

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

THIS WAS 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, MAY 21, 2019 FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.

The Chair led all assembled in a Salute to the American Flag.

Roll Call:

Present:

Councilman Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilman Christopher Jackson, At-Large
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South 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
Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator
Gracia R. Montilus, Acting City Attorney
Kenneth Douglas, Fire Director
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director
Marty Mayes, Planning and Public Works Director
Captain Vitiello, Police Director
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer
Lisette Sanchez, Records Support Technician

Absent:

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 12, 2018, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2019- Conference and Regular Minutes

**Motion to adopt the Conference and Regular meeting minutes from March 19, 2019 by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.
The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.**

REPORTS:

DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REVENUE COLLECTION 2019. None

CONSTABLE REPORTS

- **Darnell Brodie - Month of April 2019 - No activity.**
- **Mohamad Toure - Month of April 2019 – No activity.**

OPRA REPORTS –

Month of April 2019 – 157 received, 152 completed and 5 pending.

COUNCIL REPORTS - Council President directs Clerk to file reports.

- Finance:** Councilwoman Williams read minutes from the meeting into the record.
Director Marty Mayes regarding Chadwick Avenue - advised that they are waiting on the contractor to get permits. Business Administrator Hartwyk asked Director Mayes to send Construction Official to check property and have it taken down before the weekend.
- Planning:** No report.
- ABC:** No report.
Business Administrator Hartwyk gave the council procedures for the electronic tax sale.
- DPW:** Mr. Mitchell from the DPW Committee commented that suggestions regarding abandoned building and vacant lots are given but few things have been done. What is the city doing with respect to abandoned building? He said that the committees recommendation are being ignored. He would like to know what has been done by the city.
Director Mayes stated that the vacant and abandoned ordinances are being changed. The changes will help those properties be redeveloped. He reported that 190 S. Centre St is being demolished and one on Carleton. Councilwoman Eason asked about abandoned properties that have tax liens.
The Business Administrator provided a number of answers to that question.
Councilwoman Summer-Johnson stated that she thought the committee would have residents from all the wards to discuss their issues and report back. She believes that the process as laid out by the Business Administrator should be followed so that the properties are dealt with correctly.
Councilwoman Wooten asked the Business Administrator to speak about which properties are owned by the city from the abandoned property list. The Business Administrator reported that there are 254 properties and about 80 of them that are in some state of improvement. He felt that less than 25 are owned by the city or becoming owned by the city. The rest are in the name of the owner or in the name of the bank. Councilman Jackson asked the Business Administrator regarding interaction between the Public Works Committee and the Administration. The Business Administrator advised he had not been able to attend the DPW meetings in the last year but he does read the minutes. The City needs to do work to update the abandon and vacant properties list.
Councilwoman Williams commented that on June 1st starts the city wide cleanup.
- Library:** Councilman Johnson, Jr. commented that at the last meeting he felt that they were really organized and he was very excited. He spoke about the new Board Members.
- Housing:** Councilwoman Wooten advised OHA has a meeting the following night.
- Police:** No report. Councilwoman Wooten would like to sit with the Police Dept. and Law Dept. to learn more about the NJ laws on guns.
- Fire:** Director Kenneth M. Douglas congratulated three fire fighters for recent award saving two individuals from a fire. Fire Dept. along with Red Cross installed over 100 smoke detectors. Residents can call the fire Department at (973) 266-4230 to get a free smoke detector. He congratulated the new class. Fire Safety Academy for children ages 12 to 16 to teach from 7/15/19 to 8/9/19. Applications are available at the Fire and Police Department.

Councilwoman Summers-Johnson and Eason congratulated the Fire Department for doing a great job. Councilman Johnson praised both the Administration and Fire Department for the great job putting together the graduation.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS - None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS

The City Clerk made the following statement:

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 Five (5) 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.

The following residents and business owners made comments:

- Mr. Jeffrey Feld advised he provided the Council and Administration a heads up memo. Commented that the budget was being introduced but the Finance Director was absent. Spoke about the Redevelopment Agreement on Main Street. Temporary Emergency appropriations should have amounts on the resolutions. Spoke about the Housing redevelopment agreement. Transparency page and credit rating should be read.
- Mr. Gus Mitchell 240 North Center Street, Orange. Would like to show support and appreciation to the Orange Police for cleaning up North Center Street.
- Mr. James, Irvin Terrace, spoke about the Public Service Committee, and commented that the Council does not know the purpose of the DPW Committee. Ordinance states that they should be making recommendations to the Council. Would like the Committee and Council to communicate.

Motion to close citizen's comments by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Wooten. The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Council Comments:

- Councilwoman Summers-Johnson attended Community Day event on Saturday, May 18th. Would like the schools to be part of the event. Orange Park is a hot mess and should be cleaned up. Bathrooms were closed during an event of over 300 residents. Recommends a sign-up program to help seniors cut their grass. There will be a Southward meeting this Thursday.
- Councilwoman Williams reminded resident June 4th is mid-term election. Encourages residents to call the Clerk's Office and/or the Council directly to advise us of residents who have passed away. She asked about the road work and when it would start. Director Marty Mayes project started today on Jefferson Street to Nassau focusing on 5 to 6 streets in the Valley. Next the North Ward. Advanced notice will be given to the residents and the Business Administrator wants to place it on the website and Channel 35.
- Councilwoman Wooten noted Saturday, May 18th was a busy day with street namings, Haitian flag raising, Lion King play at Forest Street School, Monte Irvin Park had a good turn out and thanked city employees that brought food and helped out. Will be starting an environmental club and would like to bring forth legislation.

- Councilwoman Eason also spoke about how busy Saturday was. She asked the Business Administrator about standards for the stores on Main Street. The Business Administrator stated that signage, awnings and window standards will be addressed in a new ordinance which is being worked on. Councilwoman Eason also provided her suggestions for the ordinance.
- Councilman Jackson commented on Councilwoman Wooten's Environmental Club.
- Councilman Johnson, Jr spoke about the budget season and now that the city has a competent Business Administrator, the process should not drag out the process into the summer month.
- Coley sent out Memorial Day wishes to all the residents that lost a love one while serving in the military and serving the country, and to the active service members that work to keep our country safe. He spoke of his time in the military. He spoke about the freedoms we have because of the military.

ORDINANCES-SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

12-2019 amended (amendment read into the record by the City Clerk) Public Hearing will be postpone until the next meeting – amendments to be published in the paper.

12-2019 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, "Vehicles and Parking", Article II, entitled "Parking" to establish requirements to obtain residential parking permits. (Sponsored by Council Member Kerry J. Coley) (POSTPONED FROM THE 04/16/2019 AND 05/07/2019 REGULAR MEETINGS)

20-2019 An ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and to establish a cap bank in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14 for the calendar year 2019.

The Chair declared the time open for a hearing on Ordinance Number 20-2019.

Mr. Jeffery Feld commented that the ordinance was not signed by an attorney.

He commented about a past budget in 2014 and what he felt had happened. It appears it is being done correctly this time.

Seeing no one else, the Chair declared the time closed.

Motion to close the public hearing by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Williams

The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Motion to adopt Ordinance Number 20-2019 by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

ORDINANCES INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

The Clerk read Ordinance 19-2019 by Title.

19-2019 An ordinance of the City of Orange Township to approve a tax exemption for a thirty (30) year period and to authorize the thirty (30) year exemption and authorizing the execution of a financial agreement between the City and FTGRE 205 Mt. Vernon Urban Renewal, LLC. (POSTPONED FROM THE 04/16/2019 AND 05/07/2019 REGULAR MEETINGS)

Motion that Ordinance 19-2019 be introduced on first reading and that the public hearing would be held June 18, 2019 by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read Ordinance 24-2019 by title.

24-2019 A refunding bond ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$1,565,000 aggregate principal amount of refunding bonds and/or refunding notes by the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, for the purpose of funding an emergency temporary appropriation for legal judgments.

Motion that Ordinance 24-2019 be introduced on first reading and that the public hearing would be held June 18, 2019 by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

CONSENT AGENDA

The City Clerk read the following statement.

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 request, in which event, the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence of the agenda.

RESOLUTIONS NUMBERS *167-2019 THROUGH *185-2019

- *167-2019 A resolution recognizing Ramadan. (Sponsored by Council Member Donna K. Williams)**
- *168-2019 A resolution celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month. (Sponsored by Council Member Donna K. Williams)**
- *169-2019 A resolution celebrating Memorial Day. (Sponsored by Council Member Donna K. Williams)**
- *170-2019 A resolution celebrating the life of Eugina Irvin May. (Sponsored by Council Members Tency A. Eason and Adrienne Wooten)**
- *171-2019 A resolution authorizing an emergency temporary appropriation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20. (amended to include the dollar amount in the title)**
- *172-2019 A resolution authorizing an emergency temporary appropriation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 and authorizing the issuance of emergency notes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-51 and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-51. (amended to include the dollar amount in the title)**

