

This was a conference meeting of the City Council of Orange Township, located at 29 North Day Street, Orange, NJ. The meeting was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:04 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilman Kerry Coley, East Ward (arrived@7:31)
Councilman Christopher Jackson, At-Large
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward
Councilwoman Adrienne Wooten, At-Large
Council-President Donna K. Williams, At-Large

Also Present: Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Chris Hartwyk, Business Administrator (BA)
Eric Pennington, City Attorney
Marin Townes, Acting Legislative Research Officer
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,
Kenneth Douglas, Acting Fire Director,
Marty Mayes, Acting Director of Planning/Public Work
Adrian Mapp, Acting Director of Finance
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer
Tod Warren, Police Director (arrived @ 7:20 P.M.)

The City Clerk asked all to stand for a Moment of Silence.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General item shall sign on (1) book. Each person signing the book will be allowed to speak for maximum of five (5) minutes.

Sunshine Law

The City Clerk announces that the requirement of N.J. S.A. 10:4-9 et. Seq. “Sunshine Law” has been met. A notice of this meeting was sent to the *Star Ledger* and published in *the Record-Transcript* on 14 July 2016, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

None

The Council President asked if there were any resolutions or ordinances that the Council wished to discuss.

Councilman Jackson questioned or commented on the following:

Resolution 1-2017 and Ordinance 1-2017 have the same number.

The Council President reported that the distinction is that one is an ordinance and one is a resolution.

Resolution 6-2017 to resolution to fix the rate of interest. How were the rates determined?

Ba Hartwyk stated it was the statutory maximum. It is the interest rate that is charged on late taxes.

Resolution 7-2017 authorizes an award of contract for roof repairs. Did the company inspect the Fire House roof prior to the resolution? BA Hartwyk reported that as the roof was being repaired there were some issues that were discovered and needed to be repaired immediately. The firm will inspect and give the city plans for the repairs.

Resolution 8-2017 has a replacement plan been chosen for the benefits programs. BA Hartwyk stated that the state required 90 day notice and with the resolution it gives the city 90 days to find another plan or stay with the state health plan.

Resolution 9-2017 questioned the language of the contract. The Council President stated that she will be requesting the Council to adopt an amended title to the resolution explaining the reasons why the title needed to be changed. It was determined to have an executive session to discuss it.

Resolution 10-2017 regarding street repairs. Director Mayes reported the reason for the resolution and increases that were requested.

Resolution 11-2017 regarding a contract for an audit. Questioned why the contract had a 83 thousand figure and the resolution had a figure of one hundred thousand. Director Mapp stated that the city provided enough funding in the event they need to go beyond what had been stated in the contract.

Council President Williams commented to the Council that questions about resolutions and ordinances can also be discussed via e-mails or going into Town Hall to discuss items with the Directors for a better understanding of agenda items, and it would be more efficient in our process.

Councilman Jackson continued - Resolution 13-2017, temporary fund appropriations, he questioned the language and the Council President stated that the language is standard for the request.

Council President Williams Resolution 13-2017 commented on the amount that the library would be receiving in the temporary budget is 19% which is the standard amount if the city does not add to the States required amount. She also stated that some items in the temporary budget have to be paid at the beginning of the year and that is why 100% is being paid on items.

Councilman Johnson Resolution 5-2017 - stated that paying for something that was appealed and won in 2011 should not be paid in 2017. The City and Council must do a better job making sure that things like that do not happen again.

He also spoke about the modified road work stating that he felt that the million dollars for road work could have been spent more wisely. He stated that they should do better with the NJ Transit

Trust fund. The BA stated that the city is having a survey of all city streets and a priority list will be created from that report for a paving program.

The Council President Resolution 5-2017 stated that the list that was created in May and approved by the Council was different from the list of properties that were sold in December. Should the December document have come back to the Council for approval since it was different from what they had approved in May? She asked the Attorney Townes and the City Attorney to speak to the legality of that.

BA Hartwyk stated that the May document stated that the properties that were on the list could be deleted from the properties that were actually closed on if they were redeemed between the adoption of the resolution and the closing. Council President commented that there were added properties and other issues that concerned the Council. She still needed the attorneys to review the issue.

Motion to adjourn by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson.

The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 7:36 P.M.

Approved:

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Donna K. Williams
Council President