

Conference Meeting – November 12, 2024

The Conference meeting began at 6:41 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

- Proclamation - 2024 Extra Mile Day – A Celebration of Township Volunteers
- Council Liaison Announcements

Public Meeting November 12, 2024

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Joe Fagan – PIO
Anthony Puglisi-PIO Essex County
Phil Litwinoff – Linden Avenue
Stephen Johnston – Sheridan Avenue
Joe Vena – Stone Drive
Joyce Rudin – Woodland Avenue
Micaela Bennett – Old Indian Road
Lawrence Cohen – Lincoln Avenue
Richard Freedman – President, Bel Air Condominium Association-W. Orange
Todd Dubovy-Burnet Terrace

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

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – Public Meeting October 29, 2024

Report of Township Officers-None

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

Bill List

Resolution(s) Approved on Consent Agenda

- a. 309-24 Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Raffle Licenses (Clerk)

- b. **310-24** Resolution Granting Application for Local License to Operate a Cannabis Retail Business - Dogwood Green LLC – (Legal-Moon)
- c. **311-24** Resolution Authorizing For Purchase Of Firefighter FRX Turnout Gear Under NJ State Contract #T0790 Blanket # 17-Fleet-00811 (P. Reynold)
- d. **312-24** Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of Bleachers and Installation through the Bergen County Cooperative (NJCPA) Cooperative Contracts # NJCPA COOP BC-BID-24-35 (P. Reynolds)
- e. **313-24** Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property (P. Reynolds)
- f. **314-24** Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract Bright View Engineering, 70 South Orange Ave., Suite 109, Livingston, NJ to Provide Professional Engineering Services for Stop Control and All Way Stop Analysis at Various Locations in the Amount NTE \$15,600.00 (Carballo)
- g. **316-24** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Rebate Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Pursuant to Final Judgment by the Tax Court of New Jersey (K. Longo)

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 315-24

Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract to CME, 1460 Route 9 South, Howell, NJ 07731, for Professional Civil Engineering and Land Surveying Services Associated with the OSPAC and Crystal Lake Improvements in an Amount NTE \$160,000.00 (Carballo)

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was TABLED. The Council asked that this resolution be placed on the November 25, 2024 agenda.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Resolution 317-24

Resolution Authorizing Interlocal Agreement with Borough of Roseland for Animal Control Services - 2025 (Legal-Gengaro)

On motion made by Council President Rutherford and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was TABLED. The Council asked that this resolution be placed on the November 25, 2024 agenda.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Ordinance(s) on Second and Final Reading

Ord. 2879-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Section 17.1 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange (Ordinances And Resolutions - Preparation)** 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.

Micaela Bennett – Old Indian Road

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

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

All members present voting “Aye.”

Ordinance(s) on First Reading

Ord. 2880-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsections 7-7.3 Temporary Parking Prohibition for Snow Plowing and Removal, 7-14.1C Night Parking Restricted, and 7-12 Parking Prohibited for Street Cleaning and Maintenance of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange (Oxford Terrace)** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **November 25, 2024**.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Ord. 2881-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Council President Rutherford, **An Ordinance of the Township of West Orange, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey Providing for the Issuance of Special Emergency Notes in an Amount NTE \$1,800,000 to Fund Contractually Required Severance Liabilities Resulting from the Retirement of Employees in the Township** was TABLED. The Council asked that this Ordinance be placed on the November 25, 2024 agenda.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Pending Matters/New Matters/Council Discussion

- Forensic Audit
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, to rescind resolution 18-23 appointing Directors for each department and adding a resolution to the November 25, 2024 agenda implementing one-year appointments for all Directors. After further discussion, it was decided to have the legal department evaluate and determine if this can legally be done. Councilwoman Ghebremicael and Councilwoman Scarpa each withdrew their motions.
- The Council asked that an Executive Session resolution be added to the November 25, 2024 agenda for the purpose of discussing Union Contracts, Ordinance 2881-24 and Director Appointments.
- Pop Up Parties and Zoning
- ABC Hearing Dates

At 10:18 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council adjourned their public meeting and entered into an ABC Hearing.

All members present voting "Aye."

ABC Hearing

754-24 Place to Place (Expansion of Premises) of Retail Distribution License No. 0722-44-001-006, JJS1, LLC t/a Main Street Liquors to El Patio Liquor Store, LLC t/a El Patio Liquor Store, 56 Main Street, West Orange, NJ 07052

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

All members present voting "Aye."

At 10:21 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the ABC Hearing 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



Bill Rutherford
Council President

Adopted: November 25, 2024