

April 28, 2015

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on April 28, 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 Meeting Act.

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

Attorney Feintuch was present at this meeting also.

ABSENT: None

Motion to accept the minutes of April 14, 2015 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Jacobus and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NJDOT - We finally got our approval letter from the State DOT about the sidewalk improvements to Roosevelt Avenue, South Salem Street, Washington Avenue and Washington Place. The amount of the grant is \$40,000. Leon is going to get started on this right away.

J C P & L - At the last meeting I told you that JCP&L will be coming through town to trim trees. We were told two different areas to be trimmed. I asked Mike Obremski and he said the streets will be Coolidge and Washington.

Councilwoman Montes asked if JCP&L is doing that work? Yes. They hire out a contractor and they will be through in May. The Mayor said anyone on Council can call JCP&L if they see a problem.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the vouchers? Hearing none a motion was made to approve the vouchers for payment.

Motion to approve the vouchers for payment by Councilman Glass, 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

(See Vouchers Next Page)

Date	Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount
4/28/15	4-040	County of Morris Treasurer	County Taxes	\$ 38,606.95
4/28/15	4-041	County of Morris Treasurer	County Open Space Tax	\$ 1,598.06
4/28/15	4-042	Henry O. Baker Ins.	Other Insurance	\$ 6,554.00
4/28/15	4-043	NJNG	Utilities	\$ 1,066.00
4/28/15	4-044	William J. Isslein	Clean Communities	\$ 875.00
4/28/15	4-045	JCP&L	Street Lighting	\$ 644.22
4/28/15	4-046	JCP&L	Utilities	\$ 311.21
4/28/15	4-047	JCP&L	Fire OE	\$ 175.04
4/28/15	4-048	Verizon	Utilities	\$ 206.13
4/28/15	4-049	Verizon	Fire OE	\$ 103.66
4/28/15	4-050	Verizon	Utilities	\$ 67.03
4/28/15	4-051	Golub Animal Hospital	Dog OE	\$ 235.00
4/28/15	4-052	Office Concepts Group	Clerk OE	\$ 132.07
4/28/15	4-053	Professional Gov't Educators	CFO OE	\$ 90.00
4/28/15	4-054	Ondria Garcia Montes	Recreation	\$ 50.59
4/28/15	4-055	ATT	Utilities	\$ 49.05
4/28/15	4-056	Optimum	Utilities	\$ 5.00
4/28/15	4-057	Debbie Devery	Admin SW	\$ 786.00
4/28/15	4-058	Hector Lorenzo	Streets & Roads SW	\$ 1,369.28
4/28/15	4-059	Edwardo Martinez	Streets & Roads SW	\$ 2,346.96
			TOTAL	\$ 55,271.25

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING DEPARTMENT - 1 permit issued for a total value of construction of \$10,000.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of Debs report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - We received \$193.04 from the court.

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: \$ 29,396.73
Total Tax Receipts Year To Date: 423,773.58

REGISTRAR - There was one marriage license issued for a total collected of \$28.00 .

FINANCE OFFICER - Everyone has a copy of Amys report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Cheatham - No Report

Councilman Glass - No report

Councilwoman Hedgepath - The Administration Committee met with William O'Connor. He is the only one who came in and applied for the electrical subcode position we had open. Greg Ryan our current inspector is retiring. He can start May 1, 2015 and he is willing to take the salary that Greg Ryan was getting. That is \$3,579.70 per year. He can work On Monday afternoons from 2:30 to 3:00 or until he gets done.

Councilwoman Montes asked if the position was advertised? No. The Clerk said she called around to towns - to the Building Departments - and they put the word out. What town does he work for? He is full time in Morristown and he has his certification.

Motion was made to hire William O'Connor at the same rate of pay that we were paying Greg Ryan at \$3,579.70 per year. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED:

Councilwoman Hedgepath Continued - We had a meeting with Community Development. It was a public meeting to say who got grants and for how much. Are we receiving anything? No. They are doing more senior housing things. Street and Road work is out. They are doing bathrooms for senior buildings. What happened federally for the generator? Nothing yet.

Councilman Jacobus - DPW have been doing gutter cleaning, leaf pickup, they fixed a toilet at Borough Hall, they went around to check storm drains and they have been marked for the ones that need repairs. Leaves are going to Chatham since Mt. Olive is closed for the next several weeks.

