

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, JANUARY 4, 2022 AT 7:03 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 B. Summers-Johnson
Council President Kerry J. Coley

ALSO PRESENT

Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk
Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator
Laquana Best, Planning Director
Nile Clements, Chief Financial Officer
Vincent DeFilippo, Health Officer
Paula Ferreira, Tax Collector
Gerard Long, Fire Chief
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director
Marty Mayes, Public Works Director
Gracia R. Montilus, City Attorney
Chris Murray, Tax Assessor
Wendy Sykes, Director of Community Services
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer
Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office
Tamara Robinson, City Clerk's Office
Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office
Councilmember Adrienne Wooten

ABSENT

The City Clerk called for a moment of silence.

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."

Council President Kerry J. Coley stated that moving forward, anyone wishing to speak during Council Meetings must turn on their video feed. The City Clerk stated that Clerk's Office staff has their video's on.

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**Public Works Garbage Presentation**

Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated they were asked to revisit and Amend Chapter 107 of City of Orange Township Code (Garbage & Recycling Code).

- Issues with Enforcing Code:
 - Assigned personnel, Priority emphasis, Ability to issue violations under existing ordinance provisions, Code holds Department of Public Work and Code Enforcement responsible for effectively the same area but past practice results in (Street Side of curb is monitored by DPW, House Side of curb is monitored by Code Enforcement, and only one DPW worker is doing enforcement).
 - Enforcing Code on – Time of Placement, Bulk Dumping, Receptacles with no lids, Enforcing against owners and occupants
 - Responsibility of issuing Fines – Increase enforcement and deputize all code enforcement personnel and parking enforcement and special PO's to write garbage tickets. Inadequate fines – any person who violates any of the provisions of this Article shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 90 days, or both.
- Rodent Issue & Recommendation
 - Rodent Issues: Public Health, Quality of Life, Private Properties provide breeding and nesting ground for rodents, Risk to surrounding areas, Abandoned properties Code Violations, and Require all multifamily houses to have external rodent traps on outdoor premises.
 - Provide a public health campaign for residents geared toward cleaning up rear yards that provide breeding ground for rodents: Request access to property, Offer to bait property, and Authorize contract for city wide extermination and abatement.
- Garbage Receptacles
 - Garbage Receptacles: Enforcement and Code amendments
 - Definition clarification: Commercial or Residential
 - Lack of regulation on garbage containers
 - Lack of regulation & enforcement
- Time and Type of Garbage Collection
 - Placement Times & Removal of empty cans
 - Collection Times
 - Increase the number of days of collection throughout the city
 - Align garbage routes with the wards
 - Number of Trucks in use during collection time must be increased
 - Procedure and Collection of Bulk Garbage

The Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk went through the articles and the amendments. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross feels this is overdue, he inquired how will it be enforced. There needs to be an education campaign for the changes. He has received complaints about the current contractors. Councilmember Jamie B. Summers Johnson and Councilmember Adrienne Wooten met with Director Marty Mayes and they are happy with this presentation and education is essential versus a rush to fine. Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III stated the lid to his trash receptacle was misplaced and suggested a discount for residents to purchase. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason suggested giving early notice to residents when changing times for trash pick-up. Council President Kerry J. Coley requested a uniform trash receptacle with attached lid and inquired about enforcement of performance based clause with the contractor.

Library Director

Library Director, Stephanie Flood stated she began in her current position on September 20, 2021. She came from the Lincoln Park Library and before that she was a Corporate Librarian. She has 26 years' experience. The Orange Public Library served as an extended Community Resource | Operating Headquarters, Office of Emergency Management during the Covid pandemic. The Library has returned to full service (currently closed because the boiler is broken awaiting repair by Thursday). Management goals have been set and they are moving forward with the following: Academic research based library, work collaboratively with Mayor Dwayne Warren, Esq. to reduce the digital divide, and maintain and improve the historic building. The Capital improvements on the list include: replacing the boiler, replace chiller on the roof, and repair the leaking roof. Community Service: offer computers to patrons, creating partners for workforce development. New computers have been purchased and the WIFI has been upgraded. She would like to upgrade photo copy machines, printers, and add wireless printing. Grants include: An application has been submitted to the NJ Library Construction Bond Act Grant for a \$6,000,000 grant to make improvements and add on additions. We received five I-pads from the NJ Health Connect at Your Library to be used for health equity such as tele-medicine appointments. The Library have completed audits for 2015, 2016, and 2017 which was paid for in December. The auditor will come next week to begin the work on 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. Stephanie Flood is excited about working with the Library. Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III welcomed Director Stephanie Flood and inquired about the chiller which is on her list to be resolved. Councilmember Jamie B. Summers Johnson welcomed Director Stephanie Flood sending prayers of strength to get the Library turned around for the use of the residents. Councilmember Clifford R. Ross stated he was pleased to see Director Flood and inquired about the time frame to repair the roof which 2022 is the expected time frame. Director Stephanie Flood stated she would attend Council Meetings if she was needed. Council Tency A. Eason stated it was refreshing to the Directors enthusiasm and is willing to assist her to get the Library back on track. Council Harold J. Johnson, Jr. welcomed Director Flood to Orange and warned her that the honeymoon period would be short lived. Some of the audits that she mentioned are on a list to be prepared may cause an issue with applying for grants. He also brought up needing a Forensic Audit. He left by stating he feels some kind of way about the Board of Directors. Council President Kerry J. Coley offered his help as well.

COVID Update

Health Director Vincent DeFilipo stated that the City of Orange Township is a little over 70% vaccinated. Over a week ago the city has been averaging a little over 136 positive cases per day. County sites are testing over 3,000 a day. Tomorrow 9:30am – 12:30pm, there will be testing in City Council Chambers for employees and their immediate family members. On Friday at the Field House there will be testing and vaccines administered. The State will mail home test for those who request it. New Jersey has about 20% of the Omnicron variant. There is a questionnaire on the website from the County. Councilmember Jamie B. Summers Johnson stated the County has been giving great service. Councilmember Harold J. Johnson, Jr. was wondering if they could pull the data to revisit the seniors to check on them. Councilmember Clifford A. Ross inquired about the FEMA site which they max out at 1000 per day.

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.

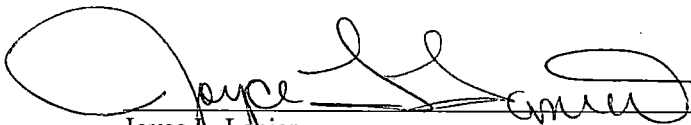
Council President Kerry J. Coley requested 28-2022 be pulled as it does not have supporting documents.

City Clerk Joyce L. Lanier stated Resolutions 6-2022 and 13-2022 are duplicates so 13-2022 will be removed. The Tax Collector stated Resolution 11-2022 numbers were accurate. Resolution 17-2022 was amended to add “per year”. Resolution 21-2022 was missing information and will be postponed until the next meeting. Resolution 22-2022 certification language was amended. Resolution 24-2022 should be removed for a separate vote. Resolution 23-2022 establishes the list of qualified Engineers. Resolution 27-2022 was amended to include who the Vendors are and the amount not to exceed. There was discussion about once we request back-up for litigation or from law firms it becomes a public record. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk added, notwithstanding that the back-up for 28-2022 was e-mailed from Nile Clements. Council Vice President Tency A. Eason stated the e-mail was sent at 5:00pm. Council President Kerry J. Coley stated it was sent late and he has not had time to review so he could not support it.


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 8:11p.m.

Approved: August 3, 2022



Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk



Tency A. Eason
Council President