

## 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 3, 2022 AT 7:00 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 Jamie Summers-Johnson (Arrived at 7:22 pm)  
Council President Kerry J. Coley

#### ALSO PRESENT

Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk  
Derrick Brown, Fire Chief (Arrived at 7:13 pm)  
Nile Clements, Chief Financial Officer  
Vincent DeFilippo, Health Officer  
Paula Ferreira, Tax Collector  
Marty Mayes, Public Works Director  
Aaron Mizrahi, Law Department  
Gracia R. Montilus, City Attorney  
Chris Murray, Tax Assessor  
Keith Pressey, Director of Recreation (Arrived at 7:23pm)  
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer  
Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief  
Avram White, Law Department  
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office  
Tamara Robinson, City Clerk's Office  
Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office  
Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office  
Kim Fisher, IT Department  
Tim Walker, County Liaison

#### ABSENT

Councilmember Adrienne Wooten  
Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator  
Laquana Best, Planning Director  
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director  
Wendy Sykes, Director of Community Services

The City Clerk called for a moment of silence and Council Vice President Tency A. Eason called for special prayers for the residents of 431 Park Avenue.

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](mailto: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](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.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Director of Risk Management for the County of Essex, County Liaison to the City of Orange, Tim Walker**  
Tim Walker provided an update on the traffic hazard at Central and Oakwood Avenue, the Monte Irvin Park exit. A couple of weeks ago in a meeting with Council President Coley, Public Works Director Marty Mayes, and the County's DPW Engineers it was determined a stop sign and right turn only sign should be posted there and study for a month or so in order to determine if the sign will suffice. There will also be an assessment of the light timing on Central Avenue to come to a final solution. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked if it was a light or stop sign there 20 years ago which is still being researched. He also inquired about the tree limbs in the Orange Park which Director Daniel Savant will assign a crew to make sure the limbs that were gather are picked up, look at the issues with the pond, and the potholes at the entrance. These concerns will be raised at the Cabinet Meeting being held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about the progress for the parks and the official closing times of the parks which there will be a request for the fencing to be replaced and the closing times will be researched. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason requested new technology such as a blinking light. Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. expressed his personal concerns about the safety of Central and Oakwood Avenue. Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III inquired about the Minority Business Contracts procedure. Tim Walker stated there is a registration form to be completed by vendors which allows the County to notify them of every bid the County has meeting their specifications.

**COVID Update – Health Director, Vincent DeFilippo**

Health Director Vincent DeFilippo stated the City of Orange is still in the yellow, and presenting about 10-15 positive cases a day. There were a few breakouts in the schools and nursing homes. The state had over 1,900 case last week and 500 hospitalizations. There are new variants, Omicron, BA2 which accounts for 89% of positive cases, the BA3 and BA4. The Orange School System is going back to masking as of last week. The positive case went up 18% in one month to 134%. Vaccination rates in the City of Orange: ages 5-11 at 74%, 12-15 at 80%, 18-29 at 80%, 65 and older are at 92%. There is a medication (pill form) that was introduce a couple of weeks ago with two antibodies inside that is effective if you catch it in time, you must be at least 12 years old and weigh 88 pounds to take it. Please consult with your Primary Care Physician before consuming. The Kmart site is still open on Thursday's 2pm – 7pm and Saturday's from 8am-2pm since the influx is on the rise. The Mobile Clinic will be at City of Orange testing and administering vaccines on Wednesday's from 3pm-7pm. Vaccination rates by race: Asians 2%, Afro-Americans 65%, Hispanic 27%, and White 4%. There is a NO plastic bag law following the NO plastic straw law. There is a hefty fine for business owners who continue to distribute the plastic bags after tomorrow, \$1,000 and then \$5,000. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about Hepatitis which the City of Orange has only had one case. The State sent a letter asking cities to report any cases especially with summer coming and the consumption of shell fish which has some effects. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason stated Whole Foods has a program that will pay you when you bring your own bags. She asked for a copy of the legislation to texted to her (NJ State A 13:1E99.126). She inquired if seniors could be charged in this legislation and Director Vincent DeFilippo informed everyone that Wawa will give out 1000 reusable bags starting tomorrow and every Wednesday at a different location.

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.

Council President Kerry J. Coley requested that Resolution 215-2022 be postponed until Councilmembers receive an update and supporting documents from the Law Department.

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross asked Public Works Director Marty Mayes to explain Resolution 225-2022. This resolution is to update software for the garbage cans on Main Street. The system needs to be upgraded for the 16 compactors.

Council Vice President Tency A. Eason asked for explanation on Resolution 228-2022, How many pools would be going on line and if this grant was for training the student lifeguards or adult lifeguards. Recreation Director Keith Pressey stated there will be three pools going online and the grant is to train kids or residents how to swim.


Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about Resolution 227-2022, installing playground equipment. Recreation Director Keith Pressey stated there will be four new apparatus' in Central Playground, one will fill a void and one is a replacement.

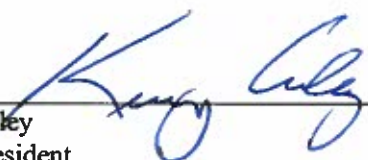
Councilmember Weldon Montague, III stated that Councilmember Adrienne Wooten was on Lincoln Avenue with the victims from the fire, and she would try to join the meeting as soon as possible.

A motion to adjourn the Conference Meeting was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33p.m.

Approved: May 17, 2022

  
Joyce L. Lanier  
City Clerk

  
Kerry J. Coley  
Council President