THIS IS THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD AT CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026 FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.

Councilmember Kerry J. Coley led all assembled in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilmember Kerry J. Coley, East Ward
Councilmember Tency A. Eason, North Ward
Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert, West Ward
Council Vice President 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: Trisha A. Scipio, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Chris M. Hartwyk, Business Administrator
Derrick Brown, Fire Chief
Nile S. Clements, Chief Financial Officer
Brian Mooney, Police Chief
Gracia R. Montilus, Esq., City Attorney
Marlin G. Townes, Esq., Legislative Research Officer

The Deputy Municipal 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 Star Ledger and published in the Record Transcript on Thursday, July 10, 2025, 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

February 17, 2026 Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion to adopt the minutes from the February 17, 2026 Conference and Regular Meeting was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Council Vice President 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

REPORTS
DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REVENUE COLLECTIONS
There were no Department Monthly Revenue Collection reports

OPRA REPORTS
For January 2026, there were 93 OPRA requests received, 5 completed, and 88 outstanding.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS
There were no Communications or Petitions

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS
Members of the public wishing to address the Council may do so during this portion of the meeting. Speakers must sign their name on the Comments Sign-Up sheet and approach the microphone, when called upon. To allow maximum public involvement, each speaker is permitted one 3-minute period to interact with the Council and must provide his or her name and street address prior to beginning any remarks. Visual aids are not permitted.

Speakers are reminded to be courteous and mindful of other individuals. Each person has the right to speak on any subject but is responsible for abuse of that right. The City bears no liability for any comments made by the public and maintains discretion 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.

Dr. Gloria Boseman of 345 Olcott Street, raised questions concerning Resolution 142-2026 but indicated that she wanted certain preliminary questions addressed before presenting her specific inquiries and comments. She stated that although she does not always receive responses to her questions during Council meetings, she intends to continue attending and expressing her concerns. Dr. Boseman sought guidance from a Parliamentarian regarding whether it is protocol for Councilmembers not to respond to questions when posed during meetings. She expressed concern that it appears some residents receive responses during meetings while others do not.

Gloria Anderson of 300 Oakwood Avenue stated her intention to attend Council meetings regularly and indicated that she would be researching the information presented at the meetings.

A motion to Close Citizen Comments was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross.
Motion Adopted

There were no Citizen Comments received by e-mail.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert initially had no comments but later spoke about the upcoming visit to City Hall by a local Girl Scout Troop working toward earning their Democracy Badge.

Councilmember Tency A. Eason thanked the residents who attended the meeting despite the inclement weather. She also commended the Department of Public Works for their efforts in snow removal.

Councilmember Kerry J. Coley acknowledged Women's History Month and encouraged everyone to recognize and thank women for their many contributions to society. He thanked his 93 year old mother for her raising him with a strong hand.

COUNCIL COMMENTS continued

Council Vice President Weldon M. Montague, III inquired about the status of Redevelopment, the Orange Memorial Hospital site, and the Parking Utility. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated that an update on Redevelopment would be provided at the next meeting (March 17, 2026). He further stated that meetings have been ongoing regarding the Orange Memorial Hospital site and that additional progress is anticipated within the next two weeks. He advised that an ordinance concerning the Parking Utility would be introduced at the March 17, 2026 meeting, noting significant progress and that the utility is expected to be operational by the end of March. Council Vice President Weldon M. Montague, III also announced a series of free tax preparation events for households earning under $69,000. The sessions will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on March 5th at Salem Towers and March 12th in the Council Chambers. The events are presented by Councilmember Kerry J. Coley, Council Vice President Weldon M. Montague, III, and Councilmember Clifford R. Ross. Residents were advised to bring a photo ID, Social Security card, W-2 forms, 1099 forms, and Form 1095-A.

Councilmember Clifford R. Ross inquired about the status of responses to questions posed by residents at the recent Town Hall Meeting. The Council President stated that the responses would be posted to the City's website on March 4, 2026. Councilmember Ross also asked why Dr. Boseman's questions were not answered during Citizen Comments. Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk responded that most of her questions had previously been addressed. Councilmember Ross inquired about the introduction of the City budget, to which Business Administrator Hartwyk stated it is expected at the beginning of April. Councilmember Ross also asked about a grant facilitated through Senator Cory Booker and the New Jersey Department of Transportation, with the Business Administrator noting that the City is currently processing reimbursement funds for a water infrastructure project, specifically the replacement of a large storm and sewer pipe in the North Ward. Councilmember Ross emphasized the need to schedule a Town Hall meeting to discuss the allocation of funds from Community Benefits. He announced a community meeting with the Police Department scheduled for Thursday and reminded residents to set their clocks forward for daylight savings. He noted that although February has ended, the City continues to celebrate Black History Month. He also recognized the beginning of March as Women's History Month, honoring women who lead boldly, love fiercely, and stand firmly in their purpose—including mothers, daughters, sisters, mentors, and community leaders—whose strength and resilience shape homes and communities and inspire future generations. Councilmember Ross concluded by inviting everyone to join him in giving these remarkable women a round of applause.

Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson expressed appreciation to Coach Aikem May of Orange High School for organizing students to assist residents with snow shoveling, noting it was a positive way for students to earn money while helping the community. She acknowledged Women's History Month and gave special recognition to her mother, for whom she currently serves as caregiver. She announced that the collaborative event she and Council President Adrienne K. Wooten were planning would be rescheduled. She further stated that she is working with the Police Department to coordinate another event to provide residents with an opportunity to ask questions and receive information. Councilmember Summers-Johnson requested that Administration copy Councilmembers on responses to residents so they are equally informed. She concluded by asking everyone to continue to pray for the country.

COUNCIL COMMENTS continued

Council President Adrienne K. Wooten made several announcements and advised that flyers were available in the lobby:

- **Shred-It Events**: April 4, 2026; July 11, 2026; and October 24, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at City Hall, 29 North Day Street (Parking Lot).
- **Vaccines for Children**:
  - March 4, 2026 (3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.), Watsessing Park Community Center, 38 Conger Street, Bloomfield
  - March 11, 2026 (3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.), Monte Irvin Orange Park Community Center, 268 Oakwood Avenue
  - March 18, 2026 (3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.), Bilal Beasley Community Center, 644 Lyons Avenue
- **Free Rabies Clinic**: March 21, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at City Hall, 29 North Day Street, Orange, NJ.
- **Kids Summer Camp Sponsorship**: Council Vice President Montague and Councilmember Ross will sponsor students in grades 5 through 11 to attend summer camp from July 19 through July 24 in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Flyers are available for additional details.
- Fire Department flyers are available to assist residents in creating a home fire escape plan.
- Vote-by-Mail applications may now be submitted electronically through the New Jersey Division of Elections due to recent legislative changes. The web address is provided on the flyer.
- **Stronger Together – Parent & Caregiver Wellness Series**: Virtual sessions on March 5 and March 19, 2026 (login information available on flyer).
- Free Tax Help, as previously announced.

Following the announcements, Council President Wooten acknowledged Women's History Month and thanked her fellow Councilmembers for working collaboratively as a team.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

70-2025 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. (576 Langdon Street)

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

A motion to adopt the Ordinance 70-2025 on Second Reading was made by Councilmember Clifford R. Ross 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

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION | FIRST READING
There were no Ordinances on Introduction | First Reading.

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 *134-2026 THROUGH *154-2026

***134-2026 A resolution recognizing March 10 as the National Day of Rest for Black Women (Sponsored by Councilmember Tency A. Eason and the City of Orange Township Municipal Council)**

***135-2026 A resolution recognizing International Women's Day (Sponsored by Councilmember Tency A. Eason and the City of Orange Township Municipal Council)**

***136-2026 Resolution authorizing a contract with Accurate Language Services, LLC for translating and interpretation services to be provided to the Orange Municipal Court in an amount not to exceed $50,000.00 for a period of one (1) year from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.**

***137-2026 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, PA 17070 in an amount not to exceed $185,000.00.**

***138-2026 A resolution approving qualified consultant engineers to provide consulting engineering on an "as needed" basis for one (1) year commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.**

***139-2026 A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with Neighborhood Planning and Architectural Design, Inc., (NPAD), 5233 Tomahawk Trail, Lower Level, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610 to provide construction administration services to comply with federal and state guidelines for the Highland Avenue Train Station Renovation Project in the amount not to exceed $20,700.00.**

***140-2026 A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with Lewis Consulting Group, Inc., 2604 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 600, Wall, New Jersey 07719 to provide professional asbestos-containing materials (ACM) clearance oversight and report services to comply with federal and state guidelines for the Highland Avenue Train Station Renovation Project in the amount not to exceed $25,650.00.**

***141-2026 Resolution authorizing the renewal of an agreement with Hatfield Schwartz, LLC to represent the City of Orange Township in the matter "Deborah Upchurch v. Inservco Insurance Company, et al", Docket No. ESX-L-6471-22 in an amount not to exceed $15,000.00 for calendar year 2026.**

***142-2026 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, determining that the Orange Park Apartments Project provides for and meets the Affordable Housing needs of the City of Orange Township, and supporting the submission of applications by Orange Park Preservation LLC to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency to receive project financing under the Aspire Tax Credit Program.**

***143-2026 A resolution recognizing Irish-American Heritage Month and Honoring the contributions of Irish-Americans to the Community and the Nation (Submitted by Council President Adrienne Wooten & the Orange Municipal Council)**

