

**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, MAY 17, 2022 FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.**

Council President Kerry J. Coley led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Council Vice-President Tency A. Eason, North Ward  
Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.  
Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III, At-Large  
Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, At-Large  
Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, South Ward (Arrived at 8:15pm)  
Councilmember Adrienne Wooten, At-Large  
Council President Kerry J. Coley, East Ward

**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, Supervisor of Recreation  
Wendy M. Sykes, Director of Community Services  
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Office  
Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief  
Tamara Robinson, City Clerk's Office  
Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office  
Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office

**Absent:** Paula Ferreira, Tax Collector  
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director  
Chris Murray, Tax Assessor  
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk announced 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 and on the Council's website ([www.orangetwpnjcc.org](http://www.orangetwpnjcc.org)), the City's website ([www.ci.orange.nj.us](http://www.ci.orange.nj.us)) and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**May 3, 2022 Conference Meeting Minutes**

A motion to adopt the May 3, 2022 Conference Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** Hon. Adrienne Wooten

**Absent:** Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

**Motion Adopted**

**May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

A motion to adopt the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross.

**Motion Adopted**

**January 18, 2022 Conference Meeting Minutes**

A motion to adopt the January 18, 2022 Conference Minutes was made by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** Hon. Adrienne Wooten

**Absent:** Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

**Motion Adopted**

**January 18, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

A motion to adopt the January 18, 2022 Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Harold J. Johnson Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** Hon. Adrienne Wooten

**Absent:** Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

**Motion Adopted**

**REPORTS**

**DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REVENUE COLLECTION**

The Historic Preservation Commission collected \$140.00 for the month of April 2022.

The Planning and Economic Development collected \$171,175.00 for the month of April 2022.

Building and Construction revised revenue collected \$237,296.00 for the month of March 2022.

Building and Construction \$155,325.00 for the month of April 2022.

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked if the parking meters report can be added to the Department Monthly Revenue Collections in the future.

**CONSTABLE REPORTS**

There were no Constable Reports.

Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. inquired if his Constable appointee retired. City Clerk Joyce L. Lanier stated she was unaware of the Constable retiring and that this ordinance for the Constables needs to be updated.

**OPRA REPORTS**

There were 58 OPRA requests received, 30 completed and 28 remaining for the month of April 2022.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council President directs Clerk to file reports.

**Police Department**

Police Chief Vincent Vitiello stated he was sending prayers out to the victims of the mass shootings in Buffalo, North Carolina and California. There were two deaths in the seniors building which were not suspicious in nature. There was a hit and run at 109 Scotland Road, we will pay special attention to this area. We received new radar equipment and began training. Seven new promotions to Lieutenant in the Department. He thanked Administration and Council for allowing our Department to grow. We drafted up the summer program which he will do bullet points at the next meeting. There are eight new individuals on bikes. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason doesn't want to brush over the shooting incidents. She asked for the Chief to speak to so the residents of Orange about information protecting themselves. Chief Vincent Vitiello said be vigilant in your awareness of your surroundings and if you see something say something. Call the Police Department but do not engage.

**Fire Department**

Fire Chief Derrick Brown stated on May 10<sup>th</sup> there was a kitchen fire at 300 Oakwood Avenue in Apt 4H, the occupants were not home and temporarily displaced. Today there was a fire at 476 Vernon Place (the original Fire House – 472 Bravo side) at 11:00, a two family home where about 17 people were displaced as there was major damage. Mutual Aide Companies gave assistance and the Red Cross was on location. There was a fire on Chestnut, 2 ½ story and the fire started on the first floor. There is an investigation under way. There was a great deal of smoke and water damage on first floor. One Fire Fighter suffered a sprained ankle, he was treated and released today. Everyone is accounted for.

**Public Works**

Public Works Director Marty Mayes stated the weather is changing so the Department of Public Works is doing well with the spring projects (sidewalk and curb work included). They have begun on Ogden Street, Willow Street, and tomorrow they will move to William Street between Park and North Day. The park projects are underway, they took bids for the work proposed for Colgate Pool today. Duane Street and other dangerous intersections are being addressed. There will be stripping and upgrades to Signage coming soon. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about properties on Elmwood Drive and South Center Street, those two houses they need attention whether by the bank, owners or us. Director Marty Mayes will alert Code Enforcement. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross also asked what are the upgrades needed at the Colgate Pool. Director Marty Maye stated realistically this pool could use a \$1,000,000.00 make-over and it will be done in two phases. This will be a total upgrade to the pool with no disruption. The Spray Park was disrupted, the main control was ruined by Hurricane Ida and it will be about \$215,000 to fix the underground control system – so this park will not be open this summer. Councilmember Adrienne Wooten asked when South Valley Road will be paved as a constituent stated it has been neglected for over five years. She also inquired about the cutting schedule for vacant lots especially on Oakwood Place. How long does it take to put a lien after we cut these properties? Director Marty Mayes stated he would get a full list and then submit it – working between DPW and Code Enforcement. He would go to South Valley Road to take a look at it. Councilmember Adrienne Wooten stated one lot on Oakwood has been fenced in but there is a lot across the street that someone is using as a parking lot. Director Marty Mayes will check on this and get an answer. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked about the process of dealing with the empty lots. Director Marty Mayes stated if you see us cutting the lots, we have exhausted all other measures. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason asked is there is any time that we make exceptions for handicap parking when a resident has a driveway. Director Marty Mayes stated this is discouraged and we go on a case by case basis. Council President Kerry J. Coley asked if Hillyer Street is on the immediate repaving list, and a portion of it is. DPW is taking a bid for Ward then Elm Street next Week. Councilmember

Weldon M. Montague, III inquired about Park Place which will be on the next Agenda along with Waverly Place and another five. Director Marty Mayes reminded everyone that the repaving season does not end until November.

### **Community Service Department**

Director of Community Services Wendy M. Sykes stated Summer Camp Registration (Mayor Circle of Excellence) is open and will run from July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 19<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln Avenue School. The Summer Food Service Program Award approval has been received and will run from June 27<sup>th</sup> through August 19<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for Part-Time Seasonal Employees. They should come to City Hall Human Services Office to complete an application. They are also hiring Part Time for parks and pools. The Food Pantry is still open every Monday and Wednesday from 10am – 2pm. On June 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a The Orange Gospel Fest at Monte Irvin Park from 12 noon to 6pm. The Juneteenth Celebration will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> at Colgate Park. There will be more information at the next meeting. Seniors needing Medical Transportation should call 973-280-3825 with 48 hours advance notice before the appointment.

### **Planning Department**

Planning Director Laquana Best stated the projects are moving along as planned. The 258 Renock and 205 Mt Vernon should be complete in July. The Wawa project is moving they had to resolve few concerns. They have obtained their permits, and looking to start construction in the next week or two. Planning Department is working closely with City Representative. Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III asked for an update on Vose Ave which they are in the same stages but the project will be moving forward. The Planning Department has been meeting with the developer on a weekly basis. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross if there were any new developments and about the groundbreaking for 6 Freeman Street which will be held on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12 noon. Chris Mobley will send invitations to Council Members. Council President Kerry Coley inquired about construction site vehicle muddying the streets and can we ensure that the clean-up is done before the trucks leave the construction site. Director Laquana Best stated there will be a conversation making sure this is enforced.

Council President Kerry J. Coley made the announcement that any citizen speaking out of turn would be removed from the meeting.

### **Tax Collector Department**

Tax Collector Paula Ferreira was not in attendance at this meeting.

### **Tax Assessor Department**

Tax Assessor Chris Murray was not in attendance at this meeting.

### **Finance Department**

Chief Financial Officer Nile Clements stated he has an update for the entire Finance Division. Tax Assessor department is reviewing permits to determine if added assessments are warranted on the properties. The Collector did not have an official update but we do have an estimated tax bill resolution on tonight's agenda. Once it is approved the estimated bills will go out. The Finance Department has the Introduced Budget Resolution on the Agenda which the Hearings will begin soon after. There is also a Walk-On Resolution Local Finance Board Application for our Public Safety Cap Waiver. This year it is at \$2,000,000 last year it was 3.7 and the year before it was 4.7. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked for an explanation of the Cap Waiver for the public. CFO Nile Clements stated the introduced budget will be over our Appropriations Cap by \$2,000,000. Previously it was explained how you can increase the budget by 3.5% annually. This Resolution gives us the ability to go before the Local Finance Board, plead our case, that we are making progress on our City Budget, and if we do not received this Cap Waiver in the amount of \$2,000,000 we would have to lay-off Public Safety Workers which is bad for our community. We need this to keep our staff in place and this is a benefit to the City.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

There were no Communications or Petitions.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS**

The City Clerk announced a "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 through 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.

**Kweli Campbell of 552 Argyle Avenue** apologized for her earlier outburst. She stated she is a bit frustrated due to the lack of information of the Vose Avenue project. The trash at the site is unacceptable. Director Laquana Best stated that the department will not speak in publicly about issues that are under litigation and Ms. Campbell can speak off-line with her at 973-592-8506.

**Zonasha Ward of 473 Hauxton Avenue** wanted to her statement on the record and directed to the Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk. During the April 19<sup>th</sup> Council meeting it was mentioned there was a running list of employees whose phone numbers go unanswered or the voicemail box is full. This is not an endeavor she wished to pursue but she is willing to share a screen shot of calls that were made by a resident after a fire. This resident made calls to various departments between 11am and 4pm and did not receive any return calls. She stated she could confirm working numbers and mailboxes with space to leave a message is the Business Administrator, the Clerk's Office, Police and Fire. Ms. Ward stated as a stake holder in the City of Orange she has a concern directed to Director Marty Mayes. When requesting almost a half million to a million dollars and then saying that he cannot divulge all the details of what needs to be worked on in the City Pool, this is not a responsible reply. Ms. Ward inquired if there was insurance on equipment used. She requested an updated repaving schedule for the citizens. She also request speed bumps near our schools. She feels the funds of the city is not managed well.

**Quantavia Hilbert of 353 Lincoln Avenue** referenced her business address at 170 Scotland Road. She had previously gone on record concerning the safety and crossing outside of school hours. She questioned the Safety Cap Waiver and if Scotland Road would benefit from it. Business Administrator Chris Hartyk stated there are on-going conversations with the County to do speed enforcement and to add speed bumps. The County's response is that it is a residential area which the Business Administrator found to be an unacceptable response. He stated the City is having ongoing conversations with the County, they have no intention of giving up, and will report at a Council meeting when there is more information to report.

**Tisa Singleton of 467 Fairview Avenue** inquired about the Mayor's Circle of Excellence Program information been released and the details on the swimming lessons. Director Wendy M Sykes stated she would get her the weekly cost for the Mayor's Circle of Excellence Program and also informed her they accept Program for Parents. 973-789-1673 is the number Director Wendy M. Sykes can be reached at. The simmers will not be transported to East Orange, they will be at Central Pool.

**Richard Martha of 740 McGlocklin Place** inquired about the developments for Metcalf Park in particular for the Basketball Court. He recently did some painting with Friends of Metcalf and there should be a PO on the Bill list tonight and he wanted to confirm. Director Marty Mayes stated the city has received some funding in the amount of \$75,000. The project for the basketball courts has not begun yet. The engineering firm will be in the park to take measurements on Thursday and Friday. The next phase will be design then the pool, fencing, and tennis court. CFO Nile Clements confirmed the PO is on tonight's bill list.

**Chantal Wilson of 765 Vose Avenue** suggested the Life Guard Program collaborate with a pool management company to get life guards so the pools can open. Director Wendy M. Sykes doesn't know if all the spots are filled but he will look into it. Director Keith Pressey stated this is an option they could consider if needed. Ms. Wilson gave the name American Pool Management. Director Wendy M. Sykes directed Ms. Wilson to call her at 973-789-1673.

**Aisha Samuel – [asamuell6@yahoo.com](mailto:asamuell6@yahoo.com)** - I noticed that the sidewalk has been painted yellow on the corners of Highland Avenue and Lincoln Avenue before the construction of the new apartment building is completed. It took me 2 years, from the time I first send a letter and was basically given the run around regarding sidewalk painting BEFORE MY SIDEWALK WAS PAINTED. There are a lot of places that need the sidewalk painted, the corner of Highland Avenue and Highland Terrace for instance, yet I don't see or hear of plans to paint them. And how often will this be repainted? I was wondering whether or not taxes will be paid for the apartment building that is being built on Highland and Lincoln and near the Orange train station? If so how much will the City receive in taxes?

**Jeffrey Feld – [hardwaredad@aol.com](mailto:hardwaredad@aol.com)** - Does the local governing have the authority to shift the nonpartisan municipal elections to a November election cycle, thereby increasing voter turnout? Does the local governing body have the authority to require the nonpartisan municipal elections to be decided by a majority and not plurality of votes and with the possibility of runoff elections? Was consideration of certain May 17, 2022 agenda items delayed until the contested May 10, 2022 non-partisan ward elections? CY 2022 Budget Introduction Res. 235-2022; \$70,418 Public Website Update Extension Res. 241-2022; Water/Sewer Utility Violations Administrative Compliance Order Res. 243-2022; Orange Commons SG. Prior to the introduction of the CY 2022 Budget, will there be a short preliminary presentation of the CY 2022 Budget explaining certain high and low lights of this proposed introduced budget? What is the projected CY 2022 municipal tax levy and tax rate? What is the status of Orange's explanatory CY 2022 User Friendly Budget? Must Orange obtain State Local Finance Board public approval prior to adoption of its CY 2022 Budget? When does Orange anticipate holding the CY 2022 Public Budget Hearing and adopting the CY 2022 Budget? Although submitted to the Local Finance Board, why weren't certain supplemental debt statement and LFB applications posted on Orange's public websites? How much long term tax exemption revenues does Orange owe the County? In light of certain federal indictments and guilty pleas, the re-noticing of the Main Street Redevelopment Plan and the proposed Orange Commons SG LLC settlement and amending Reock Non-Condemnation Powers Redevelopment Plan, why hasn't Orange taken steps to sever its relationship with the Nishuane Group? How much does Orange pay the Nishuane Group each month for professional planning services? Who was the acting planning board attorney during the period when amending Reock With Condemnation Powers Redevelopment Plan was approved? When will Orange's "Official" public website be finally upgraded and operational? Who is responsible for monitoring the work product and annual retention caps of all retained professionals? See Res. 215-2022. How much has Orange paid its outside labor counsel in CY 2016, CY 2017, CY 2018, CY 2019, CY 2020 and CY 2021? Under whose municipal attorney watch did the Township of Irvington recently attempt to restrict, restrain, alter and abridge a resident's right to obtain documents pursuant to the Open Public Records Act? Must all full time municipal employees obtain written permission before he or she accepts full or part time competing concurrent employment in another municipal entity? See Township of Hillside Municipal Attorney Website Page. How many Feld related actions remain pending against Orange? Res. 244-2022 Is Judith S. Feld a plaintiff in any of these pending actions against Orange? Whose form and legality approval signature appears on all May 17, 2022 agenda action items? As of April 30, 2021, how many CY 2021 OPRA requests remaining open and outstanding? As of April 30, 2022, how many CY 2022 OPRA request remained open and outstanding? Of the 28 pending and outstanding April 2022 OPRA requests, to whom are they due and from what departments are documents missing? Must Orange commence a search for a new Finance Director, effective on or about July 1, 2022? How much long term tax exemption net sale proceeds and net revenues has Orange abandoned, waived and relinquished from the pre-August 2016 sales and transfers of long term tax exempt properties to new owners?

There was a motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers Johnson

### **Motion Adopted**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Councilmember Clifford R. Ross** wanted to congratulate his Council colleagues that were re-elected to the Council and to Council-Elect Quantavia Hilbert for the West Ward. He is looking forward to working with all Councilmembers to make Orange a safe, clean and affordable place to live. He is very excited about the introduction of the Budget on tonight's agenda and looking forward to adopting a budget that will be friendly to the Administration, Council and the Citizens of Orange. He asked the Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk if there were any updates from Millennium on the application for the infrastructure grants. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated there has been a list of grants that have been published by the Federal Government, approximately three of those categories apply to the city. The application process, procedure and deadline for these categories have not yet been published but we are prepared to apply when the process is published. Councilmember Ross stated he will collaborate with Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and they will start the season of with a Community Affair at Central Playground on June 4<sup>th</sup> with Vendors, music, games, prizes and fun. There will be a basketball tournament against the City of East Orange. The US Tennis Association will be in attendance and giving tennis lessons. The County is offering summer jobs for Essex County Residents age 16-24, and eight week program from July 11<sup>th</sup> through September 16<sup>th</sup>, 25 hour work week paying \$15 per hour. The deadline to apply is May 20<sup>th</sup>. If you need more information call 973-395-8626.

