

A 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 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING AT 7:53 PM.

- 1) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**
- 2) **ROLL CALL**

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (West-Ward)	_____	_____ X _____
Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt (At-Large)	_____ X _____	_____
Hon. Linda Jones-Bell (East- Ward)	_____ X _____	_____
Hon. Edward B. Marable, Jr. (South-Ward)	_____ X _____	_____
Hon. Rayfield Morton (At-Large)	_____ X _____	_____
Hon. Donna K. Williams (At-Large)	_____ X _____	_____
Hon. Tency A. Eason (North-Ward)	_____ X _____	_____
Council President		

ALSO PRESENT

Shinell Smith, Deputy Mun. Clerk	_____ X _____	_____
Hon. Eldridge Hawkins, Jr., Mayor	_____	_____ X _____
Marvin T. Braker, City Attorney	_____ X _____	_____
Theresa Pollard, Esq., Assis. Legislative Research Officer	_____ X _____	_____
Valerie Jackson, Acting Deputy Director of Admin.	_____ X _____	_____
Shirley Bailey, Clerk’s Office	_____ X _____	_____

- 3) **The Deputy Municipal Clerk announce that the requirement 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 Orange Transcript on July 14, 2011, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.**

- 4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Deputy Municipal Clerk announced that the minutes were to be withdrawn until the subsequent meeting.

May 1, 2012 – Public Hearing

Councilman Abdul-Rasheed & Councilman Morton cannot vote, because they were not present

Motion to adopt:

Second:

May 1, 2012 - Conference & Regular Minutes

Councilman Abdul-Rasheed cannot vote, because he was not present

Motion to adopt:

Second:

- 5) **REPORTS:**

None:

CONSTABLE REPORTS:

None

6) COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

None

- 7) CITIZEN COMMENTS ON GENERAL ISSUES/AGENDA ITEMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-10 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP, "EACH PERSON ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL SHALL STEP UP TO THE MICROPHONE, SHALL GIVE HIS OR HER NAME IN AN AUDIBLE TONE FOR THE RECORD, AND UNLESS FURTHER TIME IS GRANTED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER, SHALL LIMIT HIS OR HER ADDRESS TO TEN (10) MINUTES".**

THE PUBLIC IS EXPECTED TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES IN A PROPER MANNER, ANY DEROGATORY, ABUSIVE OR THREATENING STATEMENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. THE CHAIR WILL IMMEDIATELY RULE SUCH CONDUCT OUT OF ORDER AND TERMINATE ANY FURTHER COMMENTS.

Council President Eason recognized William R. Lewis

William R. Lewis of 688 Mosswood Avenue stated his opinion and concerns as follows:

- **There needs to be four votes to cut the budget and five votes to increase the budget.**
- **The Council should be able to answer the public's questions with regards to the City Clerk and Business Administrator, according to employee handbook.**

Council President Eason stated in response to former Councilman Lewis that the City Clerk cannot be discussed because there is pending litigation. Therefore, there will be no discussion or comments made relative to the same.

Council President Eason recognized Jeffrey Feld

Jeffrey Feld of 268 Main Street stated his concerns and questions as follows:

- **The Annual Financial Statement should be posted on the City's website.**
- **The City will have to pay a penalty because of late pension payments.**
- **The RFP as stated in the Star Ledger was a misrepresentation of what was made to the Council in 2009 relative to phase three of the Walter G. project, which was for market rate housing not affordable housing.**

- **Certain candidates have yet to file their final reports with the New Jersey Election Commission, which should have been done in May.**
- **The Council needs to investigate the water infrastructure bonds, private sale by the Administration in 2008 and terms in which they hadn't approved at that time, prior to voting up resolution 119-2012.**

Council President Eason recognized Harold Johnson

Harold Johnson of 235 Fuller Terrace stated his concerns and opinion as follows:

- **Thanked Councilman Corbitt for nominating him for the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee**
- **Confused as to the lack of progress the City has made over the past couple years and hope that the new administration will move this town forward**

Council President Eason recognized Thelma Smith

Thelma Smith of 185 Elmwynd Drive stated that the form of government for the City of Orange had been changed from the Commission form to Mayor Council so that Council has the power to implement change. She stated that her taxes are approximately eighteen thousand dollars a year and it is unfair that others aren't paying their fair share. Ms. Smith stated that there is a house located on Berkley Avenue and it is occupied by numerous people, and should be investigated. She stated that these people aren't paying their share in taxes.

Council President Eason recognized Ken Garrett

Ken Garrett, Essex County liaison to the City of Orange Township announced up coming events that will take place in Orange Park as follows:

- **June 16th - Gospel Fest**
- **July 11th - Live Concert by Denise Hamilton**
- **August 12th - Spanish Festival**
- **September 8th - Caribbean Festival**

Mr. Garret stated in response to Councilwoman Williams that cooking is not permitted in Essex County parks, except Orange Mountain.

Mr. Garret stated in response to Councilman Morton that events are budgeted for through the County. He stated that the parks decide on the line up at random. However, he will try to assure that there is an R&B concert in the park next year.

Council President Eason recognized Joshua Sakolsky

Joshua Sakolsky of 393 Olcott stated that there is always someone cooking in the park, there is a lack of police presence day to day and there should be an even stronger presence of sheriff officers during events. The County should hire individuals from Orange to keep the park and its borders clean.

Ms. Jackson stated in response to Mr. Sakolsky's inquiry relative to resolution 121-2012 that the estimated food grant was for one hundred and forty eight thousand dollars. But after the bids came in it was determined only one hundred and twelve thousand of that amount was needed. She stated when there is excess funds in the grant the remaining amount is returned.

Mr. Sakolsky stated in response to Council President Eason that there needs to be single side parking on Olcott Street because it's congested. Allowing individuals to utilize the parks parking lot could remedy this problem.

Councilman Morton and Council President Eason echoed that same sentiment as it relates to individuals being fined if caught hanging out in the park after 10 pm and there should be signs in place which speak to the rules and regulations relative to the same.

Clifford Pierre and Orange Ink announced that their doors are open to students from middle school to high school with hopes of exploring fashion design, music and art. This group serves as mentors to many young people and they're a safe haven for students in need of an after school or summer program. Orange Ink. is located at 406 Thompson Street, in Orange.

Council President Eason recognized Gloria Stewart

Gloria Stewart of 62 Hampton Terrace stated her questions and concerns as follows:

- **Can the dead tree in front of the house be removed and/ or replace?
Ms. Jackson in response stated, yes.**
- **What is the status of the houses on Oakwood Avenue?
Mr. McNeal is still in the acquisition process. Once he has acquired those properties then demolition will begin.**
- **The money for suspended police officers should be on reserve for them; leaving no need to put money back into the budget for the same.**
- **When questions were asked of the former CFO and BA an answer was given.**
- **What is the status on the BA?**
- **What is the status on the City Clerk?**
- **What is the status of the reservoir?
Council President Eason stated that there is no update on the reservoir at this time.**
- **How many of young people have been killed and imprisoned and what will be done to make a change?
Council President Eason stated that a statistical report has been done dating back to 2004 up until now. However, it is not broken down by age.**
- **How will the money for resolution 120-2012 and 121-2012 be utilized?**
- **Will Orange Ink work in conjunction with Mr. Pressey in recreation?
Ms. Jackson stated that she will reach out to Ms. Fullilove in regards to the same.**

Council President Eason stated that it is important that someone reaches out to Superintendent Lee just in case there are any liability issues.

**Motion to Close Citizen Comments: Morton Voice Vote
Second: Jones-Bell**

8) COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council President Eason recognized Councilman Marable

Councilman Marable mentioned that the ‘yield ahead’ sign at the tip of Orange Park alludes to there being a sign ahead to yield but that is clearly not the case. There should be clear signage throughout the park for safety reasons. Councilman Marable stated, contrary to what’s being said, Sheriff Officers do patrol Orange Park. Although his experience with a lieutenant leads him to believe that there should be better training of these officers relative to servicing those utilizing the park.

Councilman Marable stated that Mr. Warren should resign from the position of Legislative Research Officer prior to the transition in the administration, as he now has greater demands to face. The Council should begin to seek a new Legislative Research Officer as Mr. Warren’s replacement.

Council President Eason recognized Councilman Morton

Councilman Morton stated to Mr. Garrett that there should be a light placed at Oakwood and Central and Avenue as a safety measure for individuals exiting Orange Park.

Mr. Garrett agreed to sit down with both the Administration and Council to discuss issues surrounding the park.

Councilman Morton stated to Mr. Garrett that there should be signage those advices drivers to slow down when approaching Scotland Road and Heywood Avenue.

Council President Eason in response to Councilman Morton stated that the homicide report shows a spike in crime in 2011.

Councilman Morton stated that the people need to go into the street and address the problems oppose to hosting seminars.

Councilman Morton stated that the City can use a more efficient EMS services.

Ms. Jackson stated in response to Councilman Morton that Mr. Bell has an estimate for the lights under the bridge. She stated that she will have to follow up as to the status before responding.

Ms. Jackson stated in response to Councilman Morton that Council can draft an ordinance for permit parking on specific streets.

Council President Eason recognized Councilwoman Williams

Councilwoman Williams stated that she provided Council with a copy of proposed legislation for their review regarding TO (Table of Organization) but will have a discussion at a later date. She stated that Wilson Place should remain a one way opposed to a two way. She stated that the sign was knocked down years ago and she would like to see it replaced.

Council President Eason recommend that Councilwoman Williams get the neighbors to sign a petition before moving forward with this change so that there's proof of them being in agreement with the same.

Councilwoman Williams stated that she is in favor of the EMS being returns to the charge of the fire department as an alternative to outsourcing.

Mr. Braker stated that the fire department had already submitted a package relative to the same.

Council President Eason stated in response to Councilwoman Williams that Councilman Corbitt and Mr. Rinaldi (Tax Assessor) will meet with the Tax Board regarding the status of the re-evaluation. She stated that Carl Smith (Tax Collector) is concerned as to why the Tax Board is interested in our estimated tax bills, as per their correspondence.

Ms. Jackson stated in response to Councilwoman Williams that she will follow up with Arlene Kemp relative to the report showing the status of our streets. Ms. Jackson stated that she will also provide Councilwoman Williams with the status of the abandoned houses with high bushes.

Councilwoman Williams stated that she sees sheriff officers patrolling the Orange Park entrances at night.

Council President Eason recognized Councilman Corbitt

Councilman Corbitt stated that there are a number of bright students in our area and they are a part of the Scholar's Academy (Old Mt. Carmel bldg.), which is located at Center Street and Freeway Drive. Councilman Corbitt commended the principle and vice principle of Orange High School for a job well done because their students ranked first, in the history of Orange High School on their aptitude tests.

Councilman Corbitt stated that violent crimes in our towns have to stop. He stated that his seminars have gained the attention of the prosecutor's office and upcoming meeting will be scheduled. Councilman Corbitt stated that the cameras and technology to help fight crime have been set up but they have not been turned on and he plans to inquire as to why this hasn't been done.

Council President Eason recognized Councilwoman Jones-Bell

Councilwoman Jones-Bell stated that she has issues that are being addressed with drug dealers on her side of town. She stated that these individuals need to be engaged in something positive to replace the negative. There has to be an alternative to the lifestyle that the street offers.

Ms. Jackson stated in response to Councilwoman Jones-Bell that sixteen thousand dollars had been budgeted for curb cuts.

Councilwoman Jones-Bell stated to Ms. Jackson that an ordinance for Ogden Street as it relates to parking should be revisited because individuals were unjustly ticketed.

Council President Eason announced that Athletic Director Jason Green will host a banquet for the athletes at the Big O' Booster Club on June 7, 2012 at 6 pm. She asked that everyone support this event.

Council President Eason stated in response to Councilman Corbitt relative to the towns security cameras that a certified IT person is needed to address the CAD system.

Council President Eason announced that St. Matthews held the annual basketball tournament in which Councilman Marable had taken part in.

Council President Eason announced that the health fair at Inglesias Church was a success. She encouraged the Council to visit some of the churches to bridge the gap amongst the ethnic groups in the community.

Mr. Braker stated in response to Council President Eason, while it's a great idea that neighbors help one another with the up keep our neighborhood, we could encounter liability issues when trespassing on people's property.

Council President Eason stated that there is unfair treatment occurring at the firehouse at the hands of Chief Manganelli and the Council need to look into these issues. She stated that Mr. Manganelli should be investigated for attending Mayor Hawkins campaign event in uniform.

Council President allowed Mr. William Hathaway to speak

Mr. Hathaway asked Ms. Jackson if she could look into having the property at 231 Lincoln Avenue inspected due to infestation and over grown weeds.

Ms. Jackson stated that Code Enforcement is aware of the problem and will address it.

Mr. Hathaway asked that the Council sit down with NJ Transit to discuss the lack of light under the bridge and proper fencing near the tracks. He stated that we should hold them accountable.

Mr. Hathaway congratulated the newly elected officials and asked that they move Orange forward.

9) ORDINANCES–SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

None

10) ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION /FIRST READING

None

11) 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.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk announced there was a resolution coming from the floor and read it into the record as follow:

123- 2012 A resolution for the adoption of Emergency Temporary Appropriation in the amount of \$9,869,338.00.

Council President Eason suspend the rules of the agenda to add resolution 123-2012 to the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Morton

Second: Jones-Bell

The roll call by the Deputy Municipal Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Marable, Morton, Williams and Council President Eason

Nays: Williams

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Six Yeas, No Nays, No Abstentions and One Absence.

RESOLUTIONS NO. *117-2012*122-2012

***117-2012 A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on June 6, 2012 dated May 29, 2012 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95. (GRAND TOTAL: \$2,997,882.30)**

- *118-2012** A resolution authorizing Change Order #1 from Abe Home Improvement to modify the contract for the Installation of Way Finding Signage Phase I in the amount not to exceed \$1,550.00.
- *119-2012** A resolution authorizing Change Order #11 from Scafar Contracting to modify the contract for the Mountain Well Improvements and Chestnut Street Treatment Facility and Pump Station Replacement due to unforeseen conditions in the amount not to exceed \$565,477.59.
- *120-2012** A resolution authorizing the acceptance of grant funding totaling \$148,728.51 from the State of New Jersey for the Summer Food Program participation for 2012.
- *121-2012** A resolution awarding a contract to the Maramont Corporation, 5600 First Avenue, Bldg. C, Brooklyn, New York, 11220 in the amount of \$112,598.75 for the Summer Food Program for Children 2012.
- *122-2012** A resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Office of Recreation for funding under the 2013 Recreational Programs for individuals with disabilities Grant (ROID) and authorizing the Mayor to sign any applications or contracts that are required.

Councilwoman Williams asked that resolution 123-2012 be removed for a separated vote.
***123- 2012** A resolution for the adoption of Emergency Temporary Appropriation in the amount of \$9,869,338.00.

Council President Eason entertained a Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Corbitt **Second: Jones-Bell**

The roll call by the Deputy Municipal Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Marable, Morton, Williams and Council President Eason
Nays: Williams
Abstentions: None
Absences: Abdul-Rasheed

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Six Yeas, No Nays, No Abstentions and One Absence.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk recognized the resolution that was removed for a separate vote.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk announced that this resolution needed two-thirds vote to pass.

123- 2012 A resolution for the adoption of Emergency Temporary Appropriation in the amount of \$9,869,338.00.

Council President Eason entertained a Motion to adopt.

Motion: Corbitt

Second: Jones- Bell

The roll call by the Deputy Municipal Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Marable, Morton, Williams and Council President Eason

Nays: Williams

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Six Yeas, No Nays, No Abstentions and One Absence.

12) OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

13) MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Deputy Municipal Clerk entertained a Motion to Adjourn.

Motion: Jones-Bell

Second: Morton

The roll call by the Deputy Municipal Clerk was as follows:

Yeas: Corbitt, Jones-Bell, Marable, Morton, Williams and Council President Eason

Nays: Williams

Abstentions: None

Absences: Abdul-Rasheed

Council President Eason ruled the motion was carried by Six Yeas, No Nays, No Abstentions and One Absence.

Adjournment Time: 10:21 PM

Shinell V. Smith
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Tency A. Eason
Council President

MINUTES APPROVAL

Passed on August 8, 2012

Public Hearing, Conference and Regular Minutes June 6, 2012

Council President Eason entertained a Motion to adopt.

Motion to Adopt: Corbitt

Second: Eason

The roll call by Municipal Clerk was as followed:

Yeas: Abdul-Rasheed, Corbitt, Gaunt-Butler, Marable, Williams and Eason

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Jones-Bell

**Council President Eason ruled the Motion was carried by Six Yeas, No Nays,
No Abstentions and One Absence.**