***144-2026 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township recognizing National Credit Education Month and promoting financial literacy and responsible credit practices (Submitted By Council President Adrienne Wooten & South Ward Councilwoman Jamie Summers Johnson And The Orange Municipal Council)**

***145-2026 A resolution recognizing Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and promoting awareness, inclusion, and support for individuals with developmental disabilities (Submitted By Council President Adrienne Wooten & The Orange Municipal Council)**

RESOLUTIONS continued

***146-2026 A resolution recognizing Women's History Month and honoring the contributions of women to civic, business, and community life (Submitted By Council President Adrienne Wooten & The Orange Municipal Council)**

***147-2026 Resolution authorizing the renewal of an agreement with the Antoine Law Firm, LLC, to represent Christopher Hartwyk, April Cruz and Louis Copeland in the matter of Erica Nazario v. City of Orange Township, Orange Police Department, Louis Copeland, Lieutenant Olivera, April Cruz, Christopher Hartwyk, Union Rep Does 1-3, Union Doe 1, John Doe (1-5), Jan Doe (1-5), ABC Corporation (1-5), Docket No. ESX-L-006112-22 in an amount not to exceed $45,000.00 for calendar year 2026.**

***148-2026 Resolution authorizing the renewal of an agreement with Michael A. Armstrong & Associates, LLC to represent Denise Banks in the matter of "Marie Conserve v. City of Orange Township, et al", Docket No. 2:21-cv-00872-SDW-ESK in an amount not to exceed $20,000.00 for calendar year 2026.**

***149-2026 Resolution authorizing the renewal of an agreement with the Antoine Law Firm, LLC, to represent Sergean Rene Wilson in the matter of Kerry Payne V. City of Orange Township, Orange Police Department, Chief Vincent Vitiello, Captain Christopher Dunn, Director Todd Warren, Sgt. Rene Wilson, B.A. Christopher Hartwyk, Head Doe, Joe Does (1-10), Harry Roes (1-10), Docket No. ESX–L–6850–22, in an amount not to exceed $35,000.00 for Calendar Year 2026.**

***150-2026 A resolution of Transfer of Appropriation Reserves #3**

***151-2026 A resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township, Essex County, New Jersey, authorizing the award of a Professional Services Agreement to NW Financial Group, LLC, 522 Broad Street, Bloomfield, New Jersey, 07003, for Financial Advisory Services in an amount not to exceed $60,000.00 for a period of one (1) year from March 1, 2026 to February 28, 2026.**

***152-2026 Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Foundation Risk Partners Corp. d/b/a Fairview Insurance agency Associates to renewal risk management services for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 with an option for an additional year.**

***153-2026 A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on March 3, 2026 dated February 25, 2026 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: $10,410,731.47).**

A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson 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, Hon. Clifford R. Ross, Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

The Deputy Municipal Clerk temporarily relinquished the chair to City Attorney Gracia R. Montilus, Esq., who presided over the meeting during consideration of Resolution 154-2026, as it pertained to the appointment of the Deputy Municipal Clerk as Acting Municipal Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

154-2026 A Resolution Appointing Trisha A. Scipio, Deputy Clerk, As Acting Municipal Clerk In The Absence Of A Municipal Clerk

A motion to adopt Resolution 154-2026 was made by Councilmember Tency A. Eason 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

NEW BUSINESS, WALK-ON ORDINANCES | RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

155-2026 WO 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 pursuant to the Municipal Qualified Bond Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:3-1 et seq. in connection with the proposed issuance of not to exceed $4,995,000 General Improvement Bonds, Series 2026

A motion to Walk-On Resolutions 155-2026WO was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: Hon. Clifford R. Ross

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted: Resolution 155-2026WO was Walked-On to the Agenda

155-2026 WO 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 pursuant to the Municipal Qualified Bond Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:3-1 et seq. in connection with the proposed issuance of not to exceed $4,995,000 General Improvement Bonds, Series 2026

A motion to adopt Resolution 155-2026WO was made by Councilmember Tency A. Eason and seconded by Council Vice President 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, and Hon. Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and Hon. Adrienne K. Wooten

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Adopted

OLD BUSINESS
None

OTHER PENDING BUSINESS
Councilmember Clifford R. Ross requested that the Bond Attorney be present for Matters of Discussion. Councilmember Tency A. Eason inquired about a grant involving Congresswoman LaMonica McIver, which Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk stated is currently in process for projects on Alden Street and North Day Street. Councilmember Quantavia L. Hilbert inquired about the Permit Parking study, which will be introduced by ordinance at the March 17th Council meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Jamie B. Summers-Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Tency A. Eason.
Motion adopted

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The next City Council Conference and Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

Approved: March 17, 2026

Trisha A. Scipio
Acting Municipal Clerk

Adrienne K. Wooten
Council President