

DATE _____

NUMBER 28-2023

TITLE:

AN ORDINANCE OF TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP CHAPTER 4, § 4-17 ENTITLED “STANDING COMMITTEES ENUMERATED; MEMBERSHIP” AND CHAPTER 29 ENTITLED “PUBLICLY OWNED STREET – HONORARY OR COMMEMORATIVE NAMING OR DEDICATIONS”.

(Sponsored by Council Members Clifford R. Ross & Weldon Montague, III).

WHEREAS, the City of Orange Township has produced several luminaries and has many citizens that have done great things for the City of Orange Township and society in general; and

WHEREAS, the City Code outlines a procedure for the honorary or commemorative naming or dedication of public streets; and

WHEREAS, a determination has been made that the City Code needs to be updated to establish a Street Name Subcommittee, to include more detailed and vigorous standards for the honorary or commemorative naming or dedication of public streets, and to ensure greater stakeholder engagement.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Governing Body of the City of Orange Township that the municipal code be amended as follows:

SECTION 1.

§ 4-17. Standing committees enumerated; membership.

- A. The standing committees of the City Council and the scope of their duties are hereby established.

(5) Standing Street Name Committee

(a) The composition of this committee and the duties of same shall be as outlined at § 29-2 (B) (4).

SECTION 2.

§ 29-1. Definitions.

BACKGROUND CHECK – A criminal history background check obtained from a reputable agency.

- ~~A.~~ **PUBLICLY OWNED STREETS – All public streets both existing and prospective, whether or not carrying a street name as set forth in the official records of the office of the City Engineer.**

§ 29-2. Honorary or commemorative naming or dedication of public streets.

Strikeouts are deletions. Underlines are added material.

- ~~A. No publicly owned street shall be named in honor of or dedicated to any person, place, thing or event unless such action has first received the written approval of the Mayor and a resolution of approval by a majority of the Municipal Council.~~
- ~~B. Each request for approval shall be accompanied by a report of the Mayor or three (3) members of the Municipal Council setting forth the biographical, historical, societal and cultural contributions and significance of such person, place or thing to the City of Orange Township, State of New Jersey and/or United States of America, as the case may be, and shall be considered by the Municipal Council no earlier than ten (10) days after the submission of the report to the Mayor and the Municipal Council.~~
- A. Any person or organization seeking a commemorative street name designation shall file a street designation request form with the City Clerk. The completed form shall include the requested name to be commemorated, the reason for the commemoration.
- B. All requests shall be assessed for compliance with the following regulations:
1. All supporting documentation used to support an application to honor that individual must be attached to the application.
 2. In the case of a commemorative street designation honoring an individual, the applicant seeking the commemorative designation must conduct an independent background check on the individual, if possible, before submitting a request to dedicate the street. The cost of the background check must be done by the applicant.
 3. The street dedication request form shall be accompanied by a petition signed by at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the residents on the street proposed for the commemorative designation, and should include three (3) or more written letters of support or recommendation from applicable community groups.
 4. The City Clerk shall promptly refer the completed street dedication request form, with completed petitions and all additional supplemental materials to the Street Name Committee which will consist of three Municipal Council representatives or their designees, one of whom will be the ward Councilperson in whose ward the street to be designated is located, the Director of City Planning or his or her designee, the Director of Community Services or his or her designee, and the Mayor or his or her designee. The Street Name Committee will meet as necessary to review commemorative street name applications. The Street Name Committee shall issue a recommendation on the application within fifteen (15) days of receipt from the City Clerk.
 5. If the request is approved by the Street Name Committee, the application will be brought before the Municipal Council for final approval at the next scheduled meeting of the Municipal Council.
 6. If approved, signs identifying the commemorative name designation shall be placed underneath the primary street name sign.

7. Prospective individual honorees should have a minimum of fifteen (15) years of community involvement and should have demonstrated an extraordinary and consistent commitment and dedication to City of Orange. The applicant should provide testimonies and/or historical information illustrating any acts of heroism, including any acts in which may have resulted in the Honoree's expiration, philanthropy and community work that contributed to new programming, development, educational and social achievements that impacted a large group of Orange residents.
8. The proposed commemorative street designation will recognize a prospective individual honoree, with rare exception, the individual must have been deceased for at least three (3) years.
9. No street can have more than two commemorative street designations.
10. The City may remove the sign after five (5) years and the sign may be given to a family member of the honoree. A registry of all streets with commemorative street designations shall be maintained by the Department of Public Works.

SECTION 3. Inconsistencies

All other ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed but only to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 4. Headings

All headings within this ordinance are for convenience only and are not deemed to be part of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and upon expiration of twenty (20) days following publication unless otherwise provided by resolution of this City Council.

PURPOSE

To create the Street Name Subcommittee and to update the regulations for honorary or commemorative naming or dedication of public streets

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

Adopted:

Joyce L Lanier
City Clerk

Tency A. Eason
Council President