

October 26, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on October 26, 2021.

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, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Hedgepath, and Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: None

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

Motion to accept the minutes of October 12, 2021 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A few meetings ago I mentioned to Council that the Victory Highlands Condos wanted to use the firehouse back parking lot while their lots were paved. They recently sent a note telling us that they would not be doing their parking lots as it is too costly. So, they will not be using the firehouse lot.

LITTLE LIBRARY - There were 5 boys aged maybe 10-14 that destroyed all the books at the library. They opened it up and threw everything all over the place. A resident saw them and came in and told us but she never took a picture of them or tried to stop them. What does Council want to do?

Council said they want to continue the books and maybe we need to get a camera up there. The Clerk said she will try to get a price on one.

ANDERSON & DENZLER - At the last meeting we were talking about the right of way on Franklin Road. I asked Leon to go out and measure.

He stated the following: The Franklin Road right of way (half) is 25 feet. The half pavement width varies from 13 to 15 feet. That means the Borough owns at least 10 feet behind the curb as road right of way.

RESIGNATION OF CHARLIE WOOD - Charlie has been our CFO for many years. When he retired he continued as the person that would reconcile the books. He gave me his resignation letter. Resignation is effective November 15, 2021.

The Clerk will ask the auditors if we need someone to fill Charlie's shoes. Council wished Charlie all the best and will miss him.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the vouchers? Councilwoman Montes asked that we still hold voucher #21-21 for the Board of Education. Yes, we continue to hold the Clerk said.

Councilman Glass said the voucher for Smith Brothers is for snow plow parts. We are still waiting for 3 more parts but they are on order. Councilwoman Montes said we could buy a new plow for \$5,000. Councilman Lorenzo said it was for 3 different plows.

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

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

**VOUCHER REPORTS**

Date of Council Meeting:  
October 26, 2021

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
10/17/2021	Anderson & Denzler	Various	6,789.71	
10/18/2021	AT&T	Utilities	46.10	
10/19/2021	County of Morris - Dept. of Finance	Open Space Taxes	698.08	
10/20/2021	County of Morris - Dept. of Finance	County Taxes	60,852.40	
10/21/2021	Dover Board of Ed.	School Taxes	96,135.00	
10/22/2021	Eric M. Bernstein & Assoc., LLC	Nourish Escrow	1,740.00	
10/23/2021	Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch, ESQ	Legal Services OE	2,150.46	
10/24/2021	Home Depot	Clerk OE	234.17	
10/25/2021	Ideal Air Inc.	Buildings & Grounds	1,727.50	
10/26/2021	Interstate Waste Services	Trash Removal	10,933.33	
10/27/2021	JCP&L - #1 - Fire	Fire OE	85.02	
10/28/2021	JCP&L - #2 - Main	Utilities	272.75	
10/29/2021	JCP&L - #3- Street Lighting	Street Lighting	624.15	
10/30/2021	Konica Minolat Business Solutions	Clerk OE	175.70	
10/31/2021	MGL Printing Solutions	Dog OE	577.00	
10/32/2021	MicroSystems - NJ.com, LLC	Tax Collector OE	120.00	
10/33/2021	RVRSA	RVRSA Share	10,608.00	
10/34/2021	Smith Brothers Services, LLC	Street & Roads	2,248.00	
10/35/2021	State of NJ- Dept. Labor & Workforce	Other Insurance	83.00	
10/36/2021	Verizon - #2 - 366-5312	Utilities	155.87	
10/37/2021	WEX Bank - Shell Gas	Street & Roads	547.12	
TOTAL			196,803.36	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Building Report - 1 permit issued. Total value of construction was \$2,000.

Property Maintenance - Everyone has a copy of the report.

Municipal Court - We received \$75.12 form the court.

Tax Collector - Total Tax Receipts Month to Date: \$ 47,300.06  
Total Tax Receipts Year to Date: \$1,687,332.75

Registrar - There was one marriage license for a total of \$28.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Cheatham - Nothing

Councilman Glass - Gave his report earlier.

Councilwoman Hedgepath - Halloween bags will be handed out on Saturday October 30 at the firehouse. That is from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Councilman Lorenzo - Nothing

Councilwoman Garcia Montes - Nothing.

Motion to accept and put on file all reports. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

IDEAL AIR CONTRACT FOR 2022 - The contract is the same as it has been in the past many years. The cost went up \$100 from last year. This is the first time the fee was raised in a very long time. The cost is \$1,500 for the year.

Motion made by Councilwoman Montes to approve the contract. Seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on roll call:

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

CARGILL SALT NEW CONTRACT FOR 2022 - We finally received the contract from Cargill for the winter salt. We are in for 100 ton. Last year per ton was \$83.00. This year it has gone up \$3.50 per ton. So the cost will be for this year \$86.50 per ton. If we use 100 ton or less we only pay for what we order and have delivered. If it is a good winter and we don't need any salt then we pay nothing.

Motion to approve the contract for Cargill Salt. Motion made by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL AND ALSO UPDATE ON PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE - I just received these in the mail. I didn't have time to make copies for everyone. I will have it to you before the next meeting.

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

Jim Janone - Franklin Road I checked with the County. This is a County Road. That isn't what the Engineer said. The County has the right of way to do whatever they want with that road. The Clerk said she will call the County tomorrow.

How many people do we have in PERS? I know the fulltime people are in which is 3. There is also another part of that called DCRP which Debbie D. belongs to and I think there may be other people in that also. You would have to get that information from the CFO. The Ideal Air Contract I know that during the year they billed us. We get billed for the quarterly checks that they come out and do. If there is something wrong and something needs to be replaced we get billed for that. When are we going to do something with the money we received from the Rescue Plan? The Clerk said we are looking into having the sewer lines scoped to see what condition they are in. The CFO hasn't said we can start that process yet.

Any update on the school busing? The Attorney said we are waiting on information and I should have that before the next conference call. That conference call is scheduled for sometime in November. For Council, the busing costs are very high. The Clerk said she has mentioned this to the Council before and they said they are not stopping the East Dover bus. That would save approximately \$90,000. Also the late bus has a cost also. I think that was about \$40,000. You really need to look at those costs. East Dover is not far to walk. Councilwoman Montes said that we can't have the kids crossing Blackwell Street as there is no guard there. you can have the school put a crossing guard there. Councilwoman Hedgepath said that for grade school and middle school it is too far for them to walk. Councilwoman Montes said we don't offer anything here. The taxpayers money can go for busing kids.

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

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

Submitted By:

*Deborah Evans*

Deborah Evans  
Borough Clerk