

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

THIS IS THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD VIA AUDIO-VIDEO CONFERENCING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022 FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.

Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The City Clerk announced the Roll Call

Present	Council Vice President Tency A. Eason (North Ward) (arrived at 7:43pm) Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. (West Ward) Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III (At-Large) Councilmember Clifford R. Ross (At-Large) Councilmember Jamie Summers-Johnson (South Ward) Councilmember Adrienne Wooten (At-Large) (arrived at 8:59pm) Council President Kerry J. Coley (East Ward)
Also Present	Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator Laquana Best, Planning Director Gerard Long, Acting Fire Director Marty Mayes, Public Works Director Aaron Mizrahi, Law Department Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief Paula Ferreira, Tax Collector Chris Murray, Tax Assessor Vincent DeFilippo, Health Officer Nile Clements, Chief Financial Officer Wendy Sykes, Director of Community Services Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office Tamara Robinson, City Clerk's Office Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office (arrived at 7:37pm) Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office
Absent	Adrian Mapp, Finance Director Wendy Sykes, Director of Community Services

The City Clerk announced the requirements 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, published in the Star Ledger on September 2, 2021, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and on the Council's website (www.orangetwpnjcc.org), the City's website (www.ci.orange.nj.us) and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

A motion to adopt the August 4, 2021 Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III.

A motion to adopt the November 3, 2021 Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III. It was noted that Councilmember Adrienne Wooten was absent at this meeting and should abstain from this motion.

A motion to adopt the November 15, 2021 Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Harold J Johnson, Jr.

A motion to adopt the February 15, 2022 Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III.

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REVENUE COLLECTION:

The City Clerk announced February 2022 City Clerk's Office revenue was \$60.00.

The City Clerk announce the February Historic Preservation Commission revenue was \$140.00

There were no Constable Reports

There were no OPRA Reports

Police Department - Police Chief, Vincent Vitiello stated that the last Nov/Dec 2021 and Jan/Feb 2022 the City of Orange is down in every category of crime. Covid-19 was one of the reasons for the previous spike in crime. At 103 Central Ave the Narcotics team made an arrest of a known violent gang member with a loaded gun, drugs and hollowed point bullets. The tip of the month flier which speaks about vehicle safety, it will be posted to the website. There will be seven promotions in the department from Officers to Sergeants tomorrow, March 2, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Court Chambers. Thanks to the Mayor, Business Administrator, and the Director. Councilmembers and the public are welcome to attend. Council President Kerry J. Coly request an update on the violations on Park Place. Police Chief Vitiello stated there are now e-tickets which is a more informative tool. This helpful when the departments need to access this information quickly. The area will continue to be closely monitored. Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson wanted to thank Chief Vitiello for making the time for the South Ward Event and she would like to schedule another event sometime in April. Councilmember Weldon Montague, III also gave thanks to the Chief, especially on the treatment of a resident who turned himself in due to warrant. Police Chief was appreciative of the words of thanks from the Councilmembers.

Fire Department - Acting Fire Director, Gerard Long stated Deputy Chief Brown was recently promoted to Provisional Fire Chief. On February 15th at 11:00pm the Fire Department responded to a call at 617 Scotland Rd. corner of B Street. It was a heavy fire in a Mechanic Shop but there were no injuries. Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. commended Acting Fire Director on his promotion. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross also gave congratulations and inquired about the Smoke Detector Program. Acting Fire Director stated the Smoke Detector Program is on-going, there were a few calls but not as many as last month. He also gave congratulatory remarks to the Police Department on their recent promotions.

Public Works - Public Works Director, Marty Mayes stated the Public Works Department is currently focusing on the upcoming spring projects waiting on the weather to break. As stated in the last meeting, there are major upgrades in the works for some of the parks. Upgrade to the pool, landscaping and equipment are some items on the list. There are also plans for street resurfacing. Councilmember Weldon Montague, III inquired who would be handling the maintenance of the baseball fields, why is there flooding on Day Street where the brook is, and the status of the safety rail on Dwayne Street because there is a safety concern. Director Marty Mayes stated Sports Care would be handling the work for the baseball field and maintaining the turf. All three parks will be ready for baseball season. He also stated there had been a quick fix with the sidewalk near the brook on Day Street but there will be more work on the piping once the weather breaks. He also stated the Engineers report found there was no need for a guide rail in this location and a speed hump is there recommendation. This report was sent to the City Clerk's Office and forwarded to the Councilmembers. This does not mean we cannot install the rails. Director Mayes stated the Engineering Firm did a study that went back five years. Councilmember Montague, III inquired about

the parking on Washington and Colgate Park plans. Director Mayes stated he is waiting on some paperwork concerning the Washington Street parking and hopes everything will be obtain for discussion at the next meeting. He would know more about the Colgate Park plans tomorrow. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about the pot holes. Director Mayes informed him that he has been out looking at the streets. We are not through the season yet but they are patching.

Public Works continued

The plans are to begin paving when the weather becomes consistent. Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. wanted to follow up on e-mails that were sent through the Business Administrator.

Planning Department - Planning Director, Laquana Best stated redevelopment projects are progressing as scheduled. She announced the Orange, East Orange & Irvington Chamber of Commerce Tri-Community Commercial and Residential Seminar being held on Thursday March 10th 6pm at Sandwiches Unlimited. Mayor Dwayne Warren will be presenting at this event. The tickets are \$10 and information on how the tickets can be obtain will be sent to the City Clerk's Office. Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr and Council Vice President Tency A. Eason requested the information for the Seminar.

Tax Collectors Department -Tax Collector, Paula Ferreira announced that reminder notices for taxes due on February 1, 2022, will be mailed at the end of this week. She also stated that \$6,785,952.34 in taxes was collected this month.

Council President Kerry J. Coley announced that this was not time for public comments, as someone spoke out of turn. He instructed the IT to mute anyone speaking out of turn.

Tax Assessors Department - Tax Assessor, Chris Murray stated residents/property owners should have received a proposed value letter and if they have not received their letter at 973-952-6062, they should reach out to him so that the letter can be sent. Those who have received their letter should make appointment. Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson thanked him for his patience with the Seniors Citizens of the city. Councilmember Tency A. Eason requested that he speak about the Senior Freeze Program. He explained that further information about the Senior Freeze program will be on website and posted throughout City Hall. He stated the Senior Freeze is a state funded program to assist seniors during these trying times. Senior who qualify (over 65 years of age) will receive a refund check drafted directly to them. To qualify, income is not to exceed \$95,000. For those needing further assistance should call him or the Tax Collector, Paula can help these seniors.

Community Services - Director of Community Services, Wendy Sykes was not in attendance to give Community Service report.

Finance Department - Chief Financial Officer, Nile Clements spoke about the preparation of introducing the 2022 City Budget. Ordinance 8-2022 is to establish a Cap Bank and Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits. The Budget is going well and it is expected to be ready at end of the month and presented next month.

Montague wanted to reach out to Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk in the absence of Director Sykes, concerning the school programs. He also inquired if every department should be represented during Council Meetings. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated the school programs will run from March through June. They will be advertised shortly. He will make sure that each department is represented.

Law Department - Law Department, Aaron Mizrahi stated that the existing Central Orange Redevelopment Area Study that was heard and approved by the Planning Board has dealing with planning

board case of an existing structure is not being heard by the Municipal Council tonight. Please look to our websites for accurate information and not social media. A written summary should be sent by end of day tomorrow. He urged the public to use the City's resource for accurate information.

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked Keith Pressy about the lifeguard training program. He explained there are three classes and the training begins this weekend, the second the first week April, and the third the first week May. It is capped at 18 as they are looking to hire 18 lifeguards.

Constable Reports - There were no Constable Reports.

OPRA Reports - There were no OPRA Reports.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITION

The City Clerk announced there will be a Virtual Public Hearing March 3, 2022. New Jersey American Water Company, Inc. regarding Approval to change the levels of its purchased water adjustment clause & purchase wastewater treatment clause Additional details and further instructions for dialing in to the meeting are posted on the NJ American Water website: <https://amwater.com/njaw/customer-service-billing/your-water-and-wastewater-rates> or call the City Clerk's Office.

Session 1 – 4:30 pm, Call In Number: 1 (646) 828-7666, Meeting ID: 161 139 5821#, Password: 655147#

Session 2 – 5:30 pm, Call In Number: 1 (646) 828-7666, Meeting ID: 161 139 5821#, Password: 655147#

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS

The City Clerk announced "SPECIAL NOTICE: Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General Items shall be allowed to participate in this portion of the Council Meeting via the audio call in number and video conferencing platform by stating their name and address when directed to do so by the Council President. All public comments submitted though electronic mail or written letter before the meeting shall be read aloud by the City Clerk. The City Council reserves the right to respond to not respond during the meeting to any citizen's questions or comments. If the Council wishes to address any comments, it shall be done during the remote public meeting.

The City Clerk announced you can have your comments read or speak if you are present. You have to choose on or the other.

Aisha Samuels 401 Highland Terrace – Aisha hHd concerns of parking and other residents blocking her driveway. There is a concern of drop-off and pick-up at the schools.

Jean Guy Lautre Berkley Rd – Jean concerns was road resurfacing. Mayes announce that Berkley Road is not on the schedule to be resurfaced at this time but he will check on.

Mia Szymanski Heywood Ave. – Mia inquired if there is some agreement with the Lincoln Ave Apartments because it is leading to unruly behavior and litter, she wanted clarification about it. The Business Administrator, Chris Hartwyk BA stated that owners with parking available must offer free parking to the residents. Mia wanted to a better understanding as to why the speed bump was removed. The Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk requested the Police Chief put speed traps there. The Police Chief stated that there was never a speed bump there, but will monitor the area.

Chantal Wilson 765 Haux Ave. – Chantel concerns about the turf at Metcalf and are there upgrades coming for the tennis court. Director Marty Mayes affirmed that upgrades to the tennis courts, basketball court and pool. She asked about resurfacing of Valley Rd. which it is not on schedule. Director Marty Mayes is a part of the Green team which was referenced earlier, and he responsible for all these upgrades/

Aubrey Murdock – read her own statement

I live at 540 Liberty St. and work at 47 Cleveland St. I am writing in response to the Business Administrator's comment last meeting about Community Benefit Agreements and the applicable laws in New Jersey. The BA said that he would be creating a memo outlining what those legal complications entail. I look forward to reading this memo and would like to know when it will be released and through what channel. I am also writing with a concern about the Central Orange Redevelopment Area study. At last week's planning board meeting two business owners and one homeowner came forward to say that their businesses and home had been added to the study's condemnation list. Both of these business owners said that they wanted to stay in the city and continue putting money into the city; however, both were shocked to find their businesses on the list of properties to be deemed in need of redevelopment with condemnation. Other cornerstone institutions were on this list including Mt. Carmel church and Serrani's Bakery. I cannot understand why the city would want to displace long-time local businesses, institutions, and homeowners. In the meeting the city's lawyers were quick to suggest they did not want to displace anyone, but then why would these homes and businesses be placed on a list that would reduce their rights to stay in place and incorrectly classify them as being ill-developed and run-down? The planner that presented this study admitted to only conducting 3-4 site visits for this entire area, and not doing any research about viability of businesses beyond a superficial exterior survey, and looking at city reports. This report was not well researched and threatens to lose Orange reliable and steady local businesses that have opted to stay in Orange through turbulent economic times. Before it comes to council for a vote, I urge the council members to research the properties listed as "in need of redevelopment with condemnation" in this study, and see if they are willing to gamble these important places for an unknown future. Additionally, I want to mention that the city's attorneys, particularly Mr. Mizrahi continually interrupted citizen comment during the planning board meeting, and in one case said that those speaking up should be happy with what the city is doing. Not even feigning to care about citizen comment or robust civic engagement is not winning the administration any support in these plans. Some of the places on this list are vital parts of Orange's city fabric and cornerstones that have anchored the city through ups and downs. The city should be investing in these assets, not burdening them with the designation of "in need of redevelopment with condemnation." The urban planning strategy that is being used through the instrument of Area in Need of Redevelopment studies is only one way to develop and care for a city. It is important for us not to lose Orange's existing assets while putting all our eggs in this basket. Thank you so much for your time and your work. She has been coming to Council Meetings and its frustrated how citizens comments are met. Aaron Mizrahi from the Law Department stated this is not a new redevelopment area. The properties she stated were on this list since 2003. The Council President Coley asked the Law Department – Aaron Mizrahi to include his comments in his report and post to the website.

