

THIS WAS A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016 LOCAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2016, AT 6:33PM.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilman Kerry Coley, East Ward
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilman Christopher Jackson, At-Large (arrived @ 6:35)
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large (arrived @ 6:40 P.M.)

Also Present: Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Chris Hartwyk, Acting Business Administrator
Adrian Mapp, Acting Finance Director
Margaret Homere, Senior Clerk,
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer
James Wolfe, Deputy City Attorney
Dieter Lerch, Budget Consultant

Absent: Kevin Harris, Legislative Research Officer
Councilwoman Adrienne Wooten, At-Large

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

The City Clerk announced that the requirement of N.J. S.A. 10:4-9 et. seq., "Sunshine Law" had been met a public notice was sent to the Star Ledger and published in the Record- Transcript on August 18, 2016 and posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

The Clerk stated that this is the public hearing for the Calendar Year 2016 local municipal budget amendments.

Motion by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Eason, to open the Public Hearing on the Calendar Year 2016 Budget Amendments for the City of Orange Township.

The Clerk stated that this is an advertised Public Hearing on the Calendar Year 2016 Municipal Budget Amendments. Copies were made available to the public.

Anyone who has not secured a copy of the Calendar Year 2016 Local Municipal Budget Amendments may do so at this time.

The Clerk outlined the procedures for the public hearing. "I wish to outline the procedure. Each person desiring to be heard will rise, give his/her name and address before speaking. I will recognize one speaker at a time, in order of rising, as nearly as I can determine. Address all questions to the Chair, when necessary, they will be referred to the individual Members of the Governing Body, Municipal Officials or Advisors. Questions must be confined solely to the Calendar Year 2016 Local Municipal Budget before us; school or county matters are not proper subjects for this hearing and cannot be discussed or answered here this evening."

Mr. Lerch, the Budget Consultant stated that the budget had been approved by the State Department of Government Services and can be adopted if the Council so moves.

The President declared the Public Hearing on the Amendments to the Local Municipal Budget for the Calendar Year 2016 open.

- Mr. Jeffery Feld commented that he had sent a letter to the clerk's office regarding the budget hearing. Mr. Feld commented that he had asked questions at the original budget hearing and had not received any answers. Mr. Feld spoke to the Council of his concerns with a number of issues that in his opinion, could affect the budget because of the liabilities that were not included in the budget. Questioned where the 2015 audit was and queried how the 2016 budget could be evaluated without the 2015 audit.
- Mr. Bruce Myers commented that he had been on the CBAC for a number of years and had worked with Councilman Marable reviewing the budget line by line. He commented that the budget consultant makes sure that the budget meets state requirements but they do not have anything to do with how the money is spent. Mr. Myer stated that at this point in the year the money for 2016 has been allocated or spent so the budget is an after the fact rubber stamp. Mr. Myer suggested that more residents question were their tax dollars are going.
- Ms. Tony Abrams asked if the Council could provide the citizens with something that would be easier to read then the budget. Council President Williams reported on different department hearings and the friendly budget that would be helpful to all citizens.

The President asked for a motion and a second to close the Public Hearing to the Municipal Budget for the Calendar Year 2016 Amendments

Motion by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, to close the Public Hearing to the Municipal Budget.

The Motion was unanimously approved.

The City Clerk read the resolution by title.

**276-2016 A resolution adopting the Calendar Year 2016 Municipal Budget
(January 1, 2016- December 31, 2016)**

Motion by Councilman Coley, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, to adopt Resolution 276-2016.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Coley, Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Wooten

Motion Carries.

Motion to adjourn by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson.

By consensus the public hearing adjourned at 6:49 P.M.

Approved:

**Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk**

**Donna K. Williams
Council President**