

**MINUTES CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP**  
**NEW JERSEY**

**CONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 4, 2014**

This was a conference meeting of the City Council of the City of Orange Township, located at 29 North Day Street, Orange, New Jersey. The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 7:20 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:**

West Ward Councilman Abdul-Rasheed  
At-Large Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt  
North Ward Councilwoman Tency A. Eason  
At-Large Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler  
East Ward Councilwoman Linda Jones-Bell  
South Ward Councilman Edward B. Marable, Jr.  
At-Large Council President Donna K. Williams  
Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq

**Also Present:** Deputy Municipal Clerk Madeline F. Smith  
Marty Mayes Administrative Representative  
Dan S. Smith, City Attorney  
Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance  
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer  
Kevin D. Harris, Legislative Research Officer  
Margarette Homere, Clerk's Office

The Chair led all assembled in a moment of silence.

The Chair suspended the rules to have Councilman Marable introduced Mr. Miles Paterson. Mr. Paterson is a member of Troop 8 from the Elmwood United Presbyterian Church in East Orange and a resident of Orange. He is working to become an Eagle Scout and he needs his badge in Citizenship and Community.

The Deputy Clerk read the following statement.

**"Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General Items shall sign one book. There will be two columns in the book, one for Agenda Items and one for General Issues. Each person signing the book will check Agenda Items or General Issues. If they check only Agenda Items or General Issues, they will be allowed to speak for five minutes. If they check General Issues and Agenda Items, they will be allowed to speak for ten minutes.**

The requirement of N.J. S.A. 10:4-9 et. Seq.,

**"The Sunshine Law" has been met. A notice of this meeting was sent to the *Star Ledger* and published in the *Record-Transcript* on July 18, 2013, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk."**

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION****Chris Durkin – Essex County Clerk**

**The Chair introduced Mr. Chris Durkin the Essex County Clerk.**

**Mr. Durkin provided the residents of Orange a list of the services and programs that his office provides to County residents. Mr. Durkin reported on the law that was put in place which allowed voting citizens to vote by mail. Mr. Durkin commented on the election issues the County had during Storm Sandy. Mr. Durkin reported that a law was passed in 2010 allowing School Boards and Non-Partisan elections to move their elections to November. Mr. Durkin complimented the Clerk's Office for doing more with less.. Mr. Durkin reported on the County's Municipal Guide and Calendar. Mr. Durkin answered questions from the Council.**

**Chris Mobley- Water rate increase**

**The Chair introduced Mr. Chris Mobley, Parking and Water liaison, to give a presentation on the reasons for the water rate increase and reported that residents would be allowed to ask brief questions.**

**Mr. Mobley provided basic information relative to the water rate increase.**

**Mr. Mobley read from a document that he prepared which had questions and answers that he felt would help the residents to understand why the increase was necessary. (Attachment A)**

**Mr. Mobley reported on the consultant firm Deter Lerch and their comparative report on water and sewer rates of different municipalities within the area; which indicated that Orange's rates were lower than rates in surrounding towns.**

**Mr. Mobley reported that the increase would not include the repair of the water pump station, which would be an additional cost. Mr. Mobley answered questions from the residents and Council.**

**Councilwoman Eason requested a suspension of the rules to have Mr. Rinaldi come to the podium and speak on letters that residents have received.**

**Mr. Rinaldi came to the podium and reported on a letter that some residents received from a law firm that was soliciting business from Orange residents regarding the revaluation appeal deadline being April 1<sup>st</sup> which was false. Mr. Rinaldi provided information for residents on the procedures for appealing their tax rate.**

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

**The resolutions and ordinances to be presented at tonight's meeting are listed on the attached Regular Meeting Agenda. If any Council Member wishes to discuss any resolution or ordinance, it may be discussed at this time.**

Councilman Corbitt questioned Resolution 56-2014, asking if the Freeholder Board had approved this already before it came to the Orange City Council. Council President Williams commented the resolution is allowing the County to know that the Council is in favor of the amendments that the County Executive had reported on when he had made his presentation to the Council. Mr. Ken Garrett, Liaison to Orange from Essex County, commented that he was not sure, but thought that the City Council had to approve the resolution first; he would verify that. Councilwoman Eason commented that she would not support the resolution unless Orange was going to get additional funding.

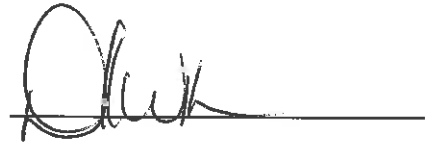
Council President Williams commented that the improvements suggested would not be at the expense of Orange and then gave a summary of improvements that would be done for the Orange reservoir area. Mr. Mapp came to the podium and explained the lease portion of the agreement; which was not part of this resolution but would be in a separate resolution for approval.

Mr. Mapp then answered questions regarding the Bill List.

A motion by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Jones-Bell to adjourn was approved by a unanimous vote at 8:35 P.M.



Madeline F. Smith  
Deputy Municipal Clerk



Donna K. Williams  
Council President