

**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, JUNE 20, 2019
TOWN HALL 6:30 P.M.**

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

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council Member Block 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 – May 16, 2019

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 16, 2019 was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion was approved 4-0.

2. BEAUTIFICATION

A. Council Member Block reported that the minutes for the June 5, 2019 meeting were provided.

Mayor Deno stated that Beautification Chairman Martinez was not present. Mayor Deno reported that he had spoken to Mr. Martinez who reported that he has a meeting with Mr. Harris of Earth Advisors regarding the Tree Ordinance was set for next Tuesday.

3. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Discussion of 4th of July event.

Mayor Deno suggested that we should meet at 8:30 a.m. to decorate the trolley for the parade and our BBQ event will begin at 12:00 p.m.

B. Honor Flight Video

Mayor Deno provided a video for the Council to review regarding the Honor Flight for Council Member Block. Council Member Block participated in an Honor Flight and when he flew back from Washington DC, he was met at the airport by Mayor Deno and with other veterans and families. Council Member Block urged Mr. Donald Howard to participate at an Honor Flight. Mayor Deno stated that the next flight is in September.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Council Member Block reported that there no citizen comments.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Block reported that there is no old business.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Block reported on several issues:

1) Discussion of Public Records Requests

Council Member Block provided a sample business cards that employees could carry and hand out if any person requests public records request. Attorney Herrera stated that our records custodian is the Village Clerk. Attorney Herrera reported that anyone who inquires about public records request knows who to contact. The Council stated that we do not need sample business cards for public records request. Chief Hernandez stated that all police officers have business cards with our address and phone numbers.

2) Discussion regarding obtaining a VG APP

Council Member Block stated that websites have become an idea past its prime and that no one visits the site for up to date information. Council Member Block is proposing a creation of a Village of Virginia Gardens APP which can be used through smart phone/IPADS technology to give our citizens an interactive portal to our Village. Council Member Block is suggesting using a free private online network called Nextdoor and suggested that the Council discuss this and have our IT people look into its feasibility. Mayor Deno thought that it was a good idea and will look into it.

3) Discussion regarding Vacation Rentals

Mayor Deno stated that Attorney Herrera bring something back at the next meeting for short time rentals. Attorney Herrera reported that we do not want to violate the Bert Harris Act and infringe on private property rights protections. Council Member Block stated that we want to keep our Village safe. Mayor Deno reported that we have had ABB and we have only found out when we have had problems.

4) Marijuana regulation.

Council Member Block stated that we should look into this. Attorney Herrera reported that the Village should wait until the State comes up with some guidelines and regulations. Attorney Herrera reported that the State is in the process of drafting Administrative regulations.

7. **PLANNING & ZONING**

A. Council Member Block reported that the meeting for the month of June, 2019 was canceled.

8. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

A. Council Member Block reported that the statistics for the month of May, 2019 have been submitted.

Chief Hernandez inquired if there were any questions regarding the statistics.

B. New Applicant for Reserve Position – Melys Boisnote

Lt. Morales reported that he had hired Officer Boisnote in El Portal and was a good officer. Officer Boisnote possess a Master Degree and speaks 4 languages.

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve Melys Boisnote as a reserve police officer was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 4-0.

C. New Applicant for Reserve Position – Angel Lluvet

Chief Hernandez would like to defer the application for Officer Lluvet at this time.

Chief Hernandez stated that the Village will be installing ADA doors at Village Hall.

Chief Hernandez reported that the radar speed trailer arrived and will be installed throughout the Village.

9. **RECREATION**

Mayor Deno reported that soccer summer camp was coming to a close and that after the 4th of July event the field would be closing in order to prepare for next season.

10. **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Work Director Martin reported that there was no new business. Public Works Director reported that he has a new grandson named Carston James Martin born May 31, 2019.

Council Member Conover reported that the entrance sign on NW 36 Street and NW 66 Ave looks horrible. Mayor Deno reported that Double Tree plans have been submitted to the County but does not know the status. Mayor Deno stated that the storage place plans are still at Miami Dade County and they maybe required to go to sewer.

11. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

A. RESOLUTION #950

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, AWARDED A BID TO DRC EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL SERVICES; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE

A motion by Council Member Conover to approve awarding the bid to DRC Emergency Services for disaster debris removal and disposal services was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 4-0.

B. ORDINANCE #362- FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR PROCUREMENT AND PURCHASING GOODS AND SERVICES, PROVIDING FOR DISCRETIONARY PROCUREMENT AND PURCHASING BY THE MAYOR, AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE

Attorney Herrera stated that we need to add FEMA regulation since the criteria is different; therefore, the Ordinance needs some tweaking and will bring back next month. Council Member Taylor Martinez inquired regarding the Mayor's Discretionary Authority section which limits the Mayor to make purchases of goods or services where the total amount of each individual purchase is \$10,000.00 or less. Attorney Herrera suggested that the first reading of Ordinance #362 be approved subject to revisions. A motion by Council Member Fernandez to approve the first reading of Ordinance #362 with the additional provisions for federal force funding was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 4-0.

12. **GOOD & WELFARE**

Mayor Deno and the Council presented an award to Attorney Herrera for his ongoing service of over 20 years to the Village of Virginia Gardens.

Council Member Taylor Martinez is asking for prayers for Melanie Martinez.

13. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion by Council Member Conover to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion was approved 4-0.