

CITIZENS COMMENTS
MARCH 16, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

Andrew Regenstreich
15 South Essex Avenue, Rear
Orange, New Jersey 07050

Ordinance 14-2021

By way of introduction, my name is Andrew Regenstreich. For the past three years I have been the Director of Real Estate and Economic Development at HANDS. As you know we have been a community partner for the last 35 years and created over 500 units of housing, and unlocked tremendous potential that is only now being realized.

We have incubated thriving businesses, cultural institutions, and access to fresh food and health services. In the coming months, we will roll out a comprehensive grant program for small businesses and a home improvement program. The Council and City Hall have always been partners in our efforts and it's in that spirit that I humbly ask you to reconsider ordinance 14-2021.

One of our best tenants is a minority owned cannabis brand that focuses on health on wellness. The name of the company is Brwnbox and they are doing extremely well financially. As a result they are the personification of wealth creation, ingenuity, and socially conscious investments. The City of Orange directly benefits from their presence!

Please reconsider, or at the very least engage the owner and or me before a decision is rendered. Thank you.

Joanne Douds
697 Valley Street
Maplewood, NJ 07040

Ordinance 14-2021

I am a South Orange resident and am writing out of personal experience regarding members of my family. I am clear that a cannabis business in responsible hands is a must in health care today.

I had an 83 year old Republican, Swedish father, that three days before he passed from lung cancer, made me promise to help legalize the use of cannabis for medical reasons. He said it was what got him through his cancer treatments. That was shocking to me and these were amongst his final words.

We also have a 30 year old son with juvenile diabetes (Type 1 - pancreas dead, insulin dependent) Whose doctor has him use CBD and cannabis to control his blood sugar. He is vigilant in controlling daily. He is a tri-athlete and is a pioneer in the world for the Type 1 Diabetic Community. You can see his amazing work on YouTube ErikDouds and his company is Diabadass.com. He is an excellent speaker and has spoken around the world. He has also been published in many world publications. You may want to invite him to speak.

Orange is a community emerging to great new places. I strongly believe in Orange and the planning of its great future with the Valley Arts Business Council. Additionally, Maplewood has a small CBD shop recently opened next to Perch Home. You may want to speak with the Mayor of Maplewood.

Here's to progressive care for those who benefit from the use of cannabis. I may not have my son living a powerful and healthy life without this substance. With gratitude for your consideration.

Joshua Uhl
540B Freeman Street
Orange, NJ 07050

Ordinance 14-2021- Cannabis Businesses

As a business owner in Orange, I'm writing today to ask you to reconsider if you support Ordinance 14-2021. I think the decision to eliminate Cannabis Businesses from Orange is a tragic mistake. In my opinion Cannabis-based businesses have a very legitimate place in our community. I think the fear-mongering surrounding cannabis-based business is just a further perpetuation of our country's failed "War on Drugs", a racist policy by design that has disproportionately incarcerated people of color, tearing their families apart. I think it would be a missed opportunity for Orange to miss out on the opportunities afforded by these new businesses and potential revenue streams for the greater good of Orange's residents. I should qualify all of this to clarify that I am not a cannabis user, nor do I intend to become one. Rather I base my support on what I've seen both locally and in other communities in the US where these businesses have made a positive impact on their community. Locally, this is exemplified by my business neighbor, Brwnbox, on Freeman Street, which is a CBD retailer immediately adjacent to our office. They are a model neighbor and business. They are a very well run organization with extremely friendly owners and employees. Even more impressively, they appear to be doing well even though they started their business at the outset of the pandemic. Why would you want to eliminate sound economic development like this in Orange?

I urge you to consider all of this in your deliberation. I think it would be very short-sighted to eliminate legitimate business opportunities and revenue streams for Orange.

Farrah Blake
blake.farah@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox for the City of Orange

My name is Farrah C. Blake, granddaughter of Clifford Blake Jr. I would love to participate and speak on behalf of Brwnbox where I am currently a store assistant.

The City of Orange has given my grandfather plenty of awards such as Neurology Resolution for his service in Orange school district for 30 years. During his lifetime of teaching and coaching one of the messages he told me is that you should always be where God has called you to be. As a female growing up in Essex county entrepreneurship never thought to cross my mind. But our dream has been always to impact communities through wellness. It would be a devastation to have something we created in the city that we love to be taken away so abruptly. We hope that you give us the time to present ourselves on how this can not only impact the city of Orange but impact so many other Minority dreamers.

Olivia Williams
muddyrowe@yahoo.com

Ordinance 14-2021 – The World Needs Cannabis

Not only does the City of Orange need cannabis businesses, but towns all over. Brwnbox located at

544 Freeman St., has added such life and healing to not only to Orange NJ, but to towns and states all over (they ship internationally as well). I have every single product they offer, and have increased knowledge on the many tremendous benefits of cannabis use. It helps those who chose not to be limited to options that don't fit their health lifestyle or lifestyle in general. Brwnbox has healed so many people and continues to prove why cannabis businesses and knowledge is important amongst communities and the globe.

Allison Mason
234 N Munn Avenue, Apt. 4
East Orange, NJ 07050

Ordinance 14-2021- Cannabis Businesses

My name is Allison Mason, I'm a resident of East Orange and I would like to speak during the Citizens Comments and/or Public Hearing of an Ordinance.

I frequent the cannabis business BrwnBox in your town for CBD products for my anxiety and depression and at the same time, I usually also visit several other Orange businesses. Banning this business in your town is a demonstration of an antiquated culture committed to the continued stigmatization and criminalization of cannabis -- a medicinal substance recognized by scientists, doctors, and now, state and federal governments.

It's also a terrible business decision during a time when economies and local stores are shutting down. It brings people into the area to visit cafes, shops, and other businesses, who would otherwise do their shopping elsewhere. Furthermore, Cannabis businesses create billions of dollars in tax revenue nationwide, in addition to creating jobs, providing a safe community space for people who are interested in natural approaches to healing, and in the case of BrwnBox, this cannabis business helps to reverse the decades of racialized arrests of Black and brown people who were targeted by the "War on Drugs".

Banning cannabis businesses in Orange would, in that way, be an extension of the racist industrial prison system and the war to separate, displace, and disenfranchise Black and brown people and families in Essex County. I strongly urge you to reverse your consideration of banning cannabis businesses in Orange and save the town of Orange from a barrage of negative press that is inevitable if this ordinance passes. Thank you for your time.

Nix Corporan
dcorporan0201@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Cannabis Business Ban

I'm a customer of a Cannabis Business in Orange (BrwnBox) and it's been one of the most helpful places for me to shop at. I suffer from PCOS (Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome) and there aren't medications currently to treat the syndrome itself. I was introduced to cannabis by a family member who had similar ovarian pain and ever since, it's been a healing tool for me when I do get pains.

It would be a disservice to folks like myself to ban cannabis businesses like BrwnBox. Marijuana can be helpful in alieving stress, pain and so much more. If you have bars selling alcohol, which has a worse effect on your body in the long run, why should you ban mom and pop shops who are selling healing medicine and herbal remedies?

Marshallin McKenzie
marshallinredwood@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox

What is the main purpose for banning all cannabis, NON THC substances in the City of Orange? This particular business, BRWNBOX has been established and a comfort to many of us who live in the City of Orange. What are the legal reasons for this new trend? Marijuana is practically legal in New Jersey and other states and even in Mexico (soon) why can businesses that provide a natural substance that helps those with mental and physical issues now be BANNED in the City of Orange? What is the percentage of business owners who have a cannabis based business? OR even better yet is it because you are not getting a certain percentage of local business taxes from these businesses. It seems all too fishy. You welcome a business like BRWNBOX to be operational in this community, town, etc. and then are trying to diminish a business that is safe and beneficial to local resident's health? Are you all trying to get more money out of these businesses seeing as marijuana is somewhat legal in New Jersey or is it because it is a black owned business and it does not look goof OR some individuals think it is not a good look for this township? So many questions and I am pretty sure the individual reading this email cannot answer. I am sure there is an underlying reason to why this is now a trend and it does not have a pleasant smell. How can this be resolved without diminishing a local business that has helped locals especially during this pandemic? America "promotes" small businesses but yet so quick to end them. Do better.

Nick Preziosi
nickpreziosi@me.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Concerned Citizen

The state recently legalized Marijuana. I find it interesting that you'd want to ban the only cannabis business in your city from doing business. I find it an even more interesting coincidence that this business is black owned as well. To me, it seems the targeting of this business is based on something else besides cannabis.

Maritza Fernandez
mari.fernandez2907@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox Belongs

I hope this email finds you well. It is appalling to me that you would consider banning cannabis companies from thriving in a minority based city. Please reconsider this matter as it would affect the community in a negative way if this business were to be removed from the city.

Lisa C.
lisa@visinequeen.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Do Not Ban Cannabis Sales in Orange

My name is Lisa and I am a resident of Bayonne, NJ. Our friends own the business BrwnBox located in Orange. We were painstakingly informed that the city plans on banning any cannabis sales in Orange.

I'd like to say that this is a mistake to make, against not only the amazing business I just mentioned, but to ALL residents of the town of Orange. Cannabis is medicine. Observe the many changes USA has had regarding the plant in every state. Please acknowledge this moment as one that will not hurt the town, but improve business in Orange. It will also allow for further understanding of the plant which is not a drug and so beneficial to many.

The owner of BrwnBox, Ms. Almaz, is a wonderful young lady. The work she has put in to open it and make it a beneficial place for the community is a sight to see. I urge you, the reader, and your staff to actually visit the current canna-businesses open in your town so you can see how much they mean to the community. I'm open to provide more feedback and more understanding of Cannabis if your office would like. Please reconsider this disastrous decision.

Ashlee Chance

ashleechance@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Please do not ban Brwnbox

My name is Ashlee. I've been a customer of brwnbox for quite some time now. I truly enjoy this establishment and everything they stand for from there excellent customer service to them simply remembering my order without me saying a word. I believe brwnbox is great for your city and community! There is no reason for you to be ban this black owned business, but instead I ask that you simply value it!

SaVonne Anderson

savonne@ayapaper.co

Ordinance 14-2021- Cannabis in Orange

I am writing in support of cannabis sales in Orange, NJ. I was informed that there will be a town hall meeting tomorrow, and although I cannot be there, I believe that having cannabis dispensaries would be a benefit to the community. Currently there is a CBD store in Orange called Brwnbox that I love and support. They allow me to purchase products that improve my health and wellbeing, and support a local business at the same time. Brwnbox has helped me understand the benefits of CBD, and if dispensaries were allowed to open, I believe they would be a great resource to educate the community. I hope you take my comments into consideration during the town hall.

Azja Greene

pumptuniversity@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Prevent the ban on cannabis business

This message is to address concerns that "Cannabis" businesses such as BRWNBOX KITCHEN are being banned in Orange, NJ. I want to use this message as a vote in favor of keeping such businesses including this one in good standing and running within this city. They offer natural healing that is exactly what this city needs. It promotes positivity and serves its community in immeasurable ways. It was be not in the best interest of the city of Orange to ban this as well as similar businesses. It could prove to be lucrative and help stimulate our failing economy.

Yasmine Chisolm

chisolm.yasmine@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox CBD

My name is Yasmine Jameelah and Brwnbox CBD has made an impactful change in my life, as well as many people in Orange NJ. Wellness Spaces like this don't exist for Black and Brown people and I ask that you reconsider and support them. They're doing great work and are kind people.

Ty Griffith

544 Freeman Street

Orange, NJ 07050

Ordinance 14-2021- Cannabis Ordinance

My name is Ty Griffith. I am a minority serial entrepreneur and cofounder of brwnbox, which is a minority owned, women lead, hemp based cannabis business in Orange, NJ. We moved our retail operations from Maplewood, NJ to Orange, NJ in Feb 2020 because of what we believed the city, and the valley arts area, represented. That is, an engaged, forward thinking community, that was business friendly, open to new ideas and striving for economic development.

Since founding brwnbox we've touched thousands of customers in the Essex county area and have cultivated an empowered community of cannabis users for health based reasons. Our customers have found relief from ailments like epilepsy, fibromyalgia, chronic pain, anxiety, and more. And they view us as a holistic alternative to the opioid crisis; a necessary community staple in the new world. We started brwnbox because we thought cannabis products should have a designed space to answer customer questions and give them support, an alternative to the gas station retailing we had been seeing.

I am urging the City Council to reconsider this bill, as it not only directly impacts the health goals of the community, it stifles the potential economic growth the city will directly benefit from.

As an experienced entrepreneur in this space that has had some success, I am willing to be a resource to the city to develop a safe and practical framework for allowing cannabis businesses to operate within the city limits. The residents of Orange deserve this. Please engage me on this matter.

Lauren Brake
3190 Hull Avenue
Bronx, NY 10467

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox Belongs

It has come to my attention that there is a hearing tomorrow to shut down Cannabis businesses in Orange tomorrow. I'm writing this email in support of Brwnbox, a black-owned Cannabis business in Orange that has become a community staple that is changing the trajectory of what owning a Cannabis business truly means. We need more businesses able to navigate this market in a legal way and taking away that right is unlawful. I'm writing to ask that you please overturn the decision to ban cannabis businesses and allow businesses like Brwnbox to continue to thrive.

Chrystofer Davis
40 Richmond Street
Newark, NJ 07103

Ordinance 14-2021- Ban on Dispensaries

I am writing this letter to express my thoughts on the proposed ban on Cannabis dispensaries in Orange, NJ. A particular store in Orange called BrwnBox has been a staple for myself, my colleagues, and the community. They provide legal CBD products that help with my anxiety and stress. Banning this store would be a major lost for the community.

Kelechi Asoluka
kelechiasoluka@icloud.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox

The store is a staple in the community. It provides jobs and a safe place to express your creativity!

Briana Gouin
briana.gouin03@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- No Cannabis Ban

Hi my name is Briana Gouin. I am born in raised in orange. I am writing this email as a means to stop this potential cannabis ban. I can empathize and understand why a lot of the older community would want this ban. I think before anything educating those with concerns would be a better start and also understanding why so many people resort to cannabis. It is not just recreational it is very much medicinal. And also there is so much to know about the cannabis industry that dismissing it now I feel would be a huge mistake. Again as someone who grew up in orange I know our history, I know our crime rate and yes I've lost a handful of friends/associates from it so I can understand why cannabis maybe associated with it all. But I also believe there are beautiful businesses like Brwnbox on Freeman street that has exactly what this community has always needed; folks that are well informed that provide the community with products to help heal all the discomforts we experience from mental to physical. Thank you so much.

Alexandra Maquinalez
alexandrawork3@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Banning CBD Business

I am concerned about your possible decision to ban cannabis companies. As a citizen of NJ, I really think this is a terrible decision. There are many CBD companies completely legal that supply a means of healing to our community without using drugs are toxic elements into our bodies. Please seriously reconsider. CBD has an all-natural way of healing the body from pain, anxiety & other disorders! This would be so terrible.

Christopher Thomas
chrisalex1483@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Please Don't Ban Cannabis

To all those that are listening. Please don't ban the sale of cannabis in Orange. Soon cannabis is going to be legal for sale and use all across New Jersey. This is a great opportunity to create jobs, support small local businesses and put money back into our community. If dispensaries are banned in Orange than Orange residents will be definitely going to neighboring towns to buy their legal cannabis products. Let's keep that money in our city by supporting sale of Cannabis in Orange.

Hadiyyah Salaam
hadiyyah.salaam@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Please do not ban cannabis from Orange

My name is Hadiyyah Salaam and I am outraged that Orange wants to ban cannabis businesses. Since this time last year I have been suffering a great deal with depression and anxiety. Before the pandemic, I was already taking medication for my Major Depressive Disorder but amidst the chaos, loss, and hardship resulting from the pandemic, my mental health has been even worse. I was referred from a friend to try products from Brwnbox, a CBD store in your town. After reading positive reviews, I decided to give their products a try. Not to my surprise, they helped me a great deal and I've been raving about my new favorite small business still a year later. I recently read a statistic that people needing help with their mental health went up 93% in 2020 in comparison to the numbers in 2019.

Brwnbox has helped me and its purpose is to help anyone else who needs it. It has been scientifically proven that cannabis has tons of health benefits, even I can attest to this. Not only is it a bad decision on a mental health and morality stand point, but business wise it is a bad idea to 1. Be the reason a small Black owned business has to close during a pandemic but also 2. Push away possible business that could come into Orange. Please reconsider banning cannabis in Orange. Cannabis businesses are a change into the right direction.

Almaz Adeigbola

aadeigbola@brwnbox.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Stop the Cannabis Ordinance

My name is Almaz Adeigbola and I am a co-founder in Orange's own CBD store brwnbox. We moved our store from Maplewood to Orange, NJ in the middle of the pandemic last year because we believed in this town and what this town has the potential for. Being a business owner a little over a year now, the City Of Orange zoning department graciously extended us a certificate of occupancy and we have followed every rule and restriction to this date. We serve hundreds of customers of month for different ailments from generalized anxiety to sickle cell and Lupus. People rely on us daily to provide help, and doctors refer their clients to us often.

Every day, we witness the positive effects of being a storefront in this town. We meet fellow business owners & residents who all support our establishment. Every day, we help someone see hope in their wellness journey that they may not have seen before.

We also speak a lot about social justice and equity. This is a direct violation of rights we have worked so hard to gain. This would directly affect residents and possible employment opportunities as well as restricting taxes that can only help a community that is still under redevelopment. This journey has been incredible and I enjoy every day that I open the store in such a great place and I would really want to keep doing so. It has been so hard trying to educate community under so much propaganda that is still fueled by the failed War on Drugs. We are the 13th state to become recreational and there have been no negative effects to communities. Dispensaries have only helped towns & cities overcome many economic challenges that have plagued them for years.

Cannabis is wellness, you will start seeing very big corporate brands selling cannabis based products soon. It is not a market that the city wants to miss out on, and especially one that is healing your residents, and bringing opiate & other detrimental drug use down. Please do not ban Cannabis use. Let's engage.

Jayd Navarro

jaydnavarro@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Banning Cannabis

The subject of banning cannabis in orange is disappointing as it was legalized by the governor. We are entering a new era where drugs that were deemed "illegal" is now being legalized. Banning cannabis will only hurt us. Trying to take away the freedom and the freedom businesses can get from distributing cannabis is not your right. Please let go of the past and make a difference instead of hurting the people who reside in Jersey. Try to look on the positive side instead of negatives of what weed can bring to jersey. Tourism, money, and more people at peace. Thank you. Again remember unfortunately our fate relies on you please make the right choice and don't go against the people. We're telling you NO.

Tamika Blake
tamikablake626@yahoo.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox

I am utterly disappointed that the City of Orange has decided to ban cannabis products, or CBD products being sold. Especially, a black owned business called the Brownbox. This establishment has created revenue for the City of Orange while also providing a service that helps the community. CBD products and cannabis have been well documented in a number of medical/ scientific research studies, that showed the products that are being sold helps with an endless variety of medical and mental health issues. Brownbox established by African Americans entrepreneurs has shown what can be done with an array of talented people. This business shows what ownership means from the ground up. You would be doing a great injustice and disservice for the orange community.

Carleine Clervil
carleineclervil369@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox

This email is in regards to BRWN BOX LLC located in Orange New Jersey.

First and foremost, thank you for providing 45 minutes to send a comment regarding potential ban to CDB dispensaries. Please DO NOT ban CBD Dispensaries, for they are extremely vital to the communities around the world, not only Orange, New Jersey. This business is a true asset to the wellness community that is located here in the township of Orange. I repeat, please do not ban CBD dispensaries.

Isaiah Stratton
imstratton72@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Cannabis Business Ban

I am writing in on behalf of services provided at BrwnBox. Their products have helped me moderate my anxiety and make me feel like I have somewhere to go with those issues. It's a safe place. Furthermore, with the cannabis related conviction rates in your municipality, any and all LEGAL AND POSITIVE cannabis business operations will help keep those numbers down which was one of the main talking points in the discussion to legalize cannabis in the state of New Jersey. Please take these things into consideration.

Stephanie Oliveira
sxoliveira8@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Keep Cannabis in the Community

I've been a resident of Essex County for the past 20 years and I've lived on the edge of Montclair right next to Orange, New Jersey for the past 10. The Brwnbox Store is an important part of my weekly routine, it helps with my pains and my stomach problems. My mother herself gets cannabis based creams from Brwnbox that help with her sciatic pain. Taking away this store is like taking away an essential part of people's self-care. Recreational sales of marijuana should be something that is continued to be monitored & mandated by the jersey government, voting it out of orange would be a great injustice to the town. I hope this email finds you well and that you listen to the voice of the people in support of Brwnbox & see that cannabis culture is healing us, not hurting us.

Toi McRae
tcmcrae@yahoo.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Against Banning Cannabis Businesses

I am writing to express my concern with the banning of cannabis businesses in our hometown of Orange, NJ. I have been a resident of Orange all my life and hearing this news is quite appalling. Cannabis has been a debated issue in our country for decades and it's unfortunate because there are no known scientific evidence that states cannabis is harmful for adults 21 and over. Cannabis products such as CBD, like those sold in dispensaries such as "Brnbox" has been beneficial to the community. Those who have or dealing with pain or ailments that cause pain, anxiety and depression are now at risk for losing out on those products. Taking away cannabis dispensaries will also affect our community financially because then, residents will have to go to other communities, such as predominantly white communities to purchase cannabis products.

This is a huge mistake to make. According to the 2020 NJ poll question #1 regarding cannabis use among adults, approximately 67% voted to legalize this plant. That is the majority of New Jerseyans that see this plant as a medicine. No one is abusing cannabis, cannabis is not a "gateway drug", and cannabis is healing people. Why not take advantage of the financial increase that will result from having dispensaries and allowing cannabis to be present in Orange, NJ. There is more good than harm with this plant. I am asking as a resident of Orange, NJ for 29 years that cannabis dispensaries be allowed especially when lawmakers have already legalized the plant.

