

Conference Meeting – May 20, 2025

The Conference meeting began at 6:39 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 January 7, 2025 and published in the West Orange Chronicle on January 16, 2025.

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

- Public Service Announcement: Red, White and Blue Day Program- Joe Bongon, U.S. Navy Veteran & Veterans Assistance Manager
- Presentation: “Food for Your Thought: Recent Research on Factors Impacting Our Climate”- Sally Malanga, Our Green West Orange

Public Meeting-- May 20, 2025

The Public meeting began at 7:09 p.m., the Deputy 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 January 7, 2025 and published in the West Orange Chronicle on January 16, 2025.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Joe Fagan-Public Information Officer

Megan Brill- West Orange Downtown Alliance

Tammy Williams- Mental Health Awareness Month

Brent Scott- Nestro Road- Zoning Board issues

Bill Rutherford- Noise Ordinance, Mayor’s lawsuit; Administration targeting Llewellyn Parq

Marc Thompson- Co-owner of Llewellyn Parq- Noise Ordinance

Kaimu- Owner of South Valley BBQ- Noise Ordinance; Parking on Wheatland Ave

John Blanton- Forest Hill Road- Disappointment with Council not attending meeting at Llewellyn Parq

Sally Malanga- Zoning Board conflict of interest; Gas powered blower Ordinance; In favor of funding for Degnan Park Project

Beverly Rielly- Lenox Terrace- Unico Garden upgrades; Asking for support from the Township for additional funding; Reduce senior exercise equipment; Delay Degnan Park Project

Lisa Okyle- Mullarkey Drive- Degnan Park/Unico Nicholas Vecchio Garden

Lala- Harrison Avenue- Business Owner of Exclusive Nail Studio- Targeted harassment; False noise complaints from neighbor

Joe Pannullo- Essex Fells- WECare; West Essex Highlands

Clare Silvestri- 20 Grandview Ave- Township debt; Successor for Township Attorney

Darren Nurse- Support for Llewellyn Parq, South Valley BBQ, Main Street businesses

Robert Rashkes- Osteoporosis Awareness Month; In favor of Degnan Park Resolution

Rasheed Jones- Owner of Crabbae West on Eagle Rock Avenue- Needs resources from Township rather than more rules; Focus on supporting small businesses in West Orange
Cliff Mills- Owner of OKO Fine Cuisine-437 Main Street- Looking for support from the Township;
Partnership with the Administration

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

Report of Township Officers

None.

Reading of Petitions and Communications and Bids

None.

Minutes

None.

Bill List

At 9:19 p.m., on a motion made by Councilwoman Rudin and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebermichael, the bills for Danhya Stokes were removed from the Bill List.

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

At 9:26 p.m., on a motion made by Councilwoman Rudin and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the bills for Frank Galbraith & Son were removed from the Bill List.

All members present voting "Aye."

The remainder of the Bill List was approved on Consent.

Resolution(s) Approved on Consent Agenda

- a. **140-25** Resolution to Award One 2019 Model Year or Newer, Used 25-Passenger Ford E450 Cab with Glaval Jitney Type Bus or Equivalent (P. Reynolds)
- b. **141-25** Resolution to Extend Contract for Re-Bid Repair and Maintenance of Buses for the West Orange Public Works (P. Reynolds)
- c. **142-25** Resolution Approving the Title VI Program for the Township of West Orange Department of Health and Welfare, Transportation Division (Legal-Moon)
- d. **144-25** Resolution to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the St. Cloud Avenue (from Northfield Avenue to Arverne Road) and Sheridan Avenue (from Northfield Avenue to Chestnut Road) Improvement Project (Carballo)
- e. **145-25** Resolution to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Winfield Street, Virginia Avenue, Kirk Street, and Grant Terrace Improvements Project (Carballo)

- f. **146-25** Resolution Authorizing Temporary Easement Agreement with Owner of 46 Mount Pleasant Avenue (Legal-Gengaro)
- g. **148-25** Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Raffle Licenses (Clerk)
- h. **149-25** Resolution Authorizing the Discharge of Mortgage on 4 Pillot Place (Legal-Moon)
- i. **150-25** Resolution Authorizing a License Agreement with the Montclair YMCA for the Use of the Ginny Duenkel Pool (Legal-Moon)

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

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution(s) Removed from Consent Agenda

Resolution 143-25

Resolution to Award D'Onofrio and Son, Inc., Landscaping, a service contract entitled "2025 The Maintenance of Various Township Owned Parcels, Including Turf Maintenance, Litter and Debris Collection, Weed Control and Fall Leaf Collection and Disposal Re-Bid" (P. Reynolds)

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, Base Bid-1-Turf Maintenance, Litter & Debris Collection, Weed Control, Leaf Collection All Parcels, the above referenced resolution was approved as amended.

All members present voting "Aye."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak to keep the Base Bid-1-Turf Maintenance, Litter & Debris Collection, Weed Control, Leaf Collection All Parcels, as is.

All members present voting "Aye."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, to approve Alternate 1C-1 Fertilizer & Chemical Application All Parcels in the Bid.

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

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael approve Alternate 7-1 Maintain Mulch in Beds (Allowance @ \$150 per cubic yard).

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

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael to approve Alternate 1B-1 Maintenance of Shrubs & Beds for Trees, Shrubs and Flowers All Parcels, Alternate 1D-1 Final Fall Cleanup, and Alternate 6-1 Property Cleanup and Maintenance of Unspecified Properties.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution 147-25

Resolution Approving a Proposal from Neglia Engineering Associates for Engineering Services for the Degnan Park New Community Garden and Exercise Area (Carballo)

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

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

Ordinance(s) on Second and Final Reading

Ord. 2918-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Ghebremicael, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 25, Section 29 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange Based on Recommendations of the New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual**, 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.

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 Rudin, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2919-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Rudin, **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5, Sections 32.3 and 32.8 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange (Police-Requesting Towing and Storage Services)**, 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.

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 Scarpa, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2922-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-29.1. Speed Limits in 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.

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 Rudin, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2923-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-37.1b Municipal Parking Yards; Metered Parking, Permit Parking, Time Limited Parking**, 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.

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 Council President Krakoviak, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2924-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 20, Streets and Sidewalks, and Subsections 20-1 Et Seq 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.

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 Scarpa, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinance(s) on First Reading - None

Pending Matters/New Matters/Council Discussion

- Township Tree Planting; Interim Business Administrator Pete Smeraldo explained that this is a weather contingent project that should be completed within about 2 weeks.

- Consensus Appointment to the Citizens Budget Advisory Board

On motion made by Councilwoman Ghebremicael and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Ron Charles was appointed to the Citizens Budget Advisory Board.

All members present voting "Aye."

- Consensus appointment to the Rent Leveling Board

On motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, Jennel Jerome was appointed to the Citizens Budget Advisory Board.

All members present voting "Aye."

- Monastery Discussion (29 Ridgeway Ave)

On a motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, a proposed appraisal will be added to the public agenda for the next meeting date of June 24, 2025.

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

- On motion made by Councilwoman Rudin and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the noise ordinance was discussed .

All members present voting "Aye."

At 11:53 p.m., on motion made by Council President Krakoviak and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Public meeting was adjourned and the Council entered into an ABC Hearing.

All members present voting "Aye."

ABC Hearing

- a. **765-25** Hearing on Renewal for Plenary Retail Consumption, Distribution and Club Licenses for the 2025-2026 License Term

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Rudin, the above referenced resolution was passed.

All members present voting "Aye."

- b. **766-25** Hearing on Renewal for 2025-2026 License Term – AMC Theatres Essex Green 9 – 0722-33-066-009 (Special Conditions)

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

All members present voting "Aye."

- c. **768-25** Hearing on Renewal for 2025-2026 License Term – LUX 123, LLC t/a South Valley BBQ & Lounge – 0722-33-009-012 (Special Conditions)

On motion made by Councilwoman Rudin and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was TABLED.

All members present voting "Aye."

At 12:11 a.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Rudin, 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


Joe Krakoviak
Council President

Adopted: June 24, 2025

