



**Fred Spencer Deno IV**  
Mayor

**Gabriel Fernandez**  
Council President

Regular Council  
Meeting Minutes  
**January 16, 2025**  
6:30 p.m.

Council Members  
**Jorge Arce**  
**Richard Block**  
**Debra Conover**  
**Elizabeth-Taylor Martinez**

### **1. Call to Order**

Council President **Gabriel Fernandez** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### **2. Invocation**

Council Member Elizabeth Taylor- Martinez led the invocation.

### **3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Council Member Elizabeth Taylor- Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. Roll Call**

Mayor Spencer Deno, Council President Fernandez, Council Member Arce, Council Member Block, Council Member Conover, 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**

### **9. Approval of Minutes**

- (a)– Special Council Meeting– November 21, 2024.
- (b)– Regular Council Meeting–November 21, 2024.

A motion to approve the minutes for the Special and Regular Council Meetings held on November 17, 2024, was made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez and seconded by Council Member Arce. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

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

- (a) The Mayor provided an update on the Village Drainage Project, noting it is almost complete.
- (b) The Mayor announced Butch Martin's retirement as Public Director, effective January 17, 2025.
- (c) The mayor requested for Council Members to vote on the approval of Lazaro Garaboa as the new Public Director.

A motion to approve Lazaro Garaboa as the new Public Director made by Council Member Block and was seconded by Council Member Taylor- Martinez. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

## **11. Administrative Items**

### **(a)-Administration**

### **(b)-Beautification**

- The Minutes for the month of December 2024 and January 2025 have been submitted.

### **(c)-Planning & Zoning**

- The Minutes for the month of January 2025 have been submitted.

### **(d)-Public Safety**

- The statistics for the month of December 2024 have been submitted.
- New Electric vehicles have been ordered.
- Requested Council Approval of new Part-Time Police Officer Kevin Favard.

A motion to approve Kevin Favard as the new Part-Time Police Officer Made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez Was seconded by Council Member Arce. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

### **(e)-Public Works**

### **(f)-Recreation**

Soccer Banquet will take place Monday night February 10, 2025.

**(g)-Resolutions**

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, GRANTING/DENYING VARIANCES OF CHAPTER 16 SECTIONS 6.4.1 & 6.4.2 AT 6301 NW 39 TERRACE, IDENTIFIED UNDER FOLIO NUMBER 26-3025-002-0120; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion to Approve Resolution 11(g) 1.made by Council Member Arce Was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

**11. Attorney's Report**

No updates provided.

**12. Old Business**

None.

**14. New Business**

(a)- Council Liaisons were selected:

- Jorge Arce - Recreation
- Richard Block - Public Works
- Debbie Conover - Police Department
- Gabriel Fernandez - Beautification
- Elizabeth Taylor-Martinez - Planning and Zoning

(b)- Dade Days will be held on April 8 and 9, with participation from Mayor Spencer Deno IV, Council Member Debbie Conover, and Council Member Gabriel Fernandez.

(c)- The Bicycle Scavenger Hunt is scheduled for April 26, 2025(Free Event).

**15. Good & Welfare**

- Thank you Public Works Director Butch Martin for your commitment and work throughout the years!
- Condolences to Council Member Richard Block and family on the passing of his younger brother.
- Condolences to Yolanda and family on the passing of senior citizen Rodolfo.
- Prayers and good health for Melanie and her Family!

**16. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Council President Fernandez adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: FEBRUARY 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.**