

December 12, 2023

Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on December 12, 2023.

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, Councilman Hale, Councilman Lorenzo, Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Hedgepath.

Motion to accept the minutes of November 28, 2023 as received by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Montes and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

VOUCHERS:

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments on the voucehrs? Hearing noe he asked for a motion to pay the bills.

VOUCHER REPORTS
COUNCIL MEETING
December 12, 2023

Voucher #	Payable to:	Type of Service	Amount	Check #
12-01	AJM Contractors	Engineering OE	\$ 826.40	
12-02	Anderson and Denzler Associates	Engineering OE	\$ 2,584.90	
12-03	AT&T Long distance	Utilities	\$ 46.38	
12-04	Dover Board of Education	School Taxes	\$ 97,057.00	
12-05	Dover Water Commission	Utilities	\$ 143.14	
12-06	Feintuch Porwich & Feintuch	Legal Service OE	\$ 2,204.22	
12-07	Feintuch Porwich & Feintuch	Legal Service OE	\$ 3,167.50	
12-08	Gannett NJ Newspaper	Clerk OE	\$ 14.82	
12-09	Home depot INC	Buildings and Grounds	\$ 226.09	
12-10	Interstate Waste	Trash removal	\$ 12,267.58	
12-11	JCPL Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 364.75	
12-12	JCPL Street Lights	Utilities	\$ 575.58	
12-13	JCPL Fire House	Fire OE	\$ 141.31	
12-14	JLM Computers	Clerk OE	\$ 315.25	
12-15	Montville Township	Dog OE	\$ 600.00	
12-16	NJNG Borough Hall	Utilities	\$ 725.00	
12-17	NJNG Fire House	Utilities	\$ 550.00	
12-18	Office Concepts	Clerk OE	\$ 562.25	
12-19	Optimum Online	Clerk OE	\$ 46.00	
12-20	Rockaway valley regional sewerage Auth	RVRSA shares	\$ 9,623.00	
12-21	Service Tire truck center	Streets and roads OE	\$ 5,489.84	
12-22	Shell wex Bank	Streets and Roads OE	\$ 400.00	
12-23	Workin Wear	Streets and Roads OE	\$ 914.00	
12-24	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,564.32	
12-25	Hector Lorenzo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,331.20	
12-26	Leticia Diaz	Clerk OE	\$ 1,980.00	
12-27	Leticia Diaz	Clerk OE	\$ 1,720.00	
12-28	Manuel Venereo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,200.00	
12-29	Manuel Venereo	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 2,000.00	
12-30	Johnson truck accessories	Streets and Roads SW	\$ 49.99	ADD-ON
12-31	R & L Data Payroll	Clerk OE	\$ 374.00	ADD-ON
		TOTAL VOUCHERS	\$ 152,064.52	

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

JOE KOVALCIK AND JASON GABLOFF - Joe introduced Jason to the Council. Between the two of them we will get this work done. We have known each other for 20 years. I have too much power as the CFO and we need to split the duties. Jason will do the Treasurer part of the job. There will be internal controls between the two of us. We will be able to resolve some of the issues. We both teach for Rutgers. I will split my salary down and that will take care of internal controls. Joe said that the accounting system we use doesn't work. The State put out another finance notice.

Joe said he is working with MSI to give us a quote for a new system. If we do that then it will take care of 80% of the issues with the audit. We need to use the Flexible Chart of Accounts. Quick books doesn't do this.

Joe said the MSI is user friendly. It has fixed assets, encumbrance system. 4users. This is for municipal software. The conversion is good. This accounting system is cheaper than Edmunds.

Councilwoman Montes asked how much this new system will cost? Joe said he is talking to the company about that now. Joe will use Whartons chart of accounts. The ones that would use this system would be CFO, Treasurer, Collector and Letty. There will be no more server - everything will be stored in the cloud.

Quick books isn't good for the towns. Cloud access is much easier. Backups are coast to coast. When the Auditors come in they will have everything they need through this system. Your 2024 Audit will be smoothe. The pension stuff, health care, banking will all be easier. I would liketo bring this system on for the beginning of 2024. It should take about a month to install everything once we get the new system. The maintenance on it yearly would be about \$2,500. Just slightly over what we currently pay.

Joe said he rather make a little less money but things will be much easier. The auditors will have their own access to the computer system. They will be able to access everything they need.

Joe said one of the issues he had last year was that the auditors never told him when they were coming out so they didn't have information they needed.

Councilman Glass asked if some of the other things we have asked for in the past, if they have been done? Workers Comp are we covered yet? I have called them Joe said and I am waiting on the auditor from the insurance company to reschedule the meeting. We are still not covered but I am waiting on them. What about the signature cards for the bank? I need to get the cards again and sign them. 75% of what was discussed last time is done. The health benefits and the pensions will be the next thing to get taken care of.

The Attorney asked if the insurance company has been paid for the workers Comp policy? Yes, they have been paid. Things will keep progressing but the health benefits and the pension will be what gets worked on next.

Where do we go from here? Jason will be an employee and will be appointed. Yes, as of January 1. i will take a cut in salary and we will split the duties. As of January 1 we will have Jason also withthe title of Treasurer. Yes.

Joe said he is working on the draft for the 2024 budget. Next meeting I will have the budget transfer ready.

Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on verbal vote.

Jim Janone - What is the effective date of employment for the new person? January 1, 2024. MSI software, is it comparable to Edmunds? Yes. Fliers are being put in the mailboxes again. We will tell DPW not to put them in there. The box truck is still parked in Salaem Plaza. What is the update on the reval? The Assessor goes Monday to see what has to be done, what the County will be asking for.

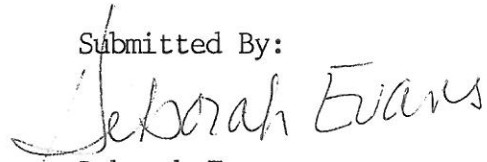
PUBLIC PORTION CONTINUED:

Jim Janone Continued - What is happening with the Board of Education? The Attorney said he has a hearing with the Judge towards the end of the year. I also have 2 questions on the vouchers. #12-30 Johnson Truck. What did we buy? The back up beeper for the truck. What about voucher # 12-21? They were for tires for the skid steer and two of the trucks. Didn't we buy skid steer tires last year? No.

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Montes, seconded by Councilman Lorenzo and approved on verbal vote.

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

Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Evans". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name.

Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk