

Public Meeting – January 2, 2023

The West Orange Township Council meeting began at 11:33 a.m., Karen Carnevale, Municipal Clerk read the following statement:

This is to inform the general public that this meeting is being held in compliance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975. The notice was emailed to the Star Ledger and West Orange Chronicle on December 21, 2022.

Roll Call – Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Scarpa, Councilwoman Williams

Pledge of Allegiance

Nomination and Election of Council President

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman William's was nominated for the position of Council President.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa and Councilwoman Williams voting "Aye." Councilman Rutherford voting "Nay."

At this time, Assistant Township Attorney administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Williams.

Public Comment

There was no one else who wished to be heard and the public comment portion of the agenda was closed.

Council Liaison Appointments

Planning Board

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman William's was appointed to the position of Class III member of the Planning Board.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa and Councilwoman Williams voting "Aye." Councilman Rutherford voting "Nay."

ERSCHA-Degnan House

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilman Rutherford was appointed as liaison to the Degnan House.

All members voting "Aye."

WOSCHA-John P. Renna House

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Scarpa was appointed as liaison to the Renna House.

All members voting "Aye."

Downtown West Orange Alliance

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Casalino was appointed as liaison to the Downtown West Orange Alliance.

All members voting “Aye.”

West Orange Municipal Alliance Committee

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Council President Williams was appointed as liaison to the West Orange Municipal Alliance Committee.

All members voting “Aye.”

West Orange Arts Council

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Ghebremicael was appointed as liaison to the West Orange Arts Council.

All members voting “Aye.”

Open Space & Recreation Committee

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael was appointed as liaison to the Open Space & Recreation Committee.

All members voting “Aye.”

Public Relations Commission

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Casalino was appointed as liaison to the Public Relations Commission.

All members voting “Aye.”

OSPAC-Oscar Schindler Performing Arts Center

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Scarpa was appointed as liaison to the Oscar Schindler Performing Arts Center.

All members voting “Aye.”

West Orange Board of Education

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Casalino was appointed as liaison to the West Orange Board of Education.

All members voting “Aye.”

Joint Meeting Commission (2-year appointment)

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilman Rutherford was appointed as liaison to the Joint Meeting Commission for a 2-year period expiring on December 31, 2024.

All members voting “Aye.”

West Orange Historic Preservation Commission

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Council President Williams was appointed as liaison to the West Orange Historic Preservation Commission.

All members voting "Aye."

Pedestrian Safety Committee

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael was appointed as liaison to the Pedestrian Safety Committee.

All members voting "Aye."

Municipal Insurance Fund (2 Council appointments)

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilman Rutherford was appointed as liaison to the Municipal Insurance Fund for a 2-year period expiring on December 31, 2024.

All members voting "Aye."

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Scarpa was appointed as liaison to the Municipal Insurance Fund for a 2-year period expiring on December 31, 2024.

All members voting "Aye."

West Orange Planning Board Liaison

After reviewing the Planning Board ordinance, this item was removed from the agenda as there is no liaison appointment to the Planning Board.

Economic Development Commission

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilman Rutherford was appointed as liaison to the Economic Development Commission.

All members voting "Aye."

Environmental Commission

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Scarpa was appointed as liaison to the Environmental Commission.

All members voting "Aye."

Rent Leveling Board

The Township Council is not extending the term of the Rent Leveling Board at this time, therefore, this item was removed from the agenda.

Cannabis Task Force

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, this item was pulled from the agenda.

All members voting "Aye."

Senior Citizen Advisory Board

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the previous appointment of Councilwoman Scarpa to the WOSCHA-Renna House was rescinded.

All members voting "Aye."

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Scarpa was appointed as liaison to the Senior Citizen Advisory Board.

All members voting "Aye."

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Ghebremicael was appointed as liaison to the WOSCHA-Renna House.

All members voting "Aye."

Council Consensus Appointments

- Rent Leveling Board – Anthony Campagna
- Zoning Board – Bart Quentzel – Alt. No. 1
- Economic Development Commission – Abdur Yasin

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilman Rutherford, the Council Consensus appointments were pulled from the agenda.

All members voting "Aye."

Adjournment

At 11:10 a.m., on motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the meeting was adjourned.

All members present voting "Aye."

The Minutes of this meeting are on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.


Karen J. Carneyale, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk


Tammy Williams, Council President

Adopted: January 24, 2023