

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 25, 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 6:15 pm:

2. Roll Call

Mayor Collum
Councilman Brown
Councilmember Greenberg - Absent
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

2024-257 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the November 25, 2024, Regular Meeting of the South Orange Village Council

A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)



Executive Session

- Water Utility (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- General Redevelopment (Attorney/client Privilege Matter & Contract Negotiations)
- Public Safety (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Collective Bargaining (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Affordable Housing (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)

Councilman Brown moved to approve Resolution #2024-257, seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang. All members were in favor and none opposed.

5. Reconvene into Open Session

Mayor Collum reconvened the meeting at approximately 7:00 pm:

ROLL CALL

Mayor Collum
Councilman Brown
Councilmember Greenberg - Absent
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 announcements:

A. **Affordable Housing Units and Lottery**

Applications for affordable residential units are now available for the Mosaic at 8 2nd Street in South Orange. Interested applicants may submit a preliminary application at AffordableHomesNewJersey.com. Preliminary applications must be received by December 17, 2024 to join the South Orange Rental Waiting List and be included in the random lottery number drawing. More information can be found on southorange.org in the news flash section.

B. **South Orange Public Library**



South Orange Public Library is collaborating with MEND-NJ and Bobrow Food Pantry for a FOOD DRIVE to give back and support families in need. Collections will take place at the LIBRARY's BAIRD BRANCH on Saturdays beginning November 16 through December 21, from 1pm-3pm.

November is National Picture Book Month

Now through Friday, 11/22, readers of all ages can enter their favorite picture book(s) into an orange "ballot" box (located at the Library's Baird Branch). A random name will be drawn on Monday, 11/25 for 4 movie tickets to see a movie of their choice at the Village Theater at SOPAC.

In addition, Mayor Collum announced the Hometown Holiday & Tree Lighting event on Saturday, December 7th, 3pm – 5:30pm. There will be a ribbon cutting for Clay Workshop located at 63 South Orange Avenue at 12pm on Saturday, November 30th. She gave a shout out to Seth Boyden's PTA for an amazing turkey trot over the weekend.

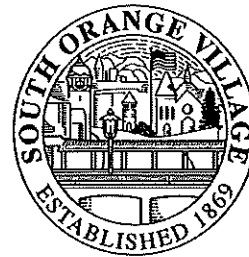
Councilwoman Hilton gave a shout out to the Friends of the Library for their amazing jewelry sale over the weekend and all proceeds will go to the South Orange Public Library.

7. Proclamation

- A. Proclamation Honoring Lewis Nash:
Councilwoman Jones read the proclamation that recognized the Lewis Nash Day in South Orange in celebration of Mr. Nash's remarkable achievements in jazz music. The South Orange Performing Arts Center will be honoring Mr. Nash at the 2024 Giants of Jazz
- B. Proclamation recognizing Ultimate Founder's Day:
Mayor Collum read the proclamation recognizing the Saturday after Thanksgiving as "The Ultimate Founder's Day" and celebrate the enduring legacy of Ultimate Frisbee as both a sport and a philosophy, and honor the contributions of Columbia High School's Ultimate Frisbee program to the development of youth in South Orange and the broader community.

8. Board of Health

- A. Councilmember Lewis-Chang moved to recessed meeting of the



South Orange Village Council and convene as the Board of Health, seconded by Councilwoman Jones. All members were in favor and none opposed.

Roll Call:

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

Board of Health President Lewis-Chang introduced Candice Davenport, Health Officer. Ms. Davenport presented and discussed the following:

1. Health Officer Updates: Covid-19, Flu Vaccine Clinic and Free HIV Testing at the Baird on Wednesday, December 18th, 12pm-2pm. Essex County will hold a Pediatric Covid-19 vaccination clinic on December 12th, 3:30pm-6:30pm for ages 6 months – 11 years.
2. Nursing update: Reportable Disease Investigated - 6 and Covid-19 homebound does – 1.
3. Environmental Health Update for October: Mobile Food Trucks inspected - 11; NOVs - 1 and Summonses - 7
4. Animal Control Update for October 2024: Total Calls:18; Bites: 3; Stray: 4; Stray animals impounded: 2 and Wildlife: 9.
5. Make the Right Call available 24 hours/7 days and South Orange Police Department has a permanent drug drop box in their lobby to dispose of unused or expired medication in a safe matter.

Ms. Davenport provided information on how to apply for NJ Family Care Health coverage, encouraged parents to spend at least 15 minutes per day with their children to improve their health and wellbeing.

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, Board member Collum moved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Health, seconded by Board member Hilton. Board President Lewis-Chang adjourned the meeting



at approximately 7:25 pm.

Reconvened as Board of Trustees and all members are still present

9. Public Comment

Village Mayor opened the meeting for public comment:
There were no questions or comments from the public.

10. Approval of Minutes

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

- Regular meeting held on November 12, 2024 (Councilman Brown & Councilmember Greenberg are ineligible to vote)

Councilwoman Jones moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 12th, seconded by Councilwoman Hilton.

