

**THIS WAS A CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2016 AT 7:07 P.M. WHICH HAD BEEN RESCEDUED FROM FEBRUARY 16, 2016.**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Councilman Kerry Coley, East Ward  
Councilman Elroy A. Corbitt, At-Large  
Councilwoman Tency A. Eason, North Ward  
Councilman Harold Johnson, Jr. West Ward  
Councilwoman Jamie Summers-Johnson., South Ward  
Councilwoman Donna K. Williams, At-Large  
Council President April Gaunt-Butler, At-Large

**Also Present:** Joyce L. Lanier, City Clerk  
Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor (arrived @ 7:16)  
Adrian Mapp, Finance Director  
Dan Smith, City Attorney  
Marlin Townes, Legislative Research Officer  
Margarette Homere, Senior Clerk,  
Kenneth Douglas, Fire Director,  
John Wade, Acting Police Director  
Joy Lascari, Chief Financial Officer (arrived @ 7:13)  
Marty Mayes, DPW Director

**Absent:**

The City Clerk asked all to stand for a Moment of Silence.

*SPECIAL NOTICE:* Please be apprised anyone wishing to discuss Agenda or General Items shall sign one (1) book. There will be two (2) columns in the book, one (1) for Agenda Items and one for General Issues. Each person signing the book will check Agenda items (Not including Public hearing/final adoption of ordinances) or General issues or both. If they check Agenda Items or General Issues or both, they will be allowed to speak for a maximum of five (5) minutes.

**Sunshine Law**

The City Clerk announces that the requirement of N.J. S.A. 10:4-9 et. Seq. "Sunshine Law" has been met. A notice of this meeting was published in the *Star Ledger* on February 19, 2016 and sent to *the Record-Transcript*, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

Councilwoman Eason asked that the rules be suspended to add United Water to the discussions, to discuss the water quality in the City. A poll was taken and all Council Members agreed to the addition.

Council President Gaunt-Butler introduced Councilman Corbitt. The Councilman introduced a group called "The Youth Peer Council" that had an Ordinance regarding cough medicine. A member of the group approached the podium and spoke about the dangers of a mixture of cough medicine, sprite and Jolly Ranchers and how to retard its use by approving the ordinance.

Mayor Warren suggested to the group that they meet with the City Attorney to go over the Ordinance and then present it to the Council so it can be made into a law.

**Presentation by Nishuane Group.**

A representative from the Nishuane Group reported on the Central Orange Redevelopment area retail analysis. Their group works on the planning, real-estate development, financing and the community development. The representative spoke of the company's qualifications and other developments they worked on and how their experience will help Orange with their redevelopment project. Reported on the progress of the Nishuane Group with regards to their completed work in the city and their ongoing work. Different representatives came to the podium and reported on their work for the city to date and recommendations that are being considered.

The representatives answered questions from the Council Members.

Mayor Warren also answered questions from the Council Members.

Director Mayes stated that in the past the City was developing affordable housing but now they are developing great market components and the Nishuane Group have put together a solid plan. The city planner in recent past has had to take on the responsibility of the Zoning Officer and was not able to take care of planning, but he is now back as Planning Officer. Some Council Members were concerned about the parking situation for these new businesses. Questions regarding the Nishuane Group working on the Recreation Center were answered by Director Mayes and a representative from Nishuane Group.

United Water addressed the letter from "Preserve Orange Water, LLC, which had the residents thinking that the water was contaminated. The representative provided a summary of the safety of the drinking water in the city and how the wells that are contaminated have been shut down since 2010 and 2013.

**Presentation by Pennoni – Water Company.**

Mr. Montilus, the City Attorney, spoke about the RFQ for a water company and stated that he had reviewed the RFQs and had determined that Pennoni was the most suitable responder to the city's RFQ. The Pennoni amount was half a million dollars lower than United Water. Also United Water is a foreign owned French company and it charges a 12 to 15% foreign tax to its American based customers which Pennoni does not. Mr. Montilus answered questions from the Council Members.

Mr. Hay, a representative from Pennoni, gave a brief history of the company. The representative gave a summary of their experience with water, sewer and treatment of water that would be provided for the city. The representative also spoke about an evaluation that the company will be doing for all the systems in the city and then will make recommendations. Upon reading sections of the contract Council Members found mistakes and recommended that the city lawyers review and correct the contract. Mr. Hay provided answers to all questions regarding the contract and services that the city would be provided. Mr. Hay also stated that the company would be using local contractors as much as possible.

Councilwoman Summers-Johnson recommended not making a decision until experts can come and speak about the water quality in Orange at a public forum. The residents are uneasy and the water quality issue should be addressed first before we move on and approve another water company.

Councilwoman Williams asked Mr. Montilus if the foreign tax being charged to residents and did he try to negotiate with United Water. He reported that he did not try to negotiate the tax but it was being charged to the City under their contract.

Council President Gaunt-Butler commented to Mr. Hay that she needed to hear about experience, expertise, knowledge, years of experience in the business. She commented that United Water brought to the table was a lot of expertise as far as additional services; she was not sure the Pennoni had GIS capacity, if they have a hydrogeologist, she was unclear of the transition process. Would prefer to hear more about compliance with State regulatory practices and standards. The Council President suggested that Pennoni speak on these topics at the forum.

A poll was taken to not discuss the resolutions and ordinances, but to adjourn the meeting. All members except Councilman Johnson agreed to skip it.

The resolutions and ordinances to be presented at tonight's meeting are listed on the attached Regular Meeting Agenda. If any Council Member wishes to discuss any resolution or ordinance, it may be discussed at this time.

**Motion to adjourn by Councilwoman Eason, seconded by Councilwoman Williams.  
The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.**

**Approved:**

*Joyce L. Lanier*

---

**Joyce L. Lanier**  
City Clerk

*April Gaunt-Butler*

---

**April Gaunt-Butler**  
Council President

\*\*Original Copy of the Minutes can be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk.