

## **Conference Meeting – February 25, 2025**

The Conference meeting began at 6:35 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 notice for this meeting was emailed to the Star Ledger and the West Orange Chronicle on December 11, 2024.

Roll Call – Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin  
Councilwoman Scarpa, Council President Krakoviak

A motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino to enter into an ABC Hearing.

All members present voting “Aye.”

**758-25** Resolution Approving Renewal Of License #0722-33-016-006, Tapas Tavern, LLC Nunc Pro Tunc For 2023-2024 License Term (Inactive License)

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

Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin and Council President Krakoviak voting “Aye.”  
Councilwoman Casalino and Councilwoman Scarpa voting “Nay.”

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael to adjourn the ABC Hearing and return to the Public meeting.

All members present voting “Aye.”

- Council Liaison Announcements

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Public Meeting February 25, 2025**

The Public meeting began at 7:00 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 notice for this meeting was emailed to the Star Ledger and the West Orange Chronicle on December 11, 2024.

Roll Call – Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin  
Councilwoman Scarpa, Council President Krakoviak

## **Public Comment**

Susan McCartney – Mayor

John Blanton – Forest Hill Road – Pop Up Party Ord.

Brent D. Scott – Nestro Road – Leaf Blower Ord. and Zoning Board

Marc Rosenberg – Fernwood Circle – Leaf Blower Ord.

Jason Thompson – Essex County Country Club Golf Superintendent – Leaf Blower Ord.

Richared Friedman – Kovach Court – Ord. 2898-25

Robert Ivker – Vice President, West Orange Board of Education- Leaf Blower Ord.

Richard Leonardis – Pleasant Valley Way – Leaf Blower Ord.



Joe Vena – Stone Drive – Pop Up Ord.  
Jake Stevens – Greenwood Ave.-Leaf Blower Ord.  
Althea Tweiten – Edgar Drive – Microphones  
Jeff Rogers – Harper Street – Leaf Blower Ord.

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

### **Bill List**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rudin and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the following items were removed from the Bill list:

Diana McGovern – Zoning Board Attorney  
Savo, Schalk, Corsini, Warner, Gillespie, O'Grodnick & Fisher  
Trenk Isabel Siddiqi & Shahdanian, P.C.  
Michael Fonzino-Health Director  
Danya Stokes

Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Aye." Councilwoman Casalino voting "Nay."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa to approve the Bill list as amended.

All members present voting "Aye."

### **Resolution(s) Approved on Consent Agenda**

- a. **68-25** Resolution Approving Proposal From Matrix New World For Environmental Services At The Property Located At 55 Lakeside For The Preparation Of A Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation (HDSRF) Grant Application And Submission NTE \$7,500.00 (Carballo)
- b. **69-25** Resolution Authorizing Reimbursement For 2024 Fire Hydrant Rental Costs For The Hilltop Villas Condominium Association On Herbert Terrace, A Condominium Which Is A Qualified Private Community With The Formula For Reimbursement As Set Forth In Ordinance No. 1384-96 And Codified As West Orange Revised General Ordinance No. 2-72 (Carballo)
- c. **70-25** Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Rescue Products International, Inc., for Training for the West Orange Fire Department in the Amount NTE of \$58,260.00 for 48 Lectures (P. Reynolds)
- d. **71-25** Resolution Authorizing the 2024 Reimbursement for Services to Private Communities – Snow Removal (Carballo)
- e. **72-25** 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)
- f. **73-25** Resolution Authorizing Discharge of Mortgage for Property located at 72 Park Terrace, West Orange, NJ 07052 (Legal-Moon)
- g. **74-25** A Resolution Authorizing The Award Of A Contract For The Provision And Support Of Edmunds Govtech Software To SHI International Though The New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (P. Reynolds)
- h. **75-25** Resolution Authorizing A Contract With Munidex To Maintain The Township's Finance And Tax Software For 2025 (P. Reynolds)

- i. **76-25** Resolution Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of Loan Agreements To Be Executed By The Township Of West Orange, In The County Of Essex, State Of New Jersey And Each Of The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank And The State Of New Jersey, Acting By And Through The New Jersey Department Of Environmental Protection, And Further Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of An Escrow Agreement, All Pursuant To The State Fiscal Year 2025 New Jersey Water Bank Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program (Ditinyak)
- j. **77-25** Resolution Determining The Form And Other Details Of Not Exceeding \$955,000 General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025 Of The Township Of West Orange, In The County Of Essex, State Of New Jersey, And Providing For Their Sale To The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank And The State Of New Jersey Pursuant To The State Fiscal Year 2025 New Jersey Water Bank Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program (Ditinyak)
- k. **79-25** Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with Fat Daddy's for Operation of Concession Stand at Ginny Duenkel Pool – 2025 (P. Reynolds)
- l. **81-25** Resolution Authorizing The Rejection Of The Seven Bids Received For Minish Park Improvements (Carballo)
- m. **82-25** Resolution Authorizing The Collector Of Taxes To Refund Payment To The Listed Taxpayer Due To Veteran Exemption (K. Longo)
- n. **83-25** 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)
- o. **84-25** Resolution to Award 2015 Used Or New 30-Passenger Ford F550 Super Duty Chassis And Cab Jitney Type Bus Or Equivalent (P. Reynolds)
- p. **85-25** A Resolution Approving A Proposal From Matrix New World For Environmental Services At 25 Lakeside Avenue NTE \$27,900.00 (Carballo)
- q. **86-25** Resolution Authorizing Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Access Agreement with Property Owner of 737 Northfield Avenue (Carballo)

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, the Consent Agenda was approved.

All members present voting "Aye."

#### **Resolution(s) Removed from the Consent Agenda**

##### **Resolution 78-25**

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 (P. Reynolds)

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, the motion to approve the above referenced resolution FAILED.

Councilwoman Casalino voting "Aye." Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Nay."

##### **Resolution 80-25**

Resolution Authorizing the Rejection of the Two Bids Received for Solar Consultant (P. Reynolds)

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

All members present voting "Aye."

**Ordinance(s) on Second and Final Reading**

**Ord. 2889-25**

On motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-29.1, Speed Limits, General, 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 Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

**Ord. 2890-25**

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 25 Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange Banning "Pop-Up" Parties** 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.

Doug Adams – Westover Terrace  
John Blanton – Forest Hill Road  
Joe Vena – Stone Drive

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

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Aye." Councilwoman Ghebremicael voting "Nay."

**Ord. 2892-25**

On motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Sections 57.1, 57.2, And 57.6 General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange (Open Space and Recreation Committee and Trust Fund)** 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.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Scarpa and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, to table the above referenced ordinance.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Aye." Councilwoman Rudin voting "Nay." The Ordinance was TABLED.

#### **Ord. 2893-25**

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Rudin, **An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 2, Section 5.3 General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange (Director Of Staff Operations)** 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 Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

#### **Ord. 2894-25**

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Section 9.4 General Ordinances Of The Township Of West Orange (Special Counsel)** 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.

A motion was made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, to table the above referenced ordinance.

All members present voting "Aye." The Ordinance was TABLED.

**Ordinance(s) on First Reading**

**Ord. 2895-25 - REMOVED**

**Ord. 2896-25**

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **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** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **March 11, 2025.**

All members present voting "Aye."

**Ord. 2897-25**

On motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-23.1, Turn Prohibitions, 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 **March 11, 2025.**

All members present voting "Aye."

**Ord. 2898-25**

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-33, School Zones, 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 **March 11, 2025.**

All members present voting "Aye."

**Ord. 2899-25**

On motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsections 7-20 Stop Intersections, 7-21, Multi-Way Stops, And 7-21.1 Multi-Way Stops Near Schools, Playgrounds And Youth Recreational Facilities 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 **March 11, 2025.**

All members present voting "Aye."

