

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 13, 2025 - 7:00 PM
(In-Person/Hybrid Meeting)
South Orange Baird Community Center
5 Mead Street - 3rd Floor Meeting Room

Executive Session - 6:15 PM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
Acting Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at approximately 6:20 pm:
2. **Roll Call**
Mayor Collum - **Absent**
Councilman Brown
Councilmember Greenberg
Councilmember Haskins
Councilwoman Jones
Councilmember Lewis-Chang
Councilman Schnall
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 in-person and through hybrid communication via Zoom 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

2025-251 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the October 13, 2025, Regular Meeting of the South Orange Village Council

**A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)
Executive Session**

- Water Utility (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Union Contracts (Attorney Client/Privilege Matter)
- Licensing Policy (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)

Councilman Schnall moved to approve Resolution #2025-251 to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilmember Greenberg. All members were in favor and none opposed.

5. Reconvene into Open Session

Acting Mayor Jones reconvened the meeting at approximately 7:00 pm:

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

6. Announcements

Acting Mayor Jones read the following announcements:

A. South Orange Downtown Farmers Market

The South Orange Downtown Farmers Market returns for its 34th season and runs every Wednesday through October 29th, rain or shine, in the Sloan Street Parking Lot (12 Sloan Street) — right in the heart of South Orange Downtown. New Hours for 2025: 1 PM – 6 PM

B. South Orange Police Department

The South Orange Police Department PBA Local 12 is once again hosting its Annual Winter Coat Drive to support those in need during the cold months. We can't do it without you! Clean out your closets and make room for the new season! We are collecting new and gently used, clean coats for both adults and children. All donations



will go directly to local residents and charities. Donations can be dropped off at Police HQ, 201 South Orange Ave. Deadline is October 13th. Distribution will be October 19th, at 10 AM at the Sloan Street gazebo.

C. **Seton Village Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival**

Join us on Friday, October 17th, from 5 pm to 9:30 pm along Irvington Avenue! Enjoy tasty bites from some of the area's best food trucks, plus craft beer, cider, and wine in the popular Gaslight Brewery Beer Garden. With great music, fantastic food, and a lively community atmosphere, it's the perfect night out for family and friends.

D. **Essex County Safe Streets 4 All – Virtual Community Meeting**

Join Essex County for a **Virtual Community Meeting** on **Tuesday, October 14, 2025, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM** to share your thoughts on making our roads safer and more accessible for everyone - drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians alike. Don't miss this opportunity to help shape the future of transportation safety in your community! Register at bit.ly/essex-meeting

E. **Age Advantage Discount Card**

A free program for residents 62+ to enjoy special discounts at local shops, restaurants, and services in South Orange and Maplewood! Apply online and email soma2towns@gmail.com to arrange for card pickup. Visit

SOMATwoTownsForAllAges.org for the latest list of participating businesses and offers.

F. **1st Annual Harvest Festival - Essex County**

Fall fun is in full swing! Sheriff Amir D. Jones and the Community Engagement Team invite you to the 1st Annual Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 18, from 1 to 4 PM at South Mountain Reservation (Oakdale Lot, Cherry Lane). Enjoy an afternoon of pumpkin painting, hayrides, games, music, and more as we celebrate the season with family, friends, and our Essex County community.

G. **Office of the Village Clerk - 2025 General Election - Late Night Voter Registration**

On October 14, 2025, the Village Clerk's Office will remain open from 4:30pm–9pm. This will be the last day to register to vote in the General Election, which will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Residents wishing to "Vote By Mail" may get an application either from the Village Clerk's Office or the Essex County Clerk's Office at the Essex County Hall of Records. Applications for a vote-by-mail ballot must be submitted no later than 7 days prior to Election Day.



In-Person Early Voting starts October 25th to November 2nd - All registered voters have the option to vote in person at any of the Early Voting locations for the November 4th General Election. For more Election information, including the locations for Early Voting and the Secure Ballot Drop Box, please visit our Election page on the Village website at: www.southorange.org or contact the Village Clerk's Office at (973) 378-7715 ext. 1.

