

January 25, 2022

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens held on January 25, 2022.

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.

ATTENDANCE: Councilwoman Cheatham, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: None

*** Attorney Feintuch was also present at the meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of 1/11/22 as received by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Valerie Williams - Everyone has a copy of her letter. If anyone wants to respond please tell me.

RVRSA - I spoke with the Executive Director at RVRSA. I asked her if they do anything to scope our sewer lines because John Cegelka said at a Planning Board meeting that RVRSA would do all the sewer lines scoping for free. That is why I called them.

I know that RVRSA will come out in an emergency and they will unclog the line if we have a problem. She also stated that we should proceed with our plans to hire a company to do the scoping for us.

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 there were any questions or comments on the vouchers? Councilman Glass asked if we can get the voucher listing a head of time? Also Rons report I want in the packet that comes around on Fridays. This way we have a chance to look at them.

Councilwoman Montes asked about the cost of the Chair for the Fire Inspector. All that is on the voucher is supplies also and the chair. We got it from the same company we get our supplies from. The Clerk said it is cheaper than what we have paid for other chairs.

Councilman Glass asked about the first voucher. What is it for? The balance of money for work done through Community Development. If you look at the voucher you should see on there what it is for. They are for the sidewalks.

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

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

(See Vouchers Next Page)

VOUCHER REPORTS

Date of Council Meeting:
January 25, 2022

| Voucher # | Payable to: | Type of Service | Amount | Check # |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1/34/2022 | D&L Paving Contract. Inc. | Community Development Grant | 5,600.00 | |
| 1/35/2022 | Deborah Evans | Clerk OE - Petty Cash receipts | 39.08 | |
| 1/36/2022 | Dover Board of Education | School Taxes - January 2022 | 96,135.00 | |
| 1/37/2022 | Feintuch, Porwich & Feintuch, ESQ | Legal Services OE | 2,204.22 | |
| 1/38/2022 | Interstate Waste Services | Trash Removal | 10,933.33 | |
| 1/39/2022 | JCP&L - #1 - Fire | Fire OE | 278.33 | |
| 1/40/2022 | JCP&L - #2 - Main | Utilities | 489.14 | |
| 1/41/2022 | JCP&L - #3 - Streets | Street Lighting | 675.77 | |
| 1/42/2022 | JLM Computers | Clerk OE | 95.00 | |
| 1/43/2022 | Konica Minolta Business Solutions | Clerk OE | 153.94 | |
| 1/44/2022 | Manuel Venero | Streets & Roads | 195.00 | |
| 1/45/2022 | MicroSystems - NJ.com, LLC | Tax Assessor OE | 635.69 | |
| 1/46/2022 | Morris County MUA | Streets & Roads, Dec. 2021 | 731.25 | |
| 1/47/2022 | Muni. Clerk's Assoc. of Morris Cty. | Clerk OE | 50.00 | |
| 1/48/2022 | Office Concepts Group | Clerk OE | 393.75 | |
| 1/49/2022 | Optimum | Utilities | 11.45 | |
| 1/50/2022 | Public Works Assoc. of NJ | Streets & Roads | 90.00 | |
| 1/51/2022 | Verizon - #2 - 366-5312 | Utilities | 152.40 | |
| 1/52/2022 | WEX Bank - Shell Gas | Streets & Roads | 438.11 | |
| 1/53/2022 | Viking Termite Pest Control, Inc. | Clerk OE | 166.00 | |
| 1/54/2022 | VSP Service Plan | Group Insurance | 98.70 | |

TOTAL 119,566.16

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- Building Department - 1 permit issued for a total value of construction: \$500.00
- Property Maintenance - 90 Monroe Avenue landscaping trailer on rear lawn
113 Monroe - summons for abandoned truck
305 Washington - summons for abandoned car
347 S. Salem - snow on sidewalks, sidewalks must be shoveled.
18 Cleveland - trailer with electric cord running from house to trailer
78 Roosevelt - summons for abandoned car
- Municipal Court - We collected \$183.60
- Tax Collector - This is the December report -
Total Tax Receipts Month To Date: 21,968.15
" " " Year To Date \$ 2,278,692.67
- Registrar Report - No marriage license issued up until todays date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None at this time by any member of Council.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

BROKEN WINDOWS IN GARAGE & ESTIMATES RECEIVED - Everyone has a copy of the two estimates we received.

