

April 22, 2025

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on April 22, 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.

ATTENDANCE: Councilman Suarez, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Hale, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: Councilman Lorenzo.

Motion to accept the minutes of 4/8/25 as received by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

CONDOS - We are getting calls about overcrowding in the condos. One complaint stated that there were 5 people living in a one bedroom. The other complaint was that there were 8 people living in a one bedroom apartment.

Council said this is a condo problem. The Clerk said that she will send a letter to the Condo Association if I can find who that person is.

DOVER SUPERINTENDENT - I received an email from the Dover Superintendent of Schools. He wants to have a meeting over here at Borough Hall for our residents that have children going to Dover schools. They want to have a casual forum to share school updates and then have conversations with parents. He's asking for May 20th. The Clerk said if they want to open the building for them who will be here to let them in and to lock up when they leave?

Councilwoman Hedgepath said the parents can go to any school board meeting they want to. You don't have to have a special meeting for that.

Council said no on the meeting in Victory Gardens. The Clerk said she would let the Superintendent know.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM CHRIS BARELLA/FIRE OFFICIAL - Chris is resigning his position with the Borough. His wife is having health issues and Chris needs to take care of her.

I have been calling around to try to find someone to replace him. Not many people out there looking for this type of work. I did get a name from Bob Young who is our Fire Subcode inspector.

The name I got was Bernie Grillette. He works part time in Florham Park which is how he knows Bob. He is willing to do the job for what Chris was getting paid and he can start May 1 which is Chris' retirement date.

Administration Committee would like to speak with him and asked the Clerk to see if he can meet April 28th after work. I will call him tomorrow.

MULCH AT PLAYGROUND - We have spoken about this before. We need to put mulch up there. I have 2 proposals. One is for the regular mulch at a cost of \$1,192.80. The other one is for the rubber mulch at a cost of \$6,450.00.

Council said to go with the regular mulch. All approved.

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

**Voucher Reports
Mayor and Board Council Meeting
April 22, 2025**

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
04-19	Advanced Auto parts	Buildings and grounds	\$ 26.99	
04-20	Cargill INC	Streets and Roads OE	\$ 2,236.36	
04-21	Eric Bernstein & Associates	Planning Board	\$ 1,968.00	
04-22	Home Depot Credit Services	Streets and Roads OE	\$ 261.49	
04-23	Interstate waste Services	Trash removal	\$ 873.45	
04-24	JCPL Firehouse	Fire OE	\$ 270.04	
04-25	JCPL Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 567.32	
04-26	Montville animal Shelter	Dog OE	\$ 669.04	
04-27	Morris County MUA	Road OE	\$ 86.67	
04-28	Morris County MUA	Road OE	\$ 344.25	
04-29	Morris County MUA	Road OE	\$ 79.35	
04-30	NJNG Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 1,405.00	
04-31	Optimum Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 251.46	
04-32	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,615.36	
04-33	Leticia Diaz	Clerk SW	\$ 1,795.20	
04-34	Manuel Venereo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,244.00	
TOTAL VOUCHERS			\$ 15,693.98	

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

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Building Department - 3 permits issued. Total value of construction \$44,627.00

Property Maintenance - Everyone has a copy of the report.

Tax Collector - Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: [REDACTED] \$63,450.41
 " " " Year To Date: [REDACTED] \$592,064.99

Registrar - 3 marriage licenses issued. Total Collected \$84.00

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Councilwoman Montes said she had the Easter party with Councilman Suarez. We had a lot of kids. Everyone had a great time. Clerk to send letter to Marios pizza for donating 8 pizzas.

Motion to accept and put on file all reports by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING GLEN SHERMAN AS TAX ASSESSOR - This is a 4 year appointment for Glen. Everyone has a copy of the Resolution.

Motion to reappoint Glen Sherman as the Tax Assessor made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Hale and approved on roll call:

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS
COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF GLEN SHERMAN
AS BOROUGH TAX ASSESSOR.

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:9-148 requires every municipality to provide for the appointment of a Tax Assessor, and

WHEREAS, the current Tax Assessor is being re-appointed to his position; and

WHEREAS, It is the desire of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens to re-appoint Glen Sherman for the term of office starting on July 1, 2025 which will grant the Assessor tenure in his position pursuant to NJSA 40A: 9-148.

WHEREAS, the Assessor will hold public office hours on Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Resolution # 11-25 was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on April 22, 2025 to re-appoint a part time Assessor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of said Resolution shall be forwarded to the following:

1. Director, Division of Taxation
2. Administrator, Board of Taxation
3. Administrator of Victory Gardens Borough
4. Tax Assessor


Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk


David L. Holeman, Jr.
Mayor

I, Deborah Evans, Clerk of the Borough of Victory Gardens do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens at a public meeting held on April 22, 2025.


Deborah Evans, Borough Clerk

OLD BUSINESS: None

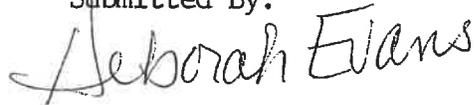
Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Jim Janone - When State Police issue tickets they don't get the money. They get it for State. Any local tickets they don't get anything. For the electronic signs there are companies that do municipal signs. They will come out and they will tell you what is best for you. There are regulations on the mulch for playgrounds. The Board of Education meeting is an outreach program. Yes, that is what I said. Who is doing the mulch? The place where we got the quotes is from Ben Shaffer Recreation. For the overcrowding at the condos, they aren't going to do anything about it. All they are worried about is getting their condo fees. They regulate their own rules. They don't care about the Borough codes. The Clerk said she spoke to the Council several times about hiring a part time Housing Officer and they haven't done it yet. Margaritas Bar & Grill I mentioned this at the last meeting. I checked our Zoning ordinance and under permitted uses. There is nothing permitted for night clubs, dancing, What restaurant is open past midnight. I see this is going to be a problem in the summer. We redo their liquor license in June. Right now we have a hold on their hours of operation. When it comes time to redo the license if Council wants to change their hours they can do that. If they choose to leave hours as they are currently, then those stipulations will be special conditions of their liquor license.

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass 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
Borough Clerk