

September 27, 2016

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on September 27, 2016.

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, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: Councilman Jacobus and Councilman Lorenzo.

Attorney Feintuch was also present at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

FEINTUCH, PORWICH & FEINTUCH - Letter to Valerie Williams - To facilitate an amicable resolution of your concerns and those concerns of the Borough regarding property lines please bring a survey of your property to Borough Hall so that our Engineer can review same. In the absence of a survey the Borough will have to rely upon the Borough Engineers plat map.

STATE POLICE - I received an email from the State Police regarding the use of the firehouse. A day or two after our last meeting a Trooper came in with the keys for the firehouse. I asked him why he was giving them back and he said the Lt. asked him to bring them down. I emailed the Lt. to find out why and his response follows: Somebody went to the media with it. For safety purposes I don't think it's a good idea for the public to know we were going to be using it.

Councilwoman Montes said people would know they were using it because their cars would be there.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said that it is disgusting. We always felt safe in Victory Gardens. For someone to go to the papers after our meeting is terrible. I can't imagine anyone with that mentality going to the paper. This is our safety. There are a lot of things going on in Victory Gardens that people don't know about. We should speak to the State Police outside a meeting and ask them to please be here. We need them in here for the safety of our children and families.

Councilwoman Montes said we need the police here. With their presence, people will know not to come here. They will know the police are here and will stay out of our town.

LETTER FROM RESIDENT - This is from Diane Feola at 385 Washington Avenue - My property is next to the town lot. At the corner of the town lot there is a large maple tree, also along the side of my driveway there are several trees with branches that are getting quite large. They are a concern to me as the branches come down very low when we have a hard rain. I am requesting that the town take down the maple tree and trim the branches that are over my driveway. This will avoid any damage that might occur from them.

The Clerk said she told Diane the tree may not come down until next year as we already did trees this year. I will have Leon look at it and if it is really bad then we will have to cut it this year.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments on the vouchers? Councilwoman Montes said that voucher 046 has the state taxes on it. This amount should be removed before the Council gets the vouchers so we have the correct amount on the voucher listing. The Clerk said she would remind Debbie to do that.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING DEPARTMENT - 2 permits issued for a total value of construction:
\$4,725.00

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of Deb's report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - We received \$1,471.34 from the court.

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: \$ 442,926.73
Total Tax Receipts Year To Date: \$1,348,247.93

REGISTRAR - No marriage licenses issued for this month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Cheatham - No report.

Councilman Glass - No report, but there was a tree that fell down across the street from me. Eddie and Hector helped get it out of the street. I called the homeowner and he got it taken care of. The branches at the church have also been cut back.

Councilwoman Hedgepath - No report.

Councilwoman Garcia Montes - The Halloween Party will be on October 31. From 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.. At the firehouse. For ages walking to 13 years old. Send copy of the flier to both sets of apartments. Have Debbie put it on the computer also.

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:

CFO AT MEETING - Derek will be here at the October 11, 2016 meeting to discuss payroll services for the Borough. Council can then decide what they want to do about payroll services.

IDEAL AIR CONTRACT - This is the same amount as it has been in years past. He comes out 4 times a year.

Motion was made to approve the Ideal Air Contract in the amount of \$1,400.00. Motion made by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

NEW MEETING DATES FOR 2017 - Everyone has a copy of the meeting dates. I have two items. One, the Re-organization meeting will be January 3, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.. The other is that I have both dates down for December. Do you want me to leave both dates or remove the last one since we usually only have one in December? Council said to keep both meeting dates for December. We can change it later and everyone is good with the date for re-organization.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING - The Clerk said that we need to change either the date or time for the BOH meeting. I was speaking to Rockaway Township and the only day we could get the Flu Shots was the same date as the BOH meeting. I told them to schedule the flu shots for the 18th. Time is from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. So, you can either have your meeting on the 18th at 7:00 pr 7:30 p.m. or just change the date and maybe have it in November.

Council said to change the date of the BOH meeting from 10/18/16 to 11/15/16. I will advertise and let Rockaway Township know.

OLD BUSINESS:

SALT ESTIMATES - We did this at the last meeting but before we signed off on the contract Councilwoman Montes wanted to see what salt pricing was elsewhere. There weren't many other companies for us to look at. Compass Minerals does not service New Jersey. EIC EGY EXPORT is out of Egypt. Mid American Salt we never heard back from them.

So we have Cargill. The cost is \$72.00 per ton. Last year it was \$79.00 per ton.

Motion was made to go with Cargill Salt at the cost of \$72.00 per ton. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

CAMPERS/TRAILER ORDINANCE - Attorney Feintuch said he is still working on this. Keep it on the agenda and we will just work with it from meeting to meeting until it is done.

Attorney Feintuch said we should have a committee of a few members of Council to go over the ordinances. You do have some very old stuff in the book. The Clerk said you have to keep the old stuff to know what you had in the past. When you codify than you have all the updates. Your current codification doesn't edit. They aren't suppose to the Clerk said. They put the new ordinances in where they go and reference the old ones. You have to have something to look back on when they reference them. If we infact, repealed ordinance altogether, then I assume they would be removed from the book. We haven't repealed any or if we did, it wasn't many.

Attorney Feintuch said that he sent a letter to Valerie Williams regarding the repainting of lines on Adams Avenue. We took a vote to take action if we couldn't resolve it. Apparently, we can't resolve it because she never answered us. The Attorney did write a letter and we haven't heard anything. The Clerk said the Attorney should resend the letter with a time frame for her to answer us by. Otherwise this will go on forever. I will send her another letter and tell her if we don't receive her survey by the next meeting we will take action against her.

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

Yolanda Adams 369 Washington Avenue - I am having a prblem with taxi cabs. There is excessive horn blowing all hours of the day an night. This happens during the week and on weekends. This happens every time they come through to pick up a passenger. I spoke to Debbe and she asked me to try to get plate numbers and the names of the company. I have the names but not the plates. I wanted to bring this before the Mayor and Council. I have lived here for a long time and it is getting worse.

We have an ordinance for noise but horn honking isn't in there. We would have to do an ordinance for that. The Clerk said she will call Dover and see if there are any complaints against them and what they do. I will also ask and see if they have an ordinance for taxis and get a copy of it.

Jim Janone - What is happening with my OPRA request? At the last meeting Councilman Lorenzo said he would look at our machine and see if he can do it. You said that was okay with you. Well, I found out that the next day he left on vacation for a month. Can you get a backup done of the tape? You can have the company that put the equipment in come back and do it. If we had the equipment to do it we would do it but we don't have the equipment. The machine records when there is movement. I will call the company that installed and see if they can backup. Jim said okay. We do not have the software with the system. It was not in his proposal. We don't have it. We will see if he can train us and how much it will cost for him to copy. If he can do it. About the taxis we should have an ordinance regulating them. Also, the Council should lock over the town ordinances and see what should be added or taken out.

Motion was made 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 Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Submitted By:

Deborah Evans

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk