

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

THIS IS A CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD VIA AUDIO-VIDEO CONFERENCING ON TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022 AT 7:05 P.M.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Council Vice President Tency A. Eason
Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.
Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III
Councilmember Clifford R. Ross
Councilmember Adrienne Wooten (Arrived at 7:06pm)
Council President Kerry J. Coley

ALSO PRESENT

Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator
Laquana Best, Planning Director
Derrick Brown, Fire Chief
Nile Clements, Chief Financial Officer
Vincent DeFilippo, Health Officer
Marty Mayes, Public Works Director
Aaron Mizrahi, Law Department
Gracia R. Montilus, City Attorney
Keith Pressey, Director of Recreation (Arrived at 7:10pm)
Wendy Sykes, Director of Community Services
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer
Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief
Tamara Robinson, City Clerk's Office
Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office
Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office

ABSENT

Councilmember Jamie Summers-Johnson
Paula Ferreira, Tax Collector
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director
Chris Murray, Tax Assessor (vacation)
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk called for a recognition of a moment of silence. Council President Kerry J. Coley asked to recognize the victims in Buffalo and there were two tragedies in our senior building. City Clerk Joyce L. Lanier announced that Rudy Giordano from the Health Department lost his sister. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason asked for special prayers for the victims of mass shootings in North Carolina and California.

The City Clerk announced a "SPECIAL NOTICE: Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss agenda or general items shall email their statements or questions to citizencomments@orangenj.gov no later than 7:00 p.m. the day prior to the scheduled public meeting. The City Council reserves the right to respond or not respond during the meeting to any citizen's submission."

The City Clerk announce that 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, 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.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

COVID Update – Health Department, Director Vincent DeFilippo

Director Vincent DeFilippo stated the City of Orange is in the yellow (moderate) for the past few weeks. We are getting about 20 positive cases a day but today there were eight. The County has closed the Kmart site in West Orange, you must go to Sears in Livingston to get testing and vaccinations. They are open Thursday and Friday from 2-7pm and Saturday 8am-2pm. The mobile unit will come to Orange every Wednesday from 3-7pm. The turn-out rate has been very good. The CDC is suggesting mask wearing due to up take in positive cases. The range Schools are leaving the decision up to the DOE, there was a 50/50 vote on mask wearing for students. The positivity rate is at 1.27. There was study showing persons who received the vaccine are at about 1.1% rate of positive cases. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross stated 97 Wilson Place will administer vaccines from 9am – 12noon on Wednesday, May 18, 2022. He asked who is enforcing the plastic bag law that took effect on May 4th. The City can site them and we get a percent of the fines. There are some plastic bags that can be considered reusable that are over 2.5 mil. No plastic straws or Styrofoam as well. Director Vincent DeFilippo stated that there has been no reports of ticks.

Roadway Improvements Update – Department of Public Works, Director Marty Mayes

Director Marty Mayes stated he needs to push his report back to the next meeting. Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III thanked Director Marty Mayes and the Department of Public Works for all the work they have done in particular speed bumps. Councilmember Adrienne Wooten inquired specifically about Burwyn Street, could there be a line of demarcation to indicate the start and stop to the City Line.

ORDINANCES | RESOLUTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED | AMENDED | REMOVED

The resolutions and ordinances to be presented at tonight’s meeting are listed on the attached Regular Meeting Agenda. If any Council Member wishes to discuss any resolution or ordinance, it may be discussed at this time.

Litigation Update (Executive Session) – City Attorney, Gracia R. Montilus

234A-2022 A resolution to hold an executive (closed) session to discuss pending litigation matters.

A motion to adopt Resolution 234A-2022 was made by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Adrienne Wooten and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

Motion Adopted

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Adrienne Wooten and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

Motion Adopted

Entered into Executive Session at 7:21 pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Council Vice President Tency A. Eason
Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.
Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III
Councilmember Clifford R. Ross
Councilmember Adrienne Wooten
Council President Kerry J. Coley

ABENT

Councilmember Jamie B Summers-Johnson

A motion to close Executive Session was made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.

Motion Adopted

Open Meeting reconvened at 8:05pm

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Tency A. Eason

Motion Adopted

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm

Approved, June 8, 2022



Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk



Kerry J. Coley
Council President