

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

THIS IS THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.

Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III led all assembled in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilmember Kerry J. Coley, East Ward
Council Vice President Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert, West Ward
Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III, At-Large
Councilmember Clifford R. Ross, At-Large
Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, South Ward
Council President Adrienne K. Wooten, At-Large

Also Present: Joyce Lanier, City Clerk
Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator
Derrick Brown, Fire Chief
Gracia R. Montilus, Esq., City Attorney
Marlin G. Townes, Legislative Research Officer
Trisha Scipio, City Clerk's Office

Absent: Tamara Robinson, Deputy City Clerk
Margarette Homere, City Clerk's Office

The Clerk announced that 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, and published in the Star Ledger on July 11, 2024, 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.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

There were no minutes to be approved.

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REVENUE COLLECTION

For the month of February 2025

The Planning Department collected \$57,155

The Clerk's Office collected \$10.00

OPRA REPORTS

For the month of February 2025 there were 63 OPRA requests received, 56 completed and 7 remaining.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President stated reports are on file.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no Communications and Petitions.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS

The City Clerk announced that members of the public wishing to address the Council on any subject shall be permitted to do so during this portion of the meeting by indicating a “raised hand” and activating their cameras at this time.

To allow maximum public involvement, each speaker will have one 5-minute period to interact with the Council, and must provide his/her name and street address prior to beginning his/her remarks. Screen-sharing or visual aids are not permitted.

Members of the public are reminded to be courteous and mindful of other individuals’ rights when speaking. Each person has the right to speak on any subject and is responsible for any abuse of that right. The City bears no liability for any comments made by any member of the public, and reserves the right to remove any person engaging in obscene or disruptive conduct.

The Council will consider all comments and questions, and will respond, if and when appropriate, which may or may not be during this meeting.

Aisha Samuel of 401 Highland Terrace expressed her concerns about Pilots, Highland Avenue Train Station, the Hospital site, Recreation and the pool, Scattered Sites, City Attorney’s and Sidewalks. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk spoke to the curb cuts, Scattered Sites which will be reintroduced in April, the Highland Avenue Train Station status, and the building materials for the Hospital Site.

Gerald Murphy of 22 South Harrison Street spoke about the Administration, the Hospital Developers, Affirmative Action, promotions in the Police Department and expressed his general frustrations.

Faith Alcantara of 158 Sun Valley Way gave Councilmembers a copy of *The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore asking them to read the book in hopes that it will encourage the Councilmembers to vote in favor of a Resolution to honor the women in the book.

Alysha Rodriguez of 487 Mountainview Avenue inquired about salaries, raises, tax increases, who does she make finance inquires to and the Aspire Program. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk addressed salaries, raises, caps, and the Aspire program.

Dr. Gloria Boseman of 345 Olcott Street expressed her concerns about her questions not being addressed. She inquired if the City Council approves developments. She had concerns about the timing of receiving the Council Agenda. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk explained the process of approving developers.

Darnell Gibbs, Sr. of 419 Washington Avenue, Montclair expressed his concerns about Developers and Tax Abatements. He wanted clarification on Resolution 148-2025 and 173-2025 and the Scattered Sites.

Brent Engle of 174 Heywood Avenue expressed concerns about Resolution 149-2025.

There were no Citizen Comments received by e-mail.

A motion to close Citizens Comments was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason.

Motion Adopted

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about the Traffic Survey of Nassau Street to make change the direction. He inquired about the Highland Street Station which the Business Administrator has correspondence for review tomorrow. The Welcome to Orange Sign is down and the barrier to the park is down (this is a County issue). He inquired about the 2025 Budget which will be introduced in April.

Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert wished all Happy Women's History Month. She attended the Board of Education Meeting and inquired about Park Avenue traffic concerns.

Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III requested an update on the YMCA project, Redevelopment & Financial Agreement which is still being negotiated, the fifty parking spaces, and he informed residents of a job placement event held at the Field House.

Council Vice President Tency A. Eason had concerns about the Senior programs as it relates to the Bus Drivers and transportation. She hopes for more user friendly ways to reserve a space.

Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson spoke to the gates on Elmwynd Drive. She gave a shout out to Kweli Campbell and the Friends of Metcalf. She thanked District Leader Veronica Scott for the Local Merchants Award. She attended the New Jersey School Board Ceremony which was very emotional. She attended Forrest Street Motown, Heywood Science Fair, and Sister to Sister Event where she was the Keynote Speaker

Councilmember Kerry J. Coley inquired about the pothole repairs which the Business Administrator addressed. He inquired about William Street and he would like to make sure it is on the list for repaving. He wished all a Happy Women's History Month and spoke of an event that took place at Bethel Baptist Church.

