

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 22, 2024 - 7:00 PM
Virtual Webex Meeting

To access information on how to use WebEx to join the meeting, please click on the following link: <https://www.southorange.org/800/WebEx-FAQs>

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call Meeting to Order

Acting President Jones called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15 pm:

2. Roll Call

Village President Collum - Absent
Trustee Brown
Trustee Greenberg
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
Trustee Jones
Trustee Lewis-Chang
Ms. Doran, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk

3. Meeting Notice Statement

Village Clerk Davis read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the official newspapers of the Village, posted on the Village's website and filed in the Office of the Village Clerk indicating that this meeting is being held virtually via Cisco WebEx video conferencing. During a remote meeting, participants, including members of the public may be muted by the host. However, there will be an opportunity for them to participate and speak during the public portion of the meeting where participants will be unmuted at their request. Official action may be taken.

4. Resolution to go into Executive Session

2024-025 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the January 22,



2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception) Executive Session

- Water Utility (Attorney/Client/Privilege Matter)
- General Redevelopment (Contract Negotiation & Attorney/Client Privilege Matters)
- Ordinance Questions (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)

Trustee Brown moved to approve Resolution 2024-025, seconded by Trustee Hilton. All members were in favor and none opposed.

5. **Reconvene into Open Session**

Acting President Jones reconvened the meeting at approximately 7pm:

ROLL CALL Village President Collum - Absent
Trustee Brown
Trustee Greenberg
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
Trustee Jones
Trustee Lewis-Chang
Ms. Doran, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel - Absent
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk

6. **Announcements**

Acting President Jones read the following announcements:

A. **Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs**

Spring Baseball registration for players ages 5-15 is open to all South Orange and Maplewood residents. Registration closes January 31st. Register today!

Recreation Summer Day Camp registration opens on January 16th at 9am. Camp runs Monday-Friday from June 24th through August 9th and is available to South Orange residents ages 4-13. New for Summer 2024, families can choose from half and full-day options for their campers.



Please visit our website for more information and registration.

B. **Water Department - Low Income Home Water Assistance Program**

The Department of Community Affairs has a Low Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). This is a federally funded program designed to help low-income households reduce the balances they have on their residential water and wastewater bills. Eligibility and application details can be found on the news feed of our website, southorange.org, or by calling 1 800- 510-3102, Mon.- Sat. 8:00 am – 8:00 pm for further information.

C. **NJ WINTER TERMINATION PROGRAM**

The NJ Department of Community Affairs has implemented a Winter Termination Program to prevent service discontinuation for eligible residential customers receiving residential electric, sewer and water service from a local authority, utility or cooperative from November 15th through March 15th. Service cannot be disconnected during this period to those residential customers who demonstrate that they meet the eligibility criteria, which is quite broad. Visit the news feed on southorange.org for more information on eligibility and application details.

D. **Celebrating Black History Month in South Orange Village**

South Orange Village is proud to join the community in honoring Black History Month. This year's national theme is "African Americans and the Arts," and we are excited to finalize our events and activities for the month.

Mark your calendars for two exciting events happening during the first week of February:

South Orange Downtown and the Department of Recreation will host a mix and mingle event at the black-owned Papillon 25 on Thursday, February 1st from 7PM-9PM. This event will honor local black entrepreneurs and community leaders, and everyone is welcome to attend!

Join South Orange resident Stephanie Lee Muhammad and her Erasing South Orange Borders Run/Walk every Saturday in February, starting on February 3rd. Register through CivicRec and choose between an 8am run or a 1pm walk for a fun and historical experience. Don't miss it!

7. **Board of Health**



- A. Trustee Lewis –Chang moved to recess the meeting of the Board of Trustees and convene as the Board of Health, seconded by Trustee Greenberg. All members were in favor and none opposed.