Snows Glass \$1,500.00
Johnny Dees Glass \$3,555.00

This is for 9 windows. Councilman Glass inspected the windows. Snows will put screws in some of the windows. He said he would do it for free. Hector and Councilman Glass temporary fixed 1 piece of glass.

Motion was made to pay Snows Glass for repair of the 9 windows. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call:

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

Councilwoman Montes said she wanted to say something. When they have a problem with the garage or equipment they should let someone know right away. Debbe or Councilman Glass should be told about these things right away. Also, the last 4 bays of the garage, they have to be more careful going in and out of the bays. The wall is cracked and it looks like by the doors something is coming off.

OLD BUSINESS:

ADOPTION OF CAP ORDINANCE - The Clerk said this is by title only. We introduced at the last meeting.

CALENDAR YEAR 2022
MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Motion to adopt the CAP Ordinance by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on roll call:

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

CAMERAS AT FIREHOUSE - We were discussing this last year and Council said to hold off until the new year. We had an estimate on 4 cameras at the firehouse for a cost of \$1,950. What do you want to do with this?

We will not be able to look at what is going on at the firehouse from down here at town hall. Councilman Glass said we have cameras here that no one looks at. Why should we put them up there and have no one look at them? We look at them here when we need to. The police have also been in here and looked at them. Councilman Glass said there were many bags of garbage put down here and nothing was picked up on the camera. It depends on where the person is. The cameras don't get every angle. We know who did the dumping and the police were notified.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said to revisit this later. There is nothing going on at the firehouse so we can wait.

Motion was made to revisit this at a later date by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

SCOPE SEWER LINES - At a meeting last year Council approved getting the sewer lines done by an outside company. We have money from the government Rescue Plan. Right now we have \$76,000. Joe said we should also be getting another payment of the same amount. Councilman Glass asked what else we can do with that money? After I got the approval from Council to have Leon go out to bid on it, I called Leon and told him to do it. Councilman Glass had some questions so that is why I put it back on the agenda.

Councilman Glass asked if there is anything else we can do with the money? The Clerk said she asked Joe and I am waiting for him to get back to me. I know you can use it for infrastructure and if you lost money out of your budget for COVID related matters you can use it for that. A company that comes in here should be able to scope the whole town in 5 hours.

The Clerk said this is the estimate that Leon gave me based on other towns that had the work done. I'm sure a town the size of Morristown or Parsippany would pay a lot more than we would based on the size of the town. I don't know what that costs will be until Leon gets the bids.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED:

SCOPING SEWER LINES - Motion was made by the Council to hold off on this for now.

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

- Councilwoman Cheatham Yes
- Councilman Glass Yes
- Councilwoman Hedgepath Yes
- Councilman Hale Yes
- Councilman Lorenzo Yes
- Councilwoman Garcia Montes Yes

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL UPDATE - The Clerk said we spoke about this at several meetings. The Attorney did an update for us and Council wanted to discuss further. I believe at the last meeting Council was concerned with DPW taking off a month at a time especially in winter months. You wanted to look at vacation time and were talking about limiting when they can take time and how much.

Councilwoman Montes said #1, #2 and #3 - Mayor and Council should be told when the employees are going on vacation before they go. Can we add this.

Attorney Feintuch asked if we have a date that all vacation schedules should be in by? No.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said they should give at least 2 weeks notice for vacation time. That is what they do in corporate.

Attorney Feintuch said something should be added that vacation time should be scheduled 6 weeks prior to the date of vacation.

Councilwoman Hedgepath said that if we are going to use Manny as a backup then we really don't need to put in about them not taking a month at a time. The Clerk said I don't know when he is available. He said he would do it for us but what if he has to do something while the DPW are gone?

