

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 TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 AT 7:02 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilmember Kerry J. Coley, East Ward
Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert, West Ward
Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III, At-Large
Council Vice President Clifford R. Ross, At-Large
Councilmember Adrienne Wooten, At-Large (*Arrived at 7:15pm*)
Council President Tency A. Eason, North 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
Paula Ferreira, Tax Collector
Marty Mayes, Public Works Director
Aaron Mizrahi, Esq., Deputy City Attorney
Gracia R. Montilus, Esq., City Attorney
Chris Murray, Tax Assessor
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer
Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief
Tamara Robinson, Deputy City Clerk
Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office
Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office (*Arrived at 7:09pm*)
Tim Walker, Essex County Liaison

Absent: Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, South Ward
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director
Wendy M. Sykes, Director of Community Services
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk announced 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."

The City Clerk announced 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 July 13, 2022, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall, the Council's Website (www.orangetwpnjcc.org), the City's Website (www.orangenj.gov) and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Update from Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr.

Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr. was expected to attend but was not present. The Deputy City Clerk Tamara Robinson stated she had confirmed with his office that they received the sign in information.

COVID Update

Health Officer Vincent DeFilippo stated that New Jersey cases are in the green state. 81% of New Jersey residents have been vaccinated with three doses. There are 16% vaccinated with the new vaccine. There is a new variant with pink eye and upset stomach as the symptoms. The new variant is number two at 15% and the Delta variant is number one at 25.26%. In New Jersey today 200 people reported positive, 19 in Intensive Care, 5 on Ventilators and one death. There have been calls about the Lantern Flies and the same recommendations are being given – the home remedy is Vegetable Oil, Dawn Detergent and Distilled Water, which he will put the recipes on the website at the request of Councilmember Kerry J. Coley. After rain, the product needs to be reapplied if spraying on the tree. Council Vice President Clifford Ross stated he has not seen any Lantern Flies and Health Officers stated there are rumors of woodpeckers creating holes for them. He asked if the new vaccine covers the new variant which we do not have the answer for that yet. Residents can get the vaccine in East Orange at City Hall every Friday. The County will administer shots in West Orange. Residents can get the information by going to the website or calling the Health Director directly at 973-789-4013.

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.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

24-2021 An ordinance to amend the City Code of the City of the Orange Township Chapter 4 entitled “Administration of Government”, Article II entitled “City Council”; Section 15 entitled “City Clerk”. (Sponsored by Council Member Coley) *(Postponed since the 6/01/2021 Council Meeting)*

This Ordinance will remain postponed

5-2023 An ordinance of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, approving and authorizing a 15-year tax exemption and authorizing the execution of a financial agreement between the City and PEEK Cleveland I Owner Urban Renewal, LLC. (Amended)

This Ordinance will remain postponed

11-2023 An ordinance of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, Essex County, New Jersey, to amend Chapter 74 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township, entitled “Construction Codes, Uniform”. (Amended)

12-2023 An ordinance of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, Essex County, New Jersey to amend Chapter 210 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township, entitled “Development Regulations” to include a section supporting the erection and mounting of residential and commercial solar energy systems.

13-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township Chapter 138 entitled “Noise” to prohibit construction on Sundays. (Sponsored by Councilmember Eason)

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

61-2022 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-1 Handicapped Parking Spaces. (352 Mechanic Street)

This Ordinance does not meet requirements and will be voted down.

2-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township Chapter 200 entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-1 handicapped parking spaces. (86 Ward Street) *(Postponed at the 1/17/2023 Council Meeting)*

This Ordinance does not meet requirements and will be voted down.

15-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-2 Handicapped Parking Spaces. (128 Parrow Street, Apartment 101C) (Sponsored by Councilmember Wooten)

This Ordinance will remain postponed

19-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-1 Handicapped Parking Spaces. (169 Central Place)

20-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-1 Handicapped Parking Spaces. (281 Ogden Street)

This Ordinance does not meet requirements and will be voted down

21-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-1 Handicapped Parking Spaces. (251 Lincoln Avenue)

This Ordinance does not meet requirements and will be voted down

22-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Section 200-52-1 Handicapped Parking Spaces. (26 North Jefferson Street)

This Ordinance does not meet requirements and will be voted down

23-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 88 entitled “Fees” derived from the Code provisions, supplementing Article VII, to amend the fees for the purchase of photo static copies of reports and other records on file with the Registrar of Vital Statistics.