**Ord. 2900-25**

On motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **Ordinance Amending Chapter 28 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange (Transition to Battery or Electric Leaf Blowers)** was approved on first reading, ordered advertised according to law, to come up for second and final reading on **March 11, 2025.**

Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Aye." Councilwoman Casalino voting "Nay."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino to remove Section **"V. ENFORCEMENT"** in its entirety. The motion is lost for lack of a second, there was no second offered.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino to remove Section **"VI. LAWN CARE REGISTRY"** in its entirety. The motion is lost for lack of a second, there was no second offered.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Rudin to change the dates in **III. LIMITATION ON LEAF BLOWERS** to "March 1, 2025 – April, 15, 2025 and November 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025".

Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Aye." Councilwoman Casalino voting "Nay."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa to change the dates in **III. LIMITATION ON LEAF BLOWERS** to remove number 3 "Gas powered blowers shall not be used for gutter cleaning or snow clearing."

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilwoman Ghebremicael, Councilwoman Scarpa and Council President Krakoviak voting "Aye." Councilwoman Rudin voting "Nay."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa to change the dates in **III. LIMITATION ON LEAF BLOWERS** to change the times listed in number 6 to the following: "Weekdays: 8am – 6pm, and Weekends: 10am to 6 pm".

All members present voting "Aye."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa to change the dates in **III. LIMITATION ON LEAF BLOWERS** remove the language in number 7 completely and add "Turbine blowers shall be permitted."

All members present voting "Aye."

#### **Ord. 2901-25**

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, **An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 4-6, Drug-Free School Zones, Subsection 4-6.2, Adoption Of Directive And Schematic Maps 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 **March 11, 2025**.

All members present voting "Aye."

#### **Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)**

Dagmar Hobson – Tremont Avenue – Abusive remarks on Facebook

Dan Wacha – 18 Undercliff Terrace South – Anti Islamophobia resolution

Jackie Hendy – Beverly Road – Abusive remarks on-line

Carla Martin – Belle Terre Road – Resolution on behalf of Arab/Muslin community

Mehwish Qureshi – Mt. Pleasant Avenue – Islamophobia/Anti-Arab Racism

Paul Greenhouse – Walker Road – Human Relations Commissioner Justin Goldsman

Eric Camins – Carter Road – Anti Islamophobia resolution/ removal of HRC Commissioners Justin Goldsman & Amy Gallatin

Jeff Rogers – Harper Street – October 7, 2024/In support of Justin Goldsman

Imani Oakley – Montclair, NJ – removal of Justin Goldsman from HRC/in support of Anti Islamophobia resolution

Mousa Naji – CAIR, NJ, Newark, NJ – removal of Justin Goldsman from HRC

Michelle Gross – Devonshire Terrace – Antisemitic/in support of Justin Goldsman  
Ms. Amoyal – Sullivan Drive – Justin Goldsman remarks taken out of context  
Brent D. Scott – Nestro Road – Leaf Blower Ban  
Cindi Dresdner – Lakeview Drive – In support of Justin Goldsman  
Amy Gallatin – Smith Manor Blvd. – In support of Justin Goldsman  
Anthony Lee – E. Hanover, NJ – Anti-Arab and Islamophobia resolution  
Craig Goldman – Conforti Avenue – Time for open dialogue  
Larry Reine – Cumming Circle – HRC meeting/in support of Justin Goldsman/Time for open dialogue  
Klein Holman – Oakridge Road – Middle School Flag Drawing Project  
Justin Goldsman – Moran Road – In defense of himself  
Matt Dragon – Sheridan Avenue – Muslim man assaulted/Justin Goldsman remarks/Anti Islamophobia resolution

At 1:19 a.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael 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. Carnevale, R.M.C.**  
**Municipal Clerk**

  
**Joe Krakoviak**  
**Council President**

**Adopted: March 11, 2025**