Alexis Jordan
alexisbej6698@gmail.com

Ordinance 14-2021- Brwnbox

I have been informed that orange is trying to get rid of CBD dispensaries and I wanted to say that BrwnBox has helped me so much with my sleeping. I struggle with insomnia & have been getting their products for the last few months and it's really helped me so much. Please don't close this location people like myself would rather use these natural substances over any kind of other medication. I'm hoping you guys will truly consider not closing dispensaries in your town. This location is perfect & professional so I really hope you guys will reconsider this! Thank you for your time.

Jeffrey S. Feld
11 Alexander Lane
Short Hills, New Jersey 07078

February 2021 OPRA Report

1. Do public officials have an affirmative duty to report perceived official wrongdoing up the regulatory ladder?
2. Of the 47 pending and open February 2021 OPRA Requests, who are the requestors?
3. Of the 47 pending and open February 2021 OPRA Requests, what departments or boards have delayed production?
4. Have these departments and boards historically delayed production of government records pursuant to OPRA?
5. What is the status of all affidavits of title and closing statements delivered in connection with the Bank of America/Rossi Paints March 2019 acquisition and bond anticipation note transaction that closed despite the filing of a Feld XIX (ESX-L- 0028-19) prerogative writ

action within the twenty days estoppel period?

6. Based upon the January 27, 2021 Amended Main Street AINS (without condemnation powers) Presentation and the posted January 19, 2021 CY 2020 Annual Debt Statement, why is the former Bank of America building still vacant after Orange issued bond anticipation notes to acquire and to flip the property to a Rossi related entity in or about March 2019?
7. How many CY 2019, CY 2020 and CY 2021 OPRA Requests remain open and pending?
8. Did Orange receive any additional federal document subpoenas or requests for additional materials in CY 2019, CY 2020 and CY 2021?
9. If so, what were their dates of issuance and receipt by Orange's record custodian?
10. Why the delay in producing and posting the "notorious" Walk-On \$350,000 Contract Approval Res. 237-2015 adopted September 18, 2015, the availability of funds certification, the three requisitions for payment and the three issued checks?
11. When will the local governing body adopt and release special closed executive session minutes relating to the January 2016 decision to approve the acquisition of the abandoned environmentally contaminated YWCA property by ordinance and the October 2016 retention of a new police director related to the mayor without any public comment?

First Reading Ordinances

Marijuana Prohibition Zoning Ord. 14-2021

12. How did the local governing body and the sponsor poll and measure the entire community's desire to ban and to prohibit all aspects and stages of the recreational marijuana growth, distribution and retail sale process?
13. In July 2015, did the sponsor of this legislation make certain false and misleading sworn statements about Council person Coley, Council person Johnson, Attorney Feld and his family to the Local Finance Board?

CY 2021 Budget Related

\$500,000 Revaluation Special Emergency Appropriation Ord. 15-2021

\$8,150,000 Thomas Boulevard Water Main Emergency Appropriation Ord 17-2021

Resolutions

\$500,000 Reevaluation Special Emergency Appropriation Notes Res. 135-2021

\$8,000,000 Thomas Boulevard Water Main Emergency Appropriation Notes Res. 152-2021

\$5,000,000 Bond Anticipation Note, Series 2021A (Tax Exempt) Res. 155-2021 \$6,800,000 Special Emergency Notes, Series 2021B (Taxable) Res. 155-2021

14. Do either of these long term indebtedness issuance ordinances require approval by the Local Finance Board?
15. Do either of these long term indebtedness issuance ordinances require the filing of a supplemental debt statement?
16. Pursuant to what long term indebtedness issuance ordinance is Res. 155-2021 being adopted?
17. Under what authority can a municipality approve the issuance of bond anticipation or emergency appropriation notes prior to the second reading public hearing on the respective long term indebtedness approval ordinance?

18. To evaluate these and other related municipal legislation, would a prudent fiduciary of a public trust examine the CY 2020 Unaudited Financial Statement and a Supplemental Debt Statement?
19. With respect to the Thomas Boulevard Main Bond Ordinance, will Orange seek funding from the State's Infrastructure Bank?
20. Is there a reason why the amount of the long term indebtedness and amounts appropriated differ in the Thomas Boulevard Water Main Emergency Legislation?
21. When did the Essex County Board of Taxation notify Orange of the need for another reevaluation?
22. As a result of this reevaluation, will the minimum guaranteed payment of all post April 17, 1992 long term tax exemptions be reset?
23. What is the anticipated additional debt service to be borne by local taxpayers?
24. When will the Res. 155-2021 federal municipal capital markets offering statement be posted on a public website?
25. In connection with Res. 155-2021, did Orange rely upon the services of any outside financial advisor/consultant?

CY 2020/ CY 2021 Budget Related Resolutions

\$400,000 CY 2020 Budget Appropriation Transfer Res. 125-2021

\$145,000 Lerch Vinci Special Financial Services Retention Res. 143-2021

2021 Accelerated Tax Sale Res. 145-2021

\$125,000 #4 Emergency Temporary Appropriation Res. 153-2021

26. When does the Administration anticipate delivering the CY 2021 Budget and the CY2021 User Friendly Budget to the local governing body for introduction and approval?
27. Why the delay in disclosing the CY 2020 budgetary **\$300,000** refuse removal, **\$40,000** administrative O & E and **\$30,000** law department O & E shortfalls to the local governing body and the public?
28. What triggered the CY 2020 and CY 2021 shortfalls in the law department? Why is the finance department seeking **\$145,000** in additional outside financial services from its Budget Consultant who according to the Feld X special master approved the "fairness" of the Walter G. Alexander Phase III long term tax exemption transaction under State law?
29. What distinguishes these outside professional financial services from the professional services approved by the local governing body on January 19, 2021?
30. Since the arrival of our BA in or about August 2016, how much has Orange expended in additional outside financial services, including auditing and annual budget consulting?
31. If the CY 2021 accelerated tax sale can not occur until November 2021, what is the urgency of adopting another accelerated tax sale during a COVID 19 Pandemic?

Bill List Res. 133-2021

32. What grants did Orange obtain via Millenium Strategies? (20-00471-**\$20,830**)
33. Did Integra Realty prepare and deliver net benefits impact studies in connection with the two Peek Development long term tax exemptions? (20-00560-**\$17,400**)
34. Did the Nishuane Group deliver a time summary supporting its **\$20,833.33** monthly

- January 2021 payment? (21-00411)
35. From what sources of monies was the tax anticipation note **\$5,000,000** principal and **\$66,597.22** interest paid on 2/26, 2021? (21-00573)
36. Whose approval signatures appear on the above referenced requisitions and purchase orders?

\$20,000 Lamb Kretzer Feld Related Litigation Retention Extension Res. 139-2021

37. Who researched and prepared this retention extension resolution?
38. Was Judith S. Feld a named party in any post November 2010 Feld related litigation against Orange?
39. In December 2010, did Orange (the former mayor's mother and the former director of planning & economic director currently employed by the City of Plainfield) issue a false, misleading and defamatory "frivolous" litigation press release?
40. Why doesn't this retention resolution disclose the dockets of the two pending matters pertaining to this extended retention resolutions? The Four Felds Inc v. City of Orange Township, HUD-L-1038-19 ("Remanded Feld X"); Jeffrey S. Feld v. City of Orange Township, ESX-L-0220-19 ("Feld XX")
41. What are the allegations in these two different matters?
42. How much has Orange paid Lamb Kretzer to defend these two matters?
43. Will Orange object to the special master's March 1, 2021 Walter G. Alexander Phase III "fairness" report?
44. Who reviews the work product of all outside retained professionals?
45. As we approach the fifth anniversary of Judge Christine Farrington's (February 2016) finding that our mayor and Willis Edwards III willfully disobeyed the law, what steps has Orange taken to collect all monies due and owing Willis Edwards III, including the forfeiture of all pension benefits accrued during his employment by Orange?

Outside Attorney Retention Extension Res. 137- to 142-2021

46. Is there a master list setting forth all non-tax appeal litigation involving Orange, the caption and docket numbers, the name of our outside attorney(s), all appropriate retention resolutions with their caps and amounts paid out to date, and which matters are subject to PEJIF reimbursement?

137-2021	Tax Appeal	\$25,000	plus \$10,000	
138-2021	Workers Comp		plus \$10,000	PEJIF
140-2021	Lamb Kretzer	\$25,000	plus \$30,000	PEJIF
141-2021	Stanziale	\$35,000	plus \$20,000	PEJIF
142-2021	Stanziale	\$25,000	plus \$30,000	

Second Reading Comments

Jeffrey S. Feld – hardwaredad@aol.com

Ordinances Second Reading

1. Are residents, taxpayers and interested stakeholders entitled to written responses to all pertinent first reading public hearing written and oral questions before the CC considers and takes official second reading public hearing action on an ordinance agenda action item not subject to referendum challenge? See, Jeffrey S. Feld, v. City of Orange Township, A-3449-15T1 (Aug. 8, 2018) (“Feld XIV”).
2. Are residents, taxpayers and interested stakeholders entitled to a prompt oral response to all pertinent second reading public hearing written and oral questions before the CC considers and takes official action on a second reading public hearing ordinance agenda action item not subject to referendum challenge? See, Jeffrey S. Feld, v. City of Orange Township, A-3449-15T1 (Aug. 8, 2018) (“Feld XIV”).
3. When will Attorney Feld receive a written response to all his prior written virtual remote questions submitted at the February 16, 2021 first readings?

CY 2021 CAP Bank Ordinance 7-2021

4. In CY 2014 and under the watch of Finance Director Mapp, did Orange negligently, recklessly and intentionally rescind its original introduced CY 2014 Budget and adopt an after-the-fact CY 2014 CAP Bank Ordinance?
5. Why hasn't the local governing body exercised its legislative powers and prerogatives and severed (upon proper notice and hearing) Orange's relationship with Finance Director Mapp?

PEEK Reock II Owners Urban Renewal LLC \$200,000 Recourse Redevelopment Area Bond Ord. 5-2021

PEEK Reock III Owners Urban Renewal LLC \$200,000 Recourse Redevelopment Area Bond Ord. 6-2021

6. Based upon what transpired at the February 13, 2021 Local Finance Board Meeting, why is Orange issuing recourse (and not non-recourse) redevelopment area bonds?
7. Does this proposed redevelopment area bond issuance by a qualified municipal bond issuer require Local Finance Board Approval?
8. If this proposed redevelopment area bond issuance were denied, how would the long term tax exemption financial agreement change?
9. Would Orange be entitled to a higher percentage of revenues?
10. Would Orange be entitled to increased staged payments?
11. What is the present value discounted loss of revenues to Orange over the lifetime of this long term tax exemption transaction?
12. Will these be tax exempt or taxable redevelopment area bonds?
13. Who will be the purchaser?
14. What are the projected interest rates?

PEEK Reock II Owners Urban Renewal LLC 30 Year LTTEL Long Term Tax Exemption Ord. 8-2021

PEEK Reock III Owners Urban Renewal LLC 30 Year LTTEL Long Term Tax Exemption Ord. 9-2021

15. Since the first readings, did Orange retain the redeveloper's counsel as special defense counsel?
16. What is the relationship between Manny Klein and Gerald____, an individual who hung out in City Hall pre COVID 19 and helped the mayor's former chief of staff remove her personal possessions from City Hall and whose wife objected to the selection of a certain ambulance supplier?
17. In CY 2021, did the Nissuane Group intervene or act on behalf of any equity holder or related entity in another redevelopment project in Orange? See, Jan. 26, 2021, Jan.27, 2021 and Feb. 2, 2021 205 Mt. Vernon emails from Anika Dodson on which Planning and Economic Director L. Best was copied.
18. Was the supporting applications and net benefits fiscal impact studies posted on a public website prior to the second reading?
19. What was the internal rate of return used to determine the "fairness" of this transaction?
20. Has the financial agreement template changed from the last approved PEEK Reock I Owners Urban Renewal LLC long term tax exemption transaction?
21. If the developer sells the project, is Orange entitled to any net sale proceeds after the recovery of a guaranteed investment return?
22. Are these projects located within a duly designated opportunity zone? Is the statutory guaranteed rate of return too high in this discretionary long term tax exemption transaction of a project located in an opportunity zone?
23. Is the County entitled to any portion of the annual 2% administrative fee?
24. If the existing structures are demolished prior to the effective date of the financial agreement, will the minimum guaranteed payment to Orange be based solely upon the vacant land?
25. Would it be prudent and more equitable to establish the minimum guaranteed payment based upon the assessed value of the properties as of the date of approval of the financial agreement and the tax rate in effect on the last day of the calendar year before the project went on line?
26. Other than the payments to be made under the financial agreements, is the developer making any other contributions or infrastructure payments to Orange?
27. From whom has the local governing body received a legal opinion or memorandum that the long term tax exemption transaction complies with the terms and spirit of the State's Long Term Tax Exemption Handbook issued on or about November 18, 2021?
28. Has Orange adopted a long term tax exemption policy and procedure ordinance?
29. Can Orange's current water/sewer infrastructure absorb these additional housing units?