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, JUNE 18, 2013 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.

# 1) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

- 2) **ROLL CALL** PRESENT ABSENT Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (West Ward) Х Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt (At-Large) Х Hon. April Gaunt-Butler (At-Large) Х Hon. Linda Jones-Bell (East Ward) Х Hon. Edward B. Marable Jr. (South Ward) Hon. Donna K. Williams (At-Large) Х (North Ward) Х Hon. Tency A. Eason Council President ALSO PRESENT Dwight Mitchell, Municipal Clerk Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor Dan S. Smith, City Attorney Х Kevin D. Harris, Legislative Research Officer Х Antoinette Dismukes, Clerk's Office Х
- 3) Acting Deputy Clerk Homere announced 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.

# 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Margarette Homere, Acting Deputy Clerk

May 21, 2013 - Conference & Regular Meeting

Motion to adopt: <u>Gaunt-Butler</u> Second: <u>Jones-Bell</u>

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

# Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Five Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

### 5) **REPORTS**:

- Finance Committee Report: Presented by Hon. Donna K. Williams (See Attached)
- Clerk's Office: Month of May 2013 \$784.00
- Department Community Services: Month of May 2013 \$12,820.00

#### **CONSTABLE REPORTS:**

Eddie Stone: Month of May 21, 2013 – No Activity

#### **OPRA REQUEST REPORTS**

Month of May 2013: 30 Completed and 3 Outstanding

### President directs Clerk to file reports

- 6) COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS None
- 7) CITIZEN COMMENTS

ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-10 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP, "EACH PERSON ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL SHALL STEP UP TO THE MICROPHONE, SHALL GIVE HIS OR HER NAME IN AN AUDIBLE TONE FOR THE RECORD, AND UNLESS FURTHER TIME IS GRANTED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER, SHALL LIMIT HIS OR HER ADDRESS TO TEN (10) 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.

Council President Eason recognized the following for comments.

### Darius Galate of 58 Mountain Avenue, West Orange stated the following:

• Concern that public information may not get to the public.

#### William Lewis of 688 Mosswood Avenue stated the following:

• No comment.

# Jeff Feld of 268 Main Street stated the following:

- Congratulated the Director of Finance for winning Plainfield vote of Mayor.
- Requested a copy of the Bond Ordinance be placed in the office.
- Stated the resolution for the Deputy Clerk position did not have a resume attached.
- Expressed a fear of the Estimated Tax Bill being larger then estimated and wanted to know when will the amount be paid?

- Bill List: When was outside counsel acquired for Harvard Press?
- Would like to know date and time of Hearing for the Business Administrator?

# Katalin Gordon of 211 Park Place stated the following:

- Would like to know the status of the OPRA Requests.
- Ordinance 21-2013: Does the procedure apply to new or existing employees? How will such an Ordinance be enforced?
  - <u>Councilwoman Williams</u> replied a form would be provided to new and existing employees. Also stating it will go before the Personnel Committee for review and it a conflict presents then termination may be executed.
- Ordinance 22-2013: How will payment be enforced if the employee(s) attend then resign? Recommends escrow for tuition reimbursement.
- Question: How many positions is the City Budged for in the Clerk's Office?

# Gloria Stewart of 62 Hampton Terrace stated the following:

- Ordinance 22-2013: States common practice is for the employee to pay upfront then be reimbursed.
- City Hall Art Display: Impressed with the display of guitar's and artwork throughout City Hall.
- Recycling: If the City can work with the Board of Education to make some type of Poster with a winner. In the process, the students learn the steps of recycling.
- Street Paving: Are developers held responsible for repaving after work?
- 400 Oakwood Avenue: Made inquiry into the Tax Abatement.
- Environmental Commission Services: Can a committee be formed for Environmental Impact?
- Library: Stated she feels the absence of Councilman Marable of who requested the library to present was planned.
- Clerk and Business Administration positions and office needs to fulfilled to move forward.
- Disappointed that Mayor Warren announced that he will be supporting Republican Governor Chris Christie in the upcoming Election.
- States Mayor and Finance Director need to be at the Council Meetings.

