

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

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE  
VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA  
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022  
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 ensure 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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Council President Arce at 6:30 P.M.

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

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

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Council Meeting – February 17, 2022

A motion by Council Member Taylor Martinez to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 17, 2022 was seconded by Council Member Block. The motion was approved 5-0.

2. **BEAUTIFICATION**

A. Council Present Arce reported that the minutes for the month of March, 2022 have been submitted.

A motion by Council Member Block to move Beautification until Chairman Martinez returns was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion was approved 5-0.

3. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Council President Arce stated the Mayor's Report will be moved to be the final item discussed. Mayor Deno called in via Zoom at 6:50 P.M.

Mayor Deno first reported that the DOT project bid is extended from March 25, 2022 to April 1, 2022. Mayor Deno stated that the drainage and the sidewalk is finished off of N.W. 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Mayor Deno mentioned that this project should be done in about two or three weeks.

Mayor Deno stated that we have three projects that got through to the State this year:

1). City Hall ADA Upgrades & Emergency Shelter

The City Hall ADA upgrades and Emergency Shelter Project has been funded as of right now. The budget was finished last week and was submitted on Monday to the Governor, who has 60 days to review it. Mayor Deno reported that budget is \$600,000. Mayor Deno stated that project will expand the Village's Council Chambers, redo the building's roof, and make the building into a hurricane shelter that can withstand winds of 200 miles per hour.

2). Municipal Complex Drainage Improvements

Mayor Deno reported that the budget for the Municipal Drainage Improvements is \$915,000. Mayor Deno expressed that biggest thing he would like to do is redo baseball field with these improvements and place a new drainage system there.

3). Central Drainage Improvements

Mayor Deno announced that the budget for the Central Drainage Improvements is \$850,000. Mayor Deno stated that this project includes NW 58<sup>th</sup> Place from NW 40<sup>th</sup> Street to NW 38<sup>th</sup> Street, NW 39<sup>th</sup> Street from NW 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue to NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, NW 38<sup>th</sup> Street from NW 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue to NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Mayor Deno reported that this will also include NW 37<sup>th</sup> Terrace, NW 38<sup>th</sup> Terrace, NW 39<sup>th</sup> Terrace, NW 40<sup>th</sup> Street from NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to NW 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Mayor Deno noted that he recently spoke to Public Works Director Butch Martin about how some Village residents have water mains in their backyards that need be moved to the front of their houses. Mayor Deno also mentioned discussing with Butch Martin and Council Member Fernandez about getting a GIS system for the entire Village of Virginia Gardens, where the system pinpoints exactly where all of our utility lines are and the Village can update the system with any improvements that are done. Mayor Deno stated that the Village will schedule a special meeting to discuss these matters further.

4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Council President Arce reported that there is one Village resident, Timothy Boylan, who would like to make a comment. Mr. Boylan resides at 6111 N.W. 38<sup>th</sup> Street and stated that he has an issue with his neighbor regarding hedges, cables, and a cement slab in the back of his property where he would like to put a fence in. Council President Arce, the Council Members, and Attorney Cuadra stated that a valid survey will help assist Mr. Boylan in this matter. Attorney Cuadra mentioned that he is finalizing a revision to the Village's code that would allow zoning officials to certify an old survey with an inspection for a nominal fee. Chief Hernandez stated that he will visit Mr. Boylan's property tomorrow to assess the situation.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Council President Arce reported that there is no old business.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Council President Arce reported that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Friday, April 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Deno reported that a special meeting will be held on April 6, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.

7. **PLANNING & ZONING**

Council President Arce reported that the meeting for the month of March, 2022 was cancelled.

8. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Council President Arce stated that the statistics for the month of February, 2022 have been submitted.

Chief Hernandez reported that some officers of the Village participated in Bike 305 Bike Event. Chief Hernandez stated that the officers biked around Amelia Earhart Park and the length was about around six or seven miles.

9. **RECREATION**

Council President Arce stated that the soccer banquet that occurred on March 12, 2022 was a success.

10. **PUBLIC WORKS**

Mayor Deno stated that there was nothing further to report for Public Works.

11. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

A. ORDINANCE 371 – SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN THE DATE VILLAGE ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD; PROVIDING FOR THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS TO HOLD AND CONDUCT VILLAGE ELECTIONS; AMENDING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion by Council Member Fernandez to approve the first reading of item 11A Ordinance No. 371 was seconded by Council Member Block, which carried 5-0 on rollcall vote. The vote of the Council is as follows: Council President Arce: Yes. Councilman Block: Yes. Councilwoman Conover: Yes. Councilman Fernandez: Yes. Councilwoman Taylor Martinez: Yes.

12. **GOOD & WELFARE**

Council Member Block mentioned that today is his 43<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary with his wife Esther. Council Member Taylor Martinez asked for prayers and well wishes for Melanie Martinez.

Mayor Deno, Council President Arce, and the Council Members all wished Maritza Fernandez, the Village Clerk, a very happy birthday.

13. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion by Council Member Fernandez to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 P.M. was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion was approved 5-0.