

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

**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2019
TOWN HALL-6:00 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: Debra Conover
Richard Block
Elizabeth Taylor Martinez
Gabriel Fernandez
Jorge Arce
Mayor: Fred S. Deno IV

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council President Arce at 6:14 p.m.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was led by Council Member Taylor Martinez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Taylor Martinez

Mayor Deno reported that new cameras have been installed for the filming of our council meetings. These cameras can rotate and should be ready very soon.

Mayor Deno provided a letter to the Council which was sent yesterday to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in Tallahassee. Mayor Deno stated that we are applying for the CDBR-DR grant in the amount of \$850,000.00 to harden the Village’s only facility. Mayor Deno reported that we have plans for the expansion of the council chambers.

1. 2019/2020 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Deno reported that the current millage rate is 5.1000%. Mayor Deno reported that the State Revenue Sharing and Half Cent Sales Tax are new book figures. Mayor Deno reported that the Half Cent Sale Tax increased from \$190,700 to \$197,014. Mayor Deno reported that the revenues increased from \$2,692,128 to \$2,732,381.

Mayor Deno reported that the proposed budget has a 3% salary increase for the Village employees. Mayor Deno reported that there was a decrease for the Legislative from \$96,871 to \$90,990. There was a 3% increase in the Executive Budget salary. Council President Arce

proposed a 5% salary increase for all full time and part time employees. The remaining Council Members were not in agreement. The Financial & Administration budget also had a 3% increase in salaries. Mayor Deno reported that there are no changes for the budget of the Legal Counsel. The Comprehensive Planning & Zoning had a 3% increase in salaries.

Mayor Deno stated that there was a 3% increase in the Other General Gov. Services salary. Mayor Deno reported that the budget item for Village Improvements decreased from \$109,983 to \$67,148.

The Protect. Inspect budget had a decrease from \$25,730 to \$24,330 due to worker's compensation and insurance. Garbage/Solid Waste had a slight increase from \$165,645 to \$170,000 due to CPI. The Other Phy. Environment Beautification Committee had a 3% increase in salaries.

Law Enforcement Budget had a total increase from \$1,242,524 to \$1,273,869. There was a 3% increase in the executive, lieutenant and part time officers' salaries and increases due to officers' steps.

Mayor Deno noted that the Other Human Services budget had a 3% salary increase. Mayor Deno reported that the Parks & Recreation budget increased due to a 3% salary increase. Mayor Deno reported that Commissioner Diaz agreed to pay the Village for the John Deere in the amount of \$9,000.

Mayor Deno reported that the Public Works /Combined Street & Roads, Local Option Gas Tax & Transit System Surtax budget total increased from \$395,226 to \$1,030,017 due to the State of Florida LWCF Grant, Department of Energy Grant and State of Florida FRDAP Grant. Mayor Deno reported that the Water Department budget increased from \$355,600 to \$365,600 due to operating income. There was a 3% increase of salaries for the Water Department. Mayor Deno reported that the CITT Expenses Fund increased from \$96,930 to \$200,865 due to Street Improvement/Repairs item.

2. GOOD & WELFARE

Mayor Deno reported the first budget hearing has been scheduled for September 9, 2019. Mayor Deno thanked Village Attorney Cuadra for his attendance. Attorney Cuadra stated that he was grateful for being given the opportunity to work with the Village.

A motion by Council Member Conover to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 5-0.