

**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, FEBRUARY 15, 2018
TOWN HALL 6:30 P.M.**

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

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council President Arce at 6:34 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 – January 18, 2018

A motion by Council Member Block to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 18, 2018 was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 5-0.

2. BEAUTIFICATION

Council President Arce reported that the minutes for February 1, 2018 have been submitted.

Mr. Martinez reported the Tree City application will be completed this week.

Mr. Martinez reported that he and Mayor Deno drove throughout the Village and listed approximately 28 work orders for repairs or removal of damaged trees due to Hurricane Irma.

Mayor Deno reported that landscaping in the area around the tennis courts were completed.

3. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

A. Update on the trip to Miami-Dade County Days in Tallahassee
Mayor Deno reported that Miami Dade Days meetings in Tallahassee were hectic.

B. Request council approval for donation to the Miami Springs Lions Club for their Tenth Annual Golf Tournament to be held on Saturday, March 3rd.

Mayor Deno is requesting a donation of \$500.00 to the Lions Club for the Golf Tournament. A motion by Council Member Block to donate \$500.00 to the Lions Club was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Deno reported that he, Public Works Director Martin and Interim Chief Hernandez met with Florida Power & Light last week regarding the LED lights. Mayor Deno reported that the Village was requesting 150 LED watts instead of 100 LED watts and were waiting for the price difference.

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**

Council President Arce reported that there was no new business.

7. **PLANNING & ZONING**

A. Council President Arce reported that the meeting for the month of February, 2018 was cancelled.

8. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

A. Council President Arce reported that the statistics for the month of February, 2018 have been submitted.

Interim Chief Hernandez introduced newly hired Police Officer Sacramento. Mr. Sacramento thanked the Village for having him back. Mr. Sacramento stated that he had been a police officer for the Village in 1984.

B. Request Council approval of attached applicant.

Interim Chief Hernandez is requesting council approval of applicant Jairo Garcia as a reserve police officer. A motion by Council Member Conover to approve Mr. Jairo Garcia as a reserve police officer for the Village of Virginia Gardens was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion passed 5-0.

Interim Chief Hernandez is requesting council approval of applicant Luis Carmona as a part time police officer. A motion by Council Member Block to approve Mr. Luis Carmona as a part time police officer for the Village of Virginia Gardens was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 5-0.

Interim Chief Hernandez reported that the Police Department will be offering CPR training classes. Detective Villaviciencio reported that he and Virginia Gardens Officer Castro are certified instructors in CPR through the American Red Cross.

Interim Chief Hernandez advised the Council regarding the arrest of the armed robbery suspect of the Burger King restaurant. Detective Villaviciencio reported that the alleged suspect had been arrested by the Hialeah Police Department and that ATF would be the lead on the case as this was a federal case. Detective Villaviciencio stated that he was able to speak with the armed robbery suspect and he confessed to the armed robbery Burger King crime.

9. **RECREATION**

A. Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Awards Ceremony will be held on Sunday, February 25 at 11:00 a.m.

Mayor Deno reported that the soccer awards banquet has been scheduled for Sunday.

10. **PUBLIC WORKS**

Mayor Deno reported that Public Works Director Martin was not in attendance.

11. **ATTORNEYS REPORT**

Attorney Herrera stated that he had nothing to report.

12. **GOOD & WELFARE**

Council Member Taylor Martinez would like to continue prayers for Melanie Martinez. Council Member Block reported that his brother in law passed away and is requesting prayers.

13. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion by Council Member Conover to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 5-0.