Councilman Lorenzo - We have a garage window that is broken. They are going to fix it. The Clerk said she told Eddie to get it fixed last week.

Councilwoman Garcia Montes - The Easter Party was a success. We had lots of children. Everyone got their own Easter Basket. They had an egg hunt, a race, a did egg coloring.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION REGARDING PORTION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS - The Clerk said everyone has a copy of this Resolution. Are there any questions? Hearing none, the Mayor asked that the Resolution be read in full.

(See Resolution Next Page)

RESOLUTION REGARDING PORTION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Whereas, the governing body of Victory Gardens has determined that the best interests of the Borough are served by having an orderly exchange between the governing body and the public who attend the public meetings; and

Whereas, the governing body has determined that the current manner in which the public who attend the public meetings has resulted in an unnecessary and often unruly exchange; and

Whereas, the governing body has determined that the public who attend the public meetings are entitled to garner information from the governing body at these public meetings; and

Whereas, the governing body has formulated a process which will lead to more orderly public meetings which will meet the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act without leading to unwarranted exchanges by and between the governing body and the public;

NOW THEREFORE, from this date forward any member of the public who chooses to address the governing body shall address his/her question or statement to the Mayor or such person as is chairing the public meeting. If the Mayor cannot answer the question asked, the Mayor shall call upon such person as he/she whom he/she believes can answer the question. If the answer is not available at the public meeting, the person may request that the answer, if indeed there be an answer, be given at the next meeting or alternatively request that a written answer be given via mail to his/her address. In no event shall a member of the public address and question or derogatory comment to any member of the governing body.

Once the member of the public asks a question or a series of questions, or makes a statement, or series of statements, he/she shall rest and await the answer. There shall be no exchange from the governing body and the questioner. The Mayor, or such person chairing the public meeting shall not allow further discussion.

The governing body shall afford each member of the public respect at all times and it is expected that the public shall afford the governing body due respect. In the event the Mayor or person chairing the public meeting is of the view that due respect is not given, the Mayor may request the member of the public, or the member of the governing body to remove himself/herself from the meeting .

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

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Councilwoman Cheatham | Yes |
| Councilman Glass | Yes |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Jacobus | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo | No |
| Councilwoman Garcia Montes | Abstain |

OLD BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS - Just a reminder that everyone needs to file their statement before the end of the month.

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

Jim Janone - Is there a written report on the storm drains? No. Eddie gave Leon a list and he went out. I didn't get anything in writing. Where does the money come from for Community Development? HUD. Franklin Road hasn't been cleaned yet. When will DOT work start? Leon is going out to bid right away and hopefully by late Spring or early Summer it will be started. The flier that went out said foundations will be inspected. What does that mean? He is looking at painting and seeing if there is chunks of the house missing around the foundation. The Resolution you did tonight sounds like it was geared towards the public and not the Council also. The last paragraph refers to both. Council talks amongst themselves and that isn't respectful. We see you do the same thing. We have to respect each other.

No other comments from the public.

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

Attorney Feintuch said he reviewed the contract from City Connections, LLC and he spoke with them. Everything is in order. We gave the okay to go with them at one of our last meetings we were just waiting on the contract. We received that and now you have to authorize the Mayor to sign off on the contract.

Motion to approve the contract and have the Mayor sign off on it. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

Mayor Holeman said that May 23, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. we will be holding our Memorial Day Services at Borough Hall. Also at that time when the services have been done, we are going to have a cake and coffee for Lorenza. We will put it out on a flier so everyone knows and if anyone wants to come down then we will be here for them to say hello to Lorenza.

At the end of this meeting we will be going into closed session to discuss an OPRA situation.

Councilwoman Cheatham said there was a bear sighting in Victory Gardens again. It was last week. We should put something out on the flier that goes out. The Clerk said she will put something on it.

Motion to go into closed session regarding an OPRA matter. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

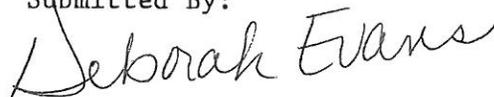
Closed session typed Separately.

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

Motion to go back into the regular order of business by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

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

Submitted By:



Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk