

Conference Meeting – January 6, 2026

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 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, Councilman Krakoviak Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa and Councilwoman Williams

Council President Nomination(s)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Rudin, to nominate Councilwoman Susan Scarpa as the 2026 Council President.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilman Krakoviak, Councilwoman Rudin and Councilwoman Scarpa voting “Aye.” Councilwoman Williams abstained.

Oath of Office: Council President Susan Scarpa - Administered by Mayor McCartney

Council Liaison Appointments

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, the following appointments to the Township Boards, Commissions and Committees were approved.

All members present voting “Aye.”

<u>MC</u>	Downtown West Orange Alliance
<u>MC</u>	Public Relations Commission
<u>SS</u>	Planning Board
<u>TW</u>	ERSCHA (Degnan House)
<u>SS</u>	WOSCHA (John P. Renna House)
<u>TW</u>	West Orange Municipal Alliance Committee
<u>JK</u>	West Orange Arts Council
<u>JR</u>	Open Space & Recreation Committee
<u>JK</u>	Oscar Schindler Performing Arts Center
<u>MC</u>	West Orange Board of Education
<u>TW</u>	West Orange Historic Preservation Commission
<u>JR</u>	Pedestrian Safety Committee
<u>JK</u>	Economic Development
<u>JR</u>	Environmental Commission
<u>SS</u>	Older Adults Advisory Board

Public Meeting— January 6, 2026

The Public meeting began at 7:00 p.m., the Municipal Clerk read the following statement:

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Roll Call – Councilwoman Casalino, Councilman Krakoviak, Councilwoman Rudin, Councilwoman Williams and Council President Scarpa

Pledge of Allegiance**Public Comment**

Joe Fagan-Public Information Officer for West Orange

Doug Adams – Westover Terr. – recognition of Championship Sports and Recreational Teams; Mayor's Program for the Uniquely Gifted

Lisa Adams – Westover Terr. – Mayor's Program for the Uniquely Gifted

Jacquelyn Hendy – Beverly Rd. – Rodent problem in Town; recognition of Muslim American Heritage Month; hateful comments on social media

Justin Goldsman – Moran Rd. – Stormwater data Ordinance; Cannabis facility operating hours; hateful comments on social media

Sally Malanga – Ridge Rd. – Expressed opposition to Essex County Deer hunt

Phil Litwinoff – Linden Ave. – Contract for DPW Supervisor

Richard Groves – Yale Terr. – Muslim American Heritage Month-hateful comments on social media

John Blanton – Forest Hill Rd. - Hate; Thank you to First Responders; recognition of Championship Sports and Recreational Teams; opposed to Budget cuts to Mayor's Program for the Uniquely Gifted

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

At approximately 8:54 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Council approved a motion to enter into an Executive Session.

All members present voting "Aye"

2-26 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Personnel, Specifically Resolution 3-26 and 4 –26

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams, and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was amended to include a matter of Contract Negotiations, specifically the Contract for the Department of Public Works Supervisor.

All members voting "Aye."

At approximately 8:53 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Council President Scarpa, the Council voted to enter into an Executive Session.

All members voting "Aye."

At approximately 11:20 p.m., Councilwoman Rudin left the meeting.

At approximately 11:31 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams, and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Council adjourned the executive session and the public meeting was reconvened.

All members voting "Aye."

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – None

Report of Township Officers - None

Reading of Petitions and Communications and Bids

- Request for Qualification for Professional Services
- OSPAC & Crystal Lake Improvements
- Structural Improvements at OSPAC

Bill List - None

Resolution(s) Approved on Consent Agenda

- a. **1-26** Designation of Official Newspapers (Clerk)
- b. **2-26** Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Personnel, Specifically Resolution 3-26 and 4 –26
- e. **5-26** Resolution Rejecting Tree Planting Bids Received for the 2026 Tree Planting at Various Locations (P. Reynolds)
- f. **6-26** Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Cash Maintenance Bond for Colonial Woods North and Extension of Nance Road Development as Shown on the Filed Map Entitled "Final Plat-Block 173, Lot 2 and Block 172.29, Lot 40.02, Colonial Woods North, Township of West Orange, Essex County, New Jersey" (Carballo)
- g. **7-26** Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. 301 Gibraltar Drive Suite 2A Morris Plains, N.J. 07950, for Professional Land Surveying, Civil Engineering, and Construction Administration Services Associated with the Luddington Road – Sidewalk Panel Replacement Project in an Amount NTE \$59,940.00. (Carballo)
- h. **8-26** Resolution Rejecting the Bids Received for Repair and Maintenance of EMS Apparatus for the WOFD and Authorizing Re-Bid (P. Reynolds)
- i. **9-26** Resolution to Award Remainder of Tree Removal Services Pruning and Unforeseen Circumstances (P. Reynolds)
- j. **10-26** Resolution for 2026 Cash Management Plan (Ditinyak)
- k. **11-26** Resolution to Adopt 2026 Temporary Budget (Ditinyak)

- l. **12-26** Resolution to Set the Interest Rate and Penalties to be Charged for Delinquent Tax Payments (Longo)
- m. **13-26** Resolution Appointing Fund Commissioner and Alternate Fund Commissioner (Smeraldo)
- o. **14-26** Resolution to Refund Duplicate Q4 Tax Payments (Longo)
- p. **15-26** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Rebate Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Pursuant to Final Judgement by the Tax Court (Longo)
- q. **16-26** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due to an Overbill of Taxes on the Property (Longo)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, the Consent Agenda was approved.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution(s) Removed from Consent Agenda

Resolution 3-26

Resolution Authorizing Agreement with Matthew Feula, Chief of Police (Legal-Semeraro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Council President Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was **TABLED**.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution 4-26

Resolution Authorizing Agreement with Kevin Dalgauer, Deputy Chief of Police (Legal-Semeraro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Council President Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was **TABLED**.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution 17-26

17-26 Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Department of Public Works Director (Smeraldo)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Council President Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was **TABLED**.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinances of Second and Final Reading - None

Ordinances of First Reading

Ord. 2947-26

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Council President 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 **January 20, 2026**.

All members present voting "Aye."

Ord. 2948-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Council President Scarpa, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-10.1 Stopping or Standing Prohibited During Certain Hours on Certain Streets, and 7-14.3 Parking Time Limited on Certain Streets During Certain Hours of Certain Days 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 **January 20, 2026**.

Councilwoman Casalino, Councilman Krakoviak and Council President Scarpa voting "Aye."
Councilwoman Williams voting "Nay."

Pending Matters/New Matters/Council Discussion

A motion was made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to hear public comment on agenda items only at the beginning of the meeting and non-agenda items near the end of the meeting after all matters on the agenda were discussed and voted on.

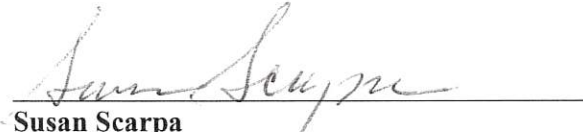
Councilwoman Casalino and Council President Scarpa voting "Aye." Councilman Krakoviak and Councilwoman Williams voting "Nay." The motion **FAILED**.

ABC Hearing - None

At 11:58 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams 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. Carnevale, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk
Susan Scarpa
Council President

Adopted: January 6, 2026