



SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 9, 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

Mayor Collum called the meeting to order at approximately 5pm:

2. Roll Call

Mayor Collum
Councilman Brown
Councilmember Greenberg
Councilmember Haskins
Councilwoman Hartshorn Hilton
Councilwoman Jones
Councilmember 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

2024-215 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the September 9, 2024, Regular Meeting of the South Orange Village Council



A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)
Executive Session

- Water Utility (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Additional items for discussion may be introduced at the table

Councilmember Greenberg moved to approve Resolution #2024-215, seconded by Councilwoman Jones. All members were in favor and none opposed.

5. **Reconvene into Open Session**

Mayor Collum reconvened the meeting at approximately 7:30 pm:

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

6. **Announcements**

Mayor Collum read the following announcement:

A. **South Orange Downtown**

Farmers Market - The Farmers Market is back every Wednesday in the Sloan St Lot from 2-7pm. Shop for Jersey Fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, bread, meats, pickles, olives, soups, homemade ice cream, apple cider, soul food, sweet treats, plus grab and go lunch/dinner options and much more. Exciting new vendors will join the market this season in addition to your returning favorites!

Downtown After Sundown - Join us in Spiotta Park from 6:30PM-8:30PM every Saturday for Downtown After Sundown. Enjoy live performances from talented local musicians covering several genres including, R&B, soul, flamenco, rock, jazz and more. Grab your favorite lawn chairs, order some delicious takeout from South Orange's finest eateries and let the sweet sounds of South Orange ignite your summer nights.



Join us on Saturday, September 14, from 2-6 p.m. at the Sloan Street Parking Lot for Beer Fest. This new and exciting event will feature a diverse selection of craft brews from over 20 local New Jersey brewers. This is a unique opportunity for beer enthusiasts and casual drinkers to sample over 40 delicious brews. Visit southorangedowntown.org to learn more. The rain date for this event is Sunday, September 15.

**B. SOUTH ORANGE WATER SYSTEM POTENTIAL SALE
TOWN HALL MEETINGS ANNOUNCED**

South Orange Village has scheduled three Town Hall meetings to discuss the potential sale of the water system to New Jersey American Water (NJAW). These meetings are part of a broader outreach plan aimed at informing and engaging the community before the referendum question appears on the November ballot.

The town hall meetings will be held on:

- Wednesday, September 11, 7 p.m.; virtual meeting
- Wednesday, September 25, 7 p.m.; virtual meeting
- Wednesday, October 9, 7 p.m.; In-person meeting at the Baird Community Center, 5 Mead Street, 3rd Floor

Links to attend the virtual meetings will be posted on the Village website calendar. All meetings will be recorded and made available on the website.

Additional Announcement:

Councilwoman Jones announced the Community Day and Health Fair will be held on Saturday, September 21st, 1pm – 3pm in Meadowland Park. If it rains, it will be moved inside of the Baird Center. Councilmember Lewis-Chang announced prior to the Community Day and Health Fair event, there will be a Stride for Your Mind Walk at 9am at the South Orange Train Station Gazebo. The walk is to raise awareness and support for mental health and wellness in the community.

7. Public Comment

Mayor Collum opened the meeting for public comment: There were 2 residents that thanked the Board for the Resolution pertaining to Ranked Choice Voting. Mayor Collum explained this will be discussed under "New Business" and that it is just a follow up to previous discussion.



There is no actual Resolution on this agenda.

8. Approval of Minutes

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

- Special meeting held on July 29, 2024 (All Council members are eligible to vote)
- Regular meeting held on August 12, 2024 (All Council members are eligible to vote)
- Regular meeting held on August 28, 2024 (Councilmember Haskins and Councilwoman Jones are ineligible to vote)

Councilwoman Jones moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on July 29th and the regular meeting held on August 12th, seconded by Councilwoman Hilton.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

Councilman Brown moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 28th, seconded by Councilwoman Hilton.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Abstained
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Abstained
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

9. Ordinances for First Reading

A. 2024-19 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, SECTION 340-22 WITH RESPECT TO LOADING AND UNLOADING ON IRVINGTON AVENUE



Councilmember Greenberg moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-19 for first reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

Councilwoman Jones moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2024-19, shall be at the Village Council Members Meeting on Monday, October 14, 2024 beginning at 7:00 PM. On that date, the Councilmembers may take further action. The Village Clerk is directed to see that this Ordinance is published in the Official Newspaper and posted in an open place in the Municipal Offices. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang. All members were in favor and none opposed.

10. Ordinance for Second Reading

- A. 2024-16 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AMENDING AND RESTATING SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 9 – BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS, SECTIONS 9-17 THROUGH AND INCLUDING SECTION 9-29 IN THEIR ENTIRETY - ALL RELATING TO THE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Councilwoman Jones introduced Jacob Levine Chair and Bill Sullivan Attorney of the Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Levine gave a brief overview of the original ordinance, discussed the process for adding properties, procedures and penalties and the next steps on expanding the ordinance. Mr. Sullivan explained the former ordinance did not have a procedure for designating properties and that the revisions will protect properties from being demolished.

PUBLIC HEARING:

In response to public comment, Mr. Sullivan explained there are no designations at this time.

Also, members of the public were in support of the Ordinance,



thanked the Historic Preservation Commission for their hard work and felt it is important to have a clear process.

