

Conference Meeting – December 9, 2025

The conference Meeting began at 6:37 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 Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa, Councilwoman Williams and Council President Krakoviak

- Proclamation: 40th Anniversary of CASA of Essex County (Court Appointed Special Advocate Program that works with Essex County Family Court)
- Debt Management Plan – John Ditinyak, CFO
- Council Liaison Announcements

Public Meeting— December 9, 2025

The Public meeting began at 7:33 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 Rudin, Councilwoman Scarpa, Councilwoman Williams and Council President Krakoviak

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Joe Fagan-Public Information Officer for West Orange

Anthony Puglisi – PIO Essex County

Camille DeLorenzo – Pleasant Valley Productions – 2025 OSPAC Season in Review

David Withington – Greentree Rd. – proper planting of trees

John Blanton – Forest Hill Rd. – gas leaf blowers on Councilmember property; question re: salary for non-profit; Rock Spring renovations; Santa Claus helicopter landing

Jennifer Iorio – Bellevue Terrace – clarity on 286-25; Council members hostile behavior

Jean McCree – Mt. Pleasant Ave. – parking issues

Jackie Parisi – Mt. Pleasant Ave. – gathering space for Seniors

Justin Goldsman – Rand Terrace – 286-25; traffic pattern change notification; 278-25 who will manage; CCRB contact info.; Paygo

Joy Burnet – Pillot Place – Parking in the Valley, restrictions on Rollinson

Kenneth McPherson, Esq. – Gibbons PC – West Orange Wellness-amendment to Cannabis ord. to extend operating hours

Ted Flowers – West Orange Wellness – extension of operating hours

Jim Sherrod – NJ Cannabis Regulatory Commission

Phaedra Singelis – Essex Terr.-planting of trees; revision of bid specs; supervision of tree planting

Mary Brienza-Swaine Pl. – Parking issues in the Valley
O’su Carscallen – Quinby Pl.- Parking issues in the Valley
Resident – Pillot Pl.- Parking issues in the Valley
Marlene Douse – Pillot Pl. – Parking issues in the Valley
William Winburn – Quinby Pl.- Parking issues in the Valley
Kim Fields Murphy – Quinby Pl. - Parking issues in the Valley
Joe Panullo – President – We Care-West Essex Highlands – announced Rachel Klein as new President
Rachel Klein – Howell Dr. - New President of We Care
Doug Adams-Westover Ter. – Debt Mgmt. Plan; Disparaging remarks from Councilmembers should end;
Disparaging remarks directed at him
Micaela Bennett – Old Indian Rd.-Police Chief Abbott retirement benefits; Police promotions
Yvrose Guillaume – Pillot Pl.- Parking issues in the Valley
Resident – Quinby Pl. - Parking issues in the Valley

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

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – Public Meeting November 24, 2025

Report of Township Officers - None

Reading of Petitions and Communications and Bids-None

Bill List

The following bills were pulled for discussion by Councilwoman Rudin.

189688 – EZ Pass

A motion to pull was made by Councilwoman Rudin and seconded by Council President Krakoviak, the above- mentioned item was pulled from the Bill list in the amount of \$200.

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

Resolution(s) Approved on Consent Agenda

- a. **273-25** Resolution Authorizing the Township to Apply for the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Program Funds through the County of Essex (Carballo)
- b. **274-25** Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Raffle Licenses (Clerk)
- c. **275-25** Resolution Authorizing the Release of the Performance Bond Posted by CSH West Orange, LLC the Developer of The Chelsea at West Orange, 609 Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, NJ 07052, Block 152.22, Lot 1412.01 to Guarantee the Installation of Certain Off-Site Improvements in the Amount of \$7,410.44, be Released Subject to Posting a Two-year Maintenance Bond with the Township in the Amount of \$47,784.00 (Carballo)
- d. **276-25** Resolution Authorizing an Award of Contract for Tree Removal Services to Rich Tree Service, Inc., 325 Bergen Street, S. Plainfield, NJ 07080, and to Beucler Tree Experts, 48 Harold St., Tenafly, NJ 07670 and to Downes Tree Service Co., Inc., 65 Royal Ave., Hawthorne, NJ 07970 in an Amount Specified on the Resolution (Reynolds)

The current contract expires on 12.31.25.

- e. **277-25** Resolution Authorizing an Award of Contract for 2026 Emergency Tree Services to Rich Tree Service, Inc., 325 Bergen Street, S. Plainfield, NJ 07080 and to SAVATREE, 1248 Sussex Turnpike, Mt. Freedom, NJ 07970 in an Amount Specified on the Resolution (Reynolds)
The current contract expires on 12.31.25.
- f. **278-25** Resolution Approving the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder Fiscal Grant Cycle July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (VanDyke)
- g. **279-25** Resolution Authorizing the 2025 Agreement Between Township of West Orange and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute (Fonzino)
- i. **280-25** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Attorney of the Listed Taxpayer Due to an Overpayment of Taxes Due to a County Board Judgment (Longo)
- h. **281-25** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due to Veteran Exemption (Longo)
- i. **284-25** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Refund Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Due To an Overpayment of Fourth Quarter Tax Payment (Longo)
- j. **285-25** Resolution Authorizing the Collector of Taxes to Rebate Payment to the Listed Taxpayer Pursuant to Final Judgment by the Tax Court Of New Jersey (Longo)
- k. **286-25** Resolution Authorizing the Township to Apply for the U.S. DOT Grant Agreement Under the FY 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program (Carballo)
- l. **287-25** Resolution Authorizing Court Room Security Contract (Legal-Semeraro)

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

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution(s) Removed from Consent Agenda

261-25

Resolution Authorizing a Contract to Cerbo's Parsippany Green Houses, Inc, 440 Littleton Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054 for the Purchase of Trees, Root Barriers and Deer Fencing in the Amount of \$79,000.00 with an Additional \$12,000.00 to Install Deer Fencing and Root Barriers, if needed.
(Reynolds)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the above referenced resolution was TABLED. The resolution will be listed on the January 6, 2026 agenda.

All members present voting "Aye."

Resolution 282-25 REMOVED

Resolution 283-25 REMOVED

288-25

Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of discussing the following:

1. 80 Main Street - Potential Litigation Attorney/Client Communication
2. Attorney/Client Communication/Legal Advice re: Communications During Meetings;
3. Personnel - Consent for Outside Counsel to Perform Investigation (Legal-Semeraro)

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was amended to include the following: Attorney Client Communication to Include West Essex Highlands and the Third Round Affordable Housing Settlement

All members present voting "Aye."

On motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the above referenced resolution was amended to include the following: the Authorization to Address the Financial Aspects of the Terminal Leave Payout of Chief James Abbott.

All members present voting "Aye."

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

All members present voting "Aye."

Ordinances of Second and Final Reading

Ord. 2945-25

On motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, **An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-21, Multi-way Stops 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 Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Williams, the above referenced ordinance was adopted.

All members present voting "Aye."

Pending Matters/New Matters/Council Discussion

- 2026 Council Connection Dates

ABC Hearing – None

At approximately 11:21 p.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Casalino, the Council voted and approved a motion to enter into an Executive Session.

All members present voting “Aye.”

At approximately 1:08 a.m., on motion made by Councilwoman Casalino and seconded by Councilwoman Scarpa, the Council adjourned the executive session and the public meeting was reconvened and then 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.
Joe Krakoviak, Council President

Municipal Clerk

Adopted: December 30, 2025