Roll Call Vote:

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

11. Ordinances for First Reading

A. 2024-23 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HANDICAPPED PARKING FOR NANDI BARNHARDT AT 65 RANDOLPH PLACE, SOUTH ORANGE, AND THE AMENDMENT OF CODE CHAPTER 340-38, SUBSECTION B

Councilmember Haskins moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-23 for first reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilman Brown.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brown	Yes
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Hilton	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Motion carried.	



Councilwoman Jones moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2024-23, shall be at the Village Council Members meeting on Monday, December 23, 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 Councilmembers Lewis-Chang. All members were in favor and none opposed.

12. Ordinance for Second Reading

- A. 2024-20 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AMENDING AND RESTATING VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 334 – TREES AND SHRUBBERY IN ITS ENTIRETY AND AMENDING VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 185 – LAND DEVELOPMENT, ARTICLE XVI – IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGN STANDARDS, SECTION 185-100 – SHADE TREES, LANDSCAPING AND PLANTING STRIPS

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

Councilmember Lewis-Chang moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-20 for second reading/final adoption, seconded by Councilmember Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

- B. 2024-21 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATE FROM MAY TO NOVEMBER

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

Councilman Brown moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-21 for second



reading/final adoption, seconded by Councilmember Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

13. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

- A. 2024-258 RESOLUTION AMENDING PROPOSAL OF DRESDNER ROBIN TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO COMPLETE SITE INVESTIGATIONS AS REQUIRED BY NJDEP GREEN ACRES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE CAMERON TENNIS COURTS PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$51,500
- B. 2024-259 RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO GRANT AN EXTENSION OF TIME UNTIL MAY 22, 2025 FOR THE AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR VOSE AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1 PROJECT, PROJECT #2023-MA-00636 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUREAU OF LOCAL AID
- C. 2024-260 RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO GRANT AN EXTENSION OF TIME UNTIL MAY 22, 2025 FOR THE AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR LENOX AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PROJECT #2023-MA-00637 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUREAU OF LOCAL AID
- D. 2024-261 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- E. 2024-262 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT BY PEPPM COOPERATIVE TO MIND'S EYE TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF CAMERAS AND INSTALLATION FOR SOUTH ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$59,951.00

Councilwoman Hilton moved to approve the Consent Agenda Resolutions #2024-258 through 2024-261, seconded by Councilmember Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

Resolution for Separate Action:

Councilmember Brown moved to approve Resolution #2024-262, seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

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 November 25, 2024. The Village Council members were provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2024-263 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH NOVEMBER 25, 2024, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,718,563.04

Councilwoman Hilton moved to approve Resolution #2024-263 of the Bills List, seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.



15. Village Mayor Report

Mayor Collum mentioned the Council Members had a very successful retreat meeting with discussing items such as succession planning, legal issues and outstanding contracts. Also, she mentioned a draft agreement of the water utility sale will be going to the council for review soon and a resolution will be on an upcoming meeting for adoption. Mayor Collum briefly discussed the affordable housing obligation process and the next steps working with the planning firm to look at vacant lands in the Village.

16. Village Administrator Report

Ms. Doran mentioned the South Orange Police Department has launched their annual drive and are accepting gifts now through December 19th. The Village offices will close at 2pm on Wednesday to all the non-essential staff to leave early for travel or preparations for Thanksgiving. The annual New Jersey League of Municipalities conference held in Atlantic City last week where most department heads and a few staff members attended. They were able to attend session that apply to the daily work and those that are licensed professionals were have to receive continuing education credits. She thanked the Council for supporting the staff on this annual conference trip. Lastly, the Village received the Bronze Award from Sustainable New Jersey. Members of the Environmental Commission were able to complete the application. A press release will be issued shortly.

17. Village Attorney Report

There was no report.

18. Council Members Reports

- A. Councilman Brown – There was no report.
- B. Councilmember Greenberg - Absent
- C. Councilmember Haskins – There was no report.
- D. Councilwoman Hartshorn Hilton – There was no report.
- E. Councilwoman Jones – There was no report.
- F. Councilmember Lewis-Chang mentioned the South Orange Police Department is having their annual coat drive now through December 1st.

Mayor Collum mentioned the County approved 2 new traffic light to be installed at Valley and Arnold and Valley and 1st street. Also, she spoke with the County regarding looking into a regional stormwater



utility.

19. Public Comment

Village Mayor opened meeting the for public comment:
There were no questions or comments from the public.

20. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

21. Adjournment

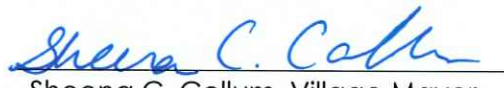
There being no further discussion, Mayor Collum adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:55 pm.

***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://southorangetwpnj.portal.civicclerk.com/event/2589/media>

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE


Ojeiti E. Davis, Village Clerk


Sheena C. Collum, Village Mayor