

**CITY COUNCIL**

**The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**

DATE March 21, 2023

NUMBER 142-2023

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RAMADAN.  
(Sponsored by Councilwoman Quantavia Hilbert)**

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that there are approximately 1,800,000,000 Muslims worldwide and 3,500,000 Muslims in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the observance of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan commences this year on March 22, 2023 and finishes on April 20, 2023. The beginning of the month changes because it is often signaled by the sighting of the crescent moon. There is a moon sighting committee that determines the days of the month; and

**WHEREAS**, Ramadan is the holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal for Muslims worldwide, and is the 9th month of the Muslim calendar year. Ramadan is a time of intense devotion and reflection – a time when Muslims fast during the day and perform tarawih prayers at night, reciting and listening to the entire Koran over the course of the month. These rituals remind us of the principles that we hold in common, and Islam’s role in advancing justice, progress, tolerance, and the dignity of all human beings; and

**WHEREAS**, for many, this month is an opportunity to focus on reflection and spiritual growth, forgiveness, patience and resilience, compassion for those less fortunate, and unity across communities. Each lesson is profound on its own, and taken together forms a harmonious whole. It is also a time of year that brings some of the best dishes to the table across the world as families and neighbors gather for iftar; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Orange fosters a diverse and inclusive community where all families can live and thrive together; and

**WHEREAS**, the Muslim community is also represented by Orange Public School Board Member, Siaka Sherif, who has proudly served for three terms; and

**WHEREAS**, while the City of Orange does not have a local Mosque for Muslim residents, services are provided in the neighboring cities of East Orange and Newark; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Orange Township, in order to demonstrate solidarity with and support for members of the community of Islam, recognizes the Islamic faith as one of the great religions of the world. In observance of and out of respect for the commencement of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal, the City Council of the City of Orange Township acknowledges the onset of Ramadan and expresses its deepest respect to Muslims in the City of Orange, the United States and throughout the world on this significant occasion. The City Council further encourages residents to participate in an upcoming community event regarding Ramadan on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at the Central Avenue Fieldhouse located at 231 Lincoln Ave, Orange, New Jersey 07050.

**Adopted: March 21, 2023**

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**Joyce Lanier**  
City Clerk

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**Tency A. Eason**  
Council President

  
**A. M. IBRAHIM**  
CITY ATTORNEY