

**SPECIAL MEETING TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 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, JANUARY 15, 2013, AT 6:13PM.**

1) ROLL CALL		PRESENT	ABSENT
Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed	(West-Ward)	_____	___X___
Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt	(At-Large)	___X___	_____
Hon. April Gaunt-Butler	(At-Large)	___X___	_____
Hon. Linda Jones-Bell	(East-Ward)	Arrived 6:17PM	_____
Hon. Edward B. Marable, Jr.	(South-Ward)	_____	Left: 6:17PM
Hon. Donna K. Williams	(At-Large)	Arrived 6:22PM	_____
Hon. Tency A. Eason	(North Ward)	___X___	_____
Council President			

**The Deputy Clerk announced that Council President Eason has a quorum.**

**ALSO PRESENT**

Shinell Smith, Deputy Mun. Clerk	___X___	_____
Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor	___X___	_____
Dan Smith, City Attorney	Arrived 6:22PM	_____
Shirley Bailey, Clerk's Office	___X___	_____

**2) 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 Record-Transcript and the Star Ledger published on January 12, 2013, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.**

**3) RESOLUTION No. 28A-2013**

**Council President Eason entertains a motion to recess.**

Motion to Adopt: Corbitt

Second: Gaunt-Butler

The Deputy Clerk announced the roll call as follows:

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

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by the vote of Four Yeas, No Nays, No Abstentions, and Three Absences.

**Council President Eason entertains a motion to hold an Executive (Closed) Session.**

Motion to Adopt: Corbitt

Second: Gaunt-Butler

The Deputy Clerk announced the roll call as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Marable and Eason

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell, Williams

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by the vote of Four Yeas, No Nays, No Abstentions, and Three Absences.

**Deputy Clerk announced RESOLUTION No. 28A-2013.**

**Purpose: To discuss personnel matters and/or any other pertinent topics as deemed necessary by the Municipal Council and possibly take action.**

**Council President Eason stated her understanding is that Mayor Warren is responding to RESOLUTION No. 28A-2013.**

**Council President Eason entertains a motion to open the floor.**

**Council President Eason asked Councilman Marable Jr. if he was leaving?**

**Councilman Marable Jr. replied yes.**

**Deputy Clerk Shinell Smith asked Councilman Marable Jr. to wait noting the council no longer has a quorum. Deputy Clerk Smith noted council needs to close executive session.**

**Councilman Marable Jr. stated Deputy Clerk Smith can do whatever she wants to do.**

**Council President Eason asked Councilman Marable Jr. if he was returning for the Council Meeting.**

**Councilman Marable Jr. stated he will be back.**

**Council President Eason entertains a Motion to Close Executive Session.**

Motion to Adopt: Corbitt

Second: Gaunt-Butler

Council President Eason stated with the understanding that council can reopen when another council member arrives; presently they do not have a quorum. Further stating, if Councilwoman Williams or Jones-Bell arrive Council can reopen.

The roll call by the Deputy Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt  
Nays:  
Abstentions:  
Absences: Abdul-Rasheed, Marable Jr.

**Council President Eason recognized Council Jones-Bell arrival at 6:17pm.**

**Council President Eason entertains a Motion to Rescind Councilman Corbitt and Councilwoman Jones-Bell Votes to close Executive Session.**

**The Deputy Clerk announced that we are back in the Executive Closed Session.**

**Deputy Clerk Smith stated Councilwoman Jones-Bell has arrived at 6:17pm; Councilman Marable Jr. has left at 6:17pm.**

**Council President Eason entertains a Motion to reconvene Executive Closed Session.**

Council President Eason stated the Council received a Memorandum from the City Attorney Dan Smith stating the Council can request an investigation.

Council President Eason asks Mayor Dwayne Warren did he receive a written request for Mr. Keith Royster to be in attendance.

Mayor Warren responded he saw a copy from Mr. Royster. However, the Rice Notice was addressed to Mr. Royster.

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler asked Mayor Warren, "Why was the plug pulled on the last council meeting?"

