



Fred Spencer Deno IV
Mayor

Jorge Arce
Council President

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes
August 17, 2023
6:30 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order

Council President Jorge Arce called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Invocation

Council Member Taylor-Martinez led the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Taylor-Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

Council President Arce, Council Member Block, Council Member Conover, Council Member Fernandez, Council Member Taylor-Martinez, and Attorney Cuadra were in attendance.

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

7. Citizens Comments

8. Announcement of Amendments/Corrections to the Agenda

(a)-The First Budget Hearing is scheduled for September 14th, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

9. Approval of Minutes

(a)-Regular Council Meeting – July 20th, 2023 Approved

(b)-Special Council Meeting – August 1st, 2023 Approved

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Council Meeting of July 29th, 2023 and the Special Council Meeting of August 1, 2023 made by Council Member Block, was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 5-0.

10. Mayor's Report

The mayor invited Jason Neal from Waste Management to present the terms for the contract renewal, effective January 1st, 2024

Jason Neil from Waste Management is offering the Village of Virginia Gardens the following terms;

- A service rate of \$30.50 per home
- The village currently has two rate adjustments every year. We receive a (CPI) every January and a disposal increase every October. The new proposal eliminates the disposal increase and applies a CPI every January that will be capped at 8%.
- Waste Management has also requested replacing residents' bins when broken instead of the City having to buy new ones.
- Services remain the same: twice a week at the curve and quarterly bulk collection.

Jason Neil states that new rates will still provide Virginia Gardens a favorable rate, significantly lower than the most comparable local municipality.

A motion to direct the Mayor and Administration to prepare a contract for consideration with terms presented before the Council by Waste Management. Made by Council Member Block, Member Council Conover seconded it. The motion passed 5-0

11. Administrative Items

(a)-Administration

Attorney Cuadra confirmed that we are still waiting for a response from the County Commissioner. They still need to act on our pending application since it's a Legislative approval.

(b)-Beautification

The Minutes for the month of August 2023 have been submitted.

(c)-Planning & Zoning

There was no meeting for the month of August 2023.

(d) – Public Safety

- The statistics for the month of July 2023 have been submitted.
- A New Part-Time Police Officer will be introduced to Council Members on September 21st.

(e) – Public Works

(f) – Recreation

Soccer Practice begins on August 21, and the first game will be at the end of September or the beginning of October, to be announced.

(g) - RESOLUTION

1- A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN AMENDED AND RESTATED INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO REESTABLISH DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEEDS OF THE SIX-CENT LOCAL OPTION GAS TAX FOR THE 30-YEAR PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2053; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion to Approve Item 11 (g) 1 made by Council Member Taylor -Martinez was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 5-0.

2- A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HER A PROPERTY REGISTRY, LLC TO PROVIDE PROPERTY REGISTRATION SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion to Approve Item 11 (g) 2 made by Council Member Taylor -Martinez was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 5-0.

3- A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AGREEMENT WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion to Approve Item 11(g) 3 made by Council Member Fernandez was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 5-0.

12. Attorney's Report

13. Old Business

14. New Business

Dates for the Budget workshop & PD contract will be sent to all Council Members by Village Clerk Maritza Fernandez.

15. Good & Welfare

Prayers and good health for Melanie and her family!
Condolences to Senator Brian Avila and his family for the passing of his mother.

16. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed 5-0. Council President Arce adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: September 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.