**Councilmember Adrienne Wooten** gave congratulatory remarks to Council members who were re-elected and to West Ward's Councilmember-Elect Quantavia Hilbert and she is looking forward to working with each of them. Tomorrow May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5pm we will have the Haitian Flag Raising in front of City Hall. She has a collaboration with Councilmember Jamie B. Summers Johnson on a group called Civically Minded to teach our youth about Civics in the City of Orange and throughout the state. The Garden Tool flier will go out soon the event is at the end of the month. She had a fantastic time at Metcalf baseball game on Saturday. She wanted to speak to cannabis, Jersey City has made a great deal of revenue when they legalized it. Councilmember Adrienne Wooten inquired about the status of the Clerk's Office repairs. Director Marty Mayes stated there is a plan to have the Clerk's Office repaired. The Business Administrator explained this has various issues as it involves the pipes, windows and roofs. We need to go out bid and it is a high price.

**Councilmember Weldon, Montague, III** gave congratulations to Council members who were re-elected and to West Ward's Councilmember-Elect Quantavia Hilbert and she is looking forward to working with each of them. We all love the city and want to move it forward.

**Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson** thanked all that gave congratulatory remarks. Councilmember Summers-Johnson received a call from Dr. Cook of Forrest Street School that we have a displaced family. There is a think tank about driving schools coming soon. The Civically Minded will be for ages 16-21, it will be held on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 544 Freeman Street from 2-3pm. Students will receive Community Service credit. On Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm there will be a dress giveaway at Metcalf Park. She wanted to thank Zeel Creative Studios, where she held an event last week, Meditation by Brick City Buddah, and dance by Susan Ramirez. She spoke about Art in the Valley as well

**Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr.** gave congratulatory remarks to his Council colleagues for defending their incumbency in positive campaigns and Council-Elect Quantavia Hilbert in her win in the West Ward.

**Council Vice President Tency A. Eason** thanked everyone for the congratulatory remarks on her winning her sixth term. She also gave congratulatory remarks to her colleagues who were re-elected and the incoming West Ward Council-Elect, Quantavia Hilbert. She inquired about the grant application for the infrastructure monies

with Congressman Donald Payne which has been submitted. She thanked St. Matthews Church and those who helped with the displaced residents. She wanted to make a plea for donations to the American Red Cross who helped with the displaced residents as well. She is looking forward to the Budget Hearings.

**Council President Kerry J. Coley** – thanked everyone for congratulatory remarks and the people of the East Ward for re-electing him to a third term. He also thanks his family for their support. He wants to think about the dates for the Budget Hearings. He asked Madam Clerk to poll Councilmembers keeping the Business Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer in the loop. He also acknowledged Councilmember-Elect Quantavia Hilbert of the West Ward.

The City Clerk stated Budget Hearings should began the first week of June and end on the third week of June because it is vacation season.

### **ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING**

**21-2022 An ordinance to amend the code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 200-40, Schedule IX: Stop Intersections (4-way stop) (Valley Street and Freeman Street) (Sponsored by Councilmember Summers-Johnson)**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

A motion to adopt on final was made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and 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 B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**22-2022 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-40, Schedule IX: Stop Intersections (4-way stop) (Valley Street and Forest Street) (Sponsored by Councilmember Summers-Johnson)**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

A motion to adopt on final was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**



- 23-2022 An ordinance to amend the code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 200-40, Schedule IX: Stop Intersections (4-way stop) (Valley Street and McChesney Street) (Sponsored by Councilmember Summers-Johnson)**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

A motion to adopt on final was made 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 B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

