



Fred Spencer Deno IV
Mayor

Jorge Arce
Council President

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes
JULY 18, 2024
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 6:30 p.m.

2. Invocation

Council Member Richard-Block led the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Richard-Block led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

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

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

- a) - Ms. Annabelle Urrea-Guzman from Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava's office introduced herself and offered her assistance if needed.
- b) -The Mayor welcomed Sandrine Dukes from the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, who attended the meeting to observe.

7. Citizens Comments

8. Announcement of Amendments/Corrections to the Agenda

9. Approval of Minutes

(a)-Regular Council Meeting –May 16, 2024 Approved

A motion to approve Regular Council Meeting for May 16, 2024 made by Council Member Fernandez. Was seconded by Council Member Block The motion passed 4-0.

10. Mayor's Report

- Impressive turnout for the 4th of July event.
- Central drainage improvement project phase 1 is 3 to 4 weeks ahead of schedule.
- Two stormwater projects vetoed by the government will be prioritized for infrastructure funding.
- A special guest will visit next month to discuss planting a garden on vacant land.

11. Administrative Items

(a)-Administration

(b)-Beautification

- The Minutes for the month of June 2024 have been submitted.

(c)-Planning & Zoning

- The meeting has been canceled for the month of July 2024.

(d)-Public Safety

- The statistics for the month of May and June 2024 has been submitted.

(e)-Public Works

(f)-Recreation

Received a \$50,000 grant from the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) for resurfacing the tennis court.

(g)-Resolutions

1. RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH DISASTER PROGRAM & OPERATIONS, INC (DP&O); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A quick amendment to the existing resolution of Section 1 by Attorney Cuadra to insert the following words after the word "execute," which reads as follows:

THE VILLAGE COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH (DP&O) FOR THE DEBRIS REMOVAL MONETARY.

A motion to approve the amendment to the existing DP&O contract for Resolution 11 (g) 1 made by Council Member Block was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 4-0.

12. Attorney's Report

- (a) AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, AMENDING PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 16, ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS; CHAPTER 16 ARTICLE IV AMENDING PROVISIONS REGARDING ACCESSORY STRUCTURES; CHAPTER 16 ARTICLE VI AMENDING CERTAIN LAND SUBDIVISION AND IMPROVEMENT STANDARDS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion to approve first reading the motion (12a) made by Council Member Block was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 4-0.

13. Old Business

Mayor Spencer highlighted that current regulations require a residential survey certificate to be no older than one year when residents apply for a permit to redo their driveway, even if they have lived in their homes for over five years. Given the cost of a new survey, which can approach \$600, Mayor Spencer is proposing a new approach: sending a certified engineer or architect to assess and certify the existing survey for a reduced fee of \$100. Mr. Richard Annese, the building official, attended to answer all questions.

14. New Business

15. Good & Welfare

Happy Belated Birthday to Mayor Fred Spencer Deno IV!
Prayers and good health for Melanie and her Family!

16. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member was seconded by Council Member Fernandez. The motion passed 4-0.

Council President Arce adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: August 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.