

**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
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2021
5:00 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
Mayor: Jorge Arce
Fred S. Deno IV

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council President Fernandez at 5:01 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

1. 2021/2022 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Deno reported that the current millage rate is 4.9000%. Mayor Deno reported that the Half Cent Sales Tax are new book figures. Mayor Deno reported that the Half Cent Sale Tax increased from \$170,756 to \$184,714. Mayor Deno reported that the State Revenue Sharing remained the same. .

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 \$99,048 to \$96,151 due to elections. Mayor Deno contacted Attorney Cuadra regarding charter changes for our election dates to coincide with Miami Dade County elections in November. Attorney Cuadra responded that it requires a referendum and a vote by the residents. Mayor Deno requested this issue be put on the agenda for next month. There was a 3% increase in the Executive Budget salary. 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 increased from \$0 to \$36,104.

The Protect. Inspect budget had a decrease from \$26,330 to \$23,330 due to other contract services. Garbage/Solid Waste had a slight increase from \$172,900 to \$176,000 due to CPI. The Other Phy. Environment Beautification Committee had a 3% increase in salaries.

Law Enforcement Budget had a total increase from \$1,322,169 to \$1,374,567. There was a 3% increase in the executive, lieutenant and part time officers' salaries and increases due to officers' steps. Mayor Deno stated that we will abide by the current contract.

Mayor Deno noted that the Other Human Services budget had a 3% salary increase. Mayor Deno reported that the Parks & Recreation budget had a 3% salary increase; however, had a budget decrease from \$244,375 to \$208,254 due to soccer and youth clubs.

Mayor Deno reported that the Public Works /Combined Street & Roads, Local Option Gas Tax & Transit System Surtax budget total increased from \$106,153 to \$1,393,625 due to grants from the State of Florida (62 Avenue Roadway), FDOT (37 St, 38 St & 67 Ave) and FRDAP (Ballfield). Mayor Deno reported that the Water Department budget increased from \$370,080 to \$74,940 due to operating income. There was a 3% increase of salaries for the Water Department. Mayor Deno reported that the CITT Expenses Fund decreased from \$106,429 to \$103,568.

2. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Council President Fernandez reported that there were no citizen comments.

3. GOOD & WELFARE

Council President Fernandez reported that there is no good & welfare.

4. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion by Council Member Block to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m. was seconded by Council Member Taylor Martinez. The motion passed 5-0.