

**CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP NEW JERSEY  
CONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES  
May 5, 2015**

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, May 5, 2015 at 7:05pm.

The Council President introduced the City Clerk, Ms. Joyce Lanier. Ms. Lanier thanked the Council.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:**

East-Ward Councilman Kerry J. Coley  
At-Large Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt  
North Ward Councilwoman Tency A. Eason  
At-Large Councilwoman April Gaunt-Butler  
West Ward Councilman Harold J. Johnson, Jr. (arrived at 7:30)  
South Ward Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson  
At-Large Council President Donna K. Williams

**Also Present:**

Madeline Smith, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Dan S. Smith City Attorney  
Kevin D. Harris, Legislative Research Officer  
Margaret Homere, Clerk's Office

**Absent:** None.

The Municipal 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 (1) for General Issues. Each person signing the book will check Agenda Items or General Issues. If they check only Agenda Items or General Issues, they will be allowed to speak for five (5) minutes. If they check both General Issues and Agenda Items, they will be allowed to speak for ten (10) minutes.

**Sunshine Law**

The Deputy Municipal 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 17, 2014, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Presentation by Senator Nia H. Gill.** Senator Gill reported on the work that she has accomplished for the 34<sup>th</sup> District which includes Orange. Senator Gill continues her fight for public education, expanded access to health care, curbing gun violence, tax relief for Orange and the State and securing voting rights. Senator Gill spoke of her accomplishments while in office and her current programs and bills that help all residents of the State. Senator Gill answered questions from the Governing Body.

**Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver.**

Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver spoke about the importance of interconnectivity among the Municipal, County, State and Federal levels because without it at times they could work against one another.

Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver gave an update on the State budget process and an update on the general assembly and what they are doing for the State budget. Spoke about the Federal Medicaid program. Assemblywoman Oliver commented on the PARK program and its effects on municipalities. Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver spoke about smaller learning centers for municipal students and funding shortfalls. She spoke about her bill for a special prosecutor when there is a police involved fatality and commented on new road construction and repair of local roads.

**Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin.**

Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin reported the budget would be around \$33.8 billion there will be no increase by the Governor. Assemblyman Giblin spoke about the pension issues and the ageing population of this State. Spoke about the State healthcare programs and working with Orange with regard to the prior Orange Hospital property. Meetings he had attended regarding the Highland Station and improvements for that train station. New programs for college bound students and how the Health Care Act is being sidestepped by employers.

Motion by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr. to suspend the rules so the public can ask questions or make comments to the quest.

**Approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Mapp reported on recommendations that he had recently made to the legislation.

Ms. Gloria Stewart commented on the new school testing program and the road conditions in Orange.

Ms. Katalin Gordon commented on contaminated material coming into the State from other States.

Mr. Hathaway commented about the 9.9 increase in public transportation fees and asked what the representatives thought about it.

The Representatives addressed the resident's concerns.

Motion by Gaunt-Butler, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson to close the citizen comments.

**Approved by a unanimous vote.**

Councilman Corbitt thanked the representatives.

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler reported that Assemblyman Giblin had passed an Assembly Resolution in honor of Ms. Gloria Stewart and read the resolution to Ms. Stewart. Everyone applauded.

Councilmembers thanked the Representatives for coming to the meeting.

Ms. Cooper, Chief of Staff of the City, thanked the Representatives.

The Council President asked if any Council Member wished to discuss any resolution or ordinance.

Councilman Coley reported that Ordinances 29-2015, 30-2015 and 31-2015 were to be withdrawn. Councilman Corbitt questioned Ordinance 27-2015 regarding abandoned properties. The Legislative Research Officer, Mr. Harris and Mr. White, the Assistant City Attorney, provided answers for the Councilmembers. Councilmembers recognized that Mr. Mayes should review the ordinance first. Ms. Cooper, the Chief of Staff, provided the Council with the City's procedure on abandoned properties. After review the Council decided to have a meeting with the DPW Director to discuss the ordinance. Ordinance 27-2015 was withdrawn.

Councilman Corbitt – Resolution 134-2015. Mr. Chris Mobley reported on current condition of the City water pump and reports from the EPA stating that there was not enough redundancy in the water system to provide water to residents and businesses in case there was a failure of the city's main pipes. The EPA suggested that the connection with East Orange be reconnected. It was determined that Mr. Mobley would research if there were other alternatives and the resolution would be revisited at the next meeting.

The Council President asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for legal matters. Motion by Councilman Johnson Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, to go into Executive Session for legal matters.

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Councilmembers: Coley, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Johnson, Summers-Johnson and Council President Williams

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason to return to the Conference meeting.

**Approved by a unanimous vote.**

**Council President Williams entertained a Motion to Adjourn.**

Motion by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to adjourn at 10:00 P.M.

**Approved by a unanimous vote.**

*JOYCE LANIER*

*DONNA K. WILLIAMS*

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**Joyce Lanier  
Municipal Clerk**

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**Donna K. Williams  
Council President**

\*\*Original Copy of the Minutes can be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk.