

**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 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2017 AT 7:07 P. M.**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:**

Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward  
Councilman Christopher Jackson, At-Large  
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward  
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward (arrived @ 7:15)  
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large  
Councilwoman Adrienne Wooten, At-Large  
Council-President Kerry Coley

**Also Present:** Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk  
Madeline Smith, Deputy City Clerk  
Chris Hartwyk, Business Administrator (BA)  
Eric Pennington, City Attorney  
Marlin Townes, Acting Legislative Research Officer  
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,  
Marty Mayes, Director of Planning/Public Work  
Lt. Upchurch representing the 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.

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 13, 2017 posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Theodore N. Stephens, II, Surrogate – Essex County Surrogate’s Court.**

Mr. Stephens came to the podium and reported on some of the aspects of a Surrogate’s Court. He provided information on what his office handles such as adoptions, wills, guardianships and the importance of having a Power of Attorney document. Information about the website was provided and the new satellite office at the turtleback Zoo.

After Mr. Stephens spoke it was announced that there needed to be an Executive Session.

**Motion to have an executive session to discuss litigation matters of McGovern Case and Personnel matters by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Wooten, Williams, Coley  
Nays: None.  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion to enter into executive session by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.**

**Roll Call:**

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Wooten, Williams, Coley  
Nays: None.  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion to reconvene to the conference meeting by Councilman Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilwoman Williams.**

**Motion was unanimously approved at 8:25 P.M.**

**Motion to recess for 5 minutes by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.**

**Motion was unanimously approved.**

**Motion to reconvene by Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson.**

The Clerk announced that 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.

- Councilwoman Eason - regarding Resolution 275-2017. The Councilwoman was not in favor of the resolution, instead she would suggest that the Business Administrator take the money and have him fix what the city already has.
- Councilman Johnson, Jr disagreed with Councilwoman Eason. The Council should have their own website, going with a separate vendor.
- Councilman Jackson agreed with Councilwoman Eason proving his reasons why.

- Councilwoman Williams agrees with Councilman Johnson, Jr. providing information on the benefits of having their own website and what a positive thing it would be for the community. She also reminded the Council Members that they had agreed on the topic and also funded for a separate website.
- Councilwoman Wooten agreed with Councilwoman Eason and Councilman Jackson, providing her reasons why.
- The Council discussed the issue of only having one bidder. The City Attorney and the Director of Finance, Mr. Mapp, reported that there was nothing wrong with only having one bidder who was acceptable. The resolution content was approved by the Law Department and the Qualified Purchasing Agent. There is no reason to reject the resolution.
- Councilwoman Summers-Johnson commented that the money in the resolution can be used better by the city. She opposed the resolution.
- Councilwoman Wooten – regarding Resolution 254-2017 the Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation tax rate. The BA provided the tax rate percentages for the Council Members.
- Councilman Jackson Ordinance 52-2017, regarding modifying the Code of the City of Orange Township by creating Chapter 24 entitled “Defense against civil or criminal charges-Local Public Employees, Appointees and Officials” He asked if other towns use the same language. The Business Administrator said yes and in their own language. Councilman Jackson also questioned the Bond Ordinance 51-2017. A representative from the Board of Education came to the podium and showed the Council and residents plans that had been made for the areas that would be demolished. The neighbors within 200 feet of the construction were also informed and there would be a public presentation.

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

**The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 9:50 P.M.**

**Approved:**

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**Joyce L. Lanier**  
City Clerk

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**Kerry J. Coley**  
Council President