Carlos Figueiredo 400 South Jefferson - Carlos owns a business where he employs 7 people. They are proud to call Orange there home as a business. There was a two hour parking sign that went up which confused employees. He is asking for the sign to be removed as quickly as possible so that business can have employees park legally. The Business Administrator stated he was unaware of a recension of an ordinance on the sign mentioned.

Vincent Ector Arts Business owner at 400 S Jefferson – Vincent wanted to reiterate what Carlos stated about the sign. He suggested the City provide placard distributed to the employees.

Jason C Grove 604 Seven Oaks Rd. Street – Jason had concerns about re-pavement from South Centre Street. The speeding from Lincoln to Highland is very dangerous and need speed Signage. Low hanging wires in his back yard wanted to identify if the City or PSEG should handle this.

Vidya Ramakrishnan 15 South Essex Ave. - Vidya wanted to echo the comments of Carlos Figueiredo comments about the two hour parking.

Kweli Campbell 552 Argyle Ave – Kweli was Seaking on behalf of friends of Metcalf Park, she is excited to see upgrades. She hopes they take into regard community comments. They have park clean up that residents should join. Sent a survey from the residents to Director Marty Mayes for review. She is concerned with the lack of interest in the lifeguard training and wondering if there is was any outreach to the high schools which Mr. Keith Pressy affirmed. This was done as they are looking for the youth to take the training and secure summer jobs. Fliers were also sent through Constant Contact and the PTO is pushing this program. Because the students who receive the certification will be the students the City will employ. If there is financial concern for the applicant, there will be a reimbursement program. Councilmember Summers Johnson interjected that the students have a rigorous preliminary pre-testing to get in the program. She inquired who was responsible for the Economic Development Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk replied that the responsibility was the Business Administrator and Planning Director.

James C. Ward, III 742 Hauxton Ave – James stated most of the comments in the City Council meetings have been repetitive for the past four years with no action. There is not enough information disseminated to the residents and we need a Planner. Plans need to be laid out and a schedule to fix these concerns fulfilling the plans. The pick-up sand drop off at schools, the road re-pavement, all of these concerns and nothing is being done. There are a lot buildings going up but in none of the plans are taking into consideration the parking. We completely forgot about the cannabis legislation. He personally did research and brought solutions to issues of concerns. He stated that Councilmembers are our Legislators and we need to implement more action items to make our town a better place.

Douglas Farrand employed at 47 Cleveland Street – Douglas wanted to bring attention to the upcoming 6th Annual City Music Festival in May 13-15th, which celebrates local musicians and business owners. He wanted to raise a voice of concern about the Central Orange Redevelopment Area Study. He had the impression that it would be voted on during this meeting. He applauds the details from the Law Department concerning this issue. We don't want to see small local business shut out or have to close.

Zaki Michael 35 Cleveland Street, Program and Community Organizer for The Hub.- Zaki read a comment addressing the Planning Board on the Central Orange Development Area Study vote. The Council should table this vote and consider residents voice. He stated it did not consider using the public opinions as they were unaware of this process and this is poor practice. The residents should be aware of their rights in this process. The top down process is not in the interest of the residents. He is requesting an Advisory Board for the purpose of allowing residents to have a voice in planning process. He wanted to echo Aubrey's comments.

Sharon Forde 89 Central Avenue - Sharon wanted an echo earlier comments about the plans that where "so called" in the plans - not inclusive of black and brown people. Are the citizens being considered in the plans? There are things brought to the table but we never see them transpire. Why isn't money going in to the development of the YMCA or the library? If 89 Central is in the plans the property will not be sold.

Daniel Joseph Wiley, Director of the Hub – Daniel wanted to put on the record that it is wrong that people putting out inaccurate information on Social Media. There are two websites but not a lot of information for the public. There should be praise for stockholders and residents who are active in the city. Shows that there are people who care. The city should take a more accurate approach to getting out information. Encourage council to put a process in place with the plans of addressing the residents' concerns.

Tyrone Tarver, 258 Ogden Street – Tyrone spoke of the tax levy payments – part of the public trust issue is there is no public record of the payments. He submitted two OPRA request to show the payments. What banking statements are available for him to use in he can filling out an OPRA request. The information he received from the Clerk’s Office was the Finance Department stated no such statements exist. When it comes to the recreation programs, which he has brought to a meeting before has not come to fruition. The City seems to find funds for other line items. We should not use Education funds for recreation programs. He wants to know who will pay for personnel and overhead for these programs. The Business Administrator, Chris Hartwyk stated there is no agreement with the Board of Education as of today and programs seen on website did not take place.

For the record, The City Clerk announced Councilmember Adrienne Wooten arrived at 8:59pm

Avenue & Green Woodbridge Station, Shanice Cool 271 Ivy Court - Shanice inquired about pavement, the empty lot on her block has a lot of litter, and what are the plans for the abandoned hospital as there is a lot of activity in and out the building, people harboring inside. The Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk advised he would send a crew to take a look at the empty lot, there is a plan in the works for the hospital and Shanice could call him tomorrow

Tisa Singleton Fairview Ave – Tisa gave thanks to Councilmember Adrienne Wooten and Director Marty Mayes for making having a sign fixed that fell at her home. She inquired about the Fire Station after hearing reports of its unsafe conditions. She stated that the Fire Department keeps the residents safe, they should not have to work in dangerous neglectful conditions, and should have working equipment. She also stated that our students can’t swim because we don’t have a recreational center for them to learn. The city is aware of the bad parking and should consider creating a parking deck with all the buildings going being built. The taxes are causing residents to flee the city because of the increase in Orange Cost of Living. The Business Administrator, Chris Hartwyk stated there will be low-income and moderate housing available. Some items are due to Covid-19. The Fire House concerns are making sure the Firefighters are safe.

