

**THIS WAS 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, MAY 3, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Councilman Kerry Coley, East Ward  
Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt, At-Large  
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward (arrived @ 7:06)  
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward  
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward  
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large (arrived @ 7:07)  
Council President April Gaunt-Butler, At-Large

**Also Present:** Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk  
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,  
Kenneth Douglas, Fire Director,  
John Wade, Acting Police Director  
Jeanette Arnold, Representing the Law Office (arrived @ 7:14)  
Marty Mayes, Acting BA (arrived @ 7:07)  
Joy Lascari, City CFO, (arrived @ 7:15)

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

*SPECIAL NOTICE:* Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General Items shall sign one (1) book. There will be two (2) columns in the book, one (1) for Agenda Items and one for General Issues. Each person signing the book will check Agenda items (Not including Public hearing/final adoption of ordinances) or General issues or both. If they check Agenda Items or General Issues or both, they will be allowed to speak for a maximum of five (5) minutes.

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 July 16, 2015, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**PILOT Presentation. Payment in lieu of taxes by Mr. Michael Johnston.**

Mr. Johnston spoke of the report that was completed for the City regarding the City PILOT programs. There are 18 PILOTs comprising of 29 Blocks and Lots. The amounts received from 2012 to 2015 were: In 2012 the City received 1.1 million dollars in PILOT payments to the City. In 2013 it received 1.7 million dollars. In 2014 it received 1.5 million dollars. In 2015 it received 2.5 million dollars. There is currently \$111,000.00 due to the city. The Finance Department is pursuing the owed amounts. Mr. Johnston and Ms. Janice Ledley from the Finance Department answered questions from the Council Members.

The Council President asked if there were any questions from the public with regard to PILOTs. See no one the meeting continued.

The Council President made the following statement:

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.

Councilman Coley – Ordinance 21-2016 – Wanted to speak on this ordinance but Councilwoman Eason said it had been tabled.

Councilwoman Williams Ordinance 31-2016 – asked questions about the second page and the owner of the property. The City Clerk reported that Ordinance 31-2016 had been vetoed by the Mayor and the Council had decided to bring it back with amendments. The Clerk also stated that Ordinance 21-2016 was not tabled but was on the agenda for a second reading.

Councilman Coley spoke again about Ordinance 21-2016. The Councilman wanted to add more to the ordinance stating that when an employee is elected they have to retire or leave their city employee position. The Clerk stated that was in the Employee Hand Book.

Resolution 85-2016 Councilwoman Williams questioned who were the people involved as Finance Directors in the resolution. A decision was made that there would be a change made to have Mr. Mapp as the only Finance Director in the resolution.

Resolution 88-2016 – Councilwoman Williams questioned Ms. Lascari about the salary and wage figures not being on the Bill List. Ms. Lascari could not give a date as to when she would have the figures ready for the salary and wage pages.

The Council President asked Mr. Copeland about the previous 2 bill list amounts and why they were not on the current bill list. She added the Council had not passed the bill list for the last 2 Council meetings. Mr. Copeland stated that those amounts that were necessary had been paid.

Councilwoman Williams asked how those other bills were going to be paid. Mr. Copeland stated that they would be paid once approved. The Council President commented that the figures that were on the other bill list varied and this bill list amount was far less than the previous bill lists. If there are bills that are not on the current bill list how will they be paid? Ms. Lascari will check with Administration for their status. Ms. Lascari stated that the bills on the current bill list are all new items. The Council President wanted to know what happened to the bills that were not paid and on the other bill list.

The Council President Gaunt-Butler asked for a legal opinion regarding the paying of bills without the Council's approval.

The City Attorney Jeanette Arnold stated she did not know which items were on the bill list that the Council President was referring to. The Council President stated she was not speaking about specifics but about the Governing Body's non approval of money being spent by the administration. What are the legal ramifications of that? Attorney Arnold stated that it really depends on what they are spending money on. If it is an emergency, something that must be addressed, then they can spend the money and it comes to Council after it is spent. Without specifics she was hesitant to give a general opinion. The Council President asked again if it is a non-emergency what are the ramifications. The Attorney restated her last remarks. Discussion ensued. Councilwoman Summers-Johnson stated that the Council had requested information from the first bill list, which they did not get when the 2nd bill list was ready. She commented that the administration should come with the requested information if they want the bill lists to pass. The Council still does not have answers to all the questions asked a month ago.

Councilwoman Williams requested that Ms. Lascari run a report for the items that were paid and a remaining balance of bills owed before the end of the meeting. Ms. Lascari stated she could not have that kind of report by the end of the meeting. Ms. Lascari and Councilwoman Williams had a lengthy discussion on e-mails sent to Ms. Lascari and why reports can't be presented as requested. Mr. Copeland and Councilwoman Williams discussed the budget and why it was late. Councilman Johnson, Jr. was discouraged with the Administration because of their lack of responses to request, direct questions and inquiries by the Council Members.

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

**The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 8:17 P.M.**

**Approved:**

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**Joyce L. Lanier**  
**City Clerk**

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**April Gaunt-Butler**  
**Council President**