

**MINUTES CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP  
NEW JERSEY  
APRIL 7, 2015**

**THIS WAS A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 29, NORTHDAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING**

The Chair led all assembled in a Salute to the American Flag.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Councilman Kerry Coley, East Ward Councilman  
Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt, At-Large Councilman  
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward Councilwoman  
Councilwoman April Gaunt-Butler, At-Large Councilwoman  
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward Councilman  
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward Councilman  
Council President Donna K. Williams, At-Large Councilwoman

**Also Present:** Deputy Municipal Clerk Madeline F. Smith  
Finance Director Adrian Mapp  
City Attorney Avram White  
Legislative Research Officer Kevin Harris  
Senior Clerk Margarete Homere  
Fire Director Dowd  
City CFO Ms. Lascari  
Deputy BA Edwards  
Fire Director Kenneth Douglas

**Absent:** Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq

The Deputy Municipal Clerk announces that the requirement of N.J. S.A. 10:4-9 et. seq., The Sunshine Law had been met. A notice of this meeting was sent to the Record-Transcript and published in the Star Ledger on December 21, 2013, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**February 17, 2015 Conference & Regular Minutes**

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to approve the Conference and Regular meeting minutes from February 17, 2015.**

By consensus the Regular and Conference meeting minutes were approved for February 17, 2015.

**March 3, 2015 Conference & Regular Minutes**

**Councilwoman Summers-Johnson cannot vote, because she was not present.**

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason to approve the Conference and Regular meeting minutes from March 3, 2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Jr., Council president Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilmember: Summers-Johnson

**Motion Carries.**

**March 16, 2015 Executive (Closed) Session Minutes.**

**Councilman Johnson, Jr. & Councilwoman Williams cannot vote, because they were not present.**

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason to approve the Closed Session Minutes for March 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Summers-Johnson

Nays: None

Abstain: Johnson, Jr., Williams

**Motion Carries.**

**March 17, 2015 Executive (Closed) Session Minutes**

Closed Session Minutes of March 17<sup>th</sup> were pulled for review.

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason, to approve the Conference and Regular meeting minutes from March 17, 2015.**

**March 24, 2015 Executive (Closed) Session Minutes**

**Councilman Johnson, Jr. & Councilwoman Williams cannot vote, because they were not present.**

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason to approve the Closed Session Minutes for March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Summers-Johnson

Nays: None

Abstain:: Johnson, Jr., Williams

**Motion Carries.**

**REPORTS:** There were no reports.

**CONSTABLE REPORTS:** There were no Constable reports.

**OPRA REQUEST :** None available.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilman Johnson thanked the finance department's CFO for getting the budget ready and then the schedule for budget hearings were discussed and dates were confirmed by the Council President. Councilman Johnson commented on his review of the US Tax Lien Association and that they listed a number of things that were available to Municipalities; referencing a number of codes. The Council President reported that the Personnel Committee had met and made their recommendation regarding the Clerk's positions. Councilwoman Summers-Johnson reported that Orange is doing a 'See Something Say Something' event in front of the Orange Library on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. She commented on the qualifications of Ms. Lanier. There were no other Council reports.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

Communication received in the Clerk's Office from William R. Lewis on March 20, 2015.

**The Deputy Clerk made the following statement.**

"Pursuant to section 4-10 of the Code of the City of Orange Township, each person addressing the Council shall step up to the microphone, shall give his or her name in an audible tone for the record, and unless further time is granted by the presiding officer, shall limit his or her address to (10) minutes. The public is expected to conduct themselves in a proper manner, any derogatory, abusive or threatening statements will not be permitted. The Chair will immediately rule such conduct out of order and terminate any further comments.

The following residents and business owners made comments.

Mr. Jeffery Feld spoke about a public hearing on Feld V which involved OPRA by Judge Rothschild. He suggested that Council read some opinions that were issued regarding ordinances and resolutions. He reported on other submitted appellate comments during a court visit. He gave his comments on the Planning Board hearing the week before. Mr. Feld commented regarding the YWCA and that week's city agenda. Mr. Feld commented on abandoned properties and unclaimed taxes by the city on properties that were bought by the Orange Housing Authority. He commented that before the Housing Authority took over those properties, there were taxes that were due and never collected by the city. Mr. Feld spoke about his other concerns regarding the city.

Ms. Laressa Bradshaw spoke about the upcoming elections and the grass root organizing that is taking place in Orange. Ms. Bradshaw provided the names of all the members that were on the CBAC. Ms. Bradshaw commented that the number one thing that is talked about in the CBAC is tax relief. She would like Mr. Edwards, the Deputy BA, and the Mayor to come to the meetings. Ms. Bradshaw commented on the arrogance of the Finance Director, and hoped that there would be less arrogance and more understanding of the need for fiscal responsibility.

Ms. Katalin Gordon questioned the Cap Bank increase last year and resolution 101-2015 which dealt with properties that were to be taken off the abandoned property list. She questioned the new City Clerk's performance on OPRAs. She commented that the Planning Board's schedule was not up to date. Ms. Gordon does not agree with the untimely notice regarding the YWCA. Ms. Gordon questioned the water charges that were on a number of resolutions.

Mr. Darrel Harrington reported that the Union Baptist Church is having an Educational Summit for teenagers on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 P.M. Asked when the budget was supposed to be introduced according to State requirements. Mr. Harrington spoke about the YWCA and its resolution stating that the Council should not make a quick decision on the resolution because there are other options within the City besides the YWCA.

Ms. Murphy Wilson commented that the Council should not make a decision on the YWCA tonight but get more detailed information. There have been no analyses by the Council on revenue coming from the property. The Council should do a walk through the building to see what repairs are needed and how much that will cost the city. Ms. Wilson commented that she did not like the Central Orange Redevelopment Plan, it does not follow the City Master Plan.

Motion to Close Citizen Comments by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler  
The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Corbitt questioned Mr. Mayes if the city logo had been placed on all city owned vehicles except for Police and Fire vehicles. Mr. Mayes provided updates on each. Councilman Corbitt commented that the city spends too much on gas and that city vehicles should not be taking people home.

Councilman Corbitt asked the Council's Attorney to research a resolution or ordinance that would not allow anyone to take home a vehicle unless there was an emergency. Mr. Corbitt was excited about getting a Clerk for the City.

Councilwoman Eason asked Mr. Mayes to look into a number of things for her Ward. Asked Mr. Mapp if there was any decrease in charges from Express Script. Mr. Mapp, the Finance Director, reported that the contract was not up and the City would be looking into getting a lower RX rate. Councilman Johnson commented to Mr. Mapp that the Express Script contract should be corrected to end in the calendar year and not a fiscal year. Mr. Mapp commented that he believed that something had been done to exclude compound drugs from the plan and he would confirm that. Councilwoman Eason asked Police Director Simms who would be delivering food to the inmates. Director Simms reported that Royal Chicken would be delivering the food. Councilwoman Eason asked for support for Ordinance 21-2015 and welcomed Ms. Lanier as the City Clerk.

Councilman Coley thanked Mr. Mayes for fixing a few street lights and reported on some other lights that needed attention. Councilman Coley also reported that the street needed to be swept better and asked if the City has hired someone to clean the streets. Mr. Mayes is looking into it. Councilman Coley directed Mr. Harris, the Council Attorney, to create an ordinance that requires home and shop owners to provide a shoveled path to the street so people do not have to jump over snow piles. He asked Mr. Mayes to have a crew go to an abandoned property and clean it up.

Mr. Mapp and Ms. Knight addressed tax questions that were asked by residents during citizens comments. Mr. Mayes addressed questions asked by residents regarding abandoned property lists.

The Council President asked for a motion to extend the meeting.

Motion by Councilman Johnson Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Eason to extend the meeting pasted 10:30 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Eason, Johnson Jr., Summers-Johnson , Williams  
Nays: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler,  
Abstain: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**ORDINANCES–SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING**

**ORDINANCE TABLED FROM 2/3/2015 MEETING**

**2-2015 An ordinance amending Chapter 4 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township entitled Administration of government dealing with procedural rules of the City Council. (Sponsored by Hon. Donna K. Williams)**

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to left from the table.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams  
Nays:  
Abstain: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Corbitt to withdraw Ordinance 2-2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams  
Nays: None.  
Abstain: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**16-2015 An ordinance amending Chapter 80 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township entitled dogs and other animals( Sponsored by: Council Member Tency A. Eason)**

Ms. Murphy Wilson did not agree with Ordinance 16-2015 stating her reasons.  
Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to close  
The public hearing.

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams  
Nays: None.  
Abstain: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilman Corbitt to adopt Ordinance 16-2015 on final reading.**

Councilwoman Eason asked the Councilmembers to support the ordinance stating her reasons.

