

April 23, 2024

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on April 23, 2024.

Mayor Holeman called the meeting to order and decalred 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: Councilman Suarez, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo,

ABSENT: Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

** Also present was Attorney Feintuch.

Motion to accept the minutes of 4/9/24 as received by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. Councilman Glass abstained because he was not present at the last meeting. None other opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

SUNSHINE INVESTMENT - I would like the Mayor and Council to speak to the CFO so that he can look into my escrow account that was established in 2021. I feel the Borough owes me between \$1,900 - \$2,500. I have spoken with the CFO and he says that he can not find the escrow monies and that he will not refund anything to me. I have come in several times and gave copies of the receipts. This has been going on for 3 years and hasn't been resolved yet. Please request from your CFO and ask him to meet with me and the Council to explain where the monies are and how it was spent. Thank you.

The Clerk said that her and Letty are looking into this. We went back as far as we can and are trying to find vouchers to march what the professionals have put in for this house.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments on the vouchers? Hearing none, he asked for a motion to pay the bills.

Motion to approve the voucehrs for payment by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

(See Vouchers Next Page)

**VOUCHER REPORTS
COUNCIL MEETING
April 23, 2024**

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
04-19	Anderson & Denzler Associates	Engineering OE	\$ 2,164.00	
04-20	Feintuch Porwich and Feintuch	Legal OE	\$ 1,403.50	
04-21	Glass Gardens inc Shoprite	Recreation	\$ 99.89	
04-22	Henry O Baker	Other Insurance	\$ 10,441.00	
04-23	Home Depot Inc	Buildings and Grounds	\$ 165.59	
04-24	Interstate Waste Services	Trash Removal	\$ 12,267.58	
04-25	Leticia Diaz	Planning Board	\$ 90.00	
04-26	MGL Printing	Tax Collector	\$ 406.25	
04-27	Montville Animl Shelter	Dog OE	\$ 690.59	
04-28	Morris County MUA	Road OE	\$ 306.00	
04-29	NJ state league of municipalities	Mayor / Council Admin OE	\$ 335.00	
04-30	Optimum Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 11.30	
04-31	Verizon	Utilities	\$ 67.42	
04-32	Wex Bank Shell	Road OE	\$ 342.67	
04-33	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,797.44	
04-34	Leticia Diaz	Clerk SW	\$ 2,200.00	
04-35	Manuel Venereo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,400.00	
04-36	Handyman's	Road OE	\$ 271.95	
TOTAL VOUCHERS			\$ 36,460.18	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUILDING REPORT - 1 permit issued for a total value of construction:
\$1,559.00

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - Everyone has a copy of the report.

MUNICIPAL COURT - Received \$788.04 from the court.

TAX COLLECTOR - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: 36,719.84
" " " " Year " " " \$548,142.44

REGISTRAR - No marriage licenses issued for the month of March 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DPW - Councilman Glass said at one of the last meetings Council approved a new bucket for the machine we have. We can't get the old one off. If we do get it off we aren't sure if we can get parts. We are just going to weld it like Eddie use to do. We need new scraper bars so the total cost will be about \$1,900.

No other committee reports.

Motion to approve and put on file all reprot's by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING ITEMS OF REVENUE & APPROPRIATIONS \$104,500.00 -

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS
REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF
REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, NJS 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Victory Gardens in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2023 in the sum of \$104,500.00 which is now available from the Morris County Office of Community Development in the amount of \$104,500.00 .

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$104,500.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption Washington Avenue Improvement Project.

Motion by Glass, seconded by Lorenzo

Approved on roll call:

Suarez
Glass
Hedgepath

Hale
Lorenzo

I, Deborah Evans, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough of Victory Gardens held on June 27, 2023.

Deborah Evans
Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

Motion to approve the resolution by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on roll call:

Councilman Suarez	Yes
Councilman Glass	Yes
Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Hale	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes

OLD BUSINESS:

REMINDER - Financial Disclosures must be filed. Last date to file is 4/30/24.

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

Jim Janone - What was the Resolution for that you did tonight? Washington Avenue Road Improvements. Front end loaders, they are not welded on. We are fixing the bucket itself. The bucket is cracked. We can't get the old one off. It's just rusted on there. Why don't you take it to a shop that knows what they are doing so they can take care of it. We have taken it to someone and it can't be fixed. Did we ever find out about the issue with the water outage from Dover? I called them they said they will let us know but sometimes it is an emergency and they can't notify. Dover Board of Education where are we with that? They have a tax increase for the Board of Ed. Attorney Feintuch said he spoke with Dovers attorney and they are still working on figures. We are holding about \$600,000. They are questioning whether or not we are entitled to that. Part of this whole thing has been settled but there is still a part of it that is open. Who keeps the accounting of escrow accounts. Supposedly the CFO. Who tells the applicant what they have to give us for escrow. Usually Leon will say what he projects his inspections will be and they set an amount. Mikie Sherrill is getting money for towns. You see it all on facebook. Why can't we get money from her? Who can ask her about this? The Mayor will. There is a bus that stops right on Washington Avenue in the morning and it blocks the roadway. People are trying to get out and other cars are coming in and they are blocking the road so no one can pass. They park most times on South Salem Street but htis one parks right at the bottom of the hill. The last thing I have is Alonzos. They are still having parties over there until 1 in the morning. There is loud music. People are arguing over there. Why were they given permission to stay open so late? They were not given permission.

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

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

Submitted By:

Deborah Evans

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk