

**MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY**

**CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
CONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
December 23, 2013**

This was a conference meeting of the City Council of the City of Orange Township, located at 29 North Day Street, Orange, New Jersey. The meeting was held on Tuesday, December 23, 2013 at 7:20 P.M. Rescheduled from December 17th 2013, due to weather.

The Chair asked for a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Present: West Ward Councilmen Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (arrived at 7:45 P.M.)
At-Large Councilmen Elroy A. Corbitt
North Ward Councilwoman Tency A. Eason
Councilwomen April Gaunt-Butler
East Ward Councilwoman Linda Jones-Bell
South Ward Councilmen Edward B. Marable Jr.
At-Large Council President Donna K. Williams

Also Present: Deputy Municipal Clerk Madeline F. Smith
Acting Business Administrator Adrian Mapp
City Attorney Avram White
Legislative Research Officer Kevin Harris
Senior Clerk Margarett Homere

Absent: Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq.

The Deputy 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 December 21, 2013, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

- **Presentations:** Councilwoman Eason read and presented a memorial plaque to the family and friends of Pastor Leslie Baltimore.
- **Councilmen Corbitt read and presented a memorial plaque to the family and friends of Ms. Brenda Harrington.**

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- Councilwoman Jones-Bell read and presented a plaque to Bishop Jackson for his service to the community.
- Corrective Action Plan. Council President Williams asked if there were any questions about the Corrective Action Plan.

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler referred to a number of items on the plan that seemed like goals rather than corrective actions and there was no specificity.

Mr. Mapp, the Acting Business Administrator, responded to the questions presented by Councilwomen Gaunt-Butler, providing her with the issues the current administration was presented with when the old administration left.

Councilwoman Eason questioned why corrective actions hadn't taken place before now. Mr. Mapp reported that there were over 50 items that had to be corrected and that issues are being addressed but it takes time to resolve most of the issues that had not been corrected in years. They are doing their best to correct all the issues. Ms. Sykes is working with Mr. Mapp and the CFO to correct issues and procedures that were written up in the report.

Councilman Marable commented that many of these issues that were on the report would be dealt with by the CFO and that the current CFO had been in her position since 2010. Mr. Mapp responded that there was a change over from a manual financial system to a computerized system and records needed to be checked and inputted into the new digital system; that took a great deal of the CFO's time.

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler asked that a plan for the corrective action be presented and a date that it will be introduced to the Governing Body.

The Governing Body agreed that they should have the corrective action plan back from Mr. Mapp within two to three months. Council President commented that the corrective action will be due in March.

The Council President asked if there were any further questions; with no further response the Council President continued with the agenda.

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.

The Governing Body decided to discuss the Bill List that was on the agenda.

Councilwoman Eason started on page 3 and went through the bill list items and had Mr. Mapp and others that had put in requisitions in question responded to her questions.

Councilman Corbitt questioned Ms. Wooten about the wording in Resolution 421-2013. It was determined that the wording was incorrect and the words "approximately twenty thousand" should be removed and the words "exact amount of twenty thousand" should be used. Other questions were answered about the resolution regarding who would be the recipient of the grant and a description of what else the grant would be used for. The additional four thousand dollars that would come out of the City's General Fund was also questioned. Mr. Mapp responded that this would benefit the residents of Orange and that

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should be considered. Ms. Wooten confirmed that the grant had already been approved. Mr. White, from the City Attorney's office, confirmed that the grant could be rejected by the City at a later date after further examination.

It was determined that in the future resolution can apply for the grant and approve the grant in one resolution instead of two.

Mr. Corbitt stated that he was not comfortable with the word approximate in the resolution, the four thousand dollars from the General Fund and the piece that states Ms. Wooden is the Program Coordinator.

Councilwoman Easton stated that it seems that the Governing Body brings up issues that are brought up at another meeting and still not resolved.

Those problems on that resolution should have been addressed before the resolution was brought to the Council.

Mr. Marable discussed Bill List items on Resolution 22-2013. Pages 10, 11 12 and 13 had items concerning motor vehicles. He asked were the list of motor vehicles that the Council had asked for awhile ago. The motor vehicles can be fixed but not accounted for. The items regarding motor vehicles were removed in the amount of about thirteen thousand dollars. The items directed by Council were subtracted from the bill list and the Deputy Clerk reported that a final figure would be given tomorrow and the Bill List Resolution would be corrected with the corrected amount.

Council President Williams adjourned the meeting with a motion by Councilwoman Eason and seconded by Councilwoman Jones-Bell. The Conference meeting was adjourned by a majority vote.



Madeline Smith
Deputy Municipal Clerk



Donna K. Williams
Council President