

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

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020
MEETING 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 proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.”

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this proceeding is asked to advise the Village at least 2 days before the proceeding by contacting the Village Clerk’s office at 305-871-6104

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| PRESENT: | Council Members: | Debra Conover Gabriel Fernandez Elizabeth Taylor Martinez Jorge Arce Richard Block |
| | Mayor: | Fred Spencer Deno, IV |
| | Attorney: | Guillermo Cuadra, Esq. |

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council President Fernandez at 6:39 p.m.

INVOCATION (MOMENT OF SILENCE) The Invocation was led by Council Member Richard Block.

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Council Meeting – June 18, 2020

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of June 18, 2020 was seconded by Council Member Block.

The motion was approved 5-0.

2. **BEAUTIFICATION**

A. The meeting for the month of July, 2020 was canceled due to Covid-19 Virus. Mayor Deno reported that the meeting for July, 2020 was held and should be amended to include the minutes. It was noted that Chairman Hector Martinez was not in attendance. Mayor Deno reported that Village of Virginia Gardens has been awarded Tree City for the past three years

3. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

A. Special Council Meeting to set Tentative Millage Rate on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Deno reported that a special council meeting has been scheduled to set the Tentative Millage Rate on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

B. Discussion of TGK workshop.

Mayor Deno reported that there are three or four different proposals regarding the expansion or construction of TGK. Mayor Deno stated that we will have to wait until the next Board of County Commission meeting.

C. Discussion of South Florida Water Management flooding report

Mayor Deno reported that the South Florida Water Management report was sent to the Council. Mayor Deno reported that South Florida Water Management is not taking responsibility for the flooding. Mayor Deno reported that the report does not contain any information regarding Virginia Gardens. Mayor Deno reported that he does not know if Virginia Gardens could not have done anything differently.

Mayor Deno informed the Council that the west end of the Village and NW 38 Terrace were flooded. Mayor Deno reported that NW 38 Terrace would be the Low laying area of the City. Public Works Director Martin reported that all lines that are connected to the Pump Station are overflowed into the canal.

Public Works Director Martin reported that we have extra monies and are making additions to the drainage on from NW 64 ave and NW 38 terrace. This would try to alleviate the draining of the water. Mayor Deno reported the Village has done all that we can do regarding the flooding. Council Member Conover reported that if the canals overflowed, there is nothing that the Village can do. Public Works Director reported that we are at the mercy of South Florida Water Management.

Mayor Deno reported that the Village will be receiving approximately \$204,000.00 in relief monies due to the Covid expenses from Miami Dade County. Mayor Deno reported that more information will be available later.

4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Council President Fernandez reported that there were no citizens comments.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Council President Fernandez reported that there was no old business.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Council President Fernandez reported that there is no new business.

7. **PLANNING & ZONING**

A. Council President Fernandez reported that the meeting for the month of July, 2020 was canceled due to COVID-19 Virus.

8. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

A. Council President Fernandez reported that the statistics for the month of June, 2020 have been submitted.

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

B. Approval for hiring reserve Officer Lionel Coney

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the hiring of Officer Lionel Coney as a Reserve Police officer was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 5-0.

9. **RECREATION**

Council President Fernandez reported no issues for Recreation.

10. **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Director reported regarding the construction on NW 38 Street and that the density tests were approved today by the Engineer. Mr. Martin also reported that the milling began on Tuesday and will be completed by Friday. Mr. Martin reported that sodding and roadway striping will also commence.

11. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

A. RESOLUTION NO. 969

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH VISUALSCAPE, FOR THE LANDSCAPING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Village Attorney Cuadra reported that Resolution No. 969 is essentially required by Florida Statutes for the roadway improvement contract. A motion by Council Member Block to approve Resolution No. 969 was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. RESOLUTION NO. 971

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH RISING WATERS CONSULTING, INC.; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Village Attorney Cuadra reported that Resolution No. 971 is to approve a contract with Rising Water Consulting Inc. for the stormwater deficiency plans in the amount of \$5,000.00. Public Works Director Martin reported that Rising Waters will be doing the reporting work, forms and documentation requirements by the State. A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve Resolution No. 971 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. RESOLUTION NO. 972

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE EXPANSION OR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FACILITIES ON THE SITE OF THE TURNER GUILFORD KNIGHT CORRECTIONAL CENTER; URGING THE COUNTY MAYOR AND BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY TO REJECT ANY PLANS TO DO SAME; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve Resolution No. 972 was Seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 5-0.

D. ORDINANCE NO. 365

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA AMENDING SECTION 7.1.5, ARTICLE VII, CHAPTER 16 OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR REQUIREMENTS FOR POLITICAL SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Attorney Cuadra requested if the approval of Ordinance No. 365 could be removed from the agenda because it has to be first addressed by the Village of Virginia Gardens Local Planning Agency. Mayor Deno reported he would like some changes to the Ordinance regarding political signs.

12. **GOOD & WELFARE**

Council Member Taylor Martinez is asking prayers for Melanie Martinez. Administrative Assistant Byrd reported that longtime resident Francis Misigoy was involved in an accident and is currently in a coma.

13. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 5-0.