

July 13, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on July 13, 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, (arrived 5 minutes late), Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilwoman White, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.
Councilwoman White was via phone.

Attorney Feintuch was also present at this meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of June 22, 2021 as received by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Motion to accept the minutes of July 6, 2021 as received by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed. Councilwoman Montes abstained as she was not here for that meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Motion was made to go out of the regular order of business so that Lt. Bermingham from the State Police can speak. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

The Lt. said that he is the new station commander at Netcong Barracks. I have been with the State Police for 24 years. I just wanted to meet everyone tonight. I am here if you need me. If anyone has any questions for me I will take one or two right now. So I don't hold up the meeting, I will be here for the whole time and if anyone wants to speak with me after the meeting I will be here.

Council had no questions at this time. Jim Janone asked the Lt. if they will have more of a presence in the Borough? Yes, I will try very hard to have more of a presence in here. Councilwoman Montes asked if they can be aware of people parking on the wrong sides of the road. The Lt. said they have been working on. I met with the Mayor and Clerk a few weeks back and that was one of their concerns.

I am also working on a community outreach program for the town.

Motion was made to go back into the regular order of business 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? Hearing none he asked for a motion to pay the bills.

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

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

(See Vouchers Next Page)

VOUCHER REPORTS

Date of Council Meeting:
July 13, 2021

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount
7/1/2021	Barco Products	Dog OE	271.80
7/2/2021	Corelogic	Redemption - Taxes	1,043.12
7/3/2021	Dell Technologies	Clerk OE - Annual sub. Microsoft 365	174.36
7/4/2021	Dover Court - Shared Services	Shared Court Services	1,623.36
7/5/2021	Dover Water Commission	Fire Hydrant - Utilities	5,382.00
7/6/2021	Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch	Legal Services - Bids for Cool., Jeff., & Monroe Ave's	975.00
7/7/2021	Henry O Baker Insurance Group	Other Insurance	4,068.00
7/8/2021	Ideal Air, Inc.	Bldgs. & Grnds.	3,935.00
7/9/2021	John Greco	Bldgs. & Grnds.	260.00
7/10/2021	Konica Minolta Business Solutions	Clerk OE	225.08
7/11/2021	Master Services, LLC	Streets & Roads	4,400.00
7/12/2021	MGL Printing Solutions	Tax Collector - Sewer bills	423.00
7/13/2021	Municipal Clerks' Assoc. of NJ	Clerk OE - Debbe's membership	100.00
7/14/2021	NJNG - #1 - Fire	Fire OE	185.00
7/15/2021	Nisivoccia	Audit 2020 - Finance	11,435.00
7/16/2021	Office Concepts Group	Clerk OE	94.23
7/17/2021	Optimum	Clerk OE	11.45
7/18/2021	Postmaster General of Dover	Clerk OE - Stamps for office & tax bills	660.00
7/19/2021	Town of Dover - Fire Dept. Services	Adm. & Exec. - Fire	16,500.00
7/20/2021	Treasurer State of NJ - Marriage Lice	Marriage License - qtrly fee	50.00
7/21/2021	Treasurer State of NJ	State Training Fees	50.47
7/22/2021	State of NJ - Div. of Pensions & Benefits	Group Insurance for July	5,794.88
		TOTAL	57,661.75

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION FOR REFUND FOR PROPERTY TAXES TO CORE LOGIC -

(See Resolution Next Page)

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

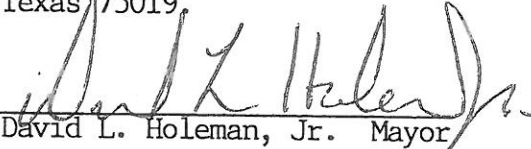
RESOLUTION
REFUND OVERPAID PROPERTY TAXES

WHEREAS, a double payment was received for Block 10 Lot 1.67 and applied to 2nd quarter 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector is requesting the overpayment be returned to the mortgage servicing company, CoreLogic via refund;

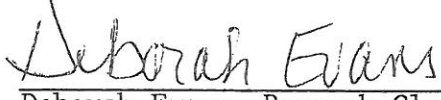
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey as follows:

Refund of \$1,043.12 be issued to the mortgage servicing company, CoreLogic, P.O. Box 9202, Coppell, Texas 75019.


David L. Holeman, Jr. Mayor

Karen L. Ferrone, Tax Collector

I, Deborah Evans, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens at a meeting held on July 13, 2021.


Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

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

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

RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO NJ DOT - The Clerk said everyone has a copy of the Resolution. I just received this today so I did not have it on the agenda. This is for the Washington Avenue improvements.

Councilwoman Montes said since they are doing paving and milling before you go over the speed bumps they are already uneven. Can you have Leon check it out. Yes, I will mention it to Leon.

Councilman Glass asked where the work was being done? The original was from Roosevelt Ave to Roosevelt Ave. At one of the last meetings I asked Council how much money can they take out of CAPITAL to pay our share of the expense. DOT never covers the whole project. So with what the Council said they were comfortable with to take out of CAPITAL, I told Leon that and so the project will not be as long as the original discussion.

Motion was made to approve the resolution for Washington Avenue DOT grant. Motion made by Councilwoman Cheatham, 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 |

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS
RESOLUTION

Resolution: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the project named: Washington Avenue Improvements

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic application identified as 00062 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Victory Gardens.

Certified as a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on 7-13-2021.

Deborah Evans
Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

My signature and the Clerks seal serve to acknowledge the above Resolution and constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement as authorized by the Resolution above.

Deborah Evans
Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

David L. Holeman, Jr. Mayor

Attorney Feintuch said he has the contracts for the Mayor and Clerk to sign for the sidewalk improvements.

Motion to have the Mayor and Clerk sign the contracts for the sidewalk improvements was made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ON CANNABIS DISPENSARY - I think everyone has a copy of this. Councilman Glass said I thought that if we said no we have to wait 5 years in order to change if we want. Do we have to wait and see what the State does? The Attorney said we have to wait and see what the State says. There are 61 communities that have said no. The Attorney said there are probably a lot of communities that are saying no.

The Attorney said it might be wise, I don't know if the State has changed the date for compliance. The Clerk said the last she heard the deadline was mid August to adopt or not but there has to be an ordinance to say so.

The Attorney said that he thinks it would be wise not to adopt this tonight until we see what the State says. Otherwise we will have to change the Ordinance after the State says what can and can not be done. The Attorney suggests that we hold up on this for now.

Motion was made to table the discussion on the cannabis dispensary until the Attorney looks into it more and sees what the State is doing. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

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

Jim Janone - Meeting minutes how come they aren't reflecting who isn't actually attending the meetings via remote. The Clerk said she has been doing that. I must have forgotten this past time. When your CFO talked about the revenue, I didn't see that we lost anything in revenue. Can Council tell me where we lost it? The Mayor said Joe explained all that at one of the meetings. We will have him get back to you. Is there any reason why the Council won't let the State Police use our firehouse? The Clerk said we tried to set that up one other time. We mentioned it at a Council meeting. People that were in our audience went out to the newspaper and told them and there was an article in the paper. The reason the State Police wanted to use the firehouse was so they were here and see what goes on in the town. They wanted to keep it quiet that they were going to be here. If anyone saw them at the firehouse and they wanted to speak with them they could, but they didn't want it advertised that they were here. The Mayor said the State Police cancelled it. Why don't we revisit it? We might. When you talk about the property maintenance ordinance will the property maintenance person be here? We will ask him to be here once we know when we are going to discuss. Now that the Attorney just gave me an updated version tonight I will have to make copies for the Council and also for the property maintenance person to go over.

The Attorney said the only thing that was not in this ordinance was about the bamboo that Mrs. Cegelka asked about. I could not find anything about that in any State law. Jim said he will look it up and give it to the Clerk.

Is there any update with the school board? The Attorney said we are waiting to hear from the Commissioner of Education. Okay. How come the Borough can't contract for busing without the school getting involved? The Attorney said that is one of our arguments. The attorney said the way he understands it is that it has to be contracted by the Board of Education.

Councilman Glass said there are buses in here now. Why? Councilwoman Hedgepath said because some kids are attending summer school.

Jenny Ruiz - She stated that she is a Randolph resident. I was at a meeting in Dover this past Saturday for the same purpose. I don't pretend to know the law and I am not sure at this point what the State is doing. I do know, from that meeting I attended, what the Alderman said the deadline is August 1. Every town can file for an extension for up to 30 days after that deadline. All the people where you have to apply for the extension are on vacation so I don't know how long it will take for you to hear back from them.

If this is something you are thinking about doing as a member of the community, I would like for you to do it. I think that you should adopt this ordinance now and then if there are changes you can make those changes after the State comes out with what their guidelines are.

There are many towns that back in 2018 when this was talked about have put an ordinance in affect to have the dispensaries in their towns. There is a drug problem in this area. Not just in Victory Gardens but in Dover, Randolph and all the surrounding towns. There are towns around here that have put this ordinance into affect already. Parsippany, Hackettstown, Rockaway are just a few that have adopted.

It is researched and well documented the help medical marijuana does for those with certain medical conditions. They are people that can't eat because of the medicines they are taking. This helps them to at least be able to eat something. Dover has 21 liquor licenses. I have seen more trauma, more families hurting, more accidents, more trouble because of liquor than I have ever seen because of marijuana.

Councilwoman Montes said that 99% of the Council is for this. The Mayor said we just have to go over the ordinance and make it fit our town.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said that Jenny is interested in opening a business in Victory Gardens. I want to open a consumption cafe. Do you know what type of dispensary you would have? We discussed delivery and retail. I do want to apply for one of these licenses. How would I apply? The procedure is set forth in the law the Attorney said. You have to meet state standards. I know that but what would be the procedures for the town? The Attorney said our fees will be high - although not as high as the State fees. It would be the same application that the State has. It also has to go before our Planning Board/Zoning Board.

Our next meeting is July 27 and we will discuss at that time.

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

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

Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Evans". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name.

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk