



**Fred Spencer Deno IV**  
Mayor

**Jorge Arce**  
President

Council Members  
**Richard Block**  
**Debra Conover**  
**Gabriel Fernandez**  
**Elizabeth Taylor-Martinez**

Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes  
**June 16, 2022**  
6:30 p.m.

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**1. Call to Order**

A. Council Member Block called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

A. Mayor Deno, Council Member Block, Council Member Fernandez, Council Member Taylor-Martinez, and Attorney Cuadra were in attendance.

**3. Invocation**

A. Council Member Fernandez led the invocation.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

A. Council Member Fernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. Meeting Notices**

- 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.
- 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**.

**6. Presentations**

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**7. Citizens Comments**

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**8. Announcement of Amendments/Corrections to the Agenda**

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A. Attorney Cuadra requested to add Resolution No. 1008 to the Agenda. A Motion to include Resolution No. 1008 made by Council Member Fernandez was seconded by Council Member Taylor-Martinez. The motion passed 3-0.

## **9. Approval of Minutes**

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### **9(a) - Regular Council Meeting – May 19, 2022**

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of May 19, 2022 made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 3-0.

## **10. Mayor's Report**

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### **10(a) – Update on the Annexation meeting that was held on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

Mayor Deno stated that he had a meeting Chairman Diaz and another meeting with Commissioners Sosa, Higgins, and Regalado. Mayor Deno stated that the only person who seemed to be against the annexation was Commission Regalado. Mayor Deno informed the Council that the next annexation meeting will occur on July 7, 2022. Mayor Deno mentioned that this will be the meeting where the Village will receive either a “yes” or a “no” for annexation approval. Councilman Block thanked Chief Hernandez for transportation to the June 8, 2022 meeting.

Mayor Deno reported that two out of the three projects for the Village of Virginia Gardens were approved. Those projects are the Central Drainage Improvement Project and the Village Hall Drainage Improvements for the Baseball field, in which the entire field with the exception of the borders will be replaced with artificial turf and rocks. Mayor Deno anticipates that these projects will begin around February 2023. Mayor Deno also mentioned that the Ludlam Canal project is still being worked on. Administrative Assistant Macbeth Araque stated that the Village is currently waiting on the Florida Engineering pre-construction meeting.

Mayor Deno stated that he received an email from Brian Avila's office on Monday, and they stated that will be divvying up \$170,000,000 between cities that is extra from the State budget. Mayor Deno stated that any requests should be submitted by July 15, 2022. Mayor Deno stated that the project that was vetoed to expand Village Hall would be a great project to use any money received from Representative Avila's Office. Council Member Fernandez suggested that the Village should redo its entrance sign with whatever money we may receive.

## **11. Administrative Items**

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### **11(a) – Beautification**

The meeting for June 1, 2022 was canceled due to inclement weather.

### **11(b) – Planning & Zoning**

The meeting for the month of June was canceled.

### **11(c) – Public Safety**

The statistics for the month of May 2022 have been submitted.

Chief Hernandez stated that there has been no word on the new police vehicles as of yet. Chief Hernandez stated that the Village does not have a VIN number assigned.

### **11(d) – Administration**

## **12. Attorney's Report**

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**12(a) – RESOLUTION NO. 1005** - A Resolution of the Village of Virginia Gardens, Florida requiring Miami-Dade County approval of plans for certain construction activities that disturb ground surfaces; and providing an effective date.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 1005 made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez and seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 3-0.

**12(b) – RESOLUTION NO. 1007** – A Resolution of the Village of Virginia Gardens, Florida requiring an erosion and sediment control plan for all construction activities that disturb ground surfaces; and providing an effective date.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 1007 made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez and seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 3-0.

**12(c) – RESOLUTION NO. 1008** – A Resolution of the Village of Virginia Gardens, pledging to reduce municipal millage rate upon approval of pending annexation application and providing for effective date.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 1008 made by Council Member Fernandez was seconded by Council Member Taylor-Martinez, which carried 3-0 on a roll call vote. The vote of the Council is as follows: Council President Arce: Absent. Councilman Block: Yes. Councilwoman Conover: Absent. Councilman Fernandez: Yes. Councilwoman Taylor-Martinez: Yes.

## **13. Old Business**

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#### **14. New Business**

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- A. Council Member Block requested for the Village to look into a mobile application for all Virginia Gardens' residents to access and view information or upcoming events along with supporting local businesses.

#### **15. Good & Welfare**

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- A. Council Member Taylor-Martinez asked for prayers for Melanie Martinez and her mother Jamie Solis, Nora Ramirez, and the Howard Family.

#### **16. Adjournment**

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- A. A motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member Fernandez was seconded by Council Member Taylor-Martinez. Council Member Block adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: July 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**