Council President Adrienne K. Wooten apologized for her tardiness. She congratulated all on Women's History Month. She spoke about legislation (Resolution 166-2025) she has on the agenda. It is a pilot program for the Blue Envelope initiative in the Orange Police Department for Autistic residents.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

58-2024 An ordinance amending the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township Chapter 4 Administration of Government Section 4.10 adding I, entitled Resolution for Emergent Matters at Official Ceremonial Events. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten) (Postponed)

A motion to keep Ordinance 58-2024 postponed until April 1, 2025 on Second Reading was made by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III and seconded by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

5-2025 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. (111 North Day Street)

A motion to close Citizens Comments was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

Motion Adopted

A motion to adopt Ordinance 5-2025 on Second Reading was made by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason and seconded by Councilmember Adrienne K. Wooten.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

6-2025 An ordinance to amend Chapter §200-42, Schedule XI, of the City of Orange Township Code (Loading Zone Parking Area – Hillside Avenue)

A motion to close Citizens Comments was made by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

Motion Adopted

A motion to adopt Ordinance 6-2025 on Second Reading was made by Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

7-2025 A bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of access equipment for the Lincoln Avenue and Crane Street parking garages, by and in the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey; appropriating \$384,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$364,800 Bonds or Notes of the City to finance part of the cost thereof.

A motion to close Citizens Comments was made by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason and seconded by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley.

Motion Adopted

A motion to adopt Ordinance 7-2025 on Second Reading was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION | FIRST READING

10-2025 An ordinance amending the City of Orange Township’s City Code, specifically Article VIII, Section 88-15 and Section 185-13.5 and Section 185-13.6 which address the new procedures for residents requesting a curb cut.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 10-2025 on First Reading was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted: Final Reading will be April 15, 2025

11-2025 A refunding bond ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$7,000,000 aggregate principal amount of water-sewer utility refunding bonds, Series 2025 by the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey for the purpose of restructuring the outstanding 2014 refunding bonds previously issued by the City and appropriating the proceeds of such refunding bonds to such purpose and authorizing the issuance of such refunding bonds pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Qualified Bond Act.

This ordinance was pulled by Administration.

CONSENT AGENDA

ALL ITEMS LISTED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS UNLESS A COUNCIL MEMBER SO REQUESTS, IN WHICH EVENT, THE ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AND CONSIDERED IN ITS NORMAL SEQUENCE OF THE AGENDA.

RESOLUTIONS NO *147-2025 THROUGH *175-2025

- *147-2025** A resolution for emergency temporary appropriations #4 to the Calendar Year 2025 Budget.
- *151-2025** A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of real estate taxes paid 2025 in the amount of \$1,951.94 and to cancel any future tax billings for the premises located at Block 6202 Lot 8 also known as 582 Beach Street for a 100% totally disabled veteran.
- *152-2025** A resolution authorizing the extension of the contract with Sysnet Tech Solutions, LLC, 1246 South River Road, Suite 102, Cranbury, New Jersey 08512 for continuation of cloud hosting of all servers, backup, maintenance, management solutions and technical support from January 23, 2025 through March 31, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.
- *153-2025** A resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities for the technical assistance for energy efficiency in Municipal Facilities Program.
- *154-2025** A resolution for the approval to purchase ammunition, weapon, body armor, holsters and police duty gear under the New Jersey State Contract #17-FLEET-00732 and 17-FLEET-00787 for the City of Orange Township Police Department from Atlantic Tactical, 763 Corporate Circle, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania 17070 in an amount not to exceed \$185,000.00.
- *155-2025** A resolution rescinding Resolution #65-2025 adopted February 4, 2025 authorizing the services of Dilworth & Paxson, LLP to provide redevelopment counsel services for CY 2025 January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, not to exceed \$50,000.00 with additional fees paid separately from the Budget and received from an escrow account established and solely funded by applicants for specific projects.

- *156-2025** A resolution appointing the Law Firm of Dilworth & Paxson, LLP to provide special redevelopment counsel services for CY 2025 January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 not to exceed \$50,000.00 with additional fees paid separately from the Budget and received from an escrow account established and solely funded by applicants for specific projects.
- *157-2025** A resolution approving settlement in the matter of James Hodges v. Joana Okaforsea and the City of Orange Township ESX-L-9028-21 in the amount of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00).
- *158-2025** A resolution authorizing the assignment of contractual obligations from Joseph Smentkowski, Inc., to Affordable Cartage, LLC.
- *159-2025** A resolution authorizing the award of an emergency contract for HVAC repairs to Municipal buildings to Millennium Mechanical, LLC, P.O. Box 1020, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424 in an amount not to exceed \$3,278.04.
- *160-2025** A resolution authorizing a contract to Carrier Corporation, 9 Farms Spring Road, Farmington, Connecticut 06032-2569 (Northern New Jersey Branch located at 100 Delawanna Avenue, Suite 401, Clifton, New Jersey 07014) to provide HVAC repairs at the Freddie Polhill Law & Justice Complex under the Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing Council Contract #070121-CAR for the period of April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$56,240.00.
- *161-2025** A resolution authorizing a contract to Natural Green Lawn Care and Sport Care Synthetic Field Maintenance, 795 East Main Street, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807 to provide turf maintenance and repairs to College Park and Central Playground under the ESCNJ 22/23-37 Co-Op commencing April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$16,600.00.
- *162-2025** A resolution authorizing Mott Macdonald, 111 Wood Avenue South, Iselin, New Jersey 08830 to provide professional engineering services to support the Water Utility commencing January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00.
- *164-2025** A resolution approving the Bill List for Council meeting vote on March 18, 2025 dated March 12, 2025 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95. (Grand Total: \$10,255,584.24).
- *165-2025** A resolution informing the residents of the City of Orange Township about the new Law Enforcement initiative regarding voluntary Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and communication disorder designation on driver's licenses and non-driver identification cards. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *166-2025** A resolution establishing a Pilot Program for the Blue Envelope initiative in the Orange Police Department. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *167-2025** A resolution honoring Dr. Tia Cherry, Coordinator of Interns for the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *168-2025** A resolution honoring Veronica Scott during Women's History Month for her service to the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *169-2025** A resolution honoring "Ken's Diner" for Mom and Pop Business Owner Day in the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *170-2025** A resolution honoring "My Amor Coffee Shop" for Mom and Pop Business Owner Day in the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *171-2025** A resolution honoring Mr. Adrian De Jesus Rodriguez during National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *172-2025** A resolution honoring National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day in the City of Orange Township. (Sponsored by Council President Wooten)
- *173-2025** A resolution approving assignment of the project agreements for the property located at 92-106 South Main Street and 13-27 Prince Street identified on the City tax map as Block 3002, Lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 located within the Main Street Redevelopment area from VA 100M Renewal, LLC to BSD 100 Main Urban Renewal, LLC.

