

January 7, 2025

This is the ReOrganization meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on January 7, 2025.

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.

At this time the Mayor asked to go out of the regular order of business so that Senator Bucco can swear in the members to Council and the Mayor that were just re elected.

Motion was made to go out of the regular order of business by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

At this time Senator Bucco came forward to swear in the Mayor, Councilwoman Hedgepath and Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

Jeffrey Wood on behalf of Assemblywoman Dunn. She sends her congratulations to all of you that were sworn in tonight.

Willy Tolba on behalf of Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill's office. She wishes all those sworn in tonight the best.

Motion to go back into the regular order of business by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

The Clerk will read the Statement of Determination -

A Statement of Determination of the Board of Canvassers relative to an election held in the Borough of Victory Gardens for the election of certain Municipal Officers on the 5th day of November, 2024.

David Holeman Jr.	Mayor	4 Year Term
Kendyll Hedgepath	Council	3 Year Term
Ondria Garcia Montes	Council	3 Year Term

were duly elected to the offices and terms as set forth.

Board Members for Dover School Board -

T.C. McCourt	Board of Education	3 Years
Susan E. Shauer	Board of Education	3 Years
Scott Miller	Board of Education	3 Years

were duly elected to the office and for the term set forth.

Roll Call:

Councilman Glass, Councilman Suarez, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

At this time we need a nomination for Council President for the year 2025 -

Motion was made to nominate Councilwoman Montes as Council President for the yer 2025. Motion made by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

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

EMAILED
1-15-25 @

RESOLUTION APOINTING THE BOROUGH ATTORENY FOR 2025 -

RESOLUTION # 1

WHEREAS, THERE EXISTS A NEED FOR AN ATTORNEY forthe Borough of Victory Gardens, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for the purpose, and

WHEREAS, the local public contracts law requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitve bids must be publically advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens for the year 2025

1. Philip Feintuch from the firm of Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch is hereby appointed as Borough Attorney for the year 2025.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Borough Clerk

Motion on the appointment by Councilman Lorenzo, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE BOROUGH AUDITOR FOR THE YEAR 2025 -

RESOLUTION # 2

WHEREAS, THERE EXISTS A NEED FOR AUDITORS, for the Boruogh of Victory Gardens, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the local public contracts law requires that the Resolution authorizing the awardof contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bidding must be publically advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens for the year 2025

1. Man Lee from the firm Nisivoccia & Company is hereby appointed as the Borough Auditor for the year 2025.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Serivces" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law.

EMV ED

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION # 9

RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Victory Gardens, Morris County, New Jersey is obligated to maintain an Emergency Management Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, said position must be filled by a resident of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, David L. Holeman, Jr. has met the requirements of the position

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that David Holeman, Jr. be appointed to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Victory Gardens for a three (3) year appointment beginning January 1, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2027.

Borough of Victory Gardens
Mayor

ATTEST:

Borough Clerk

Adopted: _____

Motion on the appointment by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on roll call:

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

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2025 -

R- -25

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, P.L. 1983, Chapter 8, Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 requires that each municipality designate a Cash Management Plan for the deposit of local unit's monies; and

WHEREAS, the Cash Management Plan for the Borough of Victory Gardens is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, that they hereby adopt the attached Cash Management Plan.

Adopted: January , 2025

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

ATTEST:

DAVID HOLEMAN

Motion was made to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

Councils confirmation of Melissa Berger for Treasurer. This is a 4 year term.

Motion by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Suarez and approved on roll call:

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

Councils confirmation of Jerry Flatt as Animal Control Officer for the year 2025 -

Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

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

Councils confirmation of Jason Gabloff as CFO for the year 2025 - This is a 4 year appointment -

Motion on the appointment by Councilwoman Hedgepath, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on roll call:

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

PLANNING BOARD & ADJUSTMENT BOARD	Class I	Mayor Holeman
	Class II	Kevin Lewthwaite
	Class III	James Glass
	Class IV	John Cegelka
		Cathy Pogany
		Frank Litts
		Angela ramos

Motion on the appointments by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

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

** All professionals for the Planning Board are made by the Planning Board at their reorganization meeting.

Appointments of Council members to serve on the following Boards for the year 2025. Chairperson is listed first.

ADMINISTRATION:	Hale	Hedgepath	
PUBLIC WORKS:	Glass	Hale	
RECREATION:	Garcia Montes	Suarez	
EM. MANAGEMENT:	Holeman	Barella	
FINANCE & BUDGET:	Suarez	Glass	Garcia Montes
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:	Lorenzo	Hedgepath	Holeman

Motion to adopt the Cash Management Plan by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MULTI JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN -

RESOLUTION # 10
 RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MULTI JURISDICTIONAL
 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY
 GARDENS, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Victory Gardens is vulnerable to damages from natural hazard events which pose a threat to public health and safety and could result in property loss and economic hardship;

WHEREAS, a multi jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan has been developed through the work of the Morris County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, the Borough of Victory Gardens Hazard Working Mitigation Group and the interested parties within the Borough of Victory Gardens.