- 24-2022 An ordinance to amend the code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 200-40, Schedule IX: Stop Intersections (4-way stop) (Valley Street and Nassau Street) (Sponsored by Councilmember Summers-Johnson)**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

A motion to adopt on final was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

- 25-2022 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” to amend through streets.**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten and seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross

A motion to adopt on final was made 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 B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**26-2022 An ordinance to amend the code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section No Parking & Prohibited Parking During Certain Hours (Sponsored by Councilmember Coley)**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

A motion to adopt on final was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**27-2022 An ordinance amending Chapter 51, “Alcoholic Beverages”, Article I, “Regulations and Licensing”, Section 51-4, “Sales to Certain Persons Restricted” (Sponsored by Councilmember Wooten)**

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

A motion to adopt on final was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**28-2022 A bond ordinance providing for various acquisitions and improvements to the City’s water and sewer systems, by and in the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey; appropriating \$3,320,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$3,320,000 bonds or notes of the water and sewer utility of the City to finance costs thereof.**

**Jeffrey Feld – [hardwaredad@aol.com](mailto:hardwaredad@aol.com)** - Based upon statements made to the Local Finance Board on May 11, 2022, what will be the utility rate increase for the two proposed qualified municipal water/sewer bond issuances, how much annual State Aid will be pledged as collateral for the bond issuances and how much annual State Aid will remain available for other purposes? Prior to July 1, 2018, who was in charge of our water/sewer utility? When did Orange’s local governing body know or should have known of the water/sewer violations and the risk of a potential \$55,800 per day per violation penalty? When were the terms of the Water/Sewer Utility Administrative Compliance Order disclosed and explained to the public? What are the total projected water/sewer utility administrative compliance order costs? Who dropped the water/sewer utility health and safety compliance ball here?

**Kweli Campbell of 552 Argyle** inquired if we are getting answers to some of the questions being asked as some of them seemed legitimate. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated the financial impact of this ordinance on the \$3,320,000 bonds is \$3 per quarter on the average household water bill. With respect to the State Aide, we receive in excess of 8.5 million in state aid per year and approximately 3.3 million is pledged under the qualified Municipal Bond Act and will not affect the City's Budget. With regards to the Administrative Compliance issues, we have been audited by the EPA in connection with our storm water and sanitary sources systems. These audits are not uncommon. We are hiring an Engineering Firm to liaison and prepare the response to Administrative Consent Order. He does not know what if any financial impact but typically when municipalities work with the EPA, there are no fines.

**James H. Ward, III 743 Hauxton Avenue** stated there are three different technologies for eliminating P fast in our water system, he wanted to know if we explored all the options, because there are costs that are associated with these technologies. He suggested maybe we should have a presentation done by the water utility company showing what the solution is. There are many long term effects in making decisions. The three technologies he spoke of were activated carbon treatment, ionic treatment, and high pressure membranes and we do not know which one we are paying for. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated there will be a presentation at the next meeting with the engineering company and address these questions specifically.

A motion to close Citizen Comments made by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason and seconded by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers Johnson

A motion to adopt on final was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason

**Roll Call:**

**Yeas:** Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** Hon. Weldon Montague, III,

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**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. \*235-2022 THROUGH \*252-2022**

- \*235-2022** A resolution introducing and approving the 2022 Calendar Year Budget (January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)
- \*236-2022** A resolution recognizing and celebrating Juneteenth in the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Councilmember Wooten)
- \*238-2022** A resolution authorizing the City of Orange Tax Collector to prepare and mail estimated tax bills in accordance with P.L. 1994, c.72.
- \*239-2022** A resolution authorizing the award of a professional services contract to Gail Mitchell, Esq. of Schwartz, Barkin and Mitchell LLC to provide legal services to the Orange Municipal

**Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Orange Township in matters relating to zoning and land use in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 for the Calendar Year 2022.**

