

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

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017
TOWN HALL 6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Council Members: Jorge Arce
Elizabeth Taylor Martinez
Steve Petterson
Debbie Conover
Richard Block
Mayor: Fred Spencer Deno, IV
Attorney: Jose Herrera, Esq.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council President Arce 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. First Budget Hearing Meeting – September 18, 2017

A motion by Council Member Block to approve the minutes of the First Budget Hearing Meeting of September 18, 2017 was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 5-0.

B. Regular Council Meeting – September 21, 2017

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of September 21, 2017 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion passed 5-0.

C. Final Budget Hearing Meeting – September 25, 2017

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the minutes of the Final Budget Hearing Meeting on September 25, 2017 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion passed 5-0.

D. Special Council Meeting – October 4, 2017

A motion by Council Member Conover to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting on October 4, 2017 was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The Motion passed 5-0.

2. **BEAUTIFICATION**

Council Member Petterson reported that the minutes for October 5, 2017 have been submitted.

Mr. Martinez reported that Mr. Jaime Fierro was in attendance. Mr. Martinez reported that the Beautification committee was seeking approval from the Mayor and Council in order to appoint Mr. Fierro to the committee.

Mayor Deno reported that there is a vacancy in the Beautification committee. Mr. Fierro is interested in becoming a member. Mayor Deno is recommending Mr. Fierro. A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to appoint Mr. Fierro to the Beautification Committee was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 5-0.

3. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

A. Request approval for \$30.00 Holiday Gift Cards to be provided for all Village Employees for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays

Mayor Deno was requesting approval for the \$30.00 holiday gift cards. A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the \$30.00 holiday gift cards was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion passed 5-0.

B. Update on cleanup process after Hurricane Irma

Mayor Deno reported that Public Works Director Martin and he drove around the Village and we are 100% debris free in the Village. The mulching process should be completed tomorrow. Mayor Deno reported that the debris should be hauled away to the Pompano dump by next week.

Council Member Conover thanked Public Works Director for his hard work on the Storm which dumped inches of rain in Virginia Gardens. Mayor Deno was in contact with South Florida Water Management regarding the lowering of the canal during the storm.

4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Council President Arce reported that there were no citizen comments.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Council President Arce reported that there were no old business issues.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Council Member Block reported that the unveiling of a plaque at the Miami Springs Wall Memorial for Bruce Carter will be presented on November 11, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Council Member Block encouraged all council members to attend since he will be out of town.

7. **PLANNING & ZONING**

A. Council President Arce reported that the Planning & Zoning meeting for the month of October, 2017 was cancelled.

8. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

Acting Chief Hernandez inquired if there were any questions regarding the statistics for the month of September, 2017.

Mayor Deno would like to thank Acting Chief Hernandez for all his help during this time.

9. **RECREATION**

Mayor Deno reported in house soccer program will begin Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mayor Deno reported that we will have police officers at the back of the soccer field for the parking issue with all the hurricane debris. Council Member Fernandez inquired if barricades can be put up because of the hurricane debris and the parking for soccer.

10. **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Director Martin reported that the Grubbs estimate on debris removal is 7,000 cubic yards for vegetation and 3,000 cubic yards for construction and demo debris. Mayor Deno stated that this is why it is so important to have the monitoring crew and appropriate paperwork in place in order to be reimbursed by FEMA.

Public Works Director Martin reported that the Seniors patio is having some restoration work on the structure due to some deficiencies and that old barbecue grill was removed and in its place, is now a table which has been installed along with some new brickwork.

Public Works Director Martin reported that Drainage improvement plans have been submitted for NW 37th street due to inadequate drainage behind the Candlewood Suites. Mr. Martin reported that we have some standing water even though the drains were cleaned before the storm. Mayor Deno reported that we have some monies appropriated from the State in the amount of \$125,000 for this project.

Public Works Director reported that Florida Gas Transmission will be testing the natural gas pipeline next month. Mr. Martin stated that the test will take place one night between midnight to 4:00 a.m. Mr. Martin reported that he and Chief Hernandez will be meeting November 1, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. with Florida Gas Transmission regarding this project. Mr. Martin reported that notices have been provided to Village Hall.

11. **ATTORNEYS REPORT**

Attorney Herrera stated that he has nothing to report.

12. **GOOD & WELFARE**

Council Member Block thanked Mr. and Mrs. Howard for attending kickoff of the Miami Springs Historical society and representing the Village of Virginia Gardens. Council Member Taylor Martinez would like prayers for Melanie Martinez who has been in a coma since September 11, 2017.

13. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion by Council Member Block to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion was approved 5-0.