

**VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS
6498 N.W. 38 TERRACE
VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA 33166
TELEPHONE (305) 871-6104**

**SPECIAL MEETING
VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2017
TOWN HALL-6:30 P.M.**

“Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Village Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceeding and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.”

PRESENT: Council Members: Steven K. Petterson
Richard Block
Debra Conover
Elizabeth Taylor Martinez
Jorge Arce
Mayor: Fred S. Deno IV
Attorney: Jose M. Herrera, Esq.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Conover called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was led by Council Member Block.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Block.

1. Approval of Resolution No. 930

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, CERTIFYING THE RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 GENERAL ELECTION.

Attorney Herrera read the results of the election:

Mayor Deno –	Unopposed
Jorge Arce -	140 votes
Gabriel Fernandez –	111 votes
Steve Peterson –	90 votes
Elizabeth Taylor Martinez –	113 votes

A motion by Council Member Petterson to adopt Resolution No. 930 was seconded by Council Member Arce. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Swearing in of Mayor and Council

Mayor Deno presented Judge Victoria Del Pino. Attorney Herrera stated that Judge Del Pino covered Virginia Gardens as a news camera reported for cable television many years ago. Judge Del Pino swore in Mayor Deno and Council Members Jorge Arce, Gabriel Fernandez and Elizabeth Taylor Martinez.

Mayor Deno called former Council Member Steve Petterson. Mayor Deno provided Mr. Petterson with a key to the Village of Virginia Gardens in recognizing to 20 years of service to the Village of Virginia Gardens. Mr. Petterson thanked the Council and the Mayor for all the accomplishments for the past years and stated that it has been a real pleasure.

Mayor Deno reported that we gained a valuable resident for the Council. Mayor Deno welcomed Council Member Gabriel Fernandez.

3. Passing the Gavel to the New Elected Council President

Council President Conover passed the gavel to newly elected Council President Arce.

4. Discussion and Approval of the 2017-2020 Police Contract

Attorney Herrera reported that the new contract changes are primarily step raises, take home car policy and OIC. Attorney Herrera reported that a take home vehicle policy must be drafted and approved before full-time officers officially take home our police vehicles. Attorney Herrera reported that officers must have PIP insurance and must notify their personal car insurance carriers. Mayor Deno reported that the officers voted and approved the PLEA agreement. Mayor Deno also reported that the Florida League of Cities was contacted and there is no price increase to the Village due to the take home car policy. Attorney Herrera stated that new police hires will have a step increase on their hired anniversary date and the current officers will remain as October 1st.

5. Approval of Resolution No. 931

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PROFESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION (PLEA) OF DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA 2017-2020 CONTRACT YEAR, REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT, AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve Resolution No. 931 was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion was approved 5-0.

6. Discussion regarding Candlewood Suites Signage

Mayor Deno reported that we have a new sign ordinance and the height of signage has not changed. Attorney Herrera said that the sign was never addressed or approved on the development agreement. Attorney Herrera reported that Candlewood Suites need to come in and request an amendment to the development agreement for square footage on the sign. Mayor Deno reported that our sign ordinance calls for three story building only and this building is a six story. Attorney Herrera reported that Candlewood Suites still owes the

Mayor Deno reported that our height ordinance is for a three-story building and this is a six story building. Attorney Herrera stated that Candlewood Suites has not provided the Village with a Unity of Title.

7. Change of Council Liason Designation

Council President Arce requested a change of Council Liason designations. Designations are as follows:

Gabriel Fernandez - Public Works Department
Debra Conover – Beautification Committee
Elizabeth Taylor Martinez – Planning & Zoning Board
Richard Block – Recreation and Seniors Department
Jorge Arce – Police Department

Mayor Deno reported that historically the Liaisons were picked in the October council annual meeting.

8. Good & Welfare

Council Member Block reported that the Miami Springs Historical Society Center is having a Annual Kick-Off reception on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the Miami Springs Aquatic Center at 7:00 p.m. and have invited the residents and Council of Virginia Gardens.

Council Member Block reported that he spoke at Miami Dade County Commissioners board Meeting regarding Annexation last week.

Mayor Deno reported that our annexation application was approved.

9. A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion was approved 5-0.