Councilwoman Summers-Johnson asked if the size of the house matters and was told it did not. Mr. Harris, the Legislative Research Officer, spoke of the grandfather clause of the ordinance.

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams

Nays: Coley

Abstain: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION /FIRST READING (POSTPONED FROM LAST MEETING)**

**17-2015 An ordinance amending Chapter 210 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township entitled development regulations regarding the Historic Preservation Commission.**

**The Council President stated that the ordinance was being modified.**

**20-2015 An ordinance adopting amendments to the Central Orange Redevelopment Plan.**

**Motion by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilman Corbitt, to adopt Ordinance 16-2015 on final reading.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Eason, Summers-Johnson

Nays: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Jr., Coley, Williams

Abstain: None.

**Motion Fails.**

**21-2015 An ordinance amending Chapter 4 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township entitled Administration of Government amending the section regarding Fiscal Procedures.**

**Motion by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilman Corbitt, to adopt Ordinance 16-2015 on final reading.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed with an asterisk (\*) are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so request, in which event, the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence of the agenda.

The Council President asked if Councilmembers which to remove any resolutions for a separate vote. Resolutions were removed for separate votes as indicated.

**RESOLUTIONS NO. \*90-2015-\*112-2015**

- \*82-2015** A resolution authorizing City Council to retain the law offices of Robert I. Tarver, Jr. as Legislative Counsel to the City Council of the City of Orange Township (**POSTPONED**)
- \*90-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund subsequent water charges paid by the outside lien holder, U.S. Bank Custodian for Tower DBW IV 2014-1 for property known as 225 New Street, Block 1904, Lot 035 in the amount of \$775.66
- \*91-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund subsequent water charges paid by the outside lien holder, U.S. Bank Custodian for Tower DBW IV 2014-1 for property known as 430 Scotland Road, Block 5103, Lot 029 in the amount of \$966.85.
- \*92-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund subsequent water charges paid by the outside lien holder, U.S. Bank Custodian for Tower DBW IV 2014-1 for property known as 120 South Essex Avenue, Block 3501, Lot 030 in the amount of \$410.42.
- \*93-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund subsequent water charges paid by the outside lien holder, U.S. Bank Custodian for Tower DBW IV 2014-1 for property known as 294 North Center Street, Block 0901, Lot 031 in the amount of \$33.52.
- \*94-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund subsequent water charges paid by the outside lien holder, U.S. Bank Custodian for Tower DBW IV 2014-1 for property known as 199 Oakwood Avenue, Block 3303, Lot 029 in the amount of \$0.92
- \*95-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel second, third and fourth quarters of 2014 billing for Orange Township Board of Education 455 Fairview Avenue, Block 5104, Lot 11 in the amount of \$8,713.58 plus interest.
- \*96-2015** A resolution authorizing the cancellation of various municipal owned tax sale certificates for unpaid taxes issued to the Orange Housing Authorizing in the amount of \$40,055.15.  
**(REMOVED)**

- \*97-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund the subsequent taxes paid by the outside lien holder, Virgo Municipal Finance Fund LP c/o Blue Virgo for property known as 246 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Block 1204, Lot 1 in the amount of \$40.00.
- \*98-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund the subsequent taxes paid by the outside lien holder, Virgo Municipal Finance Fund LP for property known as 587 Seven Oaks Road, Block 5303, Lot 19.
- \*99-2015** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund the subsequent taxes paid by the outside lien holder, Virgo Municipal Finance Fund LP c/o Blue Virgo, for property known as 268 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Block 1204 Lot 8 in the amount of \$52.00.
- \*100-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township to receive bids for the sale of various tax sale certificates including subsequent municipal liens held by the City of Orange Township. (REMOVED)
- \*101-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township to remove 204 Central Place from its existing City of Orange Township abandoned properties list.
- \*102-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township to add 389 Berryman Place to its existing City of Orange Township abandoned properties list.
- \*103-2015** A resolution authorizing approval to submit a grant application, accept funds and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety for the statewide seat belt enforcement mobilization.
- \*104-2015** A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with Maser Consulting P.A., 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mount Arlington, New Jersey 07856 to provide professional engineering, design and construction administration services for the Central Avenue Park Basketball Court Renovations in the amount not to exceed \$18,500.00.
- \*105-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township to enter into an agreement with Konica Minolta Business Solutions USA, Inc., 101 Williams Drive, Ramsey, New Jersey for four (4) photocopiers at the Freddie Polhill Municipal Justice Complex. (REMOVED)
- \*106-2015** A resolution authorizing the submission and acceptance of the Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Grant under the 2015 Municipal Alliance Grant for Prevention and Awareness Education Programs in the City of Orange Township.
- \*107-2015** A resolution authorizing the approval to submit a grant application and execute grant agreement with Comcast Cares Day 2015.
- \*108-2015** A resolution to apply and accept grant funds from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture for the 20154 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).



