

THIS WAS A CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018 AT 7:09 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present:

Councilman Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilman Christopher Jackson, At-Large
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large
Councilwoman Adrienne Wooten, At-Large
Council-president Kerry Coley, East Ward

Also Present:

Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk
Lisette Sanchez, Records Technician, Clerk's Office
Chris Hartwyk, Business Administrator (BA)
Eric Pennington, City Attorney
Marlin Townes, Acting Legislative Research Officer
Deputy Chief Spearman, representing the Fire Department
Marty Mayes, Director of Planning/Public Work
Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer?
Captain Dunn, representing the Police Department.

Absent: Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward

The City Clerk asked all to stand for a Moment of Silence.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General Items shall sign one (1) book. Each person signing the book will be allowed to speak for a maximum of five (5) minutes.

The City 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 28, 2017 posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

• **Direct Development – Presentation**

Ms. Lori Donnelley provided information on the planned website for the City Council working from a presentation folder that was given to the Council with some to residents. She stated the website will be

the Council's main hub for information. She spoke about a section that would publicize the actions of the City Council. It will be desk top friendly with Facebook, Twitter and cell phone capability.

Residents and business owners will be able to subscribe to a monthly newsletter. She stated that each Council Member will have their own page and there will be pages for the City Clerk, news and events. The platform will also keep track of how many visitors come to the website and the most visited pages. She answered questions from the Council Members.

- **Rahway River – Presentation**

Mr. Dennis Burcher from the South Mountain Conservancy spoke about a pedestrian foot bridge on a river ware that is owned by the City of Orange. He spoke about the area that would have the foot path by the South Mountain Reservation area north of Campbell's pond. Mr. Burcher stated that the Campbell's Pond bridge is O.K. but it does not connect to the many trails in the area.

He spoke about the conservancy's projects in the areas of the reservation. He spoke about the orange reservoir and the Painters Point picnic area and the need for a trail there but it is owned by Orange. The land that is owned by Orange is eroded. He would like Orange to deal with the erosion and build a bridge that is 24 inches wide. This would connect the walkways. The cost for the bridge would be below \$10,000. The conservancy is willing to split the cost with Orange. The City would have to fix the problem of erosion first before the bridge could be constructed. Council President Coley was in agreement to have the foot bridge built. Questions were answered from the City Council. Mr. Burcher was not aware of the cost for repairing the river ware. Councilwoman Eason wanted to make sure of the cost of everything before committing to the plan.

- **Breast Cancer - Presentation- Deputy Chief Spearman, Fire Department**

Deputy Chief Spearman reported that the department was able to raise \$1000.00 for In The Pink. Each Council Member thanked the Fire Department for their support with the Pink Out project.

The Clerk made the following statement.

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 Clerk reported that the bill list had been amended and resolution 2-2018 was also amended. Resolutions 7 through 15-2018 were walk-ons.
- Councilman Jackson had a question regarding 84-2017, the ordinance abolishing the Fire Chief position, he asked how many Deputy Chiefs there are in Orange. The Business Administrator stated that there are 8. Councilman Jackson also asked how many Fire Fighter are currently employed. The Business Administrator stated that the Table of Organization does not limit the number of Fire fighters. Deputy Chief Spearman reported that there are 49 Fire Fighters and 21 Captains. Councilman Jackson questioned Ordinance 2-2018 which regards fees. City Clerk Lanier stated she also had questions regarding the fees of the OPRA request since the fees are set by the State. So she requested that the ordinance be pulled until it could be investigated. Attorney Townes came to the podium and stated that he referenced the State Statues so if the State changed the fees the ordinance would not have to be changed and he added special service fees which are allowed. Councilman Jackson wanted legislature that would address people that could not afford the new fees. Councilman Jackson had other questions referring to Resolutions 3,4 and 5-2018. City Attorney Pennington will provide additional information for Councilman Jackson.

- Councilwoman Eason asked if the money denoted in Resolution 2-2018 was extra money. The Business Administrator stated it was not, it is part of a budget agreement. With regard to Resolutions 80-2017 she asked if the process can be shortened. Can the Council review the draft legislation so when the legislation before the Council there are no questions that need to be answered? The City Attorney had no problem doing so. The Council President stated that once it has been sent for review for Council Members it should not sit there for a long time but reviewed right away. Councilwoman Williams stated that is already the process it is reviewed by the City Clerk and the City Attorney. Walk-ons usually have not be reviewed by the law department because of their lateness.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 8:41 P.M.

Approved:

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Kerry J. Coley
Council President