

## **Orange Adds Parking Ticket Duties to School Crossing Guards**

**ORANGE** : Motorists and pedestrians may well be soon seeing the city's school crossing guards writing parking tickets before or after their primary duties.

The Orange Municipal Council ended some six months of contentious deliberation by approving Resolution 308-2011 in a 5-2 split vote during their regular meeting here at City Hall Feb. 7. The resolution had been tabled since November in part for seeking legal advice from City Attorney Marvin P. Braker and also in part from their last regular meeting exceeding their self-imposed midnight curfew.

North Ward Councilwoman/Council President Tency Eason and West Ward Councilman Hassan Abdul-Rasheed voted against the resolution. East Ward Councilwoman Linda Jones-Bell, South Ward Councilman Edward Marable, Jr. and at-large colleagues Elroy Corbitt, Rayfield Morton and Donna K. Williams, however, affirmed the measure.

The Orange Police Department will soon be training the full complement of crossing guards in parking enforcement. The guards will be authorized to issue tickets for such items like expired meters, blocking fire hydrants and other non-moving violations.

The guards, on one hand, will be receiving an extra 25 cents an hour while on parking enforcement duty. That task, however, will not take priority over ensuring safe pedestrian crossing before and after school hours/school lunch periods.

The resolution is based on a contract settled between guards represented by the Orange Municipal Employee Bargaining Association and by negotiators from Mayor Eldridge Hawkins, Jr.'s administration.

Hawkins, in November, has said he believes that Orange would be unique in New Jersey in having its crossing guards double as parking enforcement officers.