

Budget Workshop

The Budget Workshop began at 5:40 p.m., the Municipal Clerk read the following statement:

This is to inform the general public that this workshop 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 the West Orange Chronicle on August 1, 2024.

Roll Call –Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa, Councilwoman Williams, Council President Rutherford, Mayor McCartney

Department of Public Works

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, three (3) of the open Truck Driver Positions were eliminated from the Budget.

All members present voting “Aye.”

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council voted to delay hiring a new Superintendent of DPW until 2025.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Legal Department

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, the Council approved the reduction of line item (060) Litigation General to \$350,000.00.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Scarpa and Councilwoman Williams voting “Aye.”
Councilwoman Ghebremicael and Council President Rutherford voting “Nay.”

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Council approved the reduction of line item (062) Litigation Labor Matters to \$225,000.00.

All members present voting “Aye.”

At 6:34, on motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council recessed the Budget Workshop and entered into the Conference portion of the agenda.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Conference Meeting – August 6, 2024

The Conference meeting began at 6:34 p.m., the 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 21, 2023, and published in the West Orange Chronicle on November 30, 2023.

Roll Call –Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa, Councilwoman Williams, Council President Rutherford, Mayor McCartney

- WO PAL 14U Mustangs Navy Girls Flag Football Championship Team

The Council presented their liaison announcements.

Public Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

The Public meeting began at 7:03 p.m., the 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 21, 2023, and published in the West Orange Chronicle on November 30, 2023.

Roll Call –Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa, Councilwoman Williams, Council President Rutherford, Mayor McCartney

Public Comment

Joe Fagan – PIO
Anthony Puglisi – PIO Essex County
Joyce Rudin – Woodland Avenue
Teresa Hagar – Lincoln Avenue
Nicole Bell – Underwood Drive
Frank Barszcz – Ridgeview Avenue
Sally Malanga – Ridge Road
Laurence Cohen – Lincoln Avenue
Joseph Pannullo – Essex Fells, NJ
Rachel Klein – Howell Drive
Betty Lando – Carteret Street
Jen Hardell – Ashland Avenue

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

At 8:44 p.m., on motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council returned to the Budget Workshop.

All members present voting “Aye.”

General Health Services

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Council approved the reduction of line item (125-E-CIG Enforcement OE) to \$1,500.00.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Recreation Department

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, an increase of \$4,000.00 was approved for the position of Recreation Leader.

All members present voting “Aye.”

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Rutherford, an increase to line item (208-Programs) in the amount of \$8,000.00 was approved specifically to be used for the Senior Golf Program.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Rutherford voting “Aye.”
Councilwoman Ghebremicael and Councilwoman Williams voting “Nay.”

Engineering

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, an increase of \$2,680.00 was approved for the position of Administrative Analyst (part-time).

All members present voting “Aye.”

At 10:24 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Budget Workshop was adjourned.

All members present voting “Aye.”

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council entered back into their public meeting.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – Public Meeting July 9 and July 23, 2024, and Special Public Meeting July 17, 2024

Councilwoman Ghebremicael and Council President Rutherford stated that they are recusing themselves from Consent on the July 17, 2024 as they were not in attendance.

Report of Township Officers-None

***Reading of Petitions and Communications and Bids – None**

Bill List

Minutes - None

Resolution(s)

- a. **241-24** Resolution to Award a Contract to Computer Square, Inc., d/b/a CSI Technology Group 330 Mac Lane, Keasbey, NJ 08832 for the West Orange Police and Fire Emergency Infoshare/CAD/RMS Software Maintenance Renewal in the Amount of \$105,000.00 (P. Reynolds)
- b. **242-24** Resolution to Authorize the Service of Document Management for Records Retention & Disposal Through the Educational Services Commission of NJ Cooperative (P. Reynolds)
- c. **243-24** Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement and Agreement Amendment Between the Township of West Orange and the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of New Jersey Regarding Guiderail Replacement North, Contract 2019-2 Rte. I-80, 280 And 287- Various Townships, Various Counties (Carballo)
- d. **244-24** Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Raffle Licenses (Clerk)
- e. **246-24** Resolution Approving Amended Temporary Easement Agreement with H&L Orange LLC, 55-117 Longview Street, West Orange, NJ 07052, for Emergency Stormwater Repairs (Legal-Gengaro)

- f. **247-24** Resolution Approving Proposal from Matrix New World, 26 Columbia Tpk., Florham Park, NJ, 07932, for Environmental Services at the Property Located at 32 Ashland Avenue for the Remedial Action Protectiveness/Biennial Certification as Required by the NJDEP NTE \$3,650.00 (Legal-Gengaro)
- g. **248-24** Resolution Authorizing Millenium Strategies LLC, 60 Columbia Rd., Building B, Ste. 230, Morristown, NJ 07960, to Exercise the First of Two One-Year Options to Provide Grant Writing Services for the Township Not To Exceed \$46,800 Per Year (Legal-Gengaro)
- h. **249-24** Resolution Appointing John Ditinyak to the Position of Chief Financial Officer for the Township of West Orange for a term of Beginning September 1, 2024 until August 31, 2028 (Legal-Gengaro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the consent agenda was approved.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution(s) Removed from the Consent Agenda

Resolution 223-24

Resolution Requesting the Township Publish an RFQ for Forensic Auditing Services Related to the Six (6) Year Timeframe Beginning January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2023 (Legal-Gengaro)

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the above referenced resolution was amended to reduce the timeline from a 6-year period to a 3-year period, from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023.

All members present voting "Aye."

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was approved.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution 226-24

Resolution Prescribing Fees as Set Forth in Ordinance 2846-24, An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 25, Section 27 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township and Establishing a New Chapter for Environmental Protection (Legal-Gengaro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was TABLED and will be heard on September 10, 2024.

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

Resolution 240-24

Resolution To Read Budget By Title

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was approved.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution 245-24

Resolution Authoring The Township To Remove A Non-Viable Tree From 14 Waddington Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey-14 Waddington Avenue (Legal-Gengaro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was approved.

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

Resolution 249-24

Resolution Appointing John Ditinyak to the Position of Chief Financial Officer for the Township of West Orange for a term of Beginning September 1, 2024 until August 31, 2028 (Legal-Gengaro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was approved.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance(s) on Second and Final Reading

Ord. 2864-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-21, Multi-Way Stops 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 Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance(s) on First Reading

Ord. 2865-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-32.2 Restricted Parking Zones of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange-Handicapped Spaces – 5 Cross Street and 54 Llewellyn Avenue** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **August 20, 2024.**

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2866-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-11 Parking Time Limited on Certain Streets During Certain Hours, and 7-14.3 Parking Time Limited on Certain Streets During Certain Hours 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 **August 20, 2024.**

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2867-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Creating A Reclassification And Salary Schedule Of Certain Township Of West Orange Employees Setting Forth Their Titles, Classification And Salary Ranges And Adopting A Salary Guide And Establishing The Employee's Status As A Township Employee And Under The Guidelines Of The New Jersey Department Of Personnel – Position of Chief Financial Officer** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **August 20, 2024.**

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2868-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **Bond Ordinance Providing For Road, Sidewalk And Sewer Improvements, By And In The Township Of West Orange, In The County Of Essex, State Of New Jersey; Appropriating \$2,000,000 Therefor And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,904,000 Bonds Or Notes Of The Township To Finance Part Of The Costs Thereof** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **August 20, 2024.**

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2869-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 18 Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange And Establishing A Section Governing The Rates For Extra Duty Assignments For Firefighters In The Township Of West Orange (Fees For Services)** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **August 20, 2024.**

All members present voting "Aye."

Pending Matters/New Matters/Council Discussion

- Cannabis Application Process
- Cancellation of August 20, 2024 Council meeting

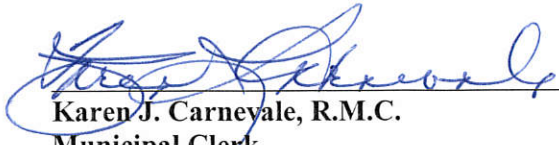
On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the August 20, 2024 meeting was cancelled.

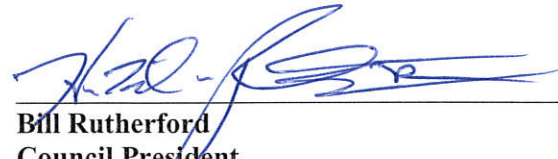
Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Rutherford voting "Aye."
Councilwoman Casalino and Councilwoman Williams voting "Nay."

At 12:30 a.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, the Public 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

Bill Rutherford
Council President

Adopted: September 10, 2024