Lucien Severe 329 Heywood Avenue – Lucien asked if they are going to paint the curbs, he has been at this address for twenty years. He also asked for an accurate number for the Tax Assessors office 973-952-6062. Director Marty Mayes stated he would take a look at his concerns with the curb 973-885-1921.

Quantavia Hilbert 353 Lincoln Ave. – Quantavia wanted to reiterate the speeding concerns, more signage, road markings and street repairs. She inquired if there was update on Waverly Place will get road repairs and who could be contacted to cut down trees. Director Marty Mayes did not have an update but would put it on the list to check his number is 973-885-1921. Quantavia asked the Business Administrator to repeat what he said about parking for a friend.

Jocelyn White 345 Bradford Street – Jocelyn inquired about the street being converted from two-way to one-way , the signage is not helping drivers understand that the street in now a one way. Her car had been hit because of the poor signage. Director Marty Mayes will speak to her off-line about this concern. She inquired about the Fire House as this has been going on for three years. Director Mayes stated they could speak about that off-line as well. Councilmember Tency A. Eason commented on the street conversion.

Remarks read by the City Clerk’s Office

Troy Simmons -mpsbstudios@zoho.com - As Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, I strongly urge the City Council to reject the Orange Planning Board’s recommendation of February 23, 2022, to designate central Orange as an Area in Need of Redevelopment with Condemnation. If the Council does designate the area as for redevelopment, it should not allow the designation to supersede the existing zoning

and Historic Preservation Ordinance Without these laws in place, there is a serious risk of losing historic sites and neighborhoods, harming the quality of life in Orange. The proposed redevelopment area overlaps with designated historic districts and includes sites listed on the federal and state registers of historic places. The Nishuane Group paid no attention to historic preservation in its study, made only four site visits in a study of over 600 properties, and inspected none of the properties it designated for condemnation. Some of the inappropriate recommendations in its final report could have been avoided if the Historic Preservation Commission had been consulted and if the HPC had a designated liaison to the Planning Board. Among these is the recommendation that the Orange Memorial Hospital Site, which is on the national and state registers of historic places, be condemned. If instead the City followed the established process for review by the HPC before any alteration of a historic site that is visible from the street, the HPC could work with the property owner to develop a plan that meets its needs but doesn't destroy the appearance and utility of historic and structurally sound buildings, as we have done with many other property owners. The factors considered in recommending condemnation, such as being serviced by old sewer lines and having an "obsolete design," are so vague and overbroad that they apply to almost any building in the area. City Hall, which is also on the national register of historic places, would meet the qualifications to justify condemnation and demolition under the proposal approved by the Planning Board. This letter deals only with issues that concern the HPC, but they are hardly the only reasons the proposal should be rejected. For many reasons, I ask that the Council reject the proposal to designate central Orange for redevelopment, or at least not allow the designation to supersede existing zoning and historic preservation ordinances.

Paul Lombardo paullombardoart@gmail.com - My father, Joe Lombardo is the owner of 345 Columbia Street (block 2701, lots 14 and 18), where we operate Lombardo Iron & Railing Co. He has been in business for the past 40 years and I have worked alongside him, helping him to grow the business for the last ten years. Within that time, I have supported local businesses and become an active member of the community. Business is thriving and I am passionate about keeping this dying trade alive, expanding upon what my father has established, while continuing to provide a necessary service to the City of Orange and the surrounding communities out of our well-maintained industrial workshop. I am concerned about the Central Orange Redevelopment Area (CORA) study because: 1. this study was created irresponsibly by **not** properly notifying the businesses and residents in the immediate area about the plan and the criteria it would follow to create the final report. As per reports from residents, minimal, if any, on-site visits were conducted to assess the current conditions of properties. 2. this study does not include the proper community input from stakeholders who will be directly impacted by the CORA. 3. this study proposes power of condemnation and threatens the existing residents, historic sites, and several long-standing and successful local businesses that fall within the boundaries. It will decrease property and business values for all properties within the boundaries not designated for condemnation, increasing predatory practices done by investors taking advantage of discounts. 4. this study allows for tax abatements to developers for up to 30 years, with no restrictions, and it allows the City to ignore the Master Plan and all zoning and historic preservation ordinances, allowing developers to build in ways that add further stress to already overburdened infrastructure and have a negative impact on public safety and the quality of life. I would like to hear the council member's or departments' responses detailing how they will address my concerns around this issue and I would also like to request: 1. that City Council votes to table the accepting of this study until proper community input is received from all Orange residents and businesses within the boundaries that wish to participate in the study 2. that City Council votes to table the study until all residents and businesses within the boundaries are notified of their rights throughout the process and their rights once a redevelopment plan is established by Council vote 3. that City Council say NO to any study or plan that blacklists more than 500 properties in the city, slating approximately 10% (65) of them for condemnation, as this study does.

Volora Howell volora@gmail.com - My name is Volora Howell, 483 Mountainview Ave, City of Orange, NJ 07050. I've lived here since 1988. I am asking the City Council to say NO to the Study. The reason for the skepticism, the community has not received notification in a timely manner. Many properties are going to be eliminated. Historical properties should not be destroyed. Many questions have not been answered. The community should be involved and informed.

Martin A. Bowman Mbowman644@gmail.com - Orange City Council Do not approve any designation that would use eminent domain, resulting in the demolition of historic buildings, owner-occupied houses thriving businesses. Central Orange desperately needs redevelopment, but this is NOT the way!! YOU CAN DO BETTER! You must do better!!!!!!

Janis Blumgart janis378@aol.com Dear City Council, I am a resident of Orange and I live at 765 Valley St. I am concerned about the Central Orange Redevelopment Area (CORA) study because I am concerned about displacing residents and businesses that are functioning successfully in this area , as wells as some beautiful historic buildings. I am also aware that: *this study proposes power of condemnation and threatens the existing residents, historic sites, and several long-standing and successful local businesses that fall within the boundaries.* I would like to hear the council member's or departments' responses detailing how they will address my concerns around this issue and I would also like to request that any plan they come up with for redevelopment, work around the existing businesses, homes and historic buildings that are fully functioning, and leave them standing and incorporate them into their plans.

