

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, APRIL 4, 2023 AT 7:10 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilmember Kerry J. Coley, East Ward (*Arrived at 7:20pm*)
Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert, West Ward
Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III, At-Large
Council Vice President Clifford R. Ross, At-Large
Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, South Ward
Councilmember Adrienne Wooten, At-Large
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
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director
Marty Mayes, Public Works Director
Aaron Mizrahi, Esq., Deputy City Attorney
Gracia R. Montilus, Esq., City Attorney
Wendy M. Sykes, Director of Community Services
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer
Vincent Vitiello, Police Chief
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office
Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office
Gabrielle Sims-Shelton, City Clerk's Office
Tim Walker, Essex County Liaison

Absent: Chris Murray, Tax Assessor
Tamara Robinson, Deputy City Clerk

The City Clerk announced a Moment of Silence. Council President Tency A. Eason dedicated the moment of silence to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was assassinated today fifty five years ago this day.

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

COVID Update

Health Officer Vincent DeFilippo stated all 21 counties in New Jersey are in the green which means the number of Covid cases are low. The most common strand is the B161 which is accounts for 25% of the cases presented. If you need at home Covid test, call 1-800-232-0233 until May 1st. The daily average has been 500, as of today the average is 319, one death, 49 hospitalized and 24 on respirators. Council President Tency A. Eason inquired about Covid bans being lifted by the Federal Government. Health Officer DeFiippo stated the Governor signed a bill, Executive Oder 325 as of yesterday. The mandate of any long term care facilities, nursing facilities and unvaccinated individuals being require to test twice a week dropped as of yesterday. These facilities could adopt their own policies. Tick born bite which has gone up 41% from last year. Keep your legs covered to avoid these bites. Spotted lantern flies are expected to come with the warm weather and residents should us the dish soap solution as a deterrent.

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)*

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)

Postpone

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)

Postpone

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)*

Postpone

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.

Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk the changes are required for the Sustainable New Jersey recertification and it will miss a deadline if not approved tonight. It does not need to go before the Planning Board.

RESOLUTIONS NO * 156-2023 THROUGH *177-2023

*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)

Council Vice President requested to postpone in order to update the criteria in Resolution for honorees. Councilmember Adrienne Wooten inquired about the code and City Attorney will review the code. Councilmember Jamie B Summers Johnson stated the Resolution was supposed to be amended a year ago and the criteria should be updated but allow these two Resolutions to proceed.

*171-2023 A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with Bright View Engineering, 70 South Orange Avenue, Suite 109, Livingston, New Jersey 07039 to provide engineering and design Phase 1-9 related to the reconstruction of traffic signals at four (4) intersections (Washington Street/Cleveland Street; Tremont Avenue/Valley Road; Tremont Avenue/Lincoln Avenue and Henry Street/South Essex Avenue) in an amount not to exceed \$122,680.00.

Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert stated the W-9 in this contract was not valid. The contracts states there has not been any political contribution for the last year and she wanted to extend this term to the last four years. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated the Pay to Play is one year.

*177-2023 A resolution designating McChesney Street beginning at Scotland Road and ending at Valley Street as Lorraine E. Hawthorne Way – In Honoriam. (Sponsored by Councilmembers Summers-Johnson, Wooten & Montague, III)

Council Vice President requested to postpone in order to update the criteria in Resolution for honorees

POSTPONED RESOLUTIONS

20-2023 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township amending Resolution No. 276-2022 to authorize additional funds to Szaferman Lakind, P.C. for legal counseling to the Orange Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Orange Township in the amount of \$3,564.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$8,564.00.

21-2023 A resolution authorizing the award of a professional service contract to Szaferman Lakind, P.C. to provide legal counseling to the Orange Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Orange Township in matters as they relate to the Historic Preservation Commission in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 for the Calendar Year 2023.

Will remain postponed

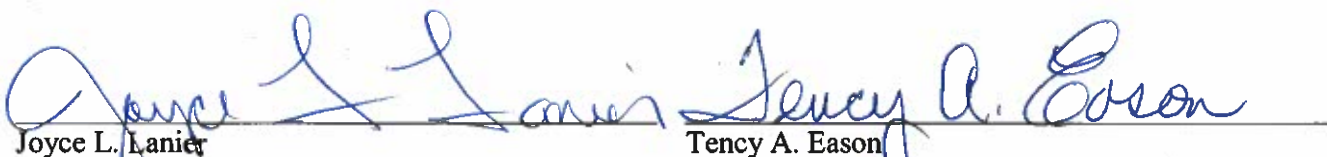
28-2023 A resolution authorizing the award of a professional services contract to Gail Mitchell, Esq. of Schwartz, Barkin and Mitchell LLC to provide legal services to the Orange Municipal Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Orange Township in matters relating to zoning and land use in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 for the Calendar Year 2023.

Will remain postponed

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Vice President Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Approved: May 2, 2023


Joyce L. Lanier City Clerk Tency A. Eason Council President