Roll Call:

Board Member Brown
Board Member Collum - Absent
Board Member Greenberg
Board Member Haskins
Board Member Hartshorn Hilton
Board Member Jones
Board President Lewis-Chang

A. Nursing Report

- i. Communicable and Infectious Diseases
- ii. COVID update
- iii. FLU and RSV update

B. Animal Control Update

- i. Reminder: annual dog and cat licensing

C. Environmental Health Report

D. Social Services/Mental Health Report

- i. Family Connects NJ: FREE Universal Home Visiting for new moms and babies
- ii. Reveal2Heal: Courageous Conversations 8-week Workshop
- iii. Free Naloxone Availability and Free Narcan Virtual Training
- iv. Food distribution event
- v. January Observance: Cervical Cancer Awareness Month
- vi. CODE Blue county shelters and how to stay healthy in cold weather
- vii. Monthly reminders: Safe Prescription Drug Disposal, Make the Right Call emergency phone numbers and Medical Equipment Local Program

The full presentation of the Board of Health can be found on the Village's website at: <https://southorange.org/167/Health-and-Animal-Control>



There being no further discussion, Ms. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Health, seconded by Ms. Hilton. President Lewis-Chang adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:20 pm.

Reconvened as Board of Trustees and all members are still present

8. Presentations

- A. Green Acres - Cameron Recreation Area Improvements: Peter Travers, Deputy Village Administrator and Director of Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department discussed the process for submitting an application to move forward with the improvements to Cameron Field. Mr. Travers presented and discussed the following slide renderings designed by Dresdner Robin:

- Proposed design with paddle tennis courts,
- Greenway Path
- Picnic Grove with Festival Lighting
- Natural Turf Lawn
- Resiliency Adventure Garden
- Paddle Tennis Courts with Lighting
- Pickleball Court
- Basketball Half-Courts
- Fitness Equipment Circuit
- Seating Area with Café Tables and Shade Sail
- Rain Garden along Greenway
- Conceptual Estimate of Probable Cost

In response to board questions, Mr. Travers discussed the cost and timing of the project.

- B. South Orange Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) - Ordinance Revisions: Jacob Levine Chair of the HPC and William Sullivan Attorney of the HPC gave a brief introduction of the Commission and summarized the proposed changes to the existing ordinance. In response to board questions, Mr. Sullivan explained the current jurisdictions of the HPC, how it would affect the seller or buyer of a property, current public designation such as the Fire House and Old Village Hall and the structure of the process and timing. The Trustee requested a document explaining the proposed changes to the Ordinance.

9. Public Comment

Acting President Jones opened the meeting for public comment:



Linda Beck resident of South Orange mentioned she was thrilled to see the Cameron Recreation presentation and fully endorses the project.

Julie McCourt resident of South Orange and member of the South Orange Historic Preservation Commission thanked Mr. Levine and Mr. Sullivan for their work on the proposed HPC Ordinance revisions.

Acting President Jones thanked both Ms. Beck and Ms. McCourt for their comments.

10. **Approval of Minutes**

A. The Village Clerk is requesting the Board's approval of the minutes for the following meeting:

- Regular meeting held on January 8, 2024 (Trustee Haskins is ineligible to vote)

Trustee Lewis-Chang moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings held on January 8th, seconded by Trustee Greenberg.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Abstained
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

11. **Resolutions for Consent Agenda**

- A. 2024-026 RESOLUTION TO APPOINT GRACIA ROBERT MONTILUS TO THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- B. 2024-027 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 - FOR APEX DEVELOPMENT INC. FOR REMOVAL OF 100 SQUARE FEET OF ACM AIR CELL INSULATION AND DEMOLITION OF PLASTER TO ACCESS ACM PIPES AND REMOVAL OF 175 LINEAR FEET OF ACM TSI FOR THE CONNETT LIBRARY BUILDING IN A NOT TO EXCEED \$13,600 INCREASE TO THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT
- C. 2024-028 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE GREEN ACRES PROGRAM WITH THE NEW JERSEY