WHEREAS, the plan recommends hazard mitigation actions that will protect any property affected by natural hazards that face the Borough of Victory Gardens, that will reduce future public, private, community and personal costs of disaster response and recovery; and that will reenforce the Borough of Victory Gardens leadership in emergency preparedness efforts;

WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-390) (DMA2000) and associated federal regulations published under 44CFR Part 201 requires the Borough of Victory Gardens to formerly adopt a hazard mitigation plan subject to the approval of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to be eligible for federal funds for hazard mitigation projects and activities.

WHEREAS, public meetings were held to receive comment on the Plan as required by DMA 2000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens that:

1. The plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Borough of Victory Gardens.
2. The Borough of Victory Gardens officials identified in the mitigation action plan are hereby directed to implement the recommended actions assigned to them. These officials will report quarterly on their activities, accomplishments, and progress to the Borough of Victory Gardens hazard mitigation working group.
3. The Borough of Victory Gardens hazard mitigation working group will provide annual progress reports on the status of implementation of the plan to the Mayor and Council. This report shall be submitted to the Mayor and Council by March 15th of each year.
4. The Borough of Victory Gardens hazard mitigation group will undertake periodic updates of the plan as indicated in the Plan Maintenance Program (section 10) but no less frequently than every 5 years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens adopts the Morris County, New Jersey Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, dated 2024 as this jurisdictions natural hazard mitigation plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED: _____

MAYOR: _____

CLERK: _____

Motion on the resolution for delinquent taxes made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER FOR 2025 -

RESOLUTION # 8

RESOLUTION APPOINTING PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Purchase & Property requires that the Borough of Victory Gardens appoint a designated Public Agency Compliance Officer (PACO);

NOW THEREFORE, and in accordance of this requirement and within the powers afforded the Borough of Victory Gardens, the Mayor on this January 7, 2025 hereby appoints David L. Holeman, Jr to the position of P.A.C.O. effective immediately.

Mayor, Borough of Victory Gardens

I, _____, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens, do hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the Resolution passed at a meeting of the Mayor and Council, that was held on _____.

Motion on the appointment by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

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

Jim Janone - Do you think we can get some kind of report for RVRSA? The Attorney can give an update. You have no dates for the Planning Board members and the terms. I don't have that. Kevin has it and he will probably do that at the reorg meeting for the Planning Board. Do we have contracts for professionals? Not yet. What rate are they being hired at? What they got last year. We will discuss at the budget meetings. By that time we should have their contracts.

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

RESOLUTION # 6

WHEREAS, 40A: 4-19 Local Budget Act provides that where any contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2025 budget, temporary appropriations be made for purposes and amounts required in the manner and time, therein provided, and

WHEREAS, the date of the Resolution is within the first 30 days of January 2025 and

WHEREAS, the total general appropriations in the 2024 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interests and principal of debt, capital improvements and public assistance is the sum of 1,741,437.00.

WHEREAS, 26.25% of this total is the sum of 457,127.21

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris, that the following temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial officer for his records.

I, Deborah Evans Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens do hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the Resolution adopted at a meeting held on _____.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Borough Clerk

Motion on the resolution by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

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

The Clerk will read the Resolution for delinquent taxes -

RESOLUTION # 7

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to the authority contained in Chapter 46 of the laws of 1970, the rate of interest to be charged for delinquent taxes or assessments in the Borough of Victory Gardens be and the same is hereby fixed at 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 ;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the establishment of the aforesaid rates be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Chapter 435 of the laws of 1970 as set forth more therein:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tax Collector of the Borough of Victory Gardens be authorized to process the cancellation of any delinquencies of less than \$10.00 for any charges and fees imposed.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Borough Clerk

ADOPTED: _____

Motion on the appointments for the year 2025. Motion made by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on roll call:

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

RVRSA Liason: John Cegelka
Municipal Alliance Liason: Ismael Lorenzo

Motion was made to approve the two appointments by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

RESOLUTION FOR LEGAL ADS FOR 2025 -

RESOLUTION # 4

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, County of Morris, and State of New Jersey, that the newspaper, The Daily Record be used for publications and legal materials for the year 2025.

BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Borough Clerk

The Clerk mentioned that if we need to use the Star Ledger we will use them also.

Motion on the Resolution by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on roll call:

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

RESOLUTION FOR DEPOSITORY OF BOROUGH FUNDS -

The Clerk said this was done in the Cash Management Plan.

Consideration of Council for holding their meetings for the year 2025 -

The Clerk said this was done earlier in the year.

CONSIDERATION OF THE TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2025 -

See Resolution Next Page