

THIS WAS A SPECIAL 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 MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015, 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 @ 7:16)
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large (arrived @ 7:35)
Council President April Gaunt-Butler, At-Large

Also Present: Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Dwayne D Warren, Mayor
Kevin Harris, Legislative Research Officer
Margaret Homere, Senior Clerk,
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer
Marty Mayes, Director of DPW (arrived @ 7:17)

Absent: Adrian Mapp, Finance Director

City Clerk announces that the requirement of N.J. S.A. 10:4-9 et. seq., "Sunshine Law" has been met a public notice was sent to Star Ledger and published with the Orange Record on December 10, 2015, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the proposed acquisition of 395 Main Street (YWCA)

- Mayor Warren provided reasons why the Council had not received a detailed reports which had been requested by Council Members.
- Mr. Justin Jibson, the city hired Engineer from Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers presented his written report to the Council Members and answered questions from the Council regarding his findings.
- Mayor Warren stated that the building would be bought for 1.3 million dollars but he could not give a written cost on the repairs until they go out to bid. The building is now being used and does require repairs and upgrades depending on the future use of the building. The pool cost will be \$280,000.00 to open the pool but to make it any bigger would cost around one million dollars. The school will put aside \$800,000.00 if necessary. The State's money of 1.25 million will allow the city to buy the building.

- Council President Gaunt-Butler stated that the grant was a reimbursement grant so how will the city come up with the initial funds.
- The Mayor stated that this grant money is given to the city with proof of a plan for repair so no initial money has to come from the city. The repair of the roof, AC and pool will not reach one million dollars. The Council asked about actual cost estimates that are current, the ones the city has are from 2009.
- The Mayor will get that for the Council.
- The Council President commented on the salaried positions of a Program Director and a Program Manager for the facility at a cost of \$250,000.00 reminding the Mayor that the Council was told that there would be no additional hiring for the facility. The Council President also asked for the table of organization.
- The Mayor stated that the table of organization would be the same as the one for recreation. The salaries are wish list if there is any other grant funding. None of the positions currently exist but we are entitled to put into the application things that you wish for in terms of personnel. They discussed how the pool size could be bigger and what changes to the building structure would have to take place. The Mayor suggested that they could make the changes to the size of the pool as a multi-year project. Additionally, the change in the pool will also have to include changes to the AC and other structural changes. The Mayor explained how the YWCA Board members were disbanded and once the building belongs to the city the YWCA organization will be the non-profit partner that does programs along with city programs. The YWCA organization will appoint new Board members for the YWCA after the sale of the building. The Mayor and the Council President discussed options if things do not work out with the purchase of the YWCA
- Councilman Corbitt commented on the items that were not covered in the budget concerning the Y building such as upkeep to the pool, maintenance, utility bills, and security for the building and the parking lot. The Mayor will get some hard cost projections for the Council.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Mr. Feld commented that the meeting should have been televised. Commented on problems that he saw in the application that was presented. Did not believe what the Mayor was telling the Council, giving his reasons.
- Ms. Murphy Wilson spoke about many of her concerns and in particular that the Council should get the detailed information before making any decisions. Ms. Wilson stated that when the Board of Education got their estimates to fix the YWCA those estimates were much higher than what the Mayor is stating. Ms. Wilson also asked the Mayor why there were programs going on when it is known that there is mold in the YWCA building. Ms. Wilson suggested ways to lease out the building activities.

- Mr. Christopher Jackson spoke about an error regarding the current pool size. Questioned if the YWCA could support itself and suggested that the city look at the previous budgets and cost of the YWCA building to estimate the cost accurately.

Motion to close Citizen Comment by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Corbitt.

The Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Summers-Johnson.

By consensus the regular meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Approved:

JOYCE L. LANIER

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

APRIL GAUNT-BUTLER

April Gaunt-Butler
Council President

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