- *174-2025** A resolution authorizing payment for services with University Hospital Emergency Medical Services, located at 150 Bergen Street, Newark, New Jersey 07103, for dispatch services provided to the City of Orange Township Fire Department from January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$98,972.00.

A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

- *148-2025** A resolution for the transfer of appropriation reserves #5.

A motion to adopt Resolution 148-2025 was made by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason and seconded by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, and Hon. Clifford R. Ross

Nays: Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

- *149-2025** A resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$5,000,000 of tax anticipation notes of 2025 for the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey.

A motion to adopt Resolution 149-2025 was made by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley and seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, and Hon. Clifford R. Ross

Nays: Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

A motion to adopt to reconsider Resolution 149-2025 was made by Council President Adrienne K. Wooten and seconded by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: Hon. Tency A. Eason and Hon. Clifford R. Ross

Abstain: Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

A motion to adopt Resolution 149-2025 was made by Councilmember Adrienne K. Wooten seconded by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, and Hon. Clifford R. Ross

Nays: Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

***150-2025** A resolution of the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey authorizing the submission of an application to the Local Finance Board (I) pursuant to N.J.S.A. §40A:2-55 in connection with the issuance of not to exceed \$7,000,000 aggregate principal amount of water-sewer utility refunding bonds, Series 2025, (II) for the approval of a refunding bond ordinance of the City pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Qualified Bond Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:3-1 et seq. (The "Act"), and (III) for the approval of the issuance of refunding bonds as qualified bonds under the provisions of the Act.

Resolution 150-2025 was pulled by Administration

***163-2025** A resolution to enter into Memorandum of Agreement with Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges for the co-facilitation of the 2025 Mayor's Circle of Excellence Summer Camp not to exceed \$147,000.00.

A motion to adopt Resolution 163-2025 was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross and seconded by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert and Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson,

Nays: Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

***175-2025** A resolution supporting the New Jersey State Immigrant Trust Act (ITA) S3672/A 4987. (Sponsored by City of Orange Township Council)

A motion to adopt Resolution 175-2025 was made by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley and seconded by Councilmember Weldon M. Montague, III.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Hon. Quantavia L. Hilbert

Nays: Hon. Kerry J. Coley, Hon. Tency A. Eason, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, and Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson

Abstain: Hon. Weldon M. Montague, III and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Absent: None

Motion Failed

POSTPONED RESOLUTIONS

118-2025 A resolution authorizing a professional services agreement with Friend & Wenzel LLC to provide legal services to the City of Orange Township Zoning Board of Adjustment for a period beginning January 1, 2025 and continuing through December 31, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, with additional fees paid separately from an escrow account that will be solely funded by developers pertaining to their specific projects. *Postponed*

This Resolution was pulled.

NEW BUSINESS AND WALK-ON ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 118-2025 was pulled from the agenda.

OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

There was no Pending Business.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley and seconded by Council Vice President Tency A. Eason.

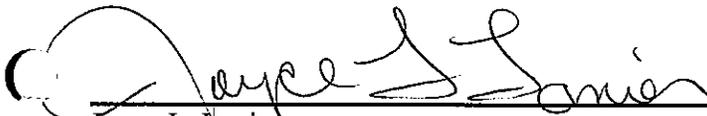
Motion adopted

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03pm.

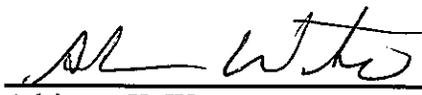
PUBLIC NOTICE

The next City Council Conference and Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at the City of Orange Township City Hall, 29 North Day Street, Orange, NJ 07050, in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

Approved: March 4, 2025



Joyce L. Danien
City Clerk



Adrienne K. Wooten
Council President