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- D. 2024-029 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- E. 2024-030 RESOLUTION PROMOTING AND APPOINTING JASON RAMBALLY AS A SERGEANT IN THE SOUTH ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE FORCE
- F. 2024-031 RESOLUTION PROMOTING AND APPOINTING JOSE ALBINO AS A SERGEANT IN THE SOUTH ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE FORCE
- G. 2024-032 RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT TO ENVIROCON LLC FOR HVAC REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR
- H. 2024-033 RESOLUTION AWARDED THE 2024 ELECTRICAL SERVICE CONTRACT TO SONNY ELECTRIC INC.
- I. 2024-034 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH US SPORTS INSTITUTE FOR MULTISPORT AND TENNIS INSTRUCTIONS BEGINNING MARCH 2024 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2025 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
- J. 2024-035 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE GYM MAPLEWOOD FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL INSTRUCTION AND CAMPS BEGINNING MARCH 2024 - MARCH 2025 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
- K. 2024-036 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS TO BE CONDUCTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COUGAR SOCCER
- L. 2024-037 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING FOR THE TOWNSHIP SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the adoption of Resolutions 2024-026 through Resolution 2024-037, seconded by Trustee Greenberg.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes
Motion carried.	



12. Village President Appointment

Acting President Jones stated the following appointment was made by President Collum to the South Orange Planning Board:

- A. 2024-VP02 VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT OF HANNAH ZOLLMAN AS A CLASS IV ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE SOUTH ORANGE PLANNING BOARD

13. Approval of Bills

- A. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton, Chair of the Finance and Capital Projects Committee presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer dated January 22, 2024. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2024-038 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JANUARY 22, 2024, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,697,780.14

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the adoption of Resolutions 2024-038, seconded by Trustee Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

14. Village President Report – There was no report.

15. Village Administrator Report

Ms. Doran mentioned the first public session of the budget process was the department presentations that took place on Saturday, January 20th, and the next step is to work through the request of the various departments. The department presentations can be found on the Village's website at www.southorange.org. Also, there will be some changes to the traffic pattern around 2nd and Sloan Street, more information at the next meeting.

16. Village Counsel Report – There was no report.



17. Trustee Reports

- A. Trustee Brown – There was no report.
- B. Trustee Greenberg – There was no report.
- C. Trustee Haskins – There was no report.
- D. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton gave a shout out to her colleagues for devoting so much time with working on the budget. Also, thanked the community and volunteers for supporting the Library sale over the weekend.
- E. **Trustee Jones**
 - Community Relations Committee Photography Contest is currently running through March 1st and looking to collect photos of South Orange. There will be 3 prizes, two of which will be featured in the Baird on the walls and the third will be a gift card to the frame shop. The link to sign up can be found on the Village website under the Committee Relations page.
 - Arts and Cultural Events - Call for Artists for the Pierro Gallery hoping to open in spring 2024 and the first show will be for South Orange Artist only. The link for submissions can be found on the Arts & Cultural Affairs page and the South Orange Facebook page.
- F. Trustee Lewis-Chang – The South Orange Community Garden is now open with only 47 spots for first come first served.

18. Public Comment

Acting President Jones opened meeting for public comment:
There were no questions or comments from the public.

19. New Business – There was no new business

20. Adjournment

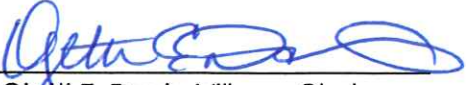
There being no further discussion, Acting President Jones adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:05 pm.

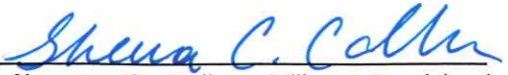
***These minutes are a summary and the actual statements can be found on the video located on the Village's website at the following link:**
<https://southorangenetwpnj.portal.civicclerk.com/event/2564/media>

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE




Ojetti E. Davis, Village Clerk


Sheena C. Collum, Village President