H. **WATER SYSTEM SALE**

On October 7, 2025, South Orange Village and New Jersey American Water (NJAW) completed the sale of the water system. South Orange water customers are now being serviced by NJAW. Final meter readings for the South Orange Water Utility occurred on October 6 and customers should expect a final bill shortly. Customers will have until November 20 to pay this final bill via the existing methods currently available (online portal, current online bill pay and/or checks) and instructions will appear on the final bill. Questions on final South Orange water bills can be directed to sowaterinfo@southorange.org.

Customers will receive their next billing from New Jersey American Water and with this change, you'll now set up bill payments directly through New Jersey American Water or update your online banking system information accordingly. Customer account numbers and the payment address will be found on your new NJAW bill.

A welcome letter and welcome packet with details regarding their New Jersey American Water account will be mailed to South Orange customers directly from NJAW in the coming days. Questions on NJAW invoices or other service related issues should be directed to 800.272.1325.

This information and more can be found on southorange.org.

7. **Proclamations**

- A. Domestic Violence Awareness Month:
Councilmember Schnall read the Proclamation that declared October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in South Orange Village and encouraged all residents to join in supporting survivors, promoting prevention and working together to create a safer and more compassionate community for all.
- B. Pedestrian Safety Month:



Councilmember Haskins read the Proclamation that recognized October 2025 as Pedestrian Safety Month in the Village of South Orange and encourages all residents, businesses, schools and organizations to join in supporting safe and accessible travel for everyone.

8. Public Comment

Acting Mayor Jones opened meeting for public comments:

Mr. Jackson resident of South Orange expressed his concerns regarding the condition of the downtown area. His concerns included maintaining the sidewalks, weeds and debris found in the corners.

Ms. Doran stated share will share his concerns with the Acting Director of Public Works. Councilmember Haskins mentioned these concerns has been brought up at previous Public Works & Utilities meeting. They need to narrow down the areas of work between SO Downtown, DPW and the Parking Authority.

9. Approval of Minutes

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

- Regular meeting held on September 29, 2025
(Councilmember Greenberg is ineligible to vote)

Councilman Brown moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 29th, seconded by Councilmember Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

10. Ordinance for First Reading

- A. 2025-22 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AMENDING AND RESTATING VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 3, SECTION 9 – COUNCIL MEMBER COMMITTEES CREATING AND RATIFYING THE ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER COMMITTEE WHICH IS HEREBY KNOWN AS THE TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ("TAPS") COMMITTEE



Councilmember Haskins moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-22 for first reading/introduction, seconded by Councilmember Greenberg.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

Councilwoman Jones moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2025-22, shall be at the Village Council Members meeting on Monday, November 10, 2025 beginning at 7:00 PM. On that date, the Council members 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 Councilman Schnall. All members were in favor and none opposed

11. Ordinance for Second Reading

- A. 2025-21 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HANDICAPPED PARKING FOR GIOVANNA ROSE NIRO RESIDING AT 183 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 Greenberg moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-21 for second reading/Final Adoption, seconded by Councilman Schnall.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried

12. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

- A. 2025-252 RESOLUTION OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AN EXTENDED GRACE



PERIOD OF THE 4th QUARTER TAX PAYMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AFFECTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN ON OCTOBER 1, 2025

- B. 2025-253 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SIDE BAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL NO. 125
- C. 2025-254 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

Councilman Schnall moved to adopt the Resolutions #2025-252 through #2025-254 of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilmember Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

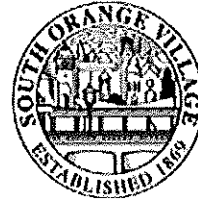
13. Alcohol Beverage Control Board

- A. Councilman Schnall moved to recess meeting of the Village Council and convene as the Alcohol Beverage Control Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Greenberg. All members were in favor and none opposed.