Jody Leight j_cyberbunny@yahoo.com - To the City Council: As a homeowner, taxpayer, and long-term Orange resident, I was appalled that the Planning Board approved the ill-considered proposal to designate all of Central Orange as an area in need of redevelopment with condemnation, and urge the Council to reject the recommendation. At the very least, the Council should insure that any designation does not supersede the existing historic preservation ordinance and zoning ordinance. The study, as the Nishuane Group's presenter conceded at the hearing of February 23, 2022, involved a mere four site visits although over 600 sites are affected. There was no inspection done of any of the sites proposed for condemnation, an omission reflected in the many inaccurate descriptions contained in the report. The criteria applied to justify condemnation are so broad as to apply to virtually any property in Orange. The redevelopment area includes multiple sites that have been redeveloped or improved within the past five years, as well as contributing historic sites. Designation of Central Orange as an area in need of redevelopment allows for unrestricted tax abatements of up to 30 years, a practice which has already been applied to far too many for-profit developments in Orange, contributing to our high property tax rates. While the Planning Board may have met the bare legal minimum requirements for notification of stakeholders (although I am personally aware of several property owners who were not notified), I cannot see what legitimate aims could possibly be served by rushing into such a drastic step without real input from stakeholders and a study that at least involves inspecting property before deciding that it qualifies for condemnation. Please reject the Planning Board's recommendation. If the Council accepts the recommendation, it should at least insure that the designation does not supersede existing historic preservation and zoning ordinances.

Reverend Anthony P. Johnson apjohnson@uuma.org - I have been a resident of the City of Orange Township for more than twenty years. For six years I have owned a home and resided at 219 South Essex Avenue, across the street from the site of the former Orange Memorial Hospital. The hospital site has now sat vacant for more than a decade. I grew up in a city whose center was badly damaged by urban renewal that took place during my teen and young adult years. It took four decades for the city of Danbury, Connecticut to carry out the redevelopment plan that was formulated when I was a teenager. By the time the plan was more or less done, many key and locally-owned businesses had moved to suburban malls or gone out of business. Some of the lots cleared for urban renewal remained vacant for twenty or more years. And now, in Danbury as elsewhere around the United States, suburban malls are fading or have faded

away. As an adult, I have lived in several cities, including Boston, Los Angeles, and New Brunswick and Orange, NJ. For six years, I served as executive director of a community-based organization in New York City. In addition to my two seminary degrees, I hold a mid-career M.S. in Urban Policy Analysis and Management from the Milano School of the New School University. At last week's virtual presentation, a member of the Planning Board stated that the redevelopment area included 643 parcels covering 130 acres. In my former role as CEO of a community based organization in the Lower East Side/Chinatown area of Manhattan, I saw how hard it was for highly experienced tenant and community organizers who lived in the neighborhood to stay on top of everything they needed to stay on top of in their neighborhood. At last week's virtual presentation by the Planning Board, those of us in the meeting were told that, prior to preparing its report, Nishuane had conducted four site visits. The assertion that four site visits would be sufficient for recommendations of the scale of those in this report cannot be accepted by anyone who knows anything about cities and redevelopment. The report was developed with insufficient input from residents and business owners (who may or may not also be residents.) In addition to whatever one-on-one meetings Nishuane staff or city employees may have had with residents and business owners, there should have been open community meetings. Of necessity, such meetings would have been virtual and thus less engaging than in-person meetings, but they would have been better than the limited meetings that have taken place. Last week's Planning Board meeting provided an opportunity for community input, of which there was a great deal, and interaction. But the input was too little, too late. The input was also too critical of the plan to justify moving the present plan forward at this time. Moving the plan forward at this time will increase the distrust of the city's government by city residents who are paying attention. A sizeable (mega) block area is already vacant facing South Day between Parrow and Henry streets. Except for that block and some smaller parcels there is little vacant land in this redevelopment area. A thoughtful redevelopment of that one parcel could encourage more of the redevelopment and upgrading that is already occurring in this neighborhood. Without a redevelopment plan in place, investors have been buying and upgrading properties and there is some (a small amount, to be sure, but some) new construction. I have received numerous queries by phone and U.S. mail from individuals asking whether I was interested in selling my house. Whether it be for speculation or long-term investment, I suspect that what redevelopment is needed might be market-driven as well as planner-driven. (I say this as someone who thinks good planning is important.) The neighborhood does not need to be trashed in order to be improved or even for investors to make money. For the record: I am not interested in selling my house. When my spouse and I decided that Essex Avenue was the place for us to buy when we left our rental in the Valley, we looked for and found a house that would serve us well as a home for as long as we were commuting to work in New York City and more distant locations in the region and would be affordable after we retired. This neighborhood needs some investment, some of the structures need upgrading, and there are some vacant lots. But the neighborhood immediate to my house—the couple of blocks east and west of Essex Avenue—is a viable community except for the vacant hospital. And that property can be redeveloped without wreaking havoc with adjacent blocks.

Nancy Decicco nancygirl4834@gmail.com - Dear City Council, I am a homeowner living at 433 Lincoln Avenue C3 for the past 34 years. I am concerned about the Central Orange Redevelopment Area study. Residents and businesses were not properly notified of the vast scope of this project. This study threatens historic sites, existing residents and several long-standing and successful businesses, some of which have been in families for decades. I feel a project of the scope would be devastating to many residents, tax paying homeowners and businesses. I don't think a project this large would ever be completed and would leave this vast section of central Orange desolate and abandoned.

Alan & Alison Broadbent alisonzbroadbent@gmail.com - We want to be on record that we adamantly oppose the new plan for Central Orange Redevelopment Area. It's short sighted and can't possibly support the citizens of Orange. Please vote NO!

Jeffrey Feld hardwaread@aol.com - MARCH 1, 2022 AGENDA QUESTIONS – Resolutions – 1. Why the urgent need for a third \$700,000 Pension Related and a fourth \$3,300,000 Water/Sewer Utility CY 2022 Emergency Appropriation Resolutions prior to introduction of the CY 2022 Budget? See, Derek Hall “Effort to reduce property taxes could prove to be complicated: November’s election results and years of increases have prompted the governor and lawmakers to take up the issue” The Sunday Star Ledger Front Page (Feb. 27, 2022) 2. Why the urgent need for a third post January 1, 2022 \$247,000 CY 2021 Budget Line Item Reappropriation Resolution? 3. Since January 1, 2022, how much CY 2021 Budget line item appropriated monies were re-shifted to other line item purposes? 4. In the interests of robust informed civic participation, why are the amounts of grant awards excluded from the resolution’s agenda caption? \$782,700 street improvements; \$39,693.50 environmental cleanup; \$16,500 police academy 5. What type of additional outside professional financial accounting and budget consulting services did Orange receive in January 2022? (PO 21-0076) 6. Who are the two equity holders subject to the tax lien in rem foreclosure authorization resolution? Orange Flats LLC and 256 Henry Holdings LLC 7. Why were these tax lien certificates excluded from prior bulk tax lien certificate sales? 8. Why the delay in foreclosing these outstanding tax lien certificates? 9. How much monies have we expended defending and obtaining the Jean Baptiste severance pay litigation dispute? 10. How much monies have we expended prosecuting and defending the separation of powers dispute between the local executive and legislative branches? (ESX-L-5312-21; ESX-L-9649-21) 11. Despite Feld XIX (ESX-L-0028-19) being filed within the twenty days estoppel period, did bond counsel deliver a clean opinion in connection with the former Bank of America/Rossi Paints acquisition transaction? 12. What is the status of this contested acquisition transaction? 13. Did the seller deliver a materially false and erroneous affidavit of title to Orange? 14. How much has Orange paid its bond counsel in CY 2015, CY 2016, CY 2017, CY 2018, CY 2019, CY 2020 and CY 2021? 15. Did our bond counsel have a duty to intervene and to question the validity of all post April 17, 1992 non Redevelopment Area Bond long term tax exemption transactions whose percentage of revenues were less than 10%? 16. Do all Orange professional attorney service contracts contain or exclude a mandatory arbitration clause? See, Notices to the Bar-Arbitration Provisions in Retainer Agreements and the Scope of an Attorney’s Disclosure Requirements (Delaney v. Dickey), 228 N.J.L.J. 509 (Feb. 21, 2022). Other Intervening Issues of Public Importance – 1. Is it true that two bays do not work at the Central Avenue Firehouse and that fire engines are parked outside the building? 2. Is it true that another racial civil rights violation complaint has been filed against our local police department? See, Anthony G. Attrino “Black shopper sues police, says white cops pointed guns at him” The Star Ledger (Feb. 26, 2022) 3. Were the police officers Latino? Prior Outstanding Written Questions - 1. Are We the People and not the mayor, certain redevelopers and the local housing authority the ultimate clients and constituents of the City Attorney and local governing body? 2. When will the CY 2020 Audit and the “as of Dec. 31, 2021” annual debt statement be posted on a public website? 3. How many non-tax appeal matters are pending against the municipality? 4. How does Orange intend to stop and to mitigate the public trust fund cash bleeding related to its in-house legal department and litigation? 5. Has the City reserved any monies for all the litigation matters listed on the Feb. 15, 2022 and March 1, 2022 Agendas? 6. Does the local governing body receive monthly or quarterly Best Practices outstanding litigation update reports?

A motion to close citizen comments was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson thanked the residents for attending the Council meeting and giving comments. She also announced that residents should not wait until there is a council meeting to speak to the Councilmembers about their concerns. They should reach out whether by phone calls or e-mails to express their concerns. She spoke about the cannabis concerns in the city. She stated that over 70% of the residents voted in favor of Cannabis being allowed in the city, five Councilmembers voted

against it, the Mayor vetoed Council's vote yet to have five members of Council veto the Mayor's veto. The fight for cannabis is not over. She spoke about the South Ward Renter's Association February Meeting where the City Attorney, Gracia R. Montilus explained their rights and how to legally withhold rent. She went on to thank the Police Chief for attending the South Ward Policing Meeting, where the Police Department spoke about crime statistics and crime fighting. On March 9th there will be the 2nd South Ward Rental Assistance Meeting, they will represent residents. Go on city website to sign up to get e-mails from Constant Contact. Waiting on date for clean up on Scotland Road but want residents and business owners to pitch in by not littering. Save the date April 16th as she is working with District Leaders Stacey Martin, David Armstrong, and Jeff Wingfield for a South Ward Easter Egg Hunt. There will be lots of fun with DJ, Zumba and the residents can take pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Councilmember Weldon Montague, III wanted to express that yes, 70% of residents voted to legalize marijuana, all seven Council Members were interested but the legislation that was presented by the Mayor was incorrect and it has never been presented again. Council is awaiting proper legislation that will protect our citizens.

Councilmember Adrienne Wooten sent wishes of a Happy Women's History Month. She announced there was "Soup Saturday's" Event every Saturday at The Field House where they will serve hot soup, give and distribute food and PPE bags. She has been collaborating with Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson and Administration on cleaning up our corridors. Officers, Public Works and Chris Mobley are working on solutions for our parking problems. She stated Councilmembers are legislators and it is not up the Administration to come up with the legislation. She and Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson are currently in a lawsuit concerning this topic by the administration. She stated an illegal meeting was held where she and Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson were not in attendance which called for them to retain counsel.

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about Ropes Park. Director Marty Mayes explained it is primed to be funded for by the Green Team late summer early fall. Applying for Green Acres funding will take time. The basketball court is the only viable part. Keith Pressy stated the park is not completely closed. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked what prevents lifeguards from leaving the city to go to another town for higher wages once they complete their training and are the wages are competitive. Keith Pressey informed everyone that the lifeguard program will pay competitive wages and there is an agreement in place to prevent applicants from taking their certification to work in another municipality. There is funding available for Covid-19 relief call 973-639-2100, it will be posted on the website as well. Councilmember Ross aske everyone to applaud Councilmember Weldon Montague for all the giveaways that he has been leading the charge in.

There is a concern with the parking meters on Park Street which Business Administrator stated they were repaired 90% during holiday season while bagged. He will get back to the ones on Glenwood Ave side. Pray for Ukraine.

Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. was excited to see the west ward reaching out. He invited residents to call him instead of looking on social media for information. He wanted to make sure they received accurate information.

Councilmember Tency A. Eason apologized for being late. She gave some history about Ropes Park and informed everyone that originally it was going to be housing, when they decide to make it a park, money was poured in to College and Ropes was supposed to close. Ropes is usually used for basketball training and she is hopeful it will be revitalized. St Matthews AME Church will be giving out free meals - 1000 meal grant for this program – council members' work hard even when they don't report. There was not an illegal meeting as mentioned before – they do want to make sure the legislation is correct. We must think

about all the ramifications to our young people now that cannabis is legal. We must give accurate information. Marty looking for Bradford Street to be taken care of as soon as the weather breaks.

ORDINANCES-SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

24-2021 An ordinance to amend the City Code of the City of Orange Township Chapter 4 entitled "Administration of Government", Article II entitled "City Council", Section 15 entitled "City Clerk". (Sponsored by Council Member Coley) *(Postponed since the 06/01/2021 Council Meeting)*

A motion to postpone to April 5, 2022 by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Postponed

2-2022 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" Section 200-52.1, Handicapped Parking Spaces. (483 Codner Street) (Sponsored by Council Member Ross)

A motion to close Citizen Comments by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten and seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

A motion for final adoption by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and Seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

3-2022 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 authoring the execution of a financial agreement between the City and Freeman Orange Holdings Urban Renewal LLC

Citizens comments via e-mail: Jeffrey Feld hardwaredad@aol.com Redevelopment Related LTTEL Long Term Tax Exemption Ordinance 3-2022

1 Does this proposed post November 18, 2020 tax exemption handbook urban renewal entity LTTEL long term tax exemption financial agreement and the mayor's supporting explanatory letter undercut and contradict Orange's and McManimon Scotland & Baumann's Feld X (HUD-L-1038-19/ESX-4978-13) Walter G. Alexander Phase III LTTEL long term tax exemption "fairness" contention?

2 Prior to consideration and official action on any redevelopment related matter, shouldn't we return to prior robust informed civic participation best practices and require a public presentation introducing the project to the community, the number and composition of units, a brief net benefits fiscal impact explanation and the height, parking, set back and design variances, if any, required from the applicable controlling redevelopment plan?

3 Was a supporting tax exemption toolkit net benefits fiscal impact study attached to the proposed 30 years LTTEL long term tax exemption?

4 Can Orange's current water/sewer, traffic and school system infrastructure handle the inflow and impact of all these new residential units?

5 Has Orange adopted a Best Practices Inventory Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance or an Ordinance requiring all redevelopers to contribute to a fund to preserve existing affordable housing units or to fund certain public improvements?

6 Were any of the Freeman redeveloper's lawyers implicated or connected to the federal Newark Watershed criminal investigation or bankruptcy liquidation?

A motion to close Citizen Comments by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III Seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

A motion for final adoption by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

4-2022 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 4 Article XIV entitled, Administration of Government, Boards, Commissions and Committees to establish the City of Orange Township Human Relations Commission. (Sponsored by Council Members Wooten & Summers-Johnson) Motion to adopt in First Reading: Councilmember Weldon Montague, III Second: Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross requested further explanation and Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. expressed concerns about Section E. and the number of appointments from the administration. Councilmember Wooten agreed to meet with Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson and Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr to make changes to the ordinance

Motion to postpone by Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Postponed

5-2022 An ordinance of the City of Orange Township authorizing the acceptance by the City of Orange Township a donation of capital improvements sponsored by the JEHH Memorial Fund to refurbish the Colgate Park basketball court(s) including but not limited to the erection of court side seating and court resurfacing, pursuant to and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq.

Motion to adopt the first reading: Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted**Final Reading: April 5, 2022**

6-2022 An ordinance of the City of Orange Township authorizing the acceptance by the City of Orange Township a donation of capital improvements sponsored by Omar Sharife Cooper, The Lifestyle Sports Agency, and ADIDAS AG., to refurbish the Metcalf Park basketball court(s) including but not limited to the repair and/or erection of court side seating and court resurfacing, pursuant to and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq.

Motion to adopt the first reading: Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

7-2022 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" Section 200-52-1 Handicapped Parking Spaces.(363 Bradford Street) (Sponsored by Council Member Eason)

Motion to adopt the first reading: Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted**Final Reading: April 5, 2022**

8-2022 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 2022

Motion to adopt the first reading: Councilmember Weldon Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted**Final Reading: April 5, 2022****CONSENT AGENDA**

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 REQUESTS, IN WHICH EVENT, THE ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AND CONSIDERED IN ITS NORMAL SEQUENCE OF THE AGENDA.

RESOLUTIONS NO.*121-2022 THROUGH *125-2022 *127-2022 THROUGH *142-2022 AND *145-2022

- 121-2022 A resolution appointing Hashim Garrett to the Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Advisory Board. (Sponsored by Councilmember Johnson, Jr.)
- 122-2022 A resolution appointing Alexandra Laurore to the Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Advisory Board. (Sponsored by Councilmember Montague, III)
- 123-2022 A resolution appointing Nakeema K. Simmons to the Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Advisory Board. (Sponsored by Councilmember Coley)
- 124-2022 A resolution celebrating the life of Janet Lee Laury. (Sponsored by Council Member Montague, III)
- 125-2022 A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Township Fire Department located at 419 Central Avenue, Orange, New Jersey to decommission and dispose of fire trucks no longer in use by the Department. (amended – 1 truck was added)
- 127-2022 A resolution approving the settlement in the Tax Court matter of 256 Realty Management v. Spencer Savings Bank, et al., in the amount of twelve thousand dollars (12,000.00).
- 128-2022 A resolution authorizing the services of The David C. Stanziale, LLC., to represent the City of Orange Township and the City of Orange Police Department in the matter, "Christian Obikwelu v. City of Orange Township and City of Orange Police Department, et al." Docket No. ESX-L-000777-22 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.
- 129-2022 A resolution rescinding Resolution 452-2021 entitled "A resolution appointing Kami Willis to the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Advisory Board". (Sponsored by Council Member Montague, III)
- 130-2022 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township authorizing in REM Foreclosure of certain tax sale certificates currently held by the City of Orange Township, in accordance with the In Rem Tax Foreclosure Act (1948), N.J.S.A. 54:5-104.29 et seq.
- 131-2022 A resolution declaring an emergency and ratifying a contract between the City of Orange Township and E&B Hauling Services, LLC, 52 Whittlesey Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052 for emergency additional trucking, rubbish/garage removal due to Tropical Storm Ida in the amount not to exceed \$700.00.
- 132-2022 A resolution awarding a contract to Associated Humane Societies, 124 Evergreen Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07114 in the amount of \$74,500 to provide animal shelter and other veterinary services for the City of Orange Township for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. (Amended 4th whereas)
- 133-2022 A resolution authorizing the acceptance of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Grant funds for the City of Orange Township for 2022 Various Streets Project.

134-2022 A resolution accepting a grant fund from the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund Public Entity Program through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

135-2022 A resolution allowing the City of Orange Township to accept grant funds from the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety Office of the Attorney General for the 2020 JAG Bolstering Police Youth Program in the amount of \$16,500.

136-2022 A resolution authorizing Matrix New World Engineering, 26 Columbia Turnpike, 2nd Floor, Florham Park, New Jersey 07932 to provide professional engineering and construction administrative services for the CDBG'20 Colgate Park Pool Improvements Phase II in an amount not to exceed \$68,000.00. (Amended 9th whereas clause)

137-2022 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, authorizing the submission of an application to the New Jersey Clean Energy Program Community Energy Planning Grant Program.

138-2022 A resolution recognizing February 2022 as Irish Americans Month in the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Council Members Wooten & Summers-Johnson)

139-2022 A resolution for the transfer of appropriation reserves #3

140-2022 A resolution establishing a Green Team Advisory Committee to renew Sustainable Jersey certification, develop and guide the City of Orange Township's Energy Policy using guidelines established in the New Jersey Energy Master Plan.

141-2022 A resolution awarding a contract of a fair and open contract, appointing Everett Johnson of Wilentz, Goldman and Spitzer, P.A. as bond counsel for the City of Orange Township for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for calendar year 2022. (Amended 4th whereas clause)

142-2022 A resolution authorizing a contract with Bell & Shivas, P.C., with a principal business located at 150 Mineral Springs Drive, P.O. Box 220, Rockaway, New Jersey 07066 to serve as conflict counsel to represent the City of Orange Township and Dwayne D. Warren in the lawsuit entitled City of Orange Township and Dwayne D. Warren, Mayor v. Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, (Docket No. ESX-L-003047-21), City of Orange Township and Dwayne D. Warren, Mayor v. Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township (Docket No. ESX-L-005312-21), and City of Orange Township and Dwayne D. Warren, Mayor v. Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township (Docket No. ESX-L-009649-21) in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for calendar year ending December 31,2022.

145-2022 A resolution approving the Bill List for Council Meeting vote on March 01, 2022 dated February 23, 2022 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95. (Grand Total: \$3,341,633.94)

Motion to adopt the consent agenda was made by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

126-2022 A resolution approving a settlement agreement and release by and between the City of Orange Township and Michael Jean Baptiste in the Personnel Matter of Former Employee Michael Jean Baptiste in order to prophylactically prevent further litigation and possible legal exposure to the City of Orange Township.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: Hon. Adrienne Wooten

Adopted

A motion to extend the meeting was made by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

POSTPONED RESOLUTIONS

71-2022 A resolution renewing a professional service agreement with the Law Offices of Michael A. Armstrong & Associates, LLC to represent the City of Orange Township in the matter, "Anthony Carey v. The City of Orange Township, et al.", Docket No. EXL-002475-20 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022

Motion to accept by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III, seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

72-2022 A resolution renewing a professional service agreement with the Law Offices of Childress & Jackson, LLC to represent the City of Orange Township in the matter, "Kason Scruggs, Jr. and infant by his G/A/L Salena West and Salena West, individually v. The City of Orange Township" Docket No. EXL-1742-20, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr, seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion passed

75-2022 A resolution amending Resolution No. 186-2021 to authorize additional attorney fees for Ruderman & Roth, LLC, as special counsel in Calendar Year 2022 with regard to "Keri Payne v. City of Orange Township, et al." Docket No. ESX-L-8869-20 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

84-2022 This Resolution was on the agenda in error.

105-2022 A resolution retaining Scarinci & Hollenbeck, LLC as special counsel with regard to various legal matters and litigation regarding the City of Orange Township in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, seconded by Councilmember Harold Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

106-2022 A resolution authorizing the services of The David C. Stanziale, LLC to represent the City of Orange Township and Orange Police Department in the matter "Joseph M. Cruz, Jr. City of Orange Township" Docket No. EXL-1742-20, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

109-2022 A resolution authorizing the services of The Antoine Law Firm, LLC, to represent the City of Orange Township in the matter, "Hillman Consulting, LLC v. City of Orange Township" Docket No. ESX-L-005658-21 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III, seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

110-2022 A resolution authorizing the services of The Antoine Law Firm, LLC to represent the City of Orange Township in the matter, "Katalin Gordon v. City of Orange Township" Docket No. A-001449-20T1 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

111-2022 A resolution authorizing the retention of Florio Kenny Raval, LLP, to serve as tax counsel for the City of Orange Township, in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for Calendar Year 2022.

Motion to accept by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, seconded by Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

143-2022 A resolution for emergency temporary appropriations #3 to the calendar year 2022 budget (Amendment - 2/3rd vote)

Motion to accept by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

144-2022 A resolution for emergency temporary appropriations #4 to the calendar year 2022 budget (amendment - 2/3rd vote)

Motion to accept by Councilmember Harold Johnson, Jr., seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross

Roll Call:

Yeas Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Adopted

There was no new business, and no walk on ordinances or resolutions.


There was no pending business.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Jamie Summers Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Weldon Montague, III


The meeting was adjourned at 10:41pm

The next City Council Conference and Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, virtually at 7:00 p.m.

Adopted: _____



Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk



Kerry J. Coley
Council President