Councilwoman Jones moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-16 for second reading/final adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Hilton.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

- B. 2024-17 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AMENDING AND RESTATING VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 157 FIRE PREVENTION, SECTION 4 - INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION FEES AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 143 FEES, SECTION 10 - FIRE PREVENTION BY THE ADDITION OF EXPEDITED FEES AND MISSED APPOINTMENT FEES

PUBLIC HEARING: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Councilmember Greenberg moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-17 for second reading/final adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

- C. 2024-18 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HANDICAPPED PARKING FOR EMILY CHASAN AT 190 TICHENOR AVENUE, SOUTH ORANGE, AND THE AMENDMENT OF CODE CHAPTER 340-38, SUBSECTION B.

PUBLIC HEARING: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Councilmember Lewis-Chang moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-18 for second reading/final adoption, seconded by Councilmember



Greenberg.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

11. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

- A. 2024-216 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN AND ON-SITE SUPPORT FROM HDR TO TASK ORDER 2022- 03 WEST END WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT AND ASSOCIATED COMPONENTS – SERVICE LINES, HYDRANTS, VALVES, ETC.
- B. 2024-217 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- C. 2024-218 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR WORK AT THE SOUTH ORANGE LIBRARY FOR ASBESTOS REMOVAL REFLECTING A NET INCREASE OF \$7,500.00 TO THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT
- D. 2024-219 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND
- E. 2024-220 RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ALLOW EXPIRATION OF THE DEDUCTIBILITY CAP OF STATE AND LOCAL TAXES (SALT)

Councilmember Greenberg moved to adopt the Resolutions #2024-216 through 2024-220 of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Hilton.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

12. Village Mayor Appointment

Mayor Collum made the following appointment to the South Orange Public



Library Board:

- A. 2024-VP05 VILLAGE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF COURTNEY DE VOMECOURT AS A REGULAR MEMBER TRUSTEE TO THE SOUTH ORANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

13. Alcohol Beverage Control Board

- A. Councilmember Greenberg recessed the meeting of the Village Council and convene as the Alcohol Beverage Control Board, seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang. All members were in favor and none opposed.

Roll Call:

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

2024-ABC04 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE 2024-2025 LICENSE TERM

Board Member Lewis-Chang moved to adopt Resolution 2024-ABC04, seconded by Board Member Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

Board Member Brown	Yes
Board Member Collum	Yes
Board Member Greenberg	Yes
Board Member Haskins	Yes
Board Member Hilton	Yes
Board Member Jones	Yes
Board Member Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

There being no further discussion, Board member Jones moved to adjourn the meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board, seconded by Board member Greenberg. Board President Collum adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:32 pm.

Reconvened as the Village Council and all members are still present



14. Approval of Bills

- A. Councilwoman Hartshorn Hilton, Chair of the Finance and Capital Projects Committee presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer dated September 9, 2024. The Village Council members were provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2024-221 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9, 2024, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,895,592.30

Councilwoman Hilton moved to adopt Resolution #2024-221 of the Bills List, seconded by Councilmember Greenberg.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Yes
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

15. Village Mayor Report

Mayor Collum announced the 1st Community Town Hall meeting to discuss the Water System Referendum will be held virtually on September 11th at 7pm. The Phoenix Advisory report will be released and posted on the Village's website. All residents are encourage to attend the meetings but if unable to attend, the meetings will be recorded and posted on the website.

16. Village Administrator Report

Ms. Doran mentioned South Orange Avenue is currently being paved by the County. The Village road work will begin at the end of the month and notices will go out. She encouraged residents to sign up for the alerts.

Mayor Collum announced the Village has received additional funding from Local Aid for the River Greenway Project. There will be more information in the future.

17. Village Attorney Report – There was no report.



18. Council Members Reports

- A. Councilman Brown – There was no report.
- B. Councilmember Greenberg – There was no report.
- C. Councilmember Haskins – There was no report.
- D. Councilwoman Hartshorn Hilton – There was no report.
- E. Councilwoman Jones attended a congratulatory ceremony honoring a South Orange Resident. She wanted to publicly recognize Katherine Tibnis of Troop 99 for becoming the first woman Eagle Scout!
- F. Councilmember Lewis-Chang mentioned that every September is National Suicide Awareness Month. The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is 988. There will be a Mental Health Walk on Saturday, September 21st at 9am for 1.5 hours starting at the South Orange Train Station through Montrose and returning to the Train Station.

19. Public Comment

Mayor Collum opened the meeting for public comment:

Ms. Pancholy thanked the board for the consideration of the Resolution for Ranked Choice Voting.

20. New Business

- A. Resolution Supporting Ranked Choice Voting, including but not limited to S1622/A4042 (Mayor Collum):
Mayor Collum discussed the proposed bill that has been introduced by the State Legislature on Ranked Choice Voting. She shared a video with the public on Ranked Choice Voting and alternate way to vote. In a straw poll vote, all Village Council Members were in favor of supporting this proposed resolution. Mayor Collum asked the Village Attorney to prepare a Resolution for the next meeting.
- B. Moving Elections to November (Mayor Collum):
Mayor Collum discussed moving the Municipal Election to the November Election which will lower the election cost. In a straw poll vote, all members of the Village Council were in favor of moving the Municipal Election to November. Mayor Collum asked the Village Attorney to prepare the necessary documents for this process.

21. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Mayor Collum adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:55 pm.

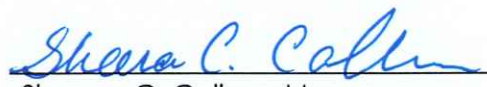


***These minutes are a summary and the actual statements can be found on the video located on the Village's website at the following link:**
<https://southorangenetwpnj.portal.civicclerk.com/event/2549/media>

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE


Ojeri E. Davis, Village Clerk


Sheena C. Collum, Mayor