

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

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
WAS HELD IN CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ON
TUESDAY, May 6, 2014 FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.**

The Chair led all assembled in a Salute to the American Flag

Roll Call:

Present:

Councilman Hassan Abdul-Rasheed, West Ward Councilman (arrived at 8:05)
Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt, At-Large Councilman
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward Councilwoman
Councilwoman April Gaunt-Butler, At-Large Councilwoman
Councilman Edward B. Marable Jr., South Ward Councilman
Council President Donna K. Williams, At-Large Councilwoman

Also Present:

Deputy Municipal Clerk Madeline Smith
City Attorney Dan Smith
Legislative Research Officer Kevin Harris
Senior Clerk Margarete Homere
Fire Director Dowd
Police Director Sims
Tax Collector Mr. Smith
Mr. Mobley, Water & Parking Liaison

Absent:

Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq
Councilwoman Linda Jones-Bell, East Ward Councilwoman

The Deputy Municipal Clerk announced that 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 Record-Transcript and published in the Star Ledger on December 21, 2013, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

March 18, 2014 Conference & Regular meeting

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

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

- Marty Mayes stated that every year there is a report that is filed. Last year, we recycled about \$80,000.00; a reward in recycling about 45% of items. The goal is to expand recycling of schools.
- Both Ms. Stewart and Council President Williams spoke highly about the new art mural. The artist Mr. Freeman is doing a great job. Mr. Freeman partnered with Valley Arts.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to Close Citizen Comments. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler.

8) COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Eason reported that a company wants to put street bumpers on Summer Street for free; can that be done was the question posed to Director Mayes?

- There is a pole down on Cleveland St. and Washington St. please look into that.
- She asked for Mr. Mayes if Burnside was completed? Mr. Mayes did not think it was totally completed.
- She asked Mr. Mayes to have the basin on N. Day Street cleaned out.
- Councilwoman Eason reported that the city was awarded \$239,810.00 for the Orange ACA Navigator Project. It's location is at 523 Park Avenue. It is a community-based business and is run by Wendy Sykes. She would like to know how we accepted the money, how the money is being dispersed. Councilwoman Eason asked that Ms. Sykes come to the next meeting June 4th so the Council can know how this is benefiting the city and why the office is over at 523 Park Avenue versus city hall. (ended at 2:07)
- On May 13, 2014, please vote. She believes the city is under sieze. There is a negative communication piece that she believes is sponsored by the Administration. Her vehicle was vandalized and her signs are being stolen.
- She asked Mr. Mayes and Director Sims, to make sure that they enforce the law after May 13, 2014 and make sure the signs are taken down.
- Mr. Dan Smith, City Attorney regarding Ordinance 11 stated the mayor supports this Ordinance. The mayor wants this ordinance to be constitutional.

Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler congratulated the administration on the opening of the new baseball field and the Clean Streets initiative.

- Budget Hearing - Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler asked for the community to come and attend. She asked the administration to make sure they are televised.
- She thanked Councilman Corbitt in organizing the Forest Street School community forum.
- Councilman Corbitt reported - He thanked everyone in helping to make the Forest Street community function a success.
- He asked about the stains in the tile of the council chambers should be painted.
- Bell St. had a pair of tennis shoes hanging in he wires. He asked that they are removed.
- Berwyn Street needs to be resurfaced.
- Recently a 3 way stop sign was installed; yet he observed that the stop sign is being ignored.
- Cuts have not been made to the budget yet.

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

- To Councilwoman Eason, regarding her remarks about the election. He stated that Orange is not the town it used to be. Individuals need to run on their own merits.

Councilman Marable reported that he has made cuts to the budget; although the council as a whole has not begun to cut the budget. The budget hearing dates; so far; have been canceled and rescheduled.

