

April 14, 2020

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on April 14, 2020.

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 Hedgepath, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Cheatham, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman White.

*** Attorney Feintuch was not present at this meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of March 24, 2020 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

COVID 19 - Just as update we have 15 cases in Victory Gardens with 2 that have passed away.

LETTERS TO RESIDENTS - There were 2 letters sent to residents about their dogs running loose. We have more to send out.

DOT - They are accepting applications for road work for next year. Applications are due by July 1. I spoke to Leon and he said for me to ask Council if there are any streets that need to be done in the Borough for paving and milling with curbing. I know we have to do Coolidge. If you have any suggestions please let me know quickly so that I can get the information to Leon so he can apply before the deadline.

DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE - Another fine imposed on the Showplace. I received this letter letting us know about the Showplace. This is the notice of final determination. Originally the license was suspended for 360 days. They were actually closed for 180 days. The remainder of the time they were allowed to operate because they paid a fine of \$45,000. Councilwoman Montes asked what the fine was for? There were 11 different violations. From hindering an investigation by an employee, contaminated bottles, failed to show invoices, lewd activity, lewd activity with audience participation, illegal activity.

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

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions on the vouchers? Councilman Lorenzo said on #14 it says for the year 2008. The Clerk said that should be changed. It is for 2018 and 2019. The voucher is wrong and I will correct it.

The Mayor asked if there are any other questions? Hearing none he asked for a motion to pay the bills.

Motion to approve the vouchers for payment by Councilwoman Montes, seconded

VOUCHER REPORTSDate of Council Meeting:
April 14, 2020

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount
4/1/2020	Anderson & Denzler	Eng., Home Sunshine Escrow & DOT	3,087.90
4/2/2020	Daily Record	Clerk OE	97.18
4/3/2020	Deborah Evans	Clerk OE	50.89
4/4/2020	Dover Municipal Court	Muni Court Dover	1,529.79
4/5/2020	Feintuch, Feintuch & Porwich	Legal Services - RVRSA	2,187.50
4/6/2020	Henry O Baker Insurance Co.	Other Insurance	8,081.00
4/7/2020	JCP&L - Fire	Fire OE	152.95
4/8/2020	JCP&L - Main	Utilities - Borough Hall	336.62
4/9/2020	JLM Computers	Clerk OE	142.50
4/10/2020	Konica Minolat Bus. Solutions	Clerk OE	221.12
4/11/2020	Morris County MUA	Road OE	585.00
4/12/2020	NJNG - Fire	Fire OE	183.00
4/13/2020	NJNG - Borough Hall	Utilities	736.00
4/14/2020	Nisivoccia	Finance 2019	500.00
4/15/2020	Nisivoccia	Finance 2020	17,355.00
4/16/2020	Optimum	Utilities	11.45
4/17/2020	R & L Data Centers, Inc.	Finance	250.00
4/18/2020	RVRSA	RVRSA Share	35,908.00
4/19/2020	Treasurer State of NJ - DCA	State Training Fees	32.73
4/20/2020	Treasurer State of NJ - Marriage	Marriage License	50.00
4/21/2020	Verizon - #1	Utilities - 361-8121	73.34
4/22/2020	Verizon - #3	Utilites - 366-7536	61.22
4/23/2020	NJ Health Benefits - State of NJ	Group Insurance	4,809.80
4/24/2020	PERS - Public Retirement System	PERS	30,422.13
		TOTAL	106,865.12

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS - Due by April 30. Is anyone having trouble getting onto the site? Councilman Lorenzo is having trouble and I tried doing it tonight with him but his password wasn't working. He is going to try again tonight and let me know if he gets on. If anyone has trouble let me know.

RESOLUTION FOR 2020 TEMPORARY BUDGET - See Next Page

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

TEMPORARY BUDGET 2020 -

**BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS
RESOLUTION 2020-**

2020 TEMPORARY BUDGET

Whereas, 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are made prior to the final adoption of the 2020 Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this resolution the annual budget has yet to be adopted, requiring an additional sum be appropriated to the temporary budget in order for the Borough to sustain operations until that time, and

WHEREAS, the total appropriations in the 2019 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, Capital Improvement Fund and Public Assistance, is the sum of \$1,433,700, and

WHEREAS, twenty-six and twenty-five hundredths of one percent (26.25%) of the total appropriations in the 2019 Budget, exclusive of the above-mentioned appropriations in said budget is \$376,347, an additional \$376,347 is hereby appropriated to extend the temporary budget until the annual budget can be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records.

DATED: April

ATTEST:

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

Deborah Evans

Deborah Evans
Municipal Clerk

David Holeman

David Holeman
Mayor

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

Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SEWER RATE SCHEDULE FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SEWER RATE SCHEDULE FOR THE BOROUGH OF VICTORY GARDENS

WHEREAS, there is now in effect a sewer and water ordinance, Chapter IX, Victory Gardens Municipal Code, which was amended and which amendment was adopted on April 21, 1986, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens having determined that certain revisions to said Ordinance and Amendment are necessary and proper;

NOW, THEREFORE, the following amendments to said Ordinance shall be enforceable:

Chapter IX: Section 9-9

c. Sewer Service Rates. An annual sewer service rate is hereby affixed and established for each building in the Borough at a basic \$238.00 per annum for each single family residential user in such building and for each basic service unit computed with respect to such building, unless a higher annual service charge shall be applicable to such building as otherwise provided in this schedule. The owner of each building shall pay, or shall be liable for the payment of the annual service charge with respect to such building. Each commercial, professional and industrial user shall pay a basic \$900.00 per annum for each user in a building.

In addition to the minimum annual rate of \$900.00 per year for commercial, professional and industrial users, there shall be further charge of \$7.50 per quarter per one thousand gallons of water used by such user in excess of 15,000 gallons.

Dave Holeman Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Deborah Evans Borough Clerk

Introduced: 4-14-2020
Adopted:

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SEWER RATES - Councilman Lorenzo asked if we are just doing this on our own or did the rates go up? The rates went up from RVRSA. Otherwise we wouldn't do it. These rates will be effective for this year. Councilman Lorenzo said we should wait to do this until everyone is here. The Clerk asked when is everyone going to be here?

Councilwoman Montes said we talked about this during budget meetings and after that.

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

Councilwoman Hedgepath	Yes
Councilman Lorenzo	Yes
Councilwoman Garcia Montes	Yes

CANCELLING BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING - The Clerk said she is cancelling the Board of Health meeting for next week. Peter is extremely busy with the pandemic going on. Jaime isn't in the office all the time and no one can get here. Peter is giving us updates as he can and he said he would send a report when he has a chance. Once I get that I can give a copy to everyone.

Councilwoman Montes said can't they send someone else? There is no one to come over. Their work schedule is varying. Their building is not open to the public. They are working with half staffs. The nurses are all busy with everything going on.

Councilman Lorenzo asked if we received any supplies from them? What type of supplies? Masks, gloves? No, the Clerk said. They have only enough for their nurses and health officers.

Councilwoman Montes said she finally got through to Peter and he said he would get a report for Debbe but she hasn't received anything.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

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

Jim Janone - When are the sewer repairs being done on Franklin Road? This is Randolph's project. They were supposed to get back to us with a cost for doing the drains and they haven't done that yet. Every town hall is on part time schedules. The majority of their workforce is not working on a daily basis. It will get done when they schedule it. What about the trees on Frankling Road when are they getting cut down? I've called and left messages for the company. They finally got back to me today. They haven't been working a full schedule but said that they are back to work and should be in to us sometime next week. What are the markouts on Franklin Road? That is part of the project that Randolph is doing. What is the status of the showplaces' license? Are they closed now for a year? No, they are operational. They did the 180 days suspension and paid a \$45,000 fine so they are free to open once the Governor says it is okay. They are trying to see the place. The voucher that Leon Hall put in for Home Sunshine Escrow what is that for? That is the company that will be buiding the new house on the end of Adams Avenue - the dead end section. On the Ordinance for the sewer how did you come up with the rates? The CFO said that he took a lot into consideration. I drafted a list of expenses. I included the salaries of those that have the upkeep for the collection, capital costs for repairs, litigation costs, engineering, insurance costs, assessments from the RVRSA. I came up with an outline for the next 3-5 years. The actual assessment from RVRSA is up 18% and we are at \$137,000 per year. That is an increase from last year to this year. We don't want to have to change the sewer rate every year. Currently our sewer rates are so low that is why the assessment...

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 Councilman Lorenzo and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Submitted By:

Deborah Evans

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk