk**

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DOCUMENT PREPARED 5/23/2013

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS** - Everyone needs to make sure they get their forms filed. It has to be done on the computer. If you can't get it please come in and we will file it through our office. It needs to be done by May 31, 2013.

**BARRIES LETTER TO COUNCIL** - The Clerk said she read this at the last meeting. Council didn't make a decision last meeting so you need to decide what you want to do. If you want me to read it again I will. Barrie is waiting for an answer back from Council since this was brought up last year also.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said that Barrie should come to the Council if there is a problem. Barrie will make final decision on what comes before Council. If a resident has a concern they can bring it to the Council. Council will turn it over to Barrie and Barrie will have the final decision.

Motion made by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED:

POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL UPDATE - Councilwoman Montes did not have the time to go over all the changes. She asked if we can put it on for our next meeting. Councilwoman Hall asked that if anyone had any questions or comments to contact her and as of today no one has contacted her. We will put this on the agenda for the next meeting. Council agreed.

SOUTH SALEM STREET & FRANKLIN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - We have talked about this a few times. I finally was able to speak with the Administrator in Randolph. Randolph is not doing anything this year on this project. Their budget is done. If Victory Gardens commits to this project then Randolph will put it in their Capital Improvement Budget for next year. They need to know by the end of June what Council wants to do. Council feels they should move on this now.

Motion was made to commit to the project with the County and Randolph on the cross walk and improvements to Franklin Road and South Salem Street intersections. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

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

Raul Lalusia - Crosswalk is a good idea. I am all for it. Thank you for voting for the work to get done. The safety and well being of the residents is what matters most. Costs may go up so does that mean it won't get done? That is our portion. Randolph will put in the same amount and the County will put in \$90,000. There is also line painting that needs to be done. We don't have the plans for this project. I think that once we get closer to having everyone commit then the plans will come forward and everyone can look at them to see what work will be done.

Joan Cegelka - What were the meeting dates for the Policy & Procedure manual. I don't remember they were last year. Who met? Betty, Sonia and Veronica. Can we at least ask for a left hand turn signal at this crosswalk from Salem Street? We can ask and see what they say. It is also difficult to cross at the Washington Avenue South Salem as you come out of Victory Gardens. Maybe we should have crosswalks there. We did ask about it and they did a study and didn't find it was necessary. We asked about this again when they made it two lanes coming up from Blackwell Street. They still said it wasn't necessary.

Jim Janone - I spoke to County in reference to South Salem and Franklin. You might want to look at the other intersection also to get work done. The County will do lines but they want the curbing for handicap accessibility first and then they will do lines. Do you have a draft copy of the Policy & Procedure Manual. Yes. I will put in an OPRA for that. I don't think you can get it yet but I will ask the Attorney. I think the Attorney said before while the Council is reviewing and making changes it is a work in progress and not for the public. If he says you can have it then you can have it. Are you saying that the Zoning Officer can not investigate any complaint unless this council tells her to do it? We can't have everyone in Victory Gardens ask one person to investigate something that they perceive to be a violation. The resident can come to us and we will give it to Barrie.

Valerie Williams - Can your Clerk read my email in full that I sent - the ones from May 27th and 28th so it is a matter of record. Council has copies of it. May 20, 2013 - The property located at 13-19 Adams Avenue continues to be a problem. As you are aware I made several complaints about the Boroughs lack of concern surrounding this issue. If you continue to ignore me I will seek a remedy with the State of New Jersey. My response to her was that she could contact the new BOH in Rockaway and I gave her the phone number and the name to speak with. May 27, 2013 - She is requesting copies of all her complaints sent to health departments, local BOH and court proceedings spanning the past 4 years pertaining to 13-19 Adams Avenue. Those records should have been kept with the secretaries and or custodians of record. A formal response is requested.

My response to her was - I would send her request to all parties. I have no BOH complaints here at this office. I told her I would give it to Rockaway Township BOH, Madison BOH, Local BOH/ Mayor and Council, Barrie Krause, DPW, Greg Stafford. May 28, 2013 - She asked what I have done with her written complaints for the past 4 years. Please go to the secretaries, each department, board and get the files ready. Also, the minutes from each department are necessary. My response to her was - Any complaints you made to each group is handled by that group.

Valerie Williams Continued - We have no court files here. I told her that all persons she wanted contacted were contacted and they have to respond to me so I can give her the answers. I told her I don't have answers that they may have given her. I told her I do not attend the BOH meetings.

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

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

Submitted By:

*Deborah Evans*

Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk