

**A CONFERENCE 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, APRIL 2, 2013 AT 7:05 PM.**

<b>1) ROLL CALL</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (West Ward)	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt (At-Large)	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Hon. April Gaunt-Butler (At-Large)	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Hon. Linda Jones-Bell (East Ward)	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Hon. Edward B. Marable, Jr. (South Ward)	Arrived @ 7:12pm	<u>          </u>
Hon. Donna K. Williams (At-Large)	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Hon. Tency A. Eason (North Ward)	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Council President		

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dwight Mitchell, Municipal Clerk	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Dan S. Smith, City Attorney ( <b>Acting as Mayor</b> )	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Kevin D. Harris, Legislative Research Officer	Arrived @ 7:55pm	<u>          </u>
Antoinette Dismukes, Clerk's Office	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>

**PLEASE 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 General Issues and Agenda Items, they will be allowed to speak for ten (10) minutes.

- 2) The 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 5, 2012, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.**

**3) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

Council President Eason entertained a Motion to Suspend the Rules to add Congressman Donald Payne Jr. to the Matters for Discussion Agenda to discuss his initiatives for the Tenth Congressional District inclusive of Orange Township.

Council President Eason welcomed Congressman Payne and thanked him for taking time out his busy schedule to share his platform for the residents of Orange Township.

Congressman Payne Jr. thanked the Council and Orange Township for allowing him to address the constituents of Orange. Congressman Payne Jr., commented on and announced several initiatives his office is working on throughout the tenth district; Located: 60 Nelson Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Building in the Complex, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor; Phone: 973 645 3213; Monthly Newsletter, Face Book and Twitter. As such:

- Constituent Services: provided a resource and intake table for constituents to bring issues/matters they would like the congressional office to address.
- Sponsoring Bill: Safer Neighborhood Gun Buy-Back Act. Guns will be recycled into stainless steel products as such, street signs.
- Sponsored Resolution making March Colon Rectal Cancer Awareness Month.
- Congressional Black Caucus is diligent in ensuring matters that plaque the Urban Communities are constantly brought to the floor.
- Congressional challenges on the federal level:
  - Fight around Medicare/Medicaid matters
  - Stated the Assault weapons ban will not pass either house.
  - Universal Background Checks has also become a challenge on the congressional floor.
  - Comprehensive Immigration: Hosted at Essex County College, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 10am to 12noon. Noted the Republican Party attempt to eliminate the “Diversity Visa” that permit Africans and Caribbean’s to come into the country legally.

**Council President Eason entertained a motion to Move the Agenda.**

#### **4) RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

**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.**

**Council President Eason recognized Councilmen Corbitt for comments.**

**Councilman Corbitt stated the following:**

- Resolution 140-2013: **WITHDRAW**... Birdsall filed for bankruptcy.
- Resolution 142-2013: Bill List - Question: Why the City is paying for Black Oxford Shoes for the Fire Department?
- Resolution 142-2013: Bill List - Page 15... Item # 13-00421: Case of Black Ant and Roach Insect Spray. Why the city purchased item? Where is it being used? Why doesn’t the City have an Exterminator Contract? Also recommending that said line item is **WITHDRAWN**.
- Resolution 142-2013: Bill List: Page 19... Item# 13-00520...Reimbursement to Stephanie Cosey: Who is Stephanie Cosey? Made inquiry into type of training?
  - Council President Eason stated she’s employed within the Health Department.
  - Vincent DeFilippo, Health Officer stated Ms. Cosey is the City’s Certified Registrar. The Certified Registrar is mandated to carry 18 credits every three years; 2 courses – 6 Credits a year totaling 18 credits.

- Made inquiry into Bill List Item at the very end of the bill list there appears to be an item paid for \$2,500.00 to Orange Fitness Center?
- Bill List: Pg 21(bottom)... Question: There are three items of Real Estate Taxes in West Orange? What are we paying taxes for in West Orange?
  - Mr. Carl Smith, Tax Assessor: West Orange reservoir property taxes.
  - Mr. Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance: Undetermined. Needs further investigation, however taxes have been paid to West Orange property prior to his tenure and as well as during his tenure.
  - Mr. Dan Smith, City Attorney: states he will conduct further investigation.

Councilwoman Williams asks City Attorney Dan Smith, "How does this amount differ from the amount that's being questioned and in litigation that the City Attorney is aware of... Is this separate and apart?" and "Is this something Counsel can research during a recess or it the advisement of counsel to pull the resolution until the next Council Meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013?"

- Mr. Dan Smith requested time to allow counsel to further investigate, and then he will return with a response. Mr. Smith further stated the City is currently in litigation with West Orange and is scheduled for a Executive Closed Session to further discuss.

Council President Eason asked the Finance Director, Mr. Adrian Mapp and CFO Joy Lascari - How long the Township of Orange has been paying said taxes.

- Both Mr. Mapp and Mrs. Lascari stated further investigation is necessary to answer said request.

Councilwoman Jones-Bell stated on the next page the balance changed from \$12,000 to \$20,000; noting its first and second quarter taxes.

Council President Eason suggested removing item from the Bill List until the City Attorney, Tax Assessor, and CFO can answer the following:

1. When the City started paying taxes on said property?
2. What is the item in reference to?
3. Submit request by April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Council Meeting.

Councilman Marable Jr., requests counsel research the following as well:

- Review the lease and determine whether the Lease Agreement of the West Orange Reservoir is part of the back taxes. Specifically: Review the lease and respond that it is not mentioned and discussed and has not been dealt with as a part of the agreement.

**Council President Eason recognized Councilmen Marable Jr. for comments.**

**Councilman Marable Jr. stated the following:**

- Resolution 141-2013: Was a copy provided to the Budget Consultant and/or was it discussed at the last Finance Meeting?

Councilwoman Williams stated the resolution was not available at the time of the last Finance Committee Meeting to issue to the Budget Consultant.

Council President Eason requested the Finance Director to explain said resolution. Mr. Mapp defined the resolution.

- Councilman Marable Jr. requested Resolution 141-2013 be **WITHDRAWN by Council** and handled at April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Council Meeting?

**Council President Eason entertained a motion to Move the Agenda.**

**5) MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** CORBITT    **VOICE VOTE**    **SECOND:** JONES-BELL

**Council President Eason entertained a motion to recess for five minutes before going into the Regular Meeting.**

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:00PM**

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**Dwight Mitchell, RMC**  
**Municipal Clerk**

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**Tency Eason**  
**Council president**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

**Passed on May 21, 2013**

**Conference & Regular Meeting on April 2, 2013**

**Motion to Adopt:** Jones-Bell                      **Second:** Corbitt

**The roll call by Municipal Clerk was as followed:**

**Yeas:** Corbitt, Gaunt-Bell, Jones-Bell, Marable Jr., Williams and Eason

**Nays:** None

**Abstentions:** None

**Absences:** Abdul-Rasheed

**Council President Eason ruled the Motion was Carried by Six Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions; and One Absent.**