

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, MARCH 6, 2018 AT 7:01 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilman Christopher Jackson, At-Large
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large (arrived @ 7:04)
Council-President Kerry Coley

Also Present: Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Chris Hartwyk, Business Administrator (BA)
Eric Pennington, City Attorney
Marlin Townes, Acting Legislative Research Officer
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,
Marty Mayes, Director of Planning/Public Work
Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance (arrived @ 7:10)
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer (arrived @ 7:09)
Deputy Chief Spearman, representing the Fire Department (arrived @ 7:12)
Nicki Amos, Representing the Police Director

Absent: Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson, South Ward
Councilwoman Adrienne Wooten, At-Large

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 July 13, 2017 posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

• **Plaques presentation**

Councilwoman Williams stated that this plaque is from the City Council and announced that the plaque was celebrating the life of Mrs. Bernice Cody Hartwyk. Councilwoman Williams read the proclamation and presented the plaque to the City Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk, Mrs. Cody Hartwyk’s son. Chris Hartwyk thanked the Council.

Councilwoman Williams read a proclamation for Saint Patrick’s Day and presented it to Judge Francine Schott and members of the Orange Fire Department. Judge Schott thanked the Council for the proclamation. Council Members had kind words for Mr. Chris Hartwyk and Judge Schott.

• **Essex County Liaison Mr. Tim Walker, Essex County Risk Manager – Introduction/Update**

Mr. Walker came to the podium and introduced himself to the Council and residents. He spoke about the coming snow storm and reported that the County is ready to help Orange. The Council welcomed Mr. Walker and Mr. Walker answered questions from the Council Members. Council President Coley commented on a number of issues that Mr. Walker took note of. The Council President also asked Director Mayes to mark the trees that belong to Orange which would distinguish them from County Trees. Other Council Members commented on other issues that Mr. Walker would be looking into.

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 City Clerk reported that Ordinance 13-2018 and 14-2018 are being withdrawn by the administration.

Business Administrator Hartwyk recommended that Ordinance 4-2018 be postponed again.

Councilwoman Eason asked about the changes in Ordinance 12-2018. Councilwoman Williams commented that the Finance Committee speaks on sensitive issues and the ordinance is removing the residents from the committee. Councilwoman Eason suggested that there should be limits on how long a Council person can sit on that committee. The Council Members should rotate on that committee. She commented that she would not support that ordinance until there were limits also added to the ordinance.

Councilman Jackson commented about Ordinance 12-2018 stating that he understood Councilwoman Eason but perhaps Council Members with more experience should be on the committee not just new members of the Council. Councilman Jackson asked about Resolution 74-2018 which amended Resolution 383-2017 to include facsimile signatures. He inquired if the signatures were stamped or actually printed on the checks. The Business Administrator stated that they were printed on the checks. The Business Administrator stated the reasons for the facsimile signature. Councilman Jackson questioned Resolution 76-2018 which authorized outside attorneys to pursue condemnation proceedings against a number of properties. The Councilman stated that the resolution was not specific enough and asked why was condemnation the best course of action. The Business Administrator stated that the resolution comes from the administration with the assistance of the Law Department. The resolution is a preliminary resolution it authorizes the city to obtain counsel so the city can be advised on the process. If further actions were to take place, there would be another resolution which would be more specific for the Council's review. Business Administrator Hartwyk answered questions regarding the contract and resolution clauses for Councilman Jackson.

Council President Coley asked if the Council could get a monthly draw down report for that resolution. The Business Administrator stated that a draw down report could be made.

Councilwoman Eason clarified her comments regarding the Finance Committee membership stating that there should be senior Council Members on the committee to help a newer member to learn. The same Council Members should not always be on that committee. Councilwoman Williams clarified that the Finance Committee does not discuss the budget items but the status of the budget does come up at some meetings. The budget is delivered to everyone at the same time.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 7:54 P.M.

Approved:

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Kerry J. Coley
Council President