- \***109-2015** A resolution appointing Joyce Lanier, R.M.C., as Municipal Clerk for the City of Orange Township, New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A: 9-133 and City Code 4-15. Sponsored by: The City of Orange Council) (**REMOVED**)
- \***110-2015** A resolution introducing and approving the 2015 Calendar Year (January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015 (**REMOVED**))
- \***111-2015** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on April 7, 2015 dated April 2, 2015 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 10,492,583.35) (**REMOVED**)
- \***112-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange to enter into an agreement to purchase the building and premises owned by the YWCA of Orange and to authorize the transfer of rental proceeds from the Orange Reservoir Lease Agreement to be applied towards the purchase of the YWCA of Orange. (**POSTPONED**)

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler, to approve the Consent Agenda with the corrections as noted.**

**The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.**

**Items removed from the Consent Agenda**

- \***96-2015** A resolution authorizing the cancellation of various municipal owned tax sale certificates for unpaid taxes issued to the Orange Housing Authorizing in the amount of \$40,055.15.

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler, to approve Resolution 96-2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Council president Williams  
Nays: Johnson, Jr., Coley  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

- \***100-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township to receive bids for the sale of various tax sale certificates including subsequent municipal liens held by the City of Orange Township.

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason, to approve Resolution 100-2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Summers-Johnson  
Nays: Johnson, Jr., Williams  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**\*105-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township to enter into an agreement with Konica Minolta Business Solutions USA, Inc., 101 Williams Drive, Ramsey, New Jersey for four (4) photocopiers at the Freddie Polhill Municipal Justice Complex.

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason, to approve Resolution 105-2015.**

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler asked which department had requested the copiers. She was told that the Police Department had made the request. The Council President asked which departments had received copiers last year. A list of the copiers will be provided to the Council President.

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Jr. Summers-Johnson & Williams  
Nays: None.  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**109-2015** A resolution appointing Joyce Lanier, R.M.C., as Municipal Clerk for the City of Orange Township, New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A: 9-133 and City Code 4-15. (Sponsored by: The City of Orange Council)

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler, to approve Resolution 109-2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Council president Williams  
Nays: None.  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**110-2015** A resolution introducing and approving the 2015 Calendar Year Budget (January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015)  
The Council President reported that this resolution was for the introduction of the 2015 Budget.

Ms. Lascari, the City CFO, reported on some changes that she had made to the Budget, and after being asked Ms. Lascari reported that non union workers get the same increases as union workers which is a standard procedure. Ms. Lascari gave a summary of the budget book contents.

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler, to approve Resolution 110-2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Council President Williams

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**111-2015** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on April 7, 2015 dated April 2, 2015 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 10,492,583.35)

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason, to approve Resolution 111-2015.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson

Nays: Gaunt-Butler, Williams

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

**Motion Carries:**

**112-2015** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange to enter into an agreement to purchase the building and premises owned by the YWCA of Orange and to authorize the transfer of rental proceeds from the Orange Reservoir Lease Agreement to be applied towards the purchase of the YWCA of Orange.

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason, to approve Resolution 112-2015.**

Mr. White, Assistant City Attorney, had the Councilmembers review the amended Resolution 112-2015.

Councilman Corbitt was not comfortable with the way the amended resolution was being presented to the Council.

Council Coley was not comfortable as well.

Council President suggested that the corrected resolution be presented later that week.

The Council President asked if the Administration could do a public forum on the YWCA property and the plans for the site. Mr. Edwards, the Deputy BA, agreed. It was determined that the meeting would take place that following Monday.

The Council President reported that the resolution would be postponed until Monday April 12, 2015 and then the resolution would be revisited.

**Motion by Summers-Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to adjourn.**

By consensus the regular meeting adjourned at 11:35 P.M.

**Approved:                    June 3, 2015**

**Madeline Smith**  
**Madeline Smith**  
**Municipal Clerk**

**Donna K. Williams**  
**Donna K. Williams**  
**Council President**

*The original signed copies of the Council Minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk.*