Councilwoman Montes said that she thinks black out dates from December 20 of any year to March 20 is a wide gap. It should be from December to February. The Clerk said you still get major storms in February and March.

If there is a family emergency and they have to leave for that amount of time there is nothing we can do about it, Councilman Lorenzo said.

Can you carry over vacation time now? The Clerk said we can carry over a week and it has to be used by Maril 1 or you lose it.

The Attorney said then if the employees can't use time off from 12/20 of a given year until 3/20 of a given year, anything left over from the previous year would have to be a 10 day window. You will have to say that any vacation from the previous year has to be used by May 1.

The Attorney said Council already authorized the code to be updated this year. You need to have a committee go over the ordinances and update what has to be done. Then give it to the publishing company. The Clerk said that will take forever. We need to get the updates in the book now. Let them work on a committee and update the rest of the codes. Then do the book every year.

The Clerk said at the last meeting Council was talking about limiting how many weeks at a time employees can take? No, we won't limit.

Councilman Glass said we should just make sure that we have a back up. Councilwoman Hedgepath said to ask Manny if he is interested. I did ask him and he is interested.

The Mayor said we will have the Attorney update with the changes that were made tonight.

PENALTIES AND FEE UPDATE - The Clerk said we talked about this early last year. Council agreed at that time that fees need to be updated. I got all the information back from our inspectors and what you have in front of you is their input. I didn't expect to discuss this tonight. I just wanted to make sure that everyone looked it over and brought back any questions you may have.

Councilman Glass asked if we are charging \$50 for a smoke detector for a detector that costs \$8? Yes. You have to pay the salaries of your employees.

The Mayor said this is for rentals and resales. You can test your own smoke detector. The Clerk said he checks all the detectors, smoke and carbon and he checks for fire extinguishers.

Councilman Glass said the penalties for false alarms is a lot of money. This is for the businesses. Chris wrote this up. I believe they are state fines.

Councilman Lorenzo said that these prices went up but how much did they go up. It doesn't tell us. The Clerk said you have to go back in your ordinance books and compare them.

The Attorney said Council needs to look in their code books and go over these upgrades.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

PENALTY AND FEES UPDATE CONTINUED - Councilman Glass asked why we have a vacant home registration? That is for landlords so they have to pay a fee. Maybe they will fix the places up and get them rented out. If not, they pay a fee every year. This is not something we just thought up this is the same in other towns.

Councilwoman Montes asked how with these increases we are compared to other towns? We are still lower. Some towns as an example are getting \$35 to \$40 for a marriage license for a certified copy.

Attorney Feintuch said do not introduce this ordinance tonight.

Council made a motion to introduce. Motion made by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on roll call;

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Cheatham | Yes |
| Councilman Glass | No |
| Councilwoman Hedgepath | Yes |
| Councilman Hale | Yes |
| Councilman Lorenzo | No |
| Councilwoman Garcia Montes | Yes |

The Clerk said we should wait until the Attorney makes the changes otherwise you have to readvertise.

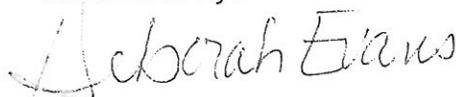
Motion made to open the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilwoman Hedgepath and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Jim Janone - What is the office concept bill for? It is a chair and other items that we ordered. You can get a chair from Staples. We don't have an account with them. Did you apply for a generator from Community Development? Several years ago and we were denied. The railing outside, what happened to it? We haven't gotten an estimate on it yet. Why do we always have to involve Leon Hall with specs or whatever? Who else will do it. Leon is the person that knows these things and whom to contact. I know what else can be bought with the rescue plan money. Broad band, sewers, any covid related stuff. This whole thing with Manny, I think it is a conflict of interest to pay him to plow. Why, we had fireman plow for us and they got paid. There is no conflict of interest. The Attorney agreed. There is no conflict of interest. We paid our fire department to keep them operating and when they plowed, we paid them.

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
Borough Clerk