- \*240-2022 A resolution to extend a contract with Civic Plus, a software platform that assists with city website and management of township business in the City of Orange through SHI International, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, New Jersey 08873 under contract #081419 commencing May 14, 2022 until December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.**
- \*241-2022 A resolution authorizing awarding of a contract to Pugliese Pool Service, Inc., 15 Standish Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052 for the maintenance of pools and spray park commencing June 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$70,418.00 per year.**
- \*242-2022 A resolution authorizing the award of an emergency contract for HVAC repairs to municipal buildings to Millennium Mechanical, LLC, P.O. Box 1020, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424 in an amount not to exceed \$13,120.01.**
- \*243-2022 A resolution authorizing Remington & Vernick Engineers, 232 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033 to provide professional support services related to the “Administrative Compliance Order” for municipal separation storm sewer systems (MS4) violations in an amount not to exceed \$49,550.00.**
- \*244-2022 A resolution renewing a professional service agreement with Lamb Kretzer LLC as special counsel with regard to various legal matters and litigation involving Judith Feld, Jeffrey S. Feld, the Four Felds, etc. in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 for Calendar Year 2022.**
- \*245-2022 A resolution authorizing payment to the law firm of Florio, Kenny & Raval, LLP as tax appeal counsel for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 for services rendered in connection with tax appeal matters.**
- \*246-2022 A resolution renewing a professional service agreement with Lamb Kretzer LLC to represent the City of Orange Township in the matter of “Keith Butts v. City of Orange Township, et al.” Docket No. ESX-L-7756-19 in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 for Calendar Year 2022.**
- \*247-2022 A resolution authorizing an amendment to the contract with Lamb Kretzer LLC to provide legal services in the matter “Orange Commons SG LLC v. City of Orange Township and Planning Board of the City of Orange Township” Docket No. ESX-L-1395-21 for a period beginning January 1, 2022 and continuing through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.**
- \*248-2022 A resolution amending Resolution No. 433-2021 to authorizing additional attorney fees for The Antoine Law Firm, LLC as special counsel in calendar year 2022 with regard to “Anthony Antonucci, et al., v. City of Orange Township” Docket No ESX-L-005093-21 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.**
- \*249-2022 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, New Jersey authorizing the execution of a settlement agreement and release with Orange Commons, SG, LLC and the City of Orange Township Planning Board.**

- \*250-2022** A resolution amending Resolution 2-2021 to accept in part and modify in part the Planning Board's recommendation to designate the expanded Reock Street Study Area between South Center Street and border with the City of East Orange as an area in need of redevelopment with condemnation and an area in need of rehabilitation in accordance with the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.
- \*251-2022** A resolution approving the utilization of the three-year average method to determine anticipated revenues.
- \*252-2022** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 17, 2022 dated May 11, 2022 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95. (Grand Total: \$7,825,671.95)

A motion to adopt the consent agenda was made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and 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 B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

- \*237-2022** A resolution of the City of Orange Township pledging support for the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan.

A motion to adopt was made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

**Roll Call:**

**Yeas:** Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne Wooten

**Nays:** Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Harold J. Johnson, Jr., Hon. Weldon Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion does not pass**

**POSTPONED RESOLUTION**

- 215-2022** A resolution authorizing payment of legal fees to Scarinci & Hollenbeck, LLP as labor counsel for an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 for services rendered in prior years. (*Postponed since the 04/19/2022 meeting*)

A motion to adopt on was made 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 B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

**NEW BUSINESS AND WALK-ON ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

**253-2022 (WO) A resolution making application to the local finance board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:4-45.3E**

A motion to walk Resolution 253-2022(WO) on to the agenda was made by Councilmember Weldon M. 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 B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

A motion to close Citizens Comments was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

The Resolution is walked on to the agenda.

A motion to adopt 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 Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, Hon. Adrienne Wooten, and Hon. Kerry J. Coley

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Adopted**

Chief Financial Officer Nile Clements stated the Introduction of the Budget was approved tonight so we have to have the Public Hearing for the Budget no later than 29 days after the introduction, which is June 14, 2022. We only need 48 hours to announce for a Council Meeting, so we need to discuss dates right away. The third week of June does not work.

**OTHER PENDING BUSINESS**

There was no pending business.


A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason

Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The next City Council Conference and Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday June 8, 2022 virtually at 7:00 p.m.

Approved: June 8, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce E. Lanier  
City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kerry J. Coley  
Council President