

**VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS  
6498 N.W. 38<sup>th</sup> TERRACE  
VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA 33166  
TELEPHONE: (305) 871-6104**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE  
VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA  
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017  
TOWN HALL 6:30 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: Jorge Arce  
Elizabeth Taylor Martinez  
Debra Conover  
Richard Block  
Attorney: Jose Herrera, Esq.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Council President Conover at 6:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION (MOMENT OF SILENCE)**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chaplain DaSilva

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Council Meeting – February 22, 2017

A motion by Council Member Block to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 22, 2017 was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 4-0.

**2. BEAUTIFICATION**

Council President Conover reported that the minutes for March 2, 2017 have been submitted.

Mr. Martinez reported that he met with Mayor Deno, Public Works Director Martin, Superior Landscaping and resident Alan Llanos regarding the landscaping project on 40<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Martinez reported that everyone is happy with the tree selection that Superior Landscaping have chosen.

**3. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Council President Conover reported that Mayor Deno is not present.

4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Council President Conover reported there resident Elizabeth King of 6361 NW 37<sup>th</sup> Terrace was in attendance. Ms. King noted that she would like to volunteer for any senior programs that the Village provides and would like more activities for the seniors. Ms. King inquired if the Village provided an activity calendar for seniors and Council President Conover stated that the Village was in the process of sending a Quarterly Newsletter and that we would be able to add a calendar for senior citizen programs.

Ms. Audra Monzon was in attendance. Ms. Monzon is a FIU student and is currently involved in a news reporting website services and has been assigned to the Virginia Gardens area.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Council President Conover reported that there was no old business.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Request Council approval of the agreement for Legislative Lobbying services from Becker & Poliakoff

Council President Conover reported that Becker & Poliakoff was proposing a yearly fee of \$25,000.00 commencing on March 1, 2017 through February 2, 2017. Mayor Deno reported that the fee will be broken down to an initial first month payment of \$3,000.00 followed by 11 monthly payments of \$2,000.00.

A motion by Council Member Arce to approve to retain the Legislative Lobbying of Becker & Poliakoff in the yearly amount of \$25,000.00 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 4-0.

B. Request Council approval of the Interlocal Agreement between the Village and the City of Miami Springs relating to transportation services

Village Clerk Fernandez reported that the Interlocal Agreement provides that the Village of Virginia Gardens agrees to pay the City of Miami Springs its 20% C.I.T.T. transit funding received from Miami Dade County's People Transportation Tax. The Interlocal agreement is effective from December 31, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

A motion by Council Member Block to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the Village and the City of Miami Springs relating to transportation services was seconded by Council Member Arce. The motion was approved 4-0.

C. Discussion regarding feral cats within the Village – Requested by Council Member Block.

Council Member Block reported that feral cats are becoming a nuisance in the Village of Virginia Gardens and that it was time to bring up this issue. Attorney Herrera inquired if there had been any complaints regarding feral cats. It was stated that there had not been any complaints to Village Hall or the Police Department. Attorney Herrera reported that the Village can deal with any complaints on a case by case basis. Council Member Taylor Martinez stated that we should contact Laney who rescues and catches cats in the Virginia Gardens and Miami Springs. Council Member Taylor Martinez stated that Laney then has the cats neutered or spayed and if not adopted returns the cats to the location where they were caught.

D. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Friday, April 14, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Council President Conover reported that the annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Friday, April 14, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

7. **PLANNING & ZONING**

A. Council President Conover reported that the meeting for the month of March, 2017 was cancelled.

8. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

A. Council President Conover reported that the statistics for the month of February, 2017 have been submitted.

Officer Hernandez reported that the police department is running smoothly and that there were no problems.

9. **RECREATION**

Council President Conover reported that Recreation Director Deno was not present.

10. **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Director Martin reported that the 40<sup>th</sup> Street is under budget and ahead of schedule.

Council President Conover inquired regarding paint lines on 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Public Works Director Martin reported that they are utility location lines. Mr. Martin reported that yellow indicated gas lines, orange indicates communication lines, green indicates sewer lines. Mr. Martin advised that this project has been put on hold until double poles issue with Florida Power & Light have been addressed.

**11. ATTORNEYS REPORT**

**A. RESOLUTION NO. 919 – SECOND READING**

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, GRANTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO CHAPTER 16, ARTICLE 6, SECTION 6.8(D) TO TERRY & ROCIO EXLEY, SO AS TO PERMIT THE INSTALLATION OF A FENCE IN THE FRONT/SIDE OF THEIR PROPERTY PROVIDED IT IS NOT MORE THAN 10 FEET FROM THE SIDEWALK OF THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW:

LOT 22, BLOCK 1, OF GREEN HAVEN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 52, PAGE 13 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; A/KA/ 4001 NW 64 AVENUE, VIRGINIA GARDENS, FL 33166

A motion by Council Member Arce to approve the second reading of Resolution 919 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 4-0.

**B. RESOLUTION NO. 920**

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS AND THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT, AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez approving Resolution No. 920 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 4-0.

**C. ORDINANCE NO. 358- FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING CRITERIA AND PROVIDING LIMITATIONS FOR THE PLACEMENT AND REMOVAL OF SHUTTERS DURING ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES, REPEAL, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez approving the first reading of Ordinance No. 358 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 4-0.

**12. GOOD & WELFARE**

The Council wished Council Member Petterson a speedy recovery.

**13. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Arce. The motion was approved 4-0.