

**THIS WAS A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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 Elroy A. Corbitt, At-Large  
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward  
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward  
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward  
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large (arrived @ 7:57)  
Council President April Gaunt-Butler, At-Large

**Also Present:** Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk  
Willis Edwards, III, Mayor's designee  
James Wolfe, City Attorney office  
Kevin Harris, Legislative Research Officer  
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,  
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer  
Marty Mayes, Director of DPW  
Kenneth Douglas, Fire Director  
John Wade, Acting Police Director (arrived @ 7:36)  
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director (arrived @ 7:35)

**Absent:** None.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES MEETINGS**

**Amended August 5, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion to approve the amended August 5, 2015 Regular meeting minutes by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

**REPORTS:**

The Clerk reported on the following:

- **Clerk's Office-Month of August-2015: \$315.00.**
- **Department of Planning & Economic Development- Month of August-\$72,626.00.**

**CONSTABLE REPORTS**

**Richard Noizy-Security Service Pro Cops- August 1st, 21 and 22, 2015.**

**OPRA REQUESTS**

**28 OPRA Request received and completed for the month of August 2015.**

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Fire Director Douglas reported on the process of replacing fire hydrants.
- Acting Police Director Wade provided the Council with the stats for calls that had been received over the summer months. Acting Director Wade provided the Council with an overview of police activity over the summer months. Director Wade commented on Police activity going forward. The Acting Police Director and Councilwoman Eason discussed the recent shootings in the City and how something must be done to stop that from happening.
- Councilwoman Summers-Johnson commented on the misinformation that is communicated to the residents. Mr. Edwards commented that the Mayor was thinking about using an alert system through the phone and cell phone systems to keep people informed. Mr. Edwards answered other questions from Council Members.

**Council President directs Clerk to file reports**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

The Clerk reported that there were no communications or petitions.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS**

*The City Clerk made the following statement.* "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 (not including public hearings/final adoption of ordinances) or General Issues. If they check Agenda Items or General Issues, they will be allowed to speak for a maximum of five (5) 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 commented on or asked questions of the following:

- The Corrective Action Plan
- Having the Local Finance Board post it transcripts on a public website.
- Certain reports not being posted on the City website.
- The evening's Bill List amounts.

Mr. William Lewis commented on the following:

- The Council meetings should be done in a more professional manner.
- The Council should protect the tax payers more than they do.

Mr. Josh Sakolsky commented on the following:

- He was concerned that the Corrective Action Plan for 2014 was being reviewed in September of 2015.
- Ordinances and other documents are not going on the website in a timely manner.

Has asked for Grants applied for and grants accepted, what they are for and what is the return on investments.

Ms. Rana Campbell commented on the following:

- Had gone to the Police Department to ask about the recent shootings and was told to come to the Council meeting to find out what had happened but found the Director's report tonight not informative.
- She had done her thesis on Policing in Orange and found that there was a lack of trust between the residents and Police and a lack of information being shared.
- Would like a place to login for updates on Orange and perhaps text messages can be used. The adult residents need to be educated on police procedures.

Ms. Katalin Gordon made the following comments:

- The recorded Council meetings on YouTube have been stopped and she wants it continued.
- Wanted the language of the settlement with Director Sims.
- Wants a deadline and accomplishment clause in technical project contracts along with financial repercussions if the deadlines are not met.
- How effective is Millennium in getting grants and are they worth \$50,000.00.
- Is there a procedure to have the State get involved with the current crime in the City?

Ms. Tisa Singleton commented she does not feel safe in Orange anymore. She wants more Police officers and less parks in the city. She felt that the Mayor has not kept his word on what he was going to do for the City.

Ms. Gloria Stewart commented that the Mayor needs to be at these meetings so he can address questions.

- Wanted a status on the Library.
- Status on the Crossing Guards at Haywood.
- Wants the Council meetings recorded by channel 35.
- Status on the plan for the YWCA.
- Status on the old Police Station on Lincoln Ave.
- Better communications regarding Police activity in the City.
- Is there a master plan for the new building going up on Lincoln Ave.?
- Is there still rent leveling in the City?
- Will the new buildings have a recreation center for the children?
- Asked if the Mayor's representative is a new position and can a Mayor for another City be a Director for this city; is that legal?

Mr. Howard McClymorton reported that last week his house was shot at by gunmen.

He is concerned about the safety of his family and is considering moving.

**Motion by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, to close the citizen comments.**

The Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Answers to resident's questions.

- Mr. Edwards stated that the City is in the process of making a portal that will allow for the Clerk's Office to up load items that the Clerk deems fit. Mr. Edwards could not answer questions regarding budgets and financial documents being posted in a timely manner.
- Mr. Edwards had no update on the Library because of litigation.
- Mr. Edwards is preparing a plan and will have consultants look at the plan for the YWCA.
- Mr. Edwards stated that the Tax Lien sale is in litigation and cannot be discussed.
- Mr. Edwards stated that the Corrective Action plan will be posted on the website as soon as possible.
- Mr. Edwards responded to the question on sending email updates by saying that there are certain restrictions and residents would have to opt in and the City is looking into other systems to keep residents alerted on city issues.
- Mr. Edwards addressed concerns regarding new Police Officers and other concerns by residents.
- The Council President stated that 'YouTube' was used when there was no broadcasting of the Council meetings. The showing of Council Meetings is a function of the Administration not the Council.
- Mr. Edwards stated that there are time frames in contracts and penalties for delays.
- Acting Police Director Wade stated that the Prosecutor's office, State police and the Sheriff's office are involved with the City Police regarding the crimes that have taken place.
- Mr. Edwards stated that the City is in the process of acquiring facilities so children have a safe place to play and the City is providing more Police security in parks and more lighting to make the streets safer.
- Mr. Edwards stated in response to the Mayor not being at the meetings that the meetings are Council meetings not the Mayor's meetings. The Mayor does have an open door policy and then he gave the phone number to the Mayor's office.
- Councilwoman Summers-Johnson stated that she had met with Acting Police Director Wade regarding the Crossing Guards for Haywood School and that there are already 3 Guards, the parents have been notified about the new drop-off zone and the City is working on getting more Crossing Guards.
- The Council President stated that there would be a presentation on the YWCA at the next meeting.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Councilman Johnson commented on the Tax Lien litigation stating that the Council was not kept informed about the investigation. The Councilman wants to rescind resolution 154-2015 for the Tax Lien sale and get the properties back in the hands of the tax collector. The Councilman stated that the Administration should give the Council all material for presentations before the Council meeting so the Council can review it.
- Councilwoman Eason reported that Mr. Clifford Blake passed away this week and she will also present a resolution to honor Leroy Jones Sr. The Councilwoman stated that she wanted to have a presenter speak about the ambulance service. The Councilwoman stated that the Council has not set by ideally and not addressed the shootings, she and the Mayor have met to put a plan in place to curtail the crimes.

**Motion to suspend the rules by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson.****Roll Call:**

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

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None

**Motion Carries.**

Mr. John Prophet reported on some current incidents when the Monarch Ambulance service did not respond in a timely manner. Councilwoman Summers-Johnson stated she also had issues with that ambulance service. Mr. Edwards stated that Monarch was the only service that responded to the bid. Fire Director Douglas stated that the Fire Department is considering on having an Ambulance service within the Fire Department. Councilman Coley stated that there were not enough ambulances that are contracted to service the city.

Council Comments resumed.

Councilman Coley commented on and questioned the following:

- Resolution 226-2012 - The Councilman was not satisfied with the responses by the Administration in the Corrective Action Plan.
- Resolution 234-2015 the bill list. Questioned why the city was paying for PSE&G bills from the former YWCA. Mr. Edwards stated that the City is leasing the building.
- Councilman Coley stated that the Acting Police Director has passed his probation period and should have been on the Agenda for an up or down vote.
- Councilman Coley stated that he had asked for a report on a public works vehicle that had been involved in an accident and had body work done. The Administration has not provided that information. Mr. Edwards stated that he will have a report on all vehicles that needed repair by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilman Coley was not pleased with that response since he was only asking for a report on a particular vehicle that was in an accident and sent to a body shop shortly before the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and was on that last bill list.
- Mr. Marty Mayes stated that they have incident reports and he will share that report with Councilman Coley.
- Councilman Coley reported he had asked DPW to go to Oakwood Place because it looked like a jungle and to date, nothing has been done. The City needs a plan of maintenance for certain areas in the city.

Councilman Corbitt

- Councilman Corbitt had asked for the process to use the former YWCA for an event and Mr. Edwards had stated that there were no staff for an event.
- Council Corbitt thanked Acting Director Wade for his efforts regarding the crime in the city and commented on the city's responsibility to the Police force in the City.

Councilwoman Williams

- Councilwoman Williams questioned the issues with the website and if documents were being uploaded from the Finance department. Mr. Mapp stated that documents were being uploaded but he was not sure if the website issue was corrected.

- The Councilwoman asked Attorney Wolfe the status on the selling of the in house contracts. Mr. Wolf could not give an update but would get back to the Council with an update.
- Councilwoman Williams asked Director Douglas to move as quickly as possible on providing an EMT service for the city.
- The Councilwoman commented that the Library had money in their budget for litigation yet there are bills for their litigation on the City’s bill list. Mr. Edwards stated that in some cases the City is sharing the burden and provided his reasons.

Councilman Coley stated that the city has to be willing to settle the contracts with the Police.

Council President Gaunt-Butler

- Council-President Gaunt-Butler stated that she attended the Italian festival and it was spectacular.
- The Council President also attended the Blues festival which was a wonderful event.
- She commented that she attended the Orange football game and saw that the Orange Boosters were at the game earning money for the Booster club.
- The Council President asked for an update on the status of pharmaceutical cost by the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- The Council President agreed with the need for a new ambulance service because of their poor response time.
- The Council President commented on the frustration of the Police department because of the man power issue. The entire community has to work with the Police department regarding the violence in the city.
- The Council President emphasized the need for the Administration and the Council to communicate. The community demands that we work together.

**Motion to recess by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.**

The Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

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

The Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**ORDINANCES–SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING**

**ORDINANCE POSTPONED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Clerk stated that the Ordinance had been withdrawn.

**24-2015 An ordinance creating the City of Orange Township Arts & Culture Commission and to further provide for membership, tasks and responsibilities, other administrative functions and other general provisions. (Sponsored by: Council President April Gaunt-Butler)**

**ORDINANCES INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING**

The Clerk stated that Ordinance 48-2015 had been withdrawn.

**48-2015 An ordinance to amend the code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 200-10.2 residential parking permit & section 200-10.52 Residential Parking Zone A (Sponsored by Council Member Kerry J. Coley and the Orange Municipal Council)**

The Clerk read Ordinance 49-2015 by Title.

**49-2015 An ordinance amending Chapter 4 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township entitled administration of government (Sponsored by Council Members April Gaunt-Butler, Donna K. Williams and the Orange Municipal Council)**

**Motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilman Coley that Ordinance 49-2015 be introduced on first reading and that the public hearing would be held October 20, 2015**

**Roll Call:**

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

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

**Motion Carries.**

The Clerk stated that Ordinance 50-2015 had been withdrawn.

**50-2015 An ordinance to add a new section to the code of the City of Orange Township Chapter 150, entitled “Peace & Good Order” to promote the overall health and safety of the residents and workers within the City of Orange Township by reducing the spread of communicable disease and contagion by requiring a policy of paid sick leave for workers in the City of Orange Township (Sponsored by Council Member Elroy A. Corbitt, Kerry J. Coley and the Orange City Council)**

**Motion to suspend the rules to add resolutions to the agenda by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.**

**Roll Call:**

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

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None

**Motion Carries.**

**Resolutions 235-2015 read by title.**

**Resolution of the City Council of the city of Orange Township addressing the Mayor’s 2015 Reorganization Plan for the Municipal Government of the City of Orange Township.**

**Resolution 236-2015 read by title.**

**Resolution rescinding Resolution 225-2015 renaming Minton Place between Scotland Road and Lincoln Avenue Anthony Monica Plaza.**

**Resolution 237-2015 read by title.**

**A resolution providing for an emergency award of a contract to Jznettech, 1313 Stockton Street, Rahway, New Jersey 07065 for the installation of computer networking system to the Freddie Polhill complex in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.**

**Motion to add these resolutions to the agenda by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

**The City Clerk read the following statement.**

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.

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (with the corrections as noted) by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

**RESOLUTIONS NO. \*226- 2015\*-237-2015**

- \*226-2015 A resolution to approve the Corrective Action Plan for calendar year 2014.**
- \*227-2015 A resolution authorizing Change Order No. 1 & No. 2 to modify the contract with Vektor Corporation, Inc. for the project known as the Roadway Improvements to Snyder Street, Fairview Avenue and Jackson Street for the increase of additional concrete sidewalk and install 51 lineal feet of steel plate tree root guards in the amount not to exceed \$29,529.00.**
- \*228-2015 A resolution authorizing Change Order No. 1 to modify the contract with JTG Construction, Inc. for the project known as the Roadway Improvements to Burnside Street and Burnside Place for the increase of additional concrete sidewalk 4” thick and contract driveway 6” thick in the amount not to exceed \$10,203.10.**
- \*229-2015 A resolution authorizing Change Order No. 1 to modify the contract for the project known as Central Avenue Spray & Play in the amount not to exceed \$10,861.00.**
- \*230-2015 A resolution celebrating the life of Cleo Hill, Sr. (Sponsored by Council Member Kerry J. Coley and the Orange Municipal Council)**

- \*231-2015 A resolution appointing Barbara D. Williams as Tax Assessor for the City of Orange Township.**
- \*232-2015 A resolution authorizing the award of a contract to Millennium Strategies, LLC as grant consultant for the City of Orange Township for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.**
- \*233-2015 A resolution celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sponsored by Council Member Kerry J. Coley and the Orange City Council)**
- \*234-2015 A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on September 15, 2015 dated September 11, 2015 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 4,138,091.31) (Removed for separate vote)**
- \*235-2015 Resolution of the City Council of the city of orange township addressing the Mayor’s 2015 Reorganization Plan for the municipal government of the city of orange township. (Removed for separate vote)**
- \*236-2015 Resolution rescinding Resolution 225-2015 renaming Minton Place between Scotland Road and Lincoln Avenue Anthony Monica Plaza**
- \*237-2015 A resolution providing for an emergency award of a contract to Jznettech, 1313 Stockton Street, Rahway, New Jersey 07065 for the installation of computer networking system to the Freddie Polhill complex in an amount not to exceed \$350,000. (Removed for separate vote)**

**Resolutions voted on separately:**

- 234-2015 A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on September 15, 2015 dated September 11, 2015 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 4,138,091.31)

**Motion to approve resolution 234-2015 by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason. Councilman Johnson reported that he had customers on the bill list and could not vote.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

- 235-2015 Resolution of the City Council of the city of orange township addressing the Mayor’s 2015 Reorganization Plan for the municipal government of the city of orange township.

Of the three options the Council had, the Council recommended that the Plan be returned to the Mayor for revision.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion to extend the meeting past 10:30 P.M.by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson.**

The Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**Motion to suspend the rules to go into Executive session to discuss Resolution 237-2015 by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

The Council had the residents come back into the Chambers and the Council took a vote on the resolution.

**Resolution 237-2015 read by title.**

A resolution providing for an emergency award of a contract to Jznettech, 1313 Stockton Street, Rahway, New Jersey 07065 for the installation of computer networking system to the Freddie Polhill complex in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.

**Motion to approve Resolution 237-2015 by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Eason.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion Carries.**

**NEW BUSINESS – None.**

**OTHER PENDING BUSINESS - None.**

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

By consensus the regular meeting adjourned at 11:20 P.M

**Approved:**

*JOYCE L. LANIER*

*APRIL GAUNT-BUTLER*

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

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

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