

Fred Spencer Deno IV
Mayor



Council Members
Jorge Arce
Debra Conover
Elizabeth-Taylor Martinez
Michael Tur

Gabriel Fernandez
Council President

Regular Council
Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2026
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Council President **Gabriel Fernandez** called the meeting to order at 5:31 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 Fernandez, Council Member Arce, Council Member Conover, Council Member Taylor-Martinez, Council Member Tur and Mayor Spencer Deno IV and Attorney Cuadra attended.

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) – Regular Council Meeting– January 15, 2026.

A motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on January 15, 2026. Was made by Council Member Arce and seconded by Taylor Martinez. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

10. Mayor's Report

- The Mayor provided an update on the trip to Miami Dade in Tallahassee, confirming that all three projects remain within budget and the ongoing property tax issue has not yet been resolved; no laws have been passed. Once legislation is enacted, residents will be consulted for approval.
- The Mayor discussed the special approval process for the Phase II drainage project. The Mayor reviewed all bids with Council Members and recommended proceeding with Metro Express. Central and Council Members agreed.

A motion to Approve Metro Express as the contractor for the Phase II drainage project. Was .made by Council Member Arce and was seconded by Council Member Conover. The motion 5-0.

- The Mayor met with Mani Perez, Chief Hernandez, and Zoila regarding the preparation and submission of a federal grant. This grant is for the Virginia Gardens Village Hall and Police Department ADA upgrades and it also includes the Emergency Shelter for FY 2027.

11. Administrative Items

(b)-Administration

- No specific items discussed.

(c)-Beautification

- The Minutes for the month of February 2026 have been submitted.

(d)-Planning & Zoning

- No meeting for the month of February 2026.

(e)-Public Safety

- The Statistics for the Month of January 2026 have been submitted.
- Chief Hernandez read a letter of recommendation from Blessed trinity for Officer Otero.

(f)-Public Works

No specific items discussed.

(g)-Recreation

The tennis court is looking excellent, featuring the Virginia Gardens logo.

(h)-Resolutions

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE VILLAGE'S FIVE (5) YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023-2024 THROUGH 2027-2028; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION, AUTHORIZATION, AND DIRECTION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE COUNCIL OF THE VIRGINIA GARDEN, FLORIDA, A AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LOCAL AGENCY PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion to Approve Resolution 11(h) 2 .made by Council Member Taylor-Martinez Was seconded by Council Member Arce. The motion 5-0.

12. Attorney's Report

None.

13. Old Business

Council Member Conover requested an update on the Holiday Inn, and the Mayor said it is ongoing.

14. New Business

None.

15. Good & Welfare

Best Wishes for everyone.

16. Adjournment

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

Council President Fernandez adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: March 19, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.