

Conference Meeting – November 25, 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

- Township Parking Study – John McCormack, PE, PTOE, Senior Principal, Dynamic Traffic & Gerry Giosa, Level G Associates
- Small Business Saturday

Public Meeting November 25, 2024

The Public meeting began at 7:04 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
Megan Brill-Executive Director-DWOA
Steven Johnston – W.O. Resident
Joe Krakoviak-20 Grandview Avenue
Lawrence Cohen-Lincoln Avenue
Kenneth McPherson, Esq.- Gibbons, PC, Representing West Orange Wellness
Peter Flowers – West Orange Wellness
James Jackson – Ashley Road – Yerrr Cana, LLC

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 November 12, 2024

Report of Township Officers-None

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

Bill List

Resolution(s) Approved on Consent Agenda

- 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)

- b. **317-24** Resolution Authorizing Interlocal Agreement with Borough of Roseland for Animal Control Services -2025 (Legal-Gengaro)
- c. **318-24** Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to S Brothers, Inc., P.O. Box 317, South River, NJ 08882, for the emergency repair of the granite block curb, pipe, various inlets and manholes and its associated improvements in the amount of \$334,645.73 (Carballo)
- d. **319-24** Essex County Community Development Resolution 2025 (Carballo)
- e. **320-24** Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to Grabowski Construction, Inc., 770 Northfield Avenue, West Orange, NJ 07052, for Emergency Storm Sewer Repair Along Wellington Avenue, in the amount not to exceed \$7,200.00 (Carballo)
- f. **324-24** Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to Colonelli Bros., Inc., 409 So. River Street, Hackensack, NJ, 07601, for Two (2) Outfall Replacements to the Township's Storm Sewer Main at McClellan Terrace and Randolph Place by Hutton Lafayette Apartments, in the Amount Not To Exceed \$300,000.00 (Carballo)
- g. **325-24** Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to Reggio Construction, Inc., 416 E. Central Blvd, Palisade Park, NJ 07650, for the Emergency Repair of Various Inlets at Highwood Road and Mountain Drive in the Amount of \$14,500.00 (Carballo)
- h. **326-24** Resolution Authorizing Matrix New World, 26 Columbia Turnpike, 2nd Floor, Florham Park, NJ 07932 to Conduct Environmental Services (Concrete Sampling) Associated with the Pre-Demolition of a Structure located at the former Biddelman Site located at 4-10 Central Avenue, West Orange, NJ in the Amount of \$8,520.00 (Legal-Trenk)
- i. **328-24** Resolution Stating No Objection to the Montclair Golf Club at Rock Spring's Issuance of a License for Use of A Helicopter to Deliver Santa Claus (Legal-Moon)
This resolution would state that the Township Council does not object to the Montclair Golf Club at Rock Spring's application for a temporary license to the New Jersey Department of Transportation. A temporary license is needed in order for the Rock Spring Club to have a helicopter land at the club property to deliver Santa Claus to club members and their guests in attendance for a holiday celebration on December 8, 15, 22, 2024 at approximately 11:00 a.m.
- j. **329-24** Resolution Authorizing Execution of Professional Services Agreement with Matrix New World, 26 Columbia Turnpike, 2nd Floor, Florham Park, NJ 07932 to Conduct Comprehensive Regulated Building Material Investigation and Sampling/Testing Program for Asbestos-Containing Materials as Well as "Other" Potentially Hazardous Materials and/or Conditions located at the former Biddelman Site located at 4-10 Central Avenue, West Orange, NJ in the Amount of \$51,400.00 (Legal-Trenk)
- k. **330-24** Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Raffle Licenses (Clerk)
- l. **331-24** Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of Playground Equipment/Flooring and Installation through the Education Services Commission of NJ (ESCNJ) Cooperative Contracts # ESCNJ 24/25-01 and 24/25-03 Co-op # 65MCESCCPS (Stagg Field) (P. Reynolds)
- m. **332-24** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due to a Duplicate Payment of Tax and/or Sewer Charge (K. Longo)
- n. **333-24** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due to a Veteran Exemption (K. Longo)

- o. **334-24** Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session to Discuss a Collective Bargaining Agreement or the Terms of Provisions of Same, Pending or Anticipated Litigation or Contract Negotiation in Which this Body is or May Be a Party, and Personnel Matter(s), Specifically Union Contracts, Ordinance 2881-24 (Severance Liabilities), Director Appointments, Pop-Up Parties and Zoning

p. 335-24 REMOVED

- q. **336-24** Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to Grabowski Construction, Inc., 770 Northfield Ave., West Orange, NJ 07052, for the Emergency Repair of the Stairs and Railing at Stagg Field in the Amount NTE \$11,647.00 (Carballo)

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

All members present voting “Aye.”

