

CITY COUNCIL**The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**DATE March 19, 2024NUMBER 183-2024**TITLE:** **A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RAMADAN.**
(Sponsored by Council Member Quantavia Hilbert)

WHEREAS, in 2023, it was estimated that there are approximately 1,900,000,000 Muslims worldwide and 4,500,000 Muslims in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the observance of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan commences this year on March 10, 2024 and finishes on April 9, 2024. 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, in the City of Orange and the United States, we are blessed with Muslim communities as diverse as our nation itself. There are those whose heritage can be traced back to the very beginning of our nation, as well as those who have only just arrived. Doctors, lawyers, artists, teachers, scientists, community organizers, public servants, and military members, each night will all break their fasts together in cities across America.

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.

Adopted: March 19, 2024

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Tency A. Eason
Council President
A. M. Eason