Roll Call:

Board Member Brown
Board Member Greenberg
Board Member Haskins
Board Member Jones
Board Member Lewis-Chang
Board Member Schnall
Board President Collum - **Absent**

2025-ABC08 RESOLUTION OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A PERSON TO PERSON PLENARY RETAIL ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER APPLICATION FROM DM RESTAURANT VENTURES I, LLC T/A FOX AND FALCON TO 19 VALLEY LIQUOR LLC



Board Member Brown moved to adopt the Resolution #2025-ABC08 ,
seconded by Board Member Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

Board Member Brown	Yes
Board President Collum	Absent
Board Member Greenberg	Yes
Board Member Haskins	Yes
Board Member Jones	Yes
Board Member Lewis-Chang	Yes
Board Member Schnall	Yes

Motion carried.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Greenberg moved
to adjourn the meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board,
seconded by Board Member Brown. Acting Board President Jones
adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:35 pm.

**Reconvened as the Village Council and all members are still
present.**

14. Approval of Bills

- A. Councilman Schnall, Chair of the Finance and Capital Projects
Committee, presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer,
dated October 13, 2025. The Village Council members were
provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for
examination.

2025-255 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE
ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH OCTOBER 13, 2025,
IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,048,611.45

Councilman Schnall moved to adopt the Bills List Resolution #2025-
255, seconded by Councilmember Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.



15. Village Mayor Report

There was no report.

16. Village Administrator Report

17. Village Attorney Report

There was no report.

18. Council Members Reports

- A. Councilman Brown mentioned Flag football which is a big part of the fall recreation programming, is getting busy with playoffs and championships coming up. The participation has been great and families really enjoy it and encouraged all residents to come out on the weekends to support the kids. The championship date has not been confirmed as of yet.
- B. Councilmember Greenberg - There was no report
- C. Councilmember Haskins - There was no report
- D. **Councilwoman Jones**
 - Seton Hall University Engagement – Thanked the University for inviting the Council members to the homecoming weekend. She reminded the residents there are a lot of activates on the SHU campus that are open to the public;
 - Candidates Forum Senior Advisory Committee – On October 21st at 5pm at the Senior building on Vose Avenue, they will host a candidates' forum for the Board of Education and those running for Council;
 - Village of the Month – to nominate for someone that has made an impact on the community, please visit the Villager of the Month page on the Village's website and submit an application;
 - Arts Advisory Committee now meet quarterly. On October 16th, there will be a sit down with Steve Vaccariello a local photographer who has been capturing Alan Cumming for over 25 years. This special event will take place at the Baird Community Center in the Pierro Gallery at 6 pm.
- E. Councilmember Lewis-Chang reminded everyone that the Community Coalition on Race Gala celebration is happening on October 16th, and asked the residents to please come out and support.



- F. Councilman Schnall mentioned SOPAC is in the middle of a very busy fall season with lots of performances including rock, folk and local artist. He highlighted that SOPAC had partnered with Seton Hall University on a special art project featuring a nationally recognized painter who created portraits on the topic of truth tellers. He encourages everyone to visit sopacnow.org to see all of the variety of events that promote art, culture and creative thinking.

19. Public Comment

Acting Mayor Jones opened the meeting for public comments: Mr. Jackson resident of South Orange asked if there are any plans for another movie theater at SOPAC, expressed concerns about the rats in downtown and safety at the train station with the homeless buying train tickets in order to stay in the station.

Councilman Schnall said SOPAC is currently in negotiations for a potential contract for a movie theater.

Ms. Doran mentioned they are working closely with South Orange Police and NJ Transit, but there are limits on what can be done at the train station. Also mentioned, NJ Transit has a report a concern portal where suggestion can be made, but the Village cannot do anything on their property. As for the rats, they have stepped up all efforts and installed new rodent proof garbage cans and increased the exterminations. Constructions brings out the rats and there is a lot of construction around town. She mentioned neighbors can help by working together, working with the Health Department and encouraged everyone to use the report a concern portal.

20. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

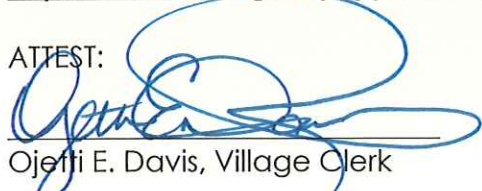
21. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Acting Mayor Jones 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/2937/media>

ATTEST:


Ojerri E. Davis, Village Clerk

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE


Sheena C. Collum, Village Mayor