- He believes the longer one goes without a budget; the more money is spent. He is concerned that the budget may not pass until after July 1, 2014; when there will be 4 new individuals who have never passed a 56,000,000 municipal budget. It behooves us to get moving on this process
- Resolution 120-2014, he asked that Fairview Avenue for repaving. He asked Mr. Mayes who prioritized the order in which streets will be repaved. Mr. Mayes responded that he is the one who prioritized the order based on condition and need.. He stated there is a list by streets and by ward.
- He expressed concern regarding a death of a Housing Authority resident. He asked that who was responsible for notifying the residents. He believes it makes more sense for the Housing Authority notifies the residents.
- Eight years in this position is that he has become oblivious to lies.
- He will not be voting for Michael Hackett as a judge. He has concerns about the resolution.

Councilman Abdul-Rasheed - requested the stop sign at Lincoln/Frankfort Avenue. He called with respects to many motorists passing or ignoring the stop-sign. Perhaps another stop sign is needed. Also white markings are to be put in place; as agreed upon by Mr. Ray Wingfield and Mr. Marty Mayes.

- There is a very, large potholes by Romeo's - Lincoln Ave and Central Ave. (by the Fire Department). The pothole is so big it needs to be filled immediately.
- He thanked the Public Works for all of their great work.
- He asked Mr. Mayes whether the lights have been replaced at Conover Ave and Reynolds Terrace.
- Councilman Abdul-Rasheed also said some of the worse potholes in town are by the train station (he sees it as a sink hole).
- What will be done at 50-55 So. Essex Ave. lights under the underpass.
- His heart goes out to the motor cycle driver who passed away today.

Council President Williams received a card from United Water.

- She asked the United Water Representative, Steve, to speak on behalf of United Water. He stated that The water meets and exceeds all standards required by the Federal Government. The wells are high quality wells that produce a lot of water.
- She also expressed that she thought the Forrest St. Community Forum was very successful.
- She asked Director Sims about the color of the police vehicles and if he could respond to Ms. Gloria Stewart's question. There are 2 black cars and a truck. The color is called subdued. One can see the graphics once one gets close. The 3 vehicles will be part of a traffic detail, and one does want to be more subtle in seeking those who violate traffic laws. He did plan this for the Police Department.
- His police officers need to be community friendly - not the vehicles. Councilman Corbitt supports the "sleek" look.
- Councilwoman Williams asked if the tablets have arrived and if they are being used. Director Sims responded that they are waiting for mounts, but the tablets are being used.

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

- Hickory street. The changing of the way for Hickory has taken place over 5 months; she is asking if something else can be done; such a police officer. Councilwoman Eason asked if bi-lingual signs are needed?
- Ken Garrett, Liaison for Essex County. Councilwoman Williams asked about a new facility. He stated that there is one and it affiliated with Turtle Back Zoo. He will do more research.
- The Budget Hearings have been canceled in an inappropriate manner. The problem was the administration felt that the Director of Finance and the CFO were to be available as well; and those 2 individuals were not available for some of the dates. The process needs to be respected. The clerk's office assistance creating the schedules.
- She referred to a letter regarding tax liens; which she believes was premature. The mayor did not have all of the information regarding a bundled tax list.
- To Councilwoman Eason has initiated a forum to make sure that the Housing Authority /City of Orange working with the City Attorney, Mr. Harris to create the legislation in how one would handle death in the future.
- Director Sims responded that he also has rules to follow. Director Sims has an interim plan.
- Councilman Marable asked for someone to come up with an interim plan as soon as possible.
- Councilwoman Williams expressed her condolences to the family of the person who died in the motor cycle accident.
- Sunday was the anniversary of the Freedom Riders historical bus trip. How they made a conscious decision to take that perilous journey. There are approximately 30,000 residents in Orange. She encouraged everyone to vote.
- Orange Community Day is Saturday May 17, in the city Hall Parking Lots.
- She mentioned dates for the budget hearings and a copy of the dates of the budget hearings can be obtained in the clerk's office. Budget Hearing for the Public is Tuesday May 20, 2014.

Extend Meeting

The clerk moved the agenda forward by asking to extend the meeting past 10:30pm. A motion was made by Councilwoman Eason and seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler.

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Marable and Donna K Williams
Nays: Abdul-Rasheed
Absent: Jones-Bell

Close Council Comments

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to close Council Comments; it was seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler

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

ORDINANCES-SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

None

Councilman Abdul-Rasheed moved to suspend the rules and add **Ordinance 12-2014**, (add name) Introduction of 1st reading to the agenda. Councilwoman Williams seconded.

Roll Call

Yeas: Abdul-Rasheed, Corbitt, Eason, and Councilwoman Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstained: Gaunt-Butler

Absent: Jones-Bell

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION /FIRST READING

10-2014 - An ordinance to vacate Kirk Street

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to adopt on the first reading, seconded by Councilman Abdul-Rasheed.

Roll Call

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

Nay: None

Absent: Jones-Bell

The Public Hearing is June 4, 2014

11-2014 - An ordinance amending Chapter 23 of the Municipal Code of the City of Orange Township regarding Personnel Policies (Sponsored by: Hon. Tency A. Eason)

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to adopt on the first reading; seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

Roll Call

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

Nays:

Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

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

The public meeting will be June 4, 2014.

12-2014 - An Ordinance of the City of Orange Township, authorizing the execution of the Financial Agreement agreement with the Living Fountain Urban Renewal Entity, LLC and granting a tax exemption for the Living Fountain Housing Project.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to adopt on First reading and seconded by Rasheed by

Roll Call

Yeas: Abdul-Rasheed, Corbitt, Eason, and Williams

Nays: Marable, Gaunt-Butler

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed with an asterick (*) 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 requested, in which event, the item will be removed from the General order of business and considered in its normal sequence of the agenda.

Resolution 109-2014, 110-2014, 121-2014, 122-2014, 125-2014, 128-2014 and 129-2014 are being removed from the consent agenda. These Resolutions will be voted on separately.

RESOLUTIONS *109-2014-*128-2014

- *109-2014** **A resolution for the emergency temporary appropriations to the calendar year 2014 budget for the month of May. (Voted on separately)**

- *110-2014** **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 requesting approval of a bond ordinance under the provisions of the Municipal Qualified Bond Act, N.J.S.A. section 40A:3-1. (Voted on separately)**

- *111-2014** **A resolution authorizing the cancellation of Tax Sale Certificate No. 11-453 and authorizing refund payment to lien holder in the amount of \$2,534.16 plus interest of \$191.60.**

- *112-2014** **A resolution authorizing the refund of taxes due to a county board judgment in the amount of \$3,667.09 to William Sitar, Esq.**

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

- *113-2014** **A resolution authorizing the refund of taxes due to overpayments in the amount of \$10,719.44 to the Vernel Realty LP of 363 South Jefferson St. as per attachment.**
- *114-2014** **A resolution authorizing the refund of taxes due to state board judgments in the amount of \$24,482.45.**
- *115-2014** **A resolution authorizing the refund of taxes paid due to an overpayment in the amount of \$6,146.47.**
- *116-2014** **A resolution authorizing the refund of taxes paid due to an overpayment in the amount of \$8,898.16.**
- *117-2014** **A resolution authorizing the cancellation of credit balance for the property known as Block 102, Lot 8 in the amount of \$1,645.55.**
- *118-2014** **A resolution authorizing the Chamber of Commerce, Division of Merchants to conduct sidewalk sales in the City of Orange Township, New Jersey on June 5, 6 and 7, July 10, 11 and 12, August 7, 8 and 9. In the event of rain, the sale shall take place on June 14, July 19 and August 16, 2014.**
- *119-2014** **A resolution authorizing the acceptance of a check in the amount of \$2,780.00 from the Township of West Orange Health Department, 66 Main Street, West Orange, New Jersey for the funding of lead machine source and the replacement battery for existing Niton XLP306 Lead Analyzer Machine.**
- *120-2014** **A resolution authorizing the awarding of a contract for the 2013 NJDOT roadway improvements to Adrienne Court, Carteret Terrace and Lindsley Place to Cifelli & Son General Construction, Inc., 4 Coppola Street, Nutley, New Jersey 07110 in the amount not to exceed \$247,294.25.**
- *121-2014** **A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment of the agreement for operation, maintenance and management services for the City of Orange Township Municipal Water, Wastewater and Stormwater systems between the City of Orange Township and United Water Environmental Services Inc. (*Voted on Separately*)**
- *122-2014** **A resolution appointing Michael A. Hackett, Esq. as Judge of the Orange Municipal Court. (*Voted on separately*)**
- *123-2014** **Resolution authorizing settlement of litigation entitled the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Dam Safety and Flood Control v. City of Orange Township, substantially in accordance with the terms of a stipulation and any related documents.**

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

- *124-2014** A resolution celebrating April 23, 2014 and every April 23rd here after in the City of Orange Township as International Firodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva ("F.O.P.") Day (Sponsored by Orange City Council).
- *125-2014** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 6, 2014 dated May 2, 2014 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 5,252,440.86). (*Voted on Separately.*)
- *126-2014** A resolution rescinding resolution 99-2014
- *127-2014** A resolution honoring Reverend Verenander Lloyd Hughes on his service as Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church (Sponsored by Orange City Council).
- *128-2014** A Resolution appointing Karen Jeffries -Wells to the City of Orange Township Historic Preservation Commission for a (4) year term commencing on 5/1/2014 5-1-2018 (Sponsored by Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Mayor) (*Voted on Separate Vote*)
- *129-2014** A Resolution authorizing the law firms of Clarence Barry-Austin, Wilfredo Benitez., LLC., Eric Bernstein & Associates, Marvin T. Braker, P.C., Roth D'Aquanni, Decotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, William J. Ewing, P.C., Florio & Kenny, LLP, Lamb Kretzer, Mason Law Firm, LLC., David Stanziale, LLXC ., Joseph M. Wenzel and Lite, Depalma, Greenberg, LLC. To participate on an as needed basis in the pool of Qualified Defense Counsel on behalf of the city, its officers and employees for one (1) year period.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to adopt the consent agenda. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler:

All in Favor: Yes
Nays: None

Motion Carries

- 109-2014** A resolution for the emergency temporary appropriations to the calendar year 2014 budget for the month of May.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 109-2014

On the motion - this is a one month appropriation

Roll Call

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams
Nays: Marable
Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed
Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Does Not Carry (A 2/3 vote is required) * See the end of the minutes for a rescinded vote.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 109-2014

Roll Call

Yeas: Abdul-Rasheed, Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams
Nays: Marable
Abstained: Absent: Jones-Bell

***110-2014 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 requesting approval of a bond ordinance under the provisions of the Municipal Qualified Bond Act, N.J.S.A. section 40A:3-1. (Voted on**

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 110-2014

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams
Nays: Marable
Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed
Absent: Jones-Bell

***121-2014 A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment of the agreement for operation, maintenance and management services for the City of Orange Township Municipal Water, Wastewater and Stormwater systems between the City of Orange Township and United Water Environmental Services Inc. (Voted on Separately)**

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 121-2014.

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

Roll Call

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

Nays: Marable

Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

***122-2014 A resolution appointing Michael A. Hackett, Esq. as Judge of the Orange Municipal Court. (*Voted on separately.*)**

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 122-2014.

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

***125-2014 A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 6, 2014 dated May 2, 2014 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 5,252,440.86). (*Voted on Separately*)**

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to adopt Resolution 125-2014.

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

- *128-2014** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 6, 2014 dated May 2, 2014 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 5,252,440.86). (*Voted on Separately*)

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 128-2014.

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstained: Abdul-Rasheed

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

- *129-2014** A Resolution authorizing the law firms of Clarence Barry-Austin, Wilfredo Benitez., LLC., Eric Bernstein & Associates, Marvin T. Braker, P.C., Roth D'Aquanni, Decotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, William J. Ewing, P.C., Florio & Kenny, LLP, Lamb Kretzer, Mason Law Firm, LLC., David Stanziale, LLC., Joseph M. Wenzel and Lite, Depalma, Greenberg, LLC. To participate on an as needed basis in the pool of Qualified Defense Counsel on behalf of the city, its officers and employees for one (1) year period.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to adopt Resolution 129-2014.

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, and Williams

Nays: Abdul-Rasheed Marable

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

Councilman Abdul Rasheed asked for a motion for reconsideration for Resolution 109-2014, seconded by Council Corbitt.

Roll Call

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

Nay: Marable

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

Absent: Jones-Bell - *Motion Carries*

Vote on Resolution 109-2014

Roll Call

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

Nay: Marable

Absent: Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

City Attorney Dan Smith commented that there is immediacy to the issues regarding **Resolution 130-2014 A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Tax Sale Certificates by Assignment.**

Discussion pursued. Councilman Corbitt made a motion to suspend the agenda; it was seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

Councilwoman Williams stated the proposal is flawed. On the proposal it is dated March 31, 2014. Discussion took place. Attorney Smith stated it is a dollar per dollar proposal. Councilwoman Williams stated it is not.

Mr. Carl Smith stated that he was referencing the "bottom portion". Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler stated there are essentially two proposals being offered. She reviewed the 2 proposals briefly. Mr. Smith, Tax Collector believed that he amended the resolution as he thought it was requested.

Kevin Harris, Legislative Research Officer; it is the will of the council and refer to the Resolution. Attorney Smith stated the proposal consists of 5 properties for a scheduled redemption listed on page 2. Discussion took place.

Roll Call to Add to Agenda

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

Nays: None

Absent: Marable and Jones-Bell

A motion was made by Councilman Abdul-Rasheed; seconded by Councilman Corbitt to adopt **Resolution 130-2014.**

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

Nays: None

Absent: Marable and Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

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

OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

None

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler

PUBLIC NOTICE

The next City Council Calendar Year 2014 Public Hearing, Conference & Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 29 North Day Street, Orange, New Jersey at 7:00 P.M.



**Madeline F. Smith
Deputy Municipal Clerk**



**Donna K. Williams
Council President**

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

**BUDGET HEARING MINUTES
MAY 20, 2014**

A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, ON TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014 AT 6:50PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt (At-Large)
Hon. Tency A. Eason (North Ward)
Hon. April Gaunt-Butler (At-Large)
Hon. Edward B. Marable Jr. (South Ward)
Hon. Donna K. Williams (At-Large)

ALSO PRESENT

Madeline F. Smith, Deputy Mun. Clerk
Dan S. Smith, City Attorney
Kevin D. Harris, Legislative Research Officer
Margarette Homere, Clerk's Office

ABSENT

Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (West-Ward)
Hon. Linda Jones-Bell (East-Ward)
Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq. Mayor

PLEASE STAND FOR A MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Municipal Clerk announces 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 Record-Transcript* on May 8th 2014, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to open the public hearing.

The audience was asked to conduct themselves in a proper manner.

Public Hearing:

William R. Lewis, 688 Mosswood, Orange NJ 07050

- Mr. Lewis provided a brief analysis on the budget. He inquired about how budget issues are handled.
- He stated the Council needs to do their job.

Jeffrey Feld, 268 Main Street, Orange NJ 07050

- Last Thursday he attended the budget meeting and he was concerned regarding recent CFO comments about the status of the budget and operating issues.
- The budget did not contain a mission statement from the mayor.
- The budget did not contain comparative numbers of 2013 staff to 2014 staff
- He believes the surplus will be invaded. He suggests asking the budget consultant.
- The budget should be analyzed to compare expenses against income.
- He inquired as to what the severance obligation would be for future police retirees.
- He communicated concern for the mayor settling a 2010 obligation.
- Other budget comments: Fix parking meters, increase use of technology (Upgrade), find out the number of properties in the city that have not been paying taxes for the past 5 year and create our own tax force.

Ms. Karen Wells, Highland Avenue, Orange NJ 07050

- The technology is old and it needs to upgrade to a modern day system.
- Buy the Municipal upgraded technologies from companies such as DELL etc...
- The system is very dysfunctional that taxes cannot be paid online and the city is wasting money on paper.
- Tax payers are incurring additional cost because of outdated technology.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler to close the public hearing.

Roll Call

Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Marable, Gaunt-Butler, Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell

Council Comments

Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt agrees with most of the statements made and states that the numbers do not add up and that is a major frustration.

- The council needs to focus on the books and bringing the tax rates down, and fund the Police and fire departments accurately.

Councilwoman April Gaunt-Butler agrees with the citizens of the city and in order for her to agree with the budget, things have to be reconciled.

Councilman Edward B. Marable, Jr. stated to his council members, he will make recommendations for reductions for the budget available to any citizen or resident who wants it. The Council needs to complete their end of the bargain.

Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, partially agrees with the public and stated: "We can make all the changes but how do we enforce them?"

- "For the past 2 years, we have been seeking help from the public but unless you get involved, this Council is powerless and you come out here saying what the Council should do, but what you need to do is support us.
- She stated to the public, "You know what your administration is all about, so help us enforce what needs to get done."

Hon. Donna Williams stated the budget will be reviewed line by line, and invites the public to the other meeting. She also stated that the council are advocates for the public and had asked for the administration to air this meeting and implies that the council are citizens on the block and they feel what the other citizens feel.

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt, and seconded by Councilwoman Eason to close the public hearing.

Roll Call


Yeas: Corbitt, Eason, Marable, Gaunt-Butler, Williams


Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell

ADJOURNMENT: 7:40pm


Madeline Smith
Deputy Municipal Clerk


Donna K. Williams
Council President

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

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE MEETING.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt (At-Large)
Hon. Tency A. Eason (North Ward)
Hon. April Gaunt-Butler (At-Large)
Hon. Edward B. Marable Jr. (South Ward)
Hon. Donna K. Williams (At-Large)
Council President

ALSO PRESENT

Madeline F. Smith, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Dan S. Smith, City Attorney
Kevin D. Harris, Legislative Research Officer
Margaret Homere, Clerk's Office

ABSENT

Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (West-Ward)
Hon. Linda Jones-Bell (East-Ward)
Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor
Adrian Mapp, Director of Finance
Joy F. Lascari, Chief Financial Officer

The Deputy Municipal Clerk announces 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 Record-Transcript on July 18, 2013, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None

REPORTS:

OPRA REPORTS

Month of April, 2014 - 37 OPRA Requests received 141 items completed and 5 items pending.

- Councilwoman Williams inquired about the derivation of 5 OPRA requests pending.
- Deputy Smith responded saying it is from the Clerk's Office.

DEPARTMENTS REPORTS

- Clerk's Office- Month of April 2014- \$1,123.28
- Community Services –Month of April 2014- \$17,780.50
- Building, Plumbing, Electrical , Elevator and Fire Division
Month of April 2014 - \$37,414.00

CONSTABLE REPORTS

- Cuthbert Harris-Month of April- no activities
- Mohamad Toure- Month of April- no activities
- Darnell Brodie – Month of April – no activities

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President directs Clerk to file reports.

- Councilman Corbitt requested that Director Simms be included in the next meeting.
- Councilwoman Williams confirmed Director Simms for the June 4th meeting.
- Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler has no reports for the Fire Department.
- Councilman Marable stated that the library asked for twice of what that state mandatory funding would be which is approximately over 1 million dollars.
- Councilwoman Eason stated that the Personnel Committee has an AD for the Municipal Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

None

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.

PUBLIC REMARKS:

Jeffery Feld, 268 Main Street, Orange, NJ 07050

- Expresses that he has been fighting the Warren Administration and other Administrations for several years. Also two of his documents were placed into a trial record, which included a death threat that he received by email that is being investigated.
- Mr. Feld expresses that there is a mole in City Hall involving the federal election fraud that needs investigation.
- He stated that he was accused of being a bigot and he refuses to be intimidated and that he will fight City Hall to the depth.
- Mr. Feld stated through his research that in order to obtain a pilot, one does not need a redevelopment agreement and that we need a task force.
- He thinks that the Warren Administration should report back as to how these several properties at Oakwood will be taxed.
- He stated that he made an OPRA request to the City but the agreement does not exist in the building and he seeks an explanation as for why the City's website is down.
- Mr. Feld mentioned that the bill list on the website stated that only \$300,000 in expenses are being paid, however the bill list listed about 1.3million dollars. Then he inquired "what is the extra million dollars for?"

Jamie Anderson, Tremont Avenue, Orange, NJ 07050

- Thanks the council and citizens for their support in December 2013.
- Hopes that the council and administration can unite and move the city forward.

William R. Lewis, 688 Mosswood Avenue, Orange, NJ 07050

- Mr. Lewis stated that the court fine is now up to \$729,000 and climbing.
- He also stated that the council needs to know their position and stand in their place.
- He makes suggestions to the council members and implied that the council faces their problems instead of running from them.

Katalin Gordon, 211 Park Place, Orange, NJ 07050

- Elaborated on her research about the budget and questioned if the city finance committee and the council has a schedule of the very large items appropriate time and would like to know if there is such a list, if not would they create one for the next year.
- She believes that it's outrageous that the administration and the council have not enforced the contract.
- Ms. Gordon addresses Councilwoman Eason's comment stating that the citizens do support the council.

Cynthia Johnson 470 Kneed Street, Orange, NJ 07050

- Ms. Johnson questioned the council's knowledge about what goes on in their ward.
- She stated that banks are trying to take people's homes so they can build other business.
- She mentions a group she founded called Urban Communities United that helps address the issues with distressed homeowners and with that comes the home defenders institute.
- She asked the question "how do we teach our community to defend themselves in court?" and stated that property values are declining and crime is increasing.

Gloria Stewart, Orange, NJ 07050

- Encourages Ms. Johnson to continue the fight and recognizes the four new council members and gives kind remarks.
- She shares her opinion about the undercover cop cars and stated that the black cars are not needed and if the cops do their jobs they will catch the suspects in the original cars and would not have to be patrol undercover.
- Ms. Stewart addresses the damage in the fire station's building and request that Oakwood Avenue be paved.

Kevin Garrett, County Representative

- Turtleback Zoo construction is the new turtleback zoo educational building for programs, camps, etc.
- The zoo's operating hours are as follows: Mondays – Saturdays 10:00am -4:30pm Sundays 11:00 am – 5:30pm. Admission fees are \$11 for adults, \$8 for children and senior citizens and free admission for children under the age of 2yrs.

Karen Wells, Highland Avenue, Orange, NJ 07050

- Expresses her frustration about the lack of technology especially the outdated city website.
- Also the post office needs a self service machine because the lines are too long.

A motion was made to the close Citizen's Comments by Councilman Corbitt. It was seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilwoman Eason advises newly elected council members to go pick up their signs from around town also that the post office lacks consistency when supplying demands.
- Councilman Marable stated that he hopes no later than May 21st, 2014 they will have two scheduled budget meetings and urges council to make time for the meeting. He addresses the post office back up and claims it as a federal problem and also addresses Mr. Lewis' comments about him not playing his role as South Ward Councilman and says he was unaware about the meeting sponsored by Councilman Corbitt.

