

February 23, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on February 23, 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 Meeting Act.

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

ABSENT: None

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

Motion to accept the minutes of February 9, 2021 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

J C P & L - The Clerk said she gave a copy of the proposed rate increase to all of Council. In the left corner at the bottom of the page, you will see a phone number and the dates where they have public hearings. They filed an application with the BPU.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the vouchers? Councilwoman Montes asked about the voucher for Dover Board of Education. We are approving but it will not be sent out? Correct. We will be holding the checks.

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

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

(See Voucehrs Next Page)

VOUCHER REPORTS

Date of Council Meeting:

February 23, 2021

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount
2/15/2021	Advance Auto Parts	Streets & Roads	176.48
2/16/2021	Cargill Incorporated	Streets & Roads	1,967.10
2/17/2021	CE Union	Clerk OE - D. Evans classes 4/22 & 5/13	110.00
2/18/2021	Deborah Evans	Clerk OE - Petty cash receipts	37.15
2/19/2021	Dover Board of Education	School Taxes - Feb. payment	92,746.67
2/20/2021	Dover Court	Shared Court Services	3,246.72
2/21/2021	Eric M. Bernstein & Assoc., LLC	Planning Board	180.00
2/22/2021	Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch	Legal Services - RVRSA	735.00
2/23/2021	Gannett NJ Newspapers	Clerk OE - Numerous ads	451.07
2/24/2021	Gannett NJ Newspapers	Clerk OE - Storm Water Ord.	1,706.67
2/25/2021	Henry O. Baker, Ins. Group	Other Insurance	8,882.00
2/26/2021	Herbert Evans, Jr.	Bldgs. & Grnds. - Feb. cleaning of Boro Hall	350.00
2/27/2021	Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield	Other Insurance	910.47
2/28/2021	Interstate Waste Services Inc.	Trash Removal	10,933.33
2/29/2021	JCP&L - #1 - Fire	Fire OE	212.50
2/30/2021	JCP&L - #2 - Main	Utilities	413.35
2/31/2021	JCP&L - #3 - Street Lighting	Street Lighting	617.99
2/32/2021	JLM Computers - IT service	Clerk OE - Jan. charges	95.00
2/33/2021	NJNG	Utilities - Boro Hall	759.00
2/34/2021	Optimum	Clerk OE	11.45
2/35/2021	Philip Feintuch, ESQ	Legal Services - Feb.	2,150.46
2/36/2021	Rockaway Auto Parts - Resouces	Streets & Roads	99.31
2/37/2021	Rockaway Valley Reg. Sew. Auth.	RVRSA Share	10,608.00
2/38/2021	Training Unlimited, LLC	Clerk OE - D. Evans class 5/4	50.00
2/39/2021	Verizon - #2 - 366-5312	Utilities	249.63/
	Vision Service Plan	Group Insurance	197.40
2/40/2021	WEX Bank - Shell Gas	Streets & Roads	594.10
		TOTAL	138,490.85

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING REPORT - 1 permit issued for a total value of construction \$1,800.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of the report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - We received \$470.24 from the court.

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: \$134,868.00
Total Tax Receipts Year To Date: \$134,868.00

REGISTRAR - There were no marriage licenses issued for the month of February.

FINANCE OFFICER - No report as we are doing budget meetings now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Councilwoman Cheatham - Nothing at this time.
- Councilman Glass - Nothing at this time.
- Councilwoman Hedgepath - Nothing at this time.
- Councilwoman White - Nothing at this time.
- Councilman Lorenzo - A resident called him up and made a complaint about a tree. Mrs. Yepes lives at 181 Washington Avneue. There is a tree across the street that is dropping branches on her property. She called the town hall and she received a letter. Who was the letter from? Debbe Evans. The Clerk said she didn't send a letter to anyone about trees. She asked to see the letter. This was not from me, it was from Debbie Devery. The Clerk said she would have to see exactly where the tree is. We will speak to the resident when we open to the public the Mayor said.
- Councilwoman Garcia Montes - Nothing at this time.

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:

AMENDMENT TO STORM WATER CONTROL ORDINANCE - The Clerk said everyone has a copy. Morris County Planning Board wanted some wording changed. The Attorney said it was nothign importantin the changes. It was just some wording.

AMENDMENT TO 21-20 REIVSED MUNICIPAL STORMWATER CONTROL ORDINANCE

Motion to amend on introduction by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on roll call:

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

AMENDMENT TO 21-20 REVISED MUNICIPAL STORMWATER CONTROL ORDINANCE

AT SECTION 1I. DEFINITIONS: STRIKE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

"CAFRA CENTERS, CORES or NODES" ...N.J.A.C. 7:7-13.16" and

"CAFRA PLANNING MAP" ...(GIS)"

" County Review Agency" STRIKE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

"Board of Chosen Freeholders" and replace with Commissioners. and

" Tidal Flood Hazard Area" in its entirety.

AT SECTION IV: M. STRIKE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

(Insert office of ... to the municipality) and replace with Office of the County Clerk.

N. STRIKE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

(Insert office of ... to the municipality) and replace with Office of the Morris County Clerk

Introduced: 2/23/2021

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

Maria Yepes - Mrs. Yepes said she is having a problem in town with branches falling from her neighbors house onto her property. They have a big tree that is dropping branches onto her property. She doesn't know who the owner of the property is. My insurance company said to come to the town and find out who the owner is of the property. The tree is between 178 and 194 Washington Avneue. In the letter Debbie said it was the Washington/Jefferson Condo Association. Mrs. Yepes is saying it is an empty lot. I don't think we have an empty lot in Victory Gardens. If I can see it, maybe they can mark the tree. Then I can have Leon go up and take a look at it. In the letter Debbie told her who the property owners are - based on the information that they gave her when she came in.

Jim Janone - What is the update on the busing contract? I am asking because I know you are owrking on the budget. According to the school budget they are billing us about 1.2 million. They are saying the busing is an additional 260,000. They will be awarding a contract sometime in May or June of this year. Are we going to be hit with another increase in taxes when schools open? Well, the Clerk said, we never got a seperate busing bill from Dover. The way we paid was just as a lump sum to Dover Board of Ed. I'm sure busing was always included in the main bill we got. Our kids would not be going to school without us paying for the busing.

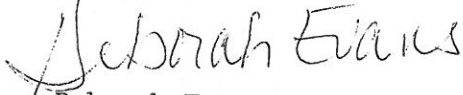
Sewer fee ordinance will public comment be at the next meeting? Yes. The CFO said he came up with cost esitmates taking something from each department, he took like 10% of certain employees salary that collects sewer fees, that posts them, etc. He was doing a breakdown and I think I asked for a copy of that. I don't have a copy of that. Maybe he said he was going to work on that.

What is the status with the remote call in policy? We don't have a policy the Mayor said. Mayor, you were supposed ot get back to me on the status of the joint shared services agreement with Dover for fire/ems. Did you have your annual meeting yet? Who is the 3rd person for the meeting? There is supposed to be 3 people from each town. I know that you and Debbe are 2 but who is the third? We never had a 3rd person. What if the portion of the EMS billing that I told you about? The Clerk said she put a call in to the Chief. He was working and would get back to me. He said he had to pull the paperwork.

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 Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Submitted By:


Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk