

**MINUTES CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY**

A CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 29 NORTH DAY STREET, ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011, AT 7:09 PM.

1) ROLL CALL	PRESENT	ABSENT
Hon. Elroy A. Corbitt (At-Large)	___X___	_____
Hon. Tency A. Eason (North Ward)	___X___	_____
Hon. Linda Jones-Bell (East Ward)	___X___	_____
Hon. Edward B. Marable, Jr. (South Ward)	___X___	_____
Hon. Rayfield Morton (At-Large)	_____	<u>Arrived at 7:12 pm</u>
Hon. Donna K. Williams (At-Large)	___X___	_____
Hon. Hassan Abdul-Rasheed (West Ward)	___X___	_____
Council President		

Council President Abdul-Rasheed announced that there was a quorum.

ALSO PRESENT

Claude Wallace, Acting Municipal Clerk	___X___	_____
Hon. Eldridge Hawkins, Jr., Mayor	_____	<u>Arrived@7:20pm</u>
Marvin T. Braker, City Attorney	___X___	_____
Dwayne D. Warren, Legislative Research Officer	___X___	_____
John F. Mason, Business Administrator	___X___	_____
Shinell Smith, Clerk's Office	___X___	_____

PLEASE 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 (1) for General Issues. Each person signing the book will check Agenda Items or General Issues. If they check only Agenda Items or General Issues, they will be allowed to speak for five (5) minutes. If they check General Issues and Agenda Items, they will be allowed to speak for ten (10) minutes.

- 2) Acting Municipal 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 sent to the *Star Ledger* and published in *The Orange Transcript* on July 8, 2010, posted on the Bulletin Board in City Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

3) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Councilwoman Williams and Councilwoman Eason presented a plaque to the Copeland family in memoriam of Kelli Copeland of HANDS.

Presentation by John Morgan of Metric Parking regarding parking kiosks for Main Street and Tony Galento Plaza.

Mr. Morgan of Metric Parking introduced a parking system devised to enhance revenue.

Per Mayor Hawkins, this machine is high tech and will keep track as to what is inside, and report back to a central system, as it relates to anti-theft and lost revenue. Mayor Hawkins stated, over a five year period the machines would have paid for themselves.

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilwoman Williams inquiry that there are one hundred and seventy- five spaces at fifty cents an hour for a ten hour days.

Mayor Hawkins stated in response to Councilwoman Williams with respect to those with Cerebral Palsy, if they have a parking decal then the officers will not use enforcement as it relates to a parking violation.

Mr. Morgan stated to Councilwoman Williams in response to her inquiry that the parking rates can be changed over time but it's up to the municipality.

Mayor Hawkins state in response to Councilwoman Jones-Bell that they opt out of purchasing a machine which accepted credit cards because there is a fee associated with it and would be billed to the vendor. Therefore, we will have coin and dollar bill operated machines, only.

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilwoman Jones-Bell's inquiry that these machines are convenient because you can add money to your space using any of the machines along Main Street.

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilwoman Eason's inquiry stated that there will still be a number of the old machines beyond the Post Office which can still be utilized. Mayor Hawkins stated that those machines will be maintained as best as possible. He stated that they will extend the new machines further down Main Street and over to Central Avenue after an evaluation has been done on the other machines.

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilwoman Eason's inquiry that the machine will advise the designated person at City Hall that there is a problem at a particular machine. The machine will tell the patron to use another machine if there is no more printing paper left.

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilman Morton's inquiry that money can be paid into any of the machines for multiple vehicles along Main Street. He then stated when the collector goes to collect money from the machine the key used is only for the City of Orange and the receipt will show what was collected, along with the time and date.

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilman Morton's inquiry that it would be less expensive to lease than purchase, unless the City has one hundred fifty thousand dollars up front. He stated that many municipalities that are strapped for cash lease because they don't need up front capital to get into the game. Please see the attached for a breakdown

Mr. Morgan stated in response to Councilman Marable's inquiry that it would cost eleven hundred dollars a unit if they were purchased one by one and this could be done at anytime within the five years of leasing. Mr. Morgan stated that some machines are bolted into the

ground and drilled or cemented for security purposes, as with respect to Councilman Marable's inquiry as it relates to the security of the machines. Mr. Morgan stated that these machines have an anti-graffiti wipe-off finish. However, it is the City's responsibility to pay for any damages to the machine as a result of vandalism and they will come to repair it. He stated that there is a service agreement that is included in the first year of the lease and Metric Parking will make necessary repairs.

Mr. Morgan stated that there is a metal mounting plate installed in the ground or the machine in bolted down. Mr. Morgan stated that the City is responsible for the vandalism of the machine.

Please see the attached for details.

- Presentation by Valerie Jackson, Director of Planning and Economic Development regarding vacant and abandoned properties.

This is an initiative to make Orange the model in improving vacant and abandoned properties. Orange was one out of thirteen municipalities to be selected for this program because we fit the criteria. She stated that the Harvard program allows these municipalities to gather at State level to brain storm and come up with ideas to put things in motion at home. Director Jackson stated that we are working with other banks with respect to strategies and opportunities and she asked that those with suggestions contact her.

Please see the attached for details.

4) RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

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.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized Councilman Corbitt

Councilman Corbitt asked Mr. Mason what was being purchased besides uniforms.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized John F. Mason, BA

Mr. Mason deferred to Lt. Eric Webster

Lt. Webster stated that holsters, footgear and similar items for crossing guards are included in this purchase as well.

Councilman Corbitt stated that these things should have been spelled out in the resolution.

Councilman Corbitt stated with respect to resolution 52-2011, this resolution is a benefit to the City and will save on postal stamps and coupons that we mail for the tax bill.

He stated that it should be a help to the citizens of Orange with respect to interpreting their tax bills given a calendar year in comparison to a physical year.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized Councilwoman Eason

Councilwoman Eason echoed the same sentiment as Councilman Corbitt with respect to resolution 52-2011. She stated that this transformation will be beneficial with respect to revenue with respect to having better control over the cash flow. Councilwoman Eason stated that she is thankful for the time given to do the research and she will be in support of it.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized Councilwoman Williams

Councilwoman Williams asked with respect to ordinance 4-2011, will this ordinance include United Water and the County for the purpose of checking on the sewers and drains more often because they keep backing up.

Mr. Mason deferred to Arlene Kemp, Director of Public Works

Director Kemp stated that this ordinance requires those who do resurfacing projects to follow what the township does with respect to imputing smaller inlet catch drains so that bottles and cans can't go through.

Councilwoman Williams asked if there would be an amendment that will support this through United Water.

Director Kemp stated it was specified in the contract Orange has with United Water that the drains would be cleaned twice a year. She stated, when the contract comes up in another three years there will be a lot of things that will have to change.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized Councilman Morton

Councilman Morton asked with respect to resolution 49-2011, can we get better bids. He stated that there are individuals here in town who say they never receive bid information.

Mr. Braker stated that we advertise these bids and it is their job to do due diligence. However, you have to be careful and folks have to watch the newspaper and submit their bids.

Councilman Morton asked if this was legal.

Mr. Braker stated that we should not solicit. He stated, what's legal is that we advertise and let them respond. He then stated, if an Administrator would like to advise that a bid is coming out then that would be their choice.

Councilman Morton asked how long we advertise the bid out.

Mr. Braker stated that it varies depending on what the project is.

Councilman Morton stated with respect to resolution 54-2011, what is the function of this committee and what are we looking for the committee to do.

Councilwoman Williams stated it is an advisory committee and hopefully it will be people adverse in public works.

Councilman Morton stated that he just wanted to be sure that it was saying what he thought it was.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed stated that he will not be in support of this resolution. He feels that Public Works is doing a great job given the current circumstances.

Mr. Braker stated, his concern is that public works is a part of the Administration. He stated at best it can be a recommending committee but they will report to the Administration not the Council.

Councilman Morton asked with respect to resolution 48-2011, how we managed to pay the demolition company 31k in error and now we're refunding them.

Mr. Mason deferred to Director Jackson

Director Jackson in response stated that she's not familiar with it but it has to do with a tax lien sale. She stated, if something was sold and they attempted to demolish it there may have been some expenses incurred, and that is what appears to have been refunded because the property was sold in a tax lien sale. Director Jackson stated that she would get back to everyone with respect to this inquiry.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized Councilman Marable

Councilman Marable asked Director Kemp for clarity with respect to ordinance 5-2011.

Director Kemp stated that there is a storm order permit which requires us to do certain things and the DEP is to protect our drains and rivers on the on going basis and that is why we have to comply with them.

Councilman Marable asked is that same water permit also in lines with putting our leaves on the curbside oppose to bagging them.

Dir. Kemp replied, yes. She stated that is part of a storm order permit.

Councilman Marable stated that Orange seems to be the only municipality that's following this rule as other municipalities do not.

Director Kemp stated in response, there are other towns that do this but they also have the man power. She stated, it must be shown that the leaves can be collected in a certain way where the DEP will approve and without the manpower to do so it is impossible.

Councilman Marable asked with respect to ordinance 5-2011, as it relates to an individual home owner's trash and recycling; is it relative to someone living in a six unit condo.

Director Kemp stated, if they commonly put their trash into a dumpster then regulations would cover that. However, if it is a condo or co-op and her can is put out onto the street then she's responsible.

Councilman Marable stated, if there were a hundred units that needed trash cans then they would be cover, which is how he interpreted it.

Director Kemp stated, if you put out your individual garbage then that's separate from dumping it in a bin with the landlord and other tenants garbage because it's more communal.

Councilman Marable asked if the five hundred dollar fine for not keeping the dumpster lid shut State wide or is it what we've put in place. He stated that fee seemed to be a bit extreme.

Director Kemp in response stated that she will check with the City Attorney to see whether or not we can lower the fine as it is in compliance but a judge would have to make the final decision.

Council President Abdul-Rasheed recognized Councilwoman Williams

Councilwoman Williams stated that it is the Council's job to legislate for the City of Orange. She stated, if the Administration were to bring forth resolution 54-2011 they would still have to present it to this body. Councilwoman Williams then stated that this resolution is to simply get a group of people together who are versed in things of public works, not to take power away from the Administration. She stated that we need people who know the streets and the parks, and can assist in making this municipality better.

5) MOTION TO ADJOURN

Council President Abdul-Rasheed entertained a Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION: Corbitt

Voice Vote

SECOND: Eason

ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 PM

**Dwight Mitchell, RMC
Municipal Clerk**

**Hassan Abdul-Rasheed
Council President**