



City of Orange Township

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News Release

For Release: Immediate

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Mayor Hawkins Thanks City Council Members Who Reconsidered Pension Deferral

Statement by Mayor Eldridge Hawkins, Jr. on City Council Passage of Pension Deferral 4/13

“They say three times a charm, and, on the third attempt, the Orange City Council unanimously voted to submit an application for pension deferral to the State of New Jersey. As a result, the average homeowner in Orange will avoid unnecessarily paying approximately three hundred dollars more in property taxes this year than had the Council voted down the deferral.

I want to thank Council Members Elroy Corbitt, Donna Williams, Rayfield Morton, Lisa Perkins, Ed Marable and Tency Eason for heeding the voices of citizens in pain and standing up for taxpayers by reconsidering their earlier votes. I want to thank Councilman Abdul Hassan-Rasheed for standing firm from the beginning for the pension deferral.

The budget is in the hands of the City Council. I am again asking the Council to designate representatives to sit down with me, Finance Director Jack Kelly and Business Administrator Jewel Thompson-Chin to recommend additional reductions in spending so that we can reduce this year’s property taxes even more. All options must be on the table.”