Resolution(s) Removed from the Consent Agenda

Resolution 321-24

Resolution Granting Application for Local License to Operate a Cannabis Cultivation Business - Yerrr Canna (Legal-Moon)

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

All members present voting “Aye.”

Resolution 322-24

Resolution Granting West Orange Wellness a Renewal of its Local License to Operate a Cannabis Retail Business with the Township of West Orange – 2024 (Legal-Moon)

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

All members present voting “Aye.”

Resolution 323-24

Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement for Sale - Block 175.14 Lot 2 (Legal-Trenk)

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

All members present voting “Aye.”

Resolution 327-24

Resolution Authorizing an Award of Contract for 2024 Tree Planting at Various Locations to Frank Galbraith & Son Excavation and Demolition, LLC, 831 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ in the Amount of \$142,130.00 (P. Reynolds)

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was **TABLED**. This resolution will be listed for consideration on the 12.10.24 agenda.

All members present voting “Aye.”

At approximately 8:37 p.m. on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the Council voted to recess the Public meeting and enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specifically Union Contracts, Ordinance 2881-24 (Severance Liabilities), Director Appointments, Pop-Up Parties and Zoning.

All members present voting “Aye.”

At approximately 10:23 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, the executive session was adjourned and the Council entered back into the public meeting.

All members present voting “Aye.”

At 10:33 p.m. Council President Rutherford asked that Ordinance 2880-24 and Ordinance 2886-24 be taken out of order for a vote as he wasn’t feeling well and needed to leave the meeting.

Ord. 2880-24 on Second and Final Reading

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams 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 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 Casalino, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Ord. 2886-24 on First Reading

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Council President Rutherford, **Bond Ordinance Providing For Various 2024 Capital Acquisitions And Improvements, By And In The Township Of West Orange, In The County Of Essex, State Of New Jersey, Appropriating \$13,802,000 Therefor And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$11,584,343 Bonds Or Notes Of The Township To Finance Part Of The Cost Thereof was TABLED.** The Council asked that this Ordinance be placed on the first meeting agenda of 2025.

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

At approximately 10:41 p.m., Council President Rutherford left the meeting.

At approximately, 10:43 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the Council approved Councilwoman Casalino as the Chair as Council President Rutherford left the meeting due to illness.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Ordinance(s) on Second and Final Reading

Ord. 2870-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 25, Section 29 of the Township Code Related to Stormwater Management** was taken up on second and final reading.

Councilwoman Casalino and Councilwoman Williams voting “Aye.” Councilwoman Ghebremicael and Councilwoman Scarpa voting “Nay.” The motion failed.

After further discussion, and on a motion to revote made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Council moved forward with Ordinance 2770-24 on second and final reading.

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

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 Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

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

Ordinance(s) on First Reading

Ord. 2881-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **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 approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **December 10, 2024**.

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

Ord. 2882-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **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 (Amendment to AFSCME Tier)** was approved. The Council asked that this Ordinance be placed on the December 10, 2024 agenda.

All members present voting “Aye.”

Ord. 2883-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 25, Section 24.7 General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange (Filming)** was approved. The Council asked that this Ordinance be placed on the December 10, 2024 agenda.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2884-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending Certain Terms in Chapter 5 Section 35 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange** was **TABLED**. The Council asked that this Ordinance be placed on the first meeting agenda of 2025.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2885-24

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Granting Renewal of Municipal Consent to Comcast of New Jersey, LLC to Construct, Connect, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television and Communications System in the Municipality of West Orange Essex County, New Jersey** was approved. The Council asked that this Ordinance be placed on the December 10, 2024 agenda.

All members present voting "Aye."

Pending Matters/New Matters/Council Discussion-None

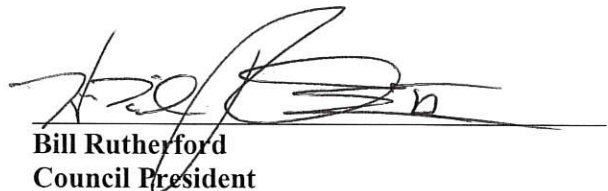
ABC Hearing-None

At 12:05 a.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, 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


Bill Rutherford
Council President

Adopted: December 10, 2024