Mayor Warren stated after speaking with Mr. Royster, the hard drive where the memory is stored for the TV Station was full and kicked out information preventing it from working properly. That is what happened with the last recording of the station. Noting this problem was present prior to the last council meeting. As a result, Mayor Warren requested a full report as to the taping, airing, equipment required / equipment purchased, availability of the TV for Council Meetings and the resolution as where the funds were to be allocated. Mr. Royster findings resulted the resolution stated the funds are to ensure the council meetings are taped and aired live. The funds were allotted; however it did not go to the equipment necessary to correct the problems that were related to airing

the television station. Hence, the memory will continue to exceed its capacity resulting in airing problems.

Council President Eason stated previously the council meeting did not have any problems. As well Council President Eason recalled Mr. Royster stating he didn't have video experience. Council President Eason asked Councilwoman Donna Williams to explain what took place the day in question of the council meeting.

Councilwoman Williams states at the January 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting, Mr. Royster stated he was told to cease recording and that he was having difficulty. When Councilwoman Williams proceeded to question Mr. Royster the second time he had left. Mr. Gesner was asked to speak to the Council as to why the airing was stopped. Mr. Gesner stated he was advised not to by the Acting Deputy Business Administrator Willis Edwards, III as he is an employee of the Administration not Council.

Councilwoman Williams also stated there should be short and long term goals to correct the problem with the equipment.

Councilman Corbitt asked Councilwoman Williams was Mr. Royster told to not record. Councilwoman Williams stated after some discussion with Mr. Royster he was instructed not to record by the Administration.

Council President Eason asks Councilman Corbitt if he had any further questions; Councilman Corbitt stated no however, he would like to see this issue resolved on behalf of the residents. Also noting, there has been several suggestions made to correct the issues and would recommend action as soon as possible.

Mayor Warren stated he will have a full report by January 25<sup>th</sup> as to the findings and in addition will further investigate Councilwoman Williams accounts for the January 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meetings. Mayor Warren also suggested and was in agreement upon the council, administration as well as all parties involved, i.e. Gramco, Mr. Royster, Mr. Godfrey, etc. to come together with a list of detailed concerns, problems and proposed solutions to bring resolve to this matter.

Council President Eason pursuant to the City Attorney Dan Smith recommendation agreed that an Investigative Committee is necessary to further address the matter. Appointing Councilman Corbitt to sit in for her; Councilwomen Williams and Jones-Bell agreed to be on the committee.

Council President Eason agreed to move onto the next business of order.

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler stated she would like to discuss "Team Building". Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler would like council to meet prior to council meeting to

discuss matters in an effort to stream line the public council meeting to run more efficient and to present a better public image.

Councilwoman Williams suggested committees address issues relative to resolutions and ordinances prior to meetings and report to council the findings.

Councilwoman Jones-Bell agreed with Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler in that the Council should meet collectively to discuss agenda.

Council President Eason and City Council explored a pilot initiative to start the Conference Meeting at 6:30pm oppose to 7:00pm in an effort to discuss matter prior to the Regular Meeting to streamline the efficiency of the meeting.

**4) Motion to Close:**

**Council President Eason entertained a motion to close.**

Motion: Gaunt-Butler

Second: Jones-Bell

The roll call by the Deputy Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Gaunt-Butler, Williams and Eason

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed, Marable Jr.

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

**Motion to Reconvene:**

**Council President Eason entertains a motion to reconvene.**

Motion to Adopt: Jones-Bell

Second: Williams

The roll call by the Deputy Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Gaunt-Butler, Williams and Eason

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed, Marable Jr.

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

**Motion to Adjourn:**

**Council President Eason entertained a Motion to Adjourn Executive Closed Session.**

Motion to Adopt: Jones-Bell

Second: Williams

The roll call by the Deputy Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Gaunt-Butler, Williams and Eason

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed, Marable Jr.

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

**ADJOURNMENT TIME: 7:15PM**

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**Dwight Mitchell, RMC  
Municipal Clerk**

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**Tency A. Eason  
Council President**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

**Passed on April 2, 2013**

**Special Executive (Closed) Session on January 15, 2013**

**Hon. Abdul-Rasheed & Hon. Marable cannot vote, because they were not present.**

**Motion to Adopt: Corbitt                      Second: Williams**

**The roll call by the Deputy Clerk was as follows:**

**Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Gaunt-Butler, Williams and Eason**

**Nays:                      None**

**Abstentions:            None**

**Absences:                None**

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