# Motion to Close Citizen Comments:

Motion: Corbitt VOICE VOTE Second: Jones-Bell

# 8) COUNCIL COMMENTS

# Council President Eason recognized the following Council Members for comments.

# Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler:

- Attended the City's Hats Festival, stating it was an outstanding event.
- Questioned the re-airing of the Council Meetings.

• Extended gratitude to Council President Eason for her leadership during her tenure as Council President.

# Councilwoman Jones-Bell:

- Attended the Hats Festival stating it was the most amazing festival and well organized.
- Commended Mrs. Lipstein at Park Avenue School for being an outstanding teacher for recycling materials as creative arts projects. Teaching the effects of what we use and the impact on the environment.
- Recommended a Master City Calendar to ensure Community Programs don't compete nor conflict with one another.

# Councilman Corbitt:

- Question to Marty Mayes: Are lights on, on Lincoln and Central Avenue?
- Question to Marty Mayes: Update on One Way Signage?
- Follow-up request for Marty Mayes: Heywood and Scotland Rd Hedges are extremely high and causing blind spots for vehicles.
- Attended all events over the weekend: Hats City Festival, Father's Day Cookout and Gospel Festival stating they were all great events for the city as well as well attended and organized.
- Announced: Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 11:00am to 12:00noon a Rally will be held at Orange Middle School; immediately following the Safety Program.

# **Councilwoman Williams:**

- Thanked Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler for honoring Cotton Funeral Home.
- Announced the passing of Lester Baltimore on June 18<sup>th</sup> and would like to honor the family with a plaque.
- Commented on the Weekend Festivities stating they were awesome and that Hunter Hayes performed at one of the events.
- Also recommended City-Wide Master Calendar.
- Announced the cancellation of the Police Community Collaborative.

# Council President Eason:

- Attended the Gospel and Hats Festivals stating they were great events.
- Thanked Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler for recognizing Cotton Funeral Home Founder.
- Announced Orange High School Graduation Ceremony scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Requests for updates and action of Director Marty Mayes: Forest Street One Way Signage is missing; Spring and White Streets are missing Signage as well; High and Washington Streets needs barriers; Grass needs to cut on Hickory and Center Streets.
- Made inquiry into the establishment of crosswalks at Spring, Summer and Watchung Streets.

- Announced July 2<sup>nd</sup> is the reorganization meeting; stating this will be her last meeting as Council President and thanks the Council Members for their hard work and encouraged all to read the Faulkner Act to receive and understanding of the challenges the Council has faced with the current Administration and City Attorney.
  - Requested the City Attorney, Dan Smith to come before the City Council to explain the role of the City Attorney to the City Council.

#### Motion to Close Council Comments:

Motion: Marable VOICE VOTE Second: Jones-Bell

#### 9) ORDINANCES-SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

21-2013 An ordinance setting outside employment guidelines for the City of Orange Township and amending and supplementing Chapter 23 of the Municipal Code and the appendix titled City of Orange Township – Employee Handbook of Personnel Policies and Procedures.

#### a) Second reading by title

**On the motion,** Council President Eason questioned the City Attorney eluding that the City Council

**On the motion,** <u>Councilman Corbitt</u> recommended tabling Ordinance 21-2013 until the review of the Administration.

**On the motion**, <u>City Attorney Dan Smith</u> stated on May 21<sup>st</sup> the Administration and the Attorney's Office provided a Confidential Inter-Office Document stating they are not in agreement and strongly recommends that Ordinance 21-2013 is not passed.

#### b) Motion to close public hearing:

Motion to close: Corbitt Second: Williams

c) Motion for final adoption:

Motion to adopt: <u>Corbitt</u> Second: <u>Gaunt-Butler</u>

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Five Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

#### 10) ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION /FIRST READING

22-2013 An ordinance setting forth an Employee Tuition Reimbursement Policy and Guidelines for the City of Orange Township and amending and supplementing Chapter 23 of the Municipal Code and the Appendix titled City

of Orange Township – Employee Handbook of Personnel Policies and Procedures.

a) Motion to adopt in first reading:

Motion to adopt: <u>Gaunt-Butler</u> Second: <u>Jones-Bell</u>

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Five Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

- b) Public Hearing August 7, 2013
- 23-2013 An ordinance relating to salaries and classifications of Department Directors and Statutory Officers of the City of Orange Township.
  - a) Motion to adopt in first reading:

Motion to adopt: <u>Gaunt-Butler</u> Second: <u>Williams</u>

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Five Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

b) Public Hearing August 7, 2013

#### 24-2013 WITHDRAWN by Councilwoman Williams...

An ordinance setting forth Employee Cell Phone Usage Policies for the City of Orange Township's employees and amending and supplementing Chapter 23 of the Municipal Code and the Appendix titled City of Township – Employee Handbook of Personnel Policies and Procedures.

