

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 17, 2017 at 7:10 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
Eric Pennington, City Attorney
Marlin Townes, Acting Legislative Research Officer
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,
Kenneth Douglas, Acting Fire Director,
Marty Mayes, Director of Planning/Public Work
Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance (arrived@7:21)
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer (arrived @ 7:25)
Tod Warren, Police Director

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

The Council President spoke about the closing of City Hall and that she had asked that if any reporters had questions that they show up at tonight’s meeting and the City Attorney would make a statement. City Attorney Pennington stated that the city is cooperating with the ongoing investigation and city employees are not to speak on behalf of the city and the City Council Members will not take questions on the investigation. There will be a resolution put forth this evening to retain a law firm that specializes in matters of this type.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

- **Historical Preservation Commission**

Ms. Janine Bauer, Attorney for the Historic Preservation Commission, showed a map of the 5 historic districts that were determined by the Planner to be historic districts. She identified the areas and asked the Council to pass an ordinance to set forth a process for the creation of a historic district providing information about what the ordinance should contain. She provided them a draft ordinance for their review. She answered questions from the Council.

- **Presentation-Financial Literacy**

The presenter was running late so the agenda moved forward until she could start the presentation.

Ms. Larissa Brown gave a handout on Financial Literacy. She spoke of the new organization called CORE. The intent of CORE is to band together with city officials and parents to try to influence early financial awareness in their teenagers. The organization wants to motivate the teenagers in Orange to have financial discipline awareness. She stated that cash awards will go to 3 teenagers that affect the most reduction in their household expenses; which will go into a college fund, she provided the rules of the awards. The goal is to show teenagers how to save. The program will have fund raiser and sponsorship as it grows. When the funds increase all students will get cash awards which they will put toward college. She spoke about the Financial Readiness Academic Scholarship Award which provides cash awards for the top 3 senior high school students that can respond to essay questions and be interviewed by a panel. She asked for the Council's support by finding a teen that they can help enroll in the programs. She spoke about the current funding of the organization. Ms. Brown answered questions from the Council Members. She spoke about other programs that are available for the Orange teenagers.

The resolutions and ordinances to be presented at tonight's meeting are listed on the attached Regular Meeting Agenda. If any Council Member wishes to discuss any resolution or ordinance, it may be discussed at this time.

- Business Administrator Hartwyk withdrew Ordinance 2-2017. Resolution 17-2017. He stated that the bill list resolution does not have the payroll attached because of the transition to the new payroll company.
- Councilman Johnson - Resolution 18-2017 - asked for the Council's support on this resolution regarding the property on 302 Carteret Terrace.
- Councilwoman Eason - Resolution 23-2017 - asked who sponsored that resolution and asked who would be paying for it. Councilwoman Summers-Johnson spoke of her concern that the residents did not know of the extra money that it would cost. City Clerk Lanier explained the change in law regarding times the polls can be open. With regard to delaying the vote on the resolution the Council President reminded the Council that the County needs time to publish and prepare for the March election.
- Councilman Jackson - Resolution 15-2017 does not agree with the resolution providing his reason why. Councilwoman Eason does not agree with the resolution.

Councilwoman Summers-Johnson would like to have more time and discussion on the resolution because she feels that parts of it are good. She suggested it be discussed during a matters for discussion segment.

- Councilwoman Eason - Ordinance 3-2017 regarding the Public Work committee she stated that they agreed on changes in the language but the changes had not been made so she will not support it. Attorney Pennington stated that he understood the issue to be that it was supposed to be a citizen's only committee and that was not in the ordinance. The Council President stated that the Public Works Director or his designee should be left on the committee. Councilwoman Eason stated that there should be a rotation of Council Members to committees. Councilman Johnson stated that he felt that all Council Members needed to appoint a number of citizens to a committee and he felt that the BA should conduct the meeting for the Public Works committee not the Director. The BA stated that they could add himself or the Director of Public Works. It was determined that the Council President and the Mayor would be removed and add the BA or his appointee.
- Councilman Jackson - Resolution 16-2017 - he stated there was a typographical error in 4th paragraph. Resolution 18-2017 - he wanted to know the value of the abandoned properties on the attached list separated by Ward. The BA stated he would only be able to give the assessed value. It would not represent the fair market value.
- Councilwoman Eason - page 14 of the bill list regarding recreation travel allowance asked what it was for. Director Mapp stated it was for an out of state conference that was attended by the director.
- Council President Williams asked about an invoice that was on page 2 of the bill list. The BA stated that those were studies that had to be done for the closing of the YWCA. Page 11 and 12 explorer vehicles damages. The BA stated they were damaged in the line of duty. He followed up with a removal from page 2. He continued with page 15 of the bill list and the item for the Orange Library share, that amount had been reduced by \$10,000.00 which is the unauthorized amount that was paid to the lawyer.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, seconded by Councilman Johnson.

The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 8:45 P.M.

Approved:

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Donna K. Williams
Council President