24-2023 An ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Orange Township, Chapter 200, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 200-10.2, Residential Permit. (Walsh Avenue)
(Sponsored by Council Member Weldon M. Montague, III)

This Ordinance does not meet requirements and will be voted down

RESOLUTIONS NO * 189-2023 THROUGH *205-2023

*189-2023 A resolution authorizing the issuance of a raffle license for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

*190-2023 A resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$5,000,000 of tax anticipation notes of 2023 for the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey.

*191-2023 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, Essex County, New Jersey, correcting Resolution 185-2023 to reflect acceptance assignment of tax sale certificate #19-00526, issued to Trystone Capital Assets LLC against Block 3402, Lot 42, commonly known as 197 Chapman Street, Orange, New Jersey, for an amount totaling \$16,225.81.

*192-2023 A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of real estate taxes paid for 2022 and 2023 in the amount of \$4,332.96 and to cancel any future tax billings for the premises located at Block 6702, Lot 17 also known as 177 Stirling Drive for a 100% totally disabled veteran.

*193-2023 A resolution authorizing the cancellation of tax sale certificate No. 22-00259 on Block 6202, Lot 8 also known as 582 Beach Street in addition to issuing a refund for all accrued interest, penalties to Pro Cap 8 LLC in the amount of \$1,140.00.

*194-2023 A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of real estate taxes paid for 2022 and 2023 in the amount of \$6,221.90 and to cancel any future tax billings for the premises located at Block 4701, Lot 12 also known as 387 Olcott Street for a 100% totally disabled veteran.

*195-2023 A resolution authorizing the cancellation of tax sale certificate No. 22-00170 on Block 2002, Lot 12 also known as 272 Snyder Street in addition to issuing a refund for all accrued interest, penalties to Benjamin Fleck in the amount of \$107.72.

*196-2023 A resolution authorizing the cancellation of tax sale certificate No. 22-00171 on Block 2101, lot 23 also known as 71 Cleveland Street in addition to issuing a refund for all accrued interest, penalties to Benjamin Fleck in the amount of \$81.23.

*197-2023 A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund Corelogic for tax payment made on Block 4401, Lot 2 – C2023 – also known as 500 South Center Street in the amount of \$2,290.03.

*198-2023 A resolution authorizing the refund of subsequent payment made in error by Blue Virgo on Block 5301, Lot 59, 488 Berkeley Avenue in the amount of \$1,577.49.

*199-2023 A resolution authorizing Change Order No. 1 to modify the contract for the project known as the Military Park Rehabilitation to S. Batata Construction, Inc., 238 Ernston Road, Suite 1R, Parlin, New Jersey 08859 in the amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.

*200-2023 A resolution awarding a contract to CV Electrical Contractors, P.O. Box 1263, Linden, New Jersey 07036 for electrical services to all Municipal owned buildings for one (1) year commencing April 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 with an option to extend the second year in the amount not to exceed \$101,222.00 per year.

- *201-2023 A resolution approving the Bill List for Council meeting vote on May 2, 2023 dated April 26, 2023 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95. (Grand Total: \$10,901,556.10)
- *202-2023 A resolution making application to the Local Finance Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3ee.
- *203-2023 A resolution introducing and approving the 2023 Calendar Year Budget (January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023).
- *204-2023 A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and non-open professional service contract to Szaferman Lakind Blumstein & Blader P.C. to provide legal counsel to the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Orange Township from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00.
- *205-2023 A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and non-open professional service contract to Schwartz Barkin & Mitchell, Esq. to provide legal counsel to the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Orange Township from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00.

POSTPONED RESOLUTIONS


- 160-2023 A resolution designating Oakwood Avenue beginning at Wilson Place and ending at Parrow Street as Anna L. Barlow Way – In Honorarium. (Sponsored by Councilmembers Wooten, Montague, III, Summers-Johnson and the Orange Municipal Council)
- 177-2023 A resolution designating McChesney Street beginning at Scotland Road and ending at Valley Street as Lorraine E. Hawthorne Way – In Honorarium. (Sponsored by Councilmembers Summers-Johnson, Wooten & Montague, III)
- 179-2023 A resolution requesting that the Municipal Council and the Administration of the City of Orange Township form a committee to update, amend, review, and initiate Chapter 16 of the Municipal Code entitled Chapter 16 Ethics, Code Of. (Sponsored by Councilmember Wooten)

All three postponed Resolutions will remain postponed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Vice President Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Approved: May 16, 2023


 Joyce L. Lanier
 City Clerk


 Tency A. Eason
 Council President