

Public Meeting – September 5, 2023

The West Orange Township Council meeting began at 5:04 p.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 annual notice was emailed to the Star Ledger and filed in the Township Clerk's office on November 23, 2022 and published in the West Orange Chronicle on December 1, 2022.

Roll Call –Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilman Rutherford, Councilwoman Scarpa, Council President Williams

Councilwoman Casalino was not present at the opening of the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

At approximately 5:06 p.m., on motion made by Council President Tammy Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council voted to enter into an Executive Session.

All members present voting "Aye."

At approximately, 6:43 p.m., on motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council returned from Executive Session and the Conference Meeting began.

Conference Meeting – September 5, 2023

The Conference meeting began at 6:43 p.m., Karen Carnevale, Municipal Clerk read the following statement:

- Prostate Cancer Awareness Month presented by Dr. Gregory R. Mullen-RWJBH
- Community Revaluation Process Presentation – Jacob Nieman, Tax Assessor

The Council gave their liaison announcements.

At approximately 7:11 p.m., on motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the recessed Public Meeting continued.

All members voting "Aye."

Invocation

Public Comment

In Person:

Karen DeAngelis – Mt. Pleasant Avenue

Joe Fagan – PIO

Sheila Lefkowitz – Pleasant Valley Way

Maureen Robinson – Mt. Pleasant Avenue

Robert Sipzner – Garfield Avenue

Rosary Morelli – Ralph Road

Violeta Quizan – Meade Street
Sam Jacobson – Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Norma McClendon – Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Florence Smith – Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Sharon Yedwap – Cleveland Terrace

Zoom:

Anthony Puglisi – PIO – Essex County
Bishop Douglas Adams - Westover Terrace
Lisa Steadwell – Chestnut Road
John Blanton – Forest Hill Road
Phil Litwinoff – Linden Avenue
Sally Malanga – Ridge Road
Erica Frampione – Stanley Road
Claudia Sanders – Old Salem Road
Joyce Rudin – Woodland Avenue
Hussein Ismail – Rodney Terrace
Emrah Altunkaya – Fundus Road
Jarret Seltzer – Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Mel Valdez – Elm Street
Nick Colyer – Stanley Road

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

***Review of Consent Agenda**

***Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Public Meeting 8.22.23 and Executive Session 7.26.23

***Report of Township Officers**

Update on the W.O. Public Library Project – Peter Smeraldo – Assistant Business Administrator

***Reading of Petitions and Communications and Bids**

- Correspondence from Mayor McCartney submitting for advice and consent, the reappointment of the Honorable Dawn M. Donahue as Municipal Judge for the Township of West Orange, for a three-year term effective September 15, 2023 through September 14, 2026.

***Bills** – September 5, 2023

Resolution(s) Adopted on the Consent Agenda

- 320-23** Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Litigation specifically the Docket No. ESX-L-4687-23
- 321-23** Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Raffle Licenses (Clerk)
- 322-23** Resolution Prescribing Fees As Set Forth In Chapter 12 Section 9.9 Of The Revised General Ordinances And Implemented Through Ordinance 2795-23, Amending The Fee For A Tattoo And Body Piercing Establishment Permit (Gengaro)

- d. **323-23** Resolution Prescribing Fees As Set Forth In Chapter 12 Section 9.20 Of The Revised General Ordinances And Implemented Through Ordinance 2796-23, Amending The Penalty For Violations Of Chapter 12, Section 9 Of The Revised General Ordinances For Tattoo And Body Piercing Establishments (Gengaro)
- e. **PULLED FROM AGENDA 324-23** Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Personnel specifically the position of Business Administrator, Potential Litigation – specifically Cannabis entity- Kemistry, LLC and Contract Negotiations specifically the Film Studio District (Legal-Trenk)
- f. **326-23** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due to a Duplicate Payment/Overpayment of 2023 Annual Sewer Charge (Longo)
- g. **327-23** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due to An Overpayment of Taxes Due to a Duplicate Payment (Longo)
- h. **328-23** Resolution Requesting Approval Of Items Of Revenue And Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 – The New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) (Gross)
- i. **329-23** Resolution Requesting Approval Of Items Of Revenue And Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 – Sustainable Jersey Grant Award (Gross)
- j. **330-23** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of West Orange, County of Essex, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Mayor and Township Clerk to Execute a Federal Aid Agreement with the NJDOT (Carballo)
- k. **331-23** Authorizing the Rejection of Eight Bids Received for a Contract Valley Road Rehabilitation (Carballo)
- l. **332-23** Resolution Authorizing the Rejection of Seven Bids Received for a Contract Ashwood Terrace and William Street (Franklin Avenue to Edison School) (Carballo)

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the consent agenda was adopted.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Resolution(s) Removed from the Consent Agenda

Resolution 325-23

Resolution Commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Establishment of the United States as an Independent Nation, and Authorizes the Appointment of a Committee to Develop a Plan for this Commemoration that will Promote the Maximum Involvement of Our Residents, Neighborhoods, Businesses, Schools, Civic Organizations, and Institutions in the Commemorations (Legal-Moon)

On motion made by Councilman Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the resolution was amended to add the following language: *“to include an appointee by each councilperson and representative from the School District and the Downtown Alliance”*

All members voting “Aye.”

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the resolution was amended to remove the word "Council" in the first and third Be It Further Resolved paragraphs.

All members voting "Aye."

A motion was made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above-referenced resolution was adopted as amended.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance(s) on Second and Final Reading

Ordinance 2809-23

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-32.2 Restricted Parking Zones and 7-32.1 Handicapped Parking On Streets Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange** was taken up on second and final reading.

All members present voting "Aye."

The Council President stated that this is the scheduled time for the public hearing and asked the Clerk to read the ordinance by title only.

The Council President asked if there was anyone who wished to be heard.

There was no one that wished to be heard and the public hearing on this Ordinance was closed.

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance 2810-23

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 2, Section 68 Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange (Disclosure Of Political Contributions By Certain Individuals Or Business Entities Doing Business With The Township)** was taken up on second and final reading.

All members present voting "Aye."

The Council President stated that this is the scheduled time for the public hearing and asked the Clerk to read the ordinance by title only.

The Council President asked if there was anyone who wished to be heard.

There was no one that wished to be heard and the public hearing on this Ordinance was closed.

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance 2811-23

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Section 14.5 And Section 14.9 Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange (Appointment Of Police Department, Officers And Personnel)** was taken up on second and final reading.

All members present voting "Aye."

The Council President stated that this is the scheduled time for the public hearing and asked the Clerk to read the ordinance by title only.

The Council President asked if there was anyone who wished to be heard.

There was no one that wished to be heard and the public hearing on this Ordinance was closed.

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinances on First Reading

Ordinance 2812-23

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-46.2, Parking Prohibited During Certain Hours On Certain Days On Certain Streets Servicing Residential Land Uses, Except By Permit, And Subsection 7-46.3, Parking Time Limited During Certain Hours On Certain Days On Certain Streets Servicing Residential Land Uses, Except By Permit Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on September 19, 2023.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance 2813-23

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **Bond Ordinance Providing For Various 2023 Capital Improvements, By And In The Township Of West Orange, In The County Of Essex, State Of New Jersey, Appropriating \$3,624,250 Therefor And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,616,150 Bonds Or Notes Of The Township To Finance Part Of The Cost Thereof** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on September 19, 2023.

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

Ordinance 2814-23

On motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **Bond Ordinance Providing For Various 2023 Capital Acquisitions And Improvements, By And In The Township Of West Orange, In The County Of Essex, State Of New Jersey, Appropriating**

\$1,990,550 Therefor And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,895,500 Bonds Or Notes Of The Township To Finance Part Of The Cost Thereof was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on September 19, 2023.

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

Pending Matters-New Matters-Council Discussion

- Tree Ordinance
- Ordinance that Governs the Older Adults Advisory Board

On motion made by Councilwoman Scarpa and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, to place the Older Adults Advisory Board ordinance on the September 19, 2023 agenda was approved.

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

ABC Hearing-None

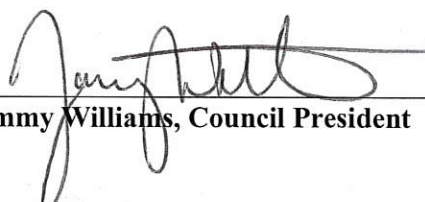
At 11:25 p.m., on motion made by Council President Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the meeting was adjourned.

All members present voting "Aye."

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



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



Tammy Williams, Council President

Adopted: September 19, 2023