

March 24, 2015

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on March 24, 2015.

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: Councilwoman Cheatham, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Jacobus, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

Attorney Feintuch was also present at this meeting.

ABSENT: None

Motion to accept the minutes of March 10, 2015 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

VOUCHERS: The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the vouchers? Hearing none he asked for a motion to approved the vouchers.

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

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

Date	Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount
3/24/15	3-027	Nisivoccia LLP, CPA's	Annual Audit	\$15,730.00
3/24/15	3-028	RVRSA	RVRSA Share	\$ 9,424.00
3/24/15	3-029	Waste Management	Garbage Trash Removal	\$ 7,968.91
3/24/15	3-030	Dover Bd. Of Ed.	School Taxes	\$ 7,372.00
3/24/15	3-031	Cargill, Inc.	Road OE	\$ 2,439.00
3/24/15	3-032	Cargill, Inc.	Road OE	\$ 2,172.08
3/24/15	3-033	The Hartford	Other Insurance	\$ 2,010.00
3/24/15	3-034	Anderson & Denzler Assoc.	Engineering OE	\$ 1,787.60
3/24/15	3-035	NJNG Co.	Utilities	\$ 1,066.00
3/24/15	3-036	JCP&L	Utilities	\$ 409.93
3/24/15	3-037	JCP&L	Fire OE	\$ 212.67
3/24/15	3-038	Dover Water Comm.	Utilities & Fire OE	\$ 191.46
3/24/15	3-039	Golub Animal Hosp.	Dog OE	\$ 165.00
3/24/15	3-040	Verizon	Utilities	\$ 64.27
3/24/15	3-041	Daily Record	Clerk OE	\$ 48.84
3/24/15	3-042	MGL Printing Solutions	Tax Collector OE	\$ 37.50
3/24/15	3-043	MCTC Treasurers Assoc.	Tax Colelctor OE	\$ 25.00
3/24/15	3-044	TJ's Sportwide Trophy	Planning Board OE	\$ 24.00
3/24/15	3-045	Sussex Cty Muni Clerk Assoc.	Clerk OE	\$ 20.00
3/24/15	3-046	Optimum	Clerk OE	\$ 4.99
3/24/15	3-047	Edwardo Martinez	Streets & Roads SW	\$ 2,560.32
3/24/15	3-048	Hector Lorenzo	Streets & Roads SW	\$ 1,493.76
3/24/15	3-049	Deborah A Devery	Admin SW	\$ 852.00
TOTAL				\$56,079.33

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Building Department - There were 3 permits issued for a total value of construction of \$2,045.00

Property Maintenance - Everyone has a copy of the property maintenance report.

Municipal Court - We received \$440.12 from the court for the month of February.

Tax Collector - Total Tax receipts Month to Date: \$309,170.90  
Total Tax Receipts Year to Date: \$392,365.62

Registrar - There were no marriages for the month of March 2015.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Cheatham - Nothing to report.

Councilman Glass - Nothing to report.

Councilwoman Hedgepath - There was some extra money in Community Development of \$253,000. This money was from HUD. We had to distribute to other areas that didn't get the full amount of what they requested. We still are not getting anything. Senior homes seem to be what they are funding now.

Councilman Jacobus - More snow removal and salting. Gutters have been cleaned out. Now that winter is over I would like to say that our men are doing a good job. Our road guys are always getting knocked for not doing things. I took a ride about a week ago from South Salem Street up Franklin Road and all the way through the Mine Hill border. That road is covered in pot holes. I couldn't even do the speed limit the roads were so bad. Then I took a ride through Victory Gardens. I could not find a pot hole. So when our residents complain about pot holes and our guys being responsible or causing them, then that is wrong. If that were the case we would have them all through Victory Gardens. I think our guys have done a great job all winter long.

Attorney Feintuch said he would like to comment on the basketball hoop that a resident said our men destroyed while snow plowing. I spoke with Kevin. I told him what our position was. He said the hoop was on his private property. I told him that our men said the hoop was on the street. The Attorney said we have to believe our guys and my recommendation is that we do nothing.

Councilman Lorenzo gave different places in town where the kids have these things.

Councilman Lorenzo - Nothing to report.

Councilwoman Garcia Montes - Easter party will be held on April 4. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.. It is a Saturday. We will have egg coloring and a race - weather permitting.

The Mayor asked Council if there was any action they wanted to take regarding the information the Attorney gave us on the basketball hoop? No. Let it go. The Attorneys recommendation is let it go and that is what we will do.

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

## NEW BUSINESS:

There is nothing listed on the agenda. However, the Clerk said she wanted to mention that everyone received a copy of the audit. We will do this at our next meeting.

Also, Mayor Gratacos passed away. He use to be the Mayor in the 70's. I was asked by a Councilperson if we could send a fruit basket to his daughter, Patti Wilder as she lives here in Victory Gardens.

Motion was made to send a fruit basket to Patti Wilder the daughter of the past Mayor. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes that the fruit basket be no more than \$100.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

The Clerk wanted the Council to know we just found out that our electrical inspector is retiring. He works part time for us. He is here as needed. I have put the word out. I have asked around and we are just waiting to hear from someone. If we get anything in I will forward it to the Administration Committee for them to begin interviews.

Councilwoman Montes wants a flier to go out regarding Mayor Gratacos. We should do a flier with our condolences. It should say that we appreciate his services to the Borough for all the years he was our Mayor. This should be a flier to the residents. The viewing was Friday and the funeral on Saturday.

OLD BUSINESS:

WEBSITE DISCUSSION FOR APPROVAL - Councilwoman Cheatham said we have examined this website and received information from many people. The last of the two vendors we had - Cite Net and Citi Connections. Citi Connections seem to be the one that gave us the best price, will do all the input for us and he gave us big discounts from the original proposal. After the first year we should be in good shape. Everything that needs to be on the site will be included.

Motion was made to give the job for the website to City Connections. Motion made by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on roll call:

Councilwoman Cheatham	Yes
Councilman Glass	No
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Jacobus	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

The Attorney asked the Clerk to contact the company have them send him their contract.

The Mayor made mention that we will be going into a closed session regarding litigation for RVRSA.

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

Joan Cegelka - Joan said she thinks the Council made a good choice on using City Connections for the website. For Mayor Gratacos it said donations should be made to the cancer society. We are not allowed to make donations. What was done when Mr. Kask passed away? He was a founding member of our fire department, he broke Mrs. Bly in when she started and he was on our road department. Are you happy with the budget you sent in to the State? Joan asked questions about why we are raising the budget when we don't have to? That was explained by the Auditor. The Mayor asked Joan when she was on the BOE didn't she give herself a raise? Yes, but I didn't get one in 6 years. You can take money out of Clerk O & E . What you accuse me and the BOE about inflating our budget is what you are doing now. You could have asked these questions when Amy was here but you didn't.

Jim Janone - The domain name.com you should have Debbie look into that and see if she can get a refund. For electrical subcode I hope you aren't looking at them. They don't have a good track record with that. We are looking wherever we can find someone. How much is in CIP for the playground? I think it is a few thousand. You will never see any improvements to the playground. There is no place in the Borough for the kids to play. There are pot holes in town. The speed bump by the apartments is ripped up. You have to see that.

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

Councilwoman Montes left the meeting at this time. 6:35 p.m..

Motion to go into closed session by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

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(Closed Session Typed Separately)

Motion was made to go back into regular session by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Jacobus and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

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

Submitted By:

*Deborah Evans*

Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk