

A CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017 AT 7:21 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilman Kerry Coley, East Ward
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 (arrived @7:36)
Council-President Donna K. Williams, At-Large

Also Present: Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Eric Pennington, City Attorney
Marlin Townes, Acting Legislative Research Officer
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,
Kenneth Douglas, Fire Director,
Marty Mayes, Director of Planning/Public Work
Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer

Absent: Chris Hartwyk, Business Administrator (BA)
Tod Warren, Police Director

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

The City Clerk reported that the cable was out but should be back up shortly.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General items 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 - Reock Urban Renewal regarding the tax abatement on the night's agenda. The presenters were late so they moved the agenda along.

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.

The Clerk reported that Ordinances 17-2017 and 18-2017 were removed. Resolution 103-2017, 111-2017 and 114-2017 were withdrawn.

- Councilman Jackson - Ordinance 15-2017 asked how the current language inhibits the City Attorney's abilities to carry out his duties. Is it the current language and checks on his powers and how does the new language effect the freedom of the City Council to hire their own attorney. The City Attorney explained the reasons for the clarification that was needed. The changes do not affect the Council's freedom to hire their own attorney. The Council's role is a budgetary check on the administration and that is what is made clear in the ordinance. Council President Williams suggested that the ordinance be tabled until backup is presented. The original ordinance was not given as backup. The Council could not determine what the new language was from what they received. It was determined that the ordinance would be withdrawn.
- Councilwoman Eason 102-2017 why is Mr. Tarver being hired again since he was hired at the last meeting. Council President Williams stated that the first matter he was hired for was argued in an Administrative Court and this matter will be hired in Superior Court.
- Councilman Jackson - Ordinance 16-2017 referred to the last page section E5 he suggested language stating that if there are any violations then all legal remedies should be pursued. Attorney Townes stated that the language Councilman Jackson was suggesting be removed was the original language; he did not make any changes to that language as part of the new changes. Councilwoman Eason asked what changes had been made. The change clarifies purchase orders and reimbursement are used for tuition.
- Councilman Jackson 101-2017 suggested that along with numerical references, titles should also be included to find the area of change in resolutions and ordinances.
- Councilman Coley Resolution 104-2017 regarding abandon properties, he would like to see a standard on how properties are moved onto and off the abandoned property list.
- Councilwoman Wooten questioned 4 documents that did not have the City Attorney's signature on them. 101-2017, 10-2017, 113-2017, 9-2017. The City Attorney stated that when he has not signed a document it means he has no opinion as to whether the document is in legal form or has legal substance. The City Clerk and the City Attorney discussed the specifics for those ordinances and resolution and the Clerk assured the Attorney that the Clerk's Office does everything possible to have all documents signed by him even though there is no law stating that there needs to be a signature by the City Attorney.
- Councilman Jackson 101-2017 stated his concerns about the lack of information regarding exemptions and he wanted the wording from statute included in the

resolution. Director Mapp stated it is not the norm to have the statute wording in a resolution, only the referenced number of the statute it was taken from. Director Mapp further explained the sprite of the resolution with regard to the CAP limitation and stated that the City needs the authorization of the Local Finance Board to pass the budget and the resolution has to be submitted to the Board by the next day. The City Attorney referenced a section of the statute that would address Councilman Jackson's concerns. Sessions 3D and 3E of the statute will be added to the resolution via an amendment.

- Councilwoman Wooten Resolution 102-2017 suggested that Attorney Tarver be added to the City Attorney's list. Council President Williams stated that they would be doing a RFQ but that would be discussed in a future meeting.

The presenter of the Reock redevelopment project arrived and started the presentation.

Mr. Johnathan Cortell representing Reock Urban Renewal a sponsor of redevelopment in the Orange Transit Village. He provided a brief overview the proposed development which would include 102 unit mixed income on Reock St. There would be 6 story buildings Mr. Cortell presented pictures of the current conditions in the proposed redevelopment area along with their proposed designed area. They would be using the same material that they used on their last redevelopment at South Essex St. for the City. This project will include studio apartments. The City will acquire the DOT lot for the developer and the developer will buy the lot at the appraised value from the city. Mr. Cortell spoke about the financing of the project. The Council asked questions that Mr. Cortell answered. The public hearing portion for the ordinance will be held April 18th at the second reading. There will also be other public meetings before the 18th.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilman Coley.

The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 8:37 P.M.

Approved:

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Donna K. Williams
Council President