- Councilman Corbitt addresses Mr. Anderson's comments about the elections also he stated that as long as you sit back and do nothing, you don't get criticized as much as when you do something. He stated that he asking the Board of Education permission to hold a council meeting in the valley is false. He asked for a town hall meeting not a council meeting, also he expresses his rights and privileges as Councilman At-Large.
- Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler stated the approaching of Memorial Day and gives thanks to the armed forces. She also echoes Mr. Anderson comments and states that she is hopeful of Orange's best days.
- Councilwoman Williams calls forth Mr. Mapp to explain the document that lies before the council and previously stated the council will be putting forth some suggestions in the budget also inquired Mr. Smith about a court hearing on May 21st, 2014. It's a case named Tucker vs. Smith that is a motion to dismiss and she then addresses other upcoming events.

Deputy Municipal Clerk moved the agenda.

ORDINANCES—SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

9-2014 A Bond Ordinance providing for various capital acquisitions and improvements by and in the City of Orange Township, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey (the "City"); appropriating \$8,772,000 therefore and authorizing the issuance of \$8,833,400 bonds or notes of the City to finance part of the costs thereof.

Councilman Corbitt made a motion to table Ordinance 9-2014. It was seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstain:

Absent: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION /FIRST READING

13-2014 An ordinance of the City of Orange Township amending Chapter 210, Development Regulations Ordinance Zoning and Land Development (adopted May 2, 2006) of the City of Orange Township, by adding a section within Article V: Development Standards Chapter 210-38 entitled. Outdoor Landscape Water Conservation Guidelines.

A motion to adopt in first reading was made by Councilman Corbitt. It was seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstain:

Absent: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

The Public Hearing for the second reading will be held on June 17, 2014.

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 *131-2014-*137-2014

- *131-2014** A resolution authorizing the cancellation of credit balances due to tax overpayments per the attached list.
- *132-2014** A resolution authorizing amnesty to waive interest for property taxes, water charges and sewer charges from June 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014.
- *133-2014** A resolution amending resolution 64-2014 of support for safety, revitalization and traffic calming projects along Freeway Drives East and West. (Removed from agenda for a separate vote.)
- *134-2014** A resolution authorizing the acceptance of Community Development Block Grant funds for the year 2014.

- *135-2014** A resolution authorizing the agreement for 1 copier for Fire Department to Toshiba Business Solutions Inc., 1 Woodbridge Center, Suite 340 Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095 for sixty three (63) months, commencing May 1, 2014 for annual amount not to exceed \$2,200.00.
- *136-2014** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 20, 2014 dated May 15, 2014 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 1,341.901.32). (Removed from agenda for a separate vote.)
- *137-2014** A resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract with Netta Architects, 1084 Route 22 West, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092 to provide professional Architectural, surveying, design and construction inspection services for the exterior repairs and rehabilitation of Orange City Hall in the amount not to exceed \$42,000.00

A motion to adopt the consent agenda with changes was made by Councilman Corbitt. It was seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

Motion Carries

- *133-2014** A resolution amending resolution 64-2014 of support for safety, revitalization and traffic calming projects along Freeway Drives East and West

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Corbitt. It was seconded by Councilwoman Eason.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Corbitt, Eason, Marable, Gaunt-Butler, Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

- *136-2014** A resolution approving the bill list for council meeting vote on May 20, 2014 dated May 15, 2014 and approving checks issued by the Finance Department in accordance with Ordinance 2-95 (Grand Total: \$ 1,341.901.32).

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Corbitt. It was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Corbitt, Eason, Gaunt-Butler, Williams

Nays: Marable

Abstain: None

Absent: Abdul-Rasheed, Jones-Bell

Motion Carries

OTHER PENDING BUSINESS

None

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Councilman Corbitt to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Councilwoman Gaunt-Butler.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55pm

PUBLIC NOTICE

The next City Council meeting Conference & Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 29 North Day Street, Orange, New Jersey at 7:00 P.M.



Madeline F. Smith
Deputy Municipal Clerk



Donna K. Williams
Council President