#### 11) CONSENT AGENDA

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 REQUESTS, IN WHICH EVENT, THE ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AND CONSIDERED IN ITS NORMAL SEQUENCE OF THE AGENDA.

Acting Deputy Clerk Homere stated following resolutions have been REMOVE FOR A SEPARATE VOTE: 226-2013 and 227-2013

#### **RESOLUTIONS:** \*219-2013 – \*225-2013

- \*219-2013 A resolution authorizing the refund of taxes due to State Board Judgments in the amount of \$44,206.28.
- \*220-2013 A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township Tax Collector to prepare and mail estimated tax bills.
- \*221-2013 A resolution authorizing the Finance Department of the City of Orange Township to allow redemption by installment agreement of taxes owing to the City of Orange Township for property known as Block 6101, Lot 018 more commonly known as 601 Valley Street in the name of Sadian Griffin.
- \*222-2013 A resolution of the City of Orange Township in the County of Essex, New Jersey authorizing a commitment of NJDOT grant funds for improvements to the Orange Train Station to Station Partners Urban Renewal, LP for the proposed Tony Galento Plaza Transit Village Project.
- \*223-2013 A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with PS&S, LLC, 67B Mountain Boulevard Extension, P.O. Box 4039, Warren, New Jersey 07058 for professional engineering services for construction management services of the city's contract with Scafar Contracting for the Chestnut Street Pump Station Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$15,000.00.
- \*224-2013 A resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License. (Our Lady of the Valley Church)
- \*225-2013 A resolution authorizing the refund of interest on taxes due to State Tax Court Judgment in the amount of \$3,050.64 to Michael Schneck, Esq., c/o 425 Central Avenue, LLC, 425 Central Avenue, Block 3801, Lot 021.

#### MOTION TO ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to adopt: <u>Williams</u> Second: <u>Jones-Bell</u>

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Five Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

Acting Deputy Clerk Homere stated the resolutions that were removed for a SEPARATE VOTE will now be considered:

\*226-2013 A resolution approving the Bill List for Council Meeting Vote on June 18, 2013 dated June 12, 2013 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$2,010,581.90)

Motion to adopt: <u>Williams</u> Second: <u>Jones-Bell</u>

**On the motion,** Councilwoman Williams questioned the Employee Training on page 2, stating it was her understanding the employee was denied. So why is there a charge?

<u>CFO</u>, <u>Lascari responded</u> one person attended while the other did not. To her understanding, it was the Clerk's Office responsibility to notify the NJLM. <u>Councilwoman Williams requested</u> an amendment to the Bill List total to deduct the \$150.00 for the course until further investigation. Stating the attendee should acquire the cost not the City.

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Five Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

\*227-2013 A resolution appointing Madeline Frances Smith, R.M.C. / C.M.R. as Deputy Municipal Clerk for the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by the Orange City Council).

Motion to adopt: Williams Second: Jones-Bell

Yeas: Jones-Bell, Williams and Eason Nays: Corbitt and Gaunt-Butler Abstentions: None Absences: Abdul-Rasheed and Marable

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Three Yeas; Two Nays; No Abstentions and Two Absences.

# 12) OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

13) MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: <u>Gaunt-Butler</u> VOICE VOTE Second: <u>Jones-Bell</u>

Adjournment Time: 10:44PM

Madeline F. Smith, RMC Deputy Municipal Clerk Donna K. Williams Council President

MINUTES APPROVAL

Passed on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Conference & Regular Meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Motion to Adopt: Corbitt Second: Jones-Bell

The roll call by Council President Williams was as followed:

Yeas: Abdul-Rasheed, Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Jones-Bell, Marable and Williams Nays: None Abstentions: None Absences: Eason

Council President Williams ruled the Motion was carried by Six Yeas; No Nays; No Abstentions and One Absence.