- *173-2019** A resolution to cancel reserve for salary adjustments. (amended to include the dollar amount in the title)
- *174-2019** A resolution making applications to the Local Finance Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3ee and N.J.S.A. 40A:2-51 et. seq.
- *175-2019** A resolution introducing and approving the 2019 Calendar Year Budget (January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)
- *176-2019** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to participate in an electronic tax sale with NJ Tax Lien Investors/Real Auction that includes but is not limited to all subsequent taxes that have accrued to city liens after the bulk lien sale on May 27, 2015 and any special tax non-payment delinquency which has resulted in a city lien but not previously offered for sale at public auction.
- *177-2019** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to do an accelerated tax sale for all properties delinquent as of November 11, 2019.
- *178-2019** A resolution authorizing and ratifying a professional services contract with Eduardo Garcia for the provision of interpreting services to the City of Orange Township Municipal Court pursuant to the non-fair and open process. (amended to include the dollar amount in the title)
- *179-2019** A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with Gluck Walrath LLP, 428 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey 08611 to provide redevelopment counsel services in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.
- *180-2019** A resolution authorizing the Orange Chamber of Commerce, Division of Merchants to conduct sidewalk sales in the City of Orange Township, New Jersey on June 6th, 7th and 8th; July 11th, 12th, and 13th; and August 1st, 2nd and 3rd (Rain Dates: June 15th, July 20th and August 10th, 2019).
- *181-2019** A resolution rescinding developer designation for RPM Development, L.L.C., as a developer for the City of Orange.
- *182-2019** A resolution rescinding resolution 160-2017 adopted April 25, 2017 authorizing a redevelopment agreement between the City of Orange Township, the Housing Authority for the City of Orange, and the Orange Housing Redevelopment Corporation. **(Postponed)**
- *183-2019** A resolution to enter into Memorandum of Agreement with Metro YMCA of the Oranges for the co-facilitation of the 2019 Mayor’s Circle of Excellence Summer Camp.
- *184-2019** A resolution to enter into contact with Mr. Justice Rountree of 360 Poetry Night for spoken word hosting and presentation services in an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00. **(Postponed)**
- *185-2019** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 21, 2019 dated May 15, 2019 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95. (Grand Total: \$4,433,662.21)

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

NEW BUSINESS AND WALK-ON ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

The Clerk read Resolutions 186-2019(WO), 187-2019(WO), 188-2019(WO), 189-2019(WO), 190-2019(WO), 191-2019(WO), 192-2019(WO) 192-2019(WO) by title:

Motion to walk-on these items onto the agenda by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

On the Motion: Councilwoman Williams asked the Business Administrator if 191-2019 just needed a dollar amount in the title. He reported yes. Councilwoman Eason stated that Crossing Guard uniforms will be ordered on Monday.

Business Administrator Hartwyk stated that 192-2019(WO) had a 15-day termination clause in it. He will keep the Council informed of any changes.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk asked if any citizens would like to speak on any of the items that were walked on.

- Mr. Jeffery Feld, Resolution 192-2019; commented that he would like a conformation that the salary being paid is just \$1.00. The Business Administrator reported that the person is part of a firm already hired by the city.

Motion to close citizen's comments by Councilman Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilman Jackson.

The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

186-2019(WO) A resolution honoring Joanne Kureshepi for her service as the Orange Housing Authority.(sponsored by Council Member Donna K. Williams and the City Council)

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

187-2019(WO) A resolution appointing Jacqueline Allen as a member to the Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee for calendar year 2019 municipal budget process (Sponsored by Council Member Donna K. Williams)

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

188-2019(WO) A resolution authorizing an extension of the contract with Atlantic Uniform, 468 Washington Avenue, Belleville, New Jersey 07109, until June 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

189-2019(WO) A resolution to read the calendar year 2019 budget by title.

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

190-2019(WO) A resolution authorizing the refund of \$456.00 currently held in vendor's escrow account for the city of Orange off duty police.

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

191-2019(WO) A resolution ratifying and authorizing the appointment of Robert W. Swisher, CPA, CMFO, RMA as the temporary Chief Municipal Financial Officer from April 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 or until such time as a permanent Chief Municipal Financial Officer is appointed for the amount of \$1.00.

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilman Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilman Jackson.

On the Motion: Councilwoman Williams asked the Business Administrator if the CFO will be working instead of the other staff member from that Firm. The Business Administrator said no they have access to Edmunds and he will be meeting with them as 2 or 3 times a week.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

The Clerk read the resolution by title.

192-2019(WO) A resolution authorizing and ratifying an extension of the agreement between the City of Orange Township and Pulse Medical Transportation for the provision of emergency medical services effective from July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$81,250.00 in budget year 2019.

Motion to adopt the resolution by Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Johnson, Jr.

On the Motion: Councilwoman Eason asked if the city was going out to bid again. The Business Administrator stated there is a proposed settlement being worked on, so this agreement was extended. There should be a new contractor in place in mid-June.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Summers-Johnson, Williams, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: Wooten

Absent: None.

Motion Carries.

OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

The Clerk reported that the Council is going into executive session at this time.

Motion to have an executive session by Councilwoman Williams., seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Reason- Contract negotiations regarding water and water update.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Summers-Johnson (left the room)

Motion Carries.

Motion to enter into an executive session by Councilman Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Eason, Jackson, Johnson, Jr., Williams, Wooten, Coley,

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Summers-Johnson (left the room)


Motion Carries.

(Entered Executive Session at 9:14 p.m.)

Motion to adjourn by Council, seconded by Council.

By consensus, the regular meeting adjourned at 10:44 P.M.

Approved:



Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk



Tency A. Eason
Council President