

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 27, 2026 - 7:00 PM

(In-Person/Hybrid Meeting)

South Orange Baird Community Center
5 Mead Street - 3rd Floor Meeting Room

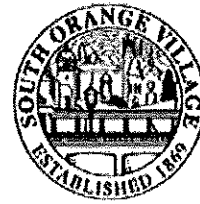
Executive Session - 6:15 PM

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**
Mayor Collum called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15 pm:
2. **Roll Call**
Mayor Collum
Councilwoman Canning- **Absent**
Councilmember Greenberg- **Absent**
Councilmember Haskins
Councilwoman Jones
Councilmember Lewis-Chang
Councilwoman Zollman
Ms. Doran, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk- **Absent**
Ms. White, Deputy Village Clerk
3. **Meeting Notice Statement**
Deputy Clerk White 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

2026-180 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the July 27, 2026, Regular Meeting of the South Orange Village Council

A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)
Executive Session

- Redevelopment Updates (Contract negotiation & Attorney/Client Privilege Matters)
- Personnel (Personnel Matter)
- Legal Matters (Attorney/Client Privilege Matters)
- Transportation (Attorney/Client Privilege Matters)

Councilmember Jones moved to approve Resolution #2026-180 to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilwoman 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
Councilwoman Canning- **Absent**
Councilmember Greenberg-**Absent**
Councilmember Haskins
Councilwoman Jones
Councilmember Lewis-Chang
Councilwoman Zollman
Ms. Doran, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel-**Absent**
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk- **Absent**
Ms. White, Deputy Village Clerk

6. Announcements

Mayor Collum read the following announcements:

A. **South Orange Farmers Market**

The South Orange Farmers Market returns for its 35th season, bringing fresh flavors and local favorites back to downtown. The market runs every Wednesday through October 28, from 1 to 6 PM, rain or shine, in the Sloan Street Parking Lot. Shop fresh produce, artisan breads, baked goods, juices, grab-and-go meals, and more from a mix of returning favorites and new vendors.



B.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4 on Flood's Hill, Meadowland Park. Festivities kick off at 5:00 PM. The movie screening: *The Bad Guys 2* begins at 8:00 PM (when the sun goes down).

The event features:

- Free food
- Dunk tank
- Inflatables, games & popcorn
- First responder meet-and-greet
- Giveaways + public safety gear on display
- Beats all evening by DJ Lou Smith

It's a great evening of community, connection, and summer fun.

C.

SOUTH ORANGE SUMMER MOVIES are lighting up your Wednesday nights in August!

Flood's Hill – Meadowland Park:

NEW THIS YEAR!

7:00 PM Family Jam Dance Party with DJ Lou Smith before the movie.

Movies start at dusk (approximately 8:00 PM)

FREE!

Here's what's showing:

- August 12 – *Zootopia 2*
- August 19 – *The Goonies*
- August 26 – *The Princess Bride*

Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, family, friends, and all your summer-night vibes. There's nothing quite like watching a movie under the stars on Flood's Hill!

Part of South Orange Summer Nights, presented by South Orange Recreation & Cultural Affairs, SOPAC, and Meadowland Park Conservancy.

D.

August Adult Swim Night at the South Orange Pool

Friday, August 14th: 70's night

5–8 PM



Grab your floaties, rally your crew, and get ready for:

🎧 Tunes from the 70s with **DJ Lou**

🍽️ Dinner poolside

🔑 **Open to South Orange adult residents (18+) + their guests**

🎫 Guest passes just **\$5**

❑ Residents must show ID badge or proof of residency

E. **Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs**

Registration is now open for Early Fall classes at The Baird. The session begins the week of Sept. 8 and runs through Nov. 1. Whether you're looking to get creative, stay active, learn something new or connect with your community, there's something for everyone, from little ones to lifelong learners. Fall highlights include Pumpkins & Pinot — A Fall-Themed Paint & Sip, Sing-along for Grownups, Halloween Cookie Decorating and Look Up: Cultivating Mindfulness in the Digital Age.

F. **Older Adults at the Movies: *The Odyssey***

Sponsored by SOMA Two Towns for All Ages, older adults are invited to a free showing of *The Odyssey* on Thursday, July 30 at 11:00 AM at Box Office Cinemas in South Orange. Registration is required and space is limited. A special popcorn and soda combo will be available for \$8, and transportation is available for South Orange residents by calling (973) 821-5866.

G.

Ribbon Cutting: The Able Baker

Join us on Wednesday, July 29 at 1:00 PM as we officially welcome The Able Baker to the South Orange Downtown community with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Come celebrate this exciting milestone and show your support for owner Julie and her team at 209 Valley Street. We look forward to seeing you there!

7. **Board of Health**

- A. Councilmember Jones moved to recess the meeting of the South Orange Village Council and convene as the Board of Health, seconded Councilwoman Lewis-Chang. All members were in favor and none opposed. Councilmember Canning and Councilmember Greenberg were absent.

Board President Lewis-Chang called the Board of Health meeting to order at approximately 7:15 pm:



Roll Call:

Board Member Canning-**Absent**

Board Member Collum

Board Member Greenberg-**Absent**

Board Member Haskins

Board Member Jones

Board Member Zollman

Board President Lewis-Chang

Candice Davenport, Health Officer

Board President Lewis-Chang called on Health Officer Davenport to present the month of July health report. Ms. Davenport briefly discussed the following topics of her presentation:

Health Officer updates:

- Minority Mental Health Awareness Month resources.
- Free Summer Meals Program through August 14.
- Community Food Access food distribution.
- Essex County Vaccines for Children program.
- Environmental Health activities.
- Nursing Division updates.
- Animal Control services.
- Social Services and Mental Health initiatives

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>

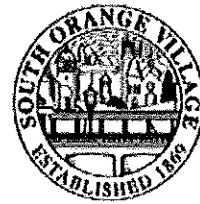
There being no further discussion, Board member Zollman moved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Health, seconded by Board member Jones. Board President Lewis-Chang adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30pm.

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

8. Proclamations

A. Proclamation recognizing July 2026 as UV Safety Awareness Month

Councilwoman Jones read the proclamation recognizing July 2026 as UV Safety Awareness Month in South Orange Village and



encourage all residents to practice sun safety, educate others about the risks of ultraviolet exposure, and take proactive steps to protect their health and well-being.

9. Public Comment

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

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 July 13, 2026 (Councilwoman Canning is ineligible to vote)

Councilwoman Lewis-Chang moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 13th, seconded by Councilwoman Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

11. Ordinances for First Reading

A. 2026-19 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HANDICAPPED PARKING FOR VICTORIA V. KING RESIDING AT 65 RANDOLPH PLACE, SOUTH ORANGE, AND THE AMENDMENT OF CODE CHAPTER 340-38, SUBSECTION B

Councilmember Jones moved to adopt Ordinance #2026-19 for First reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilwoman Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes



Motion carried.

- B. 2026-20 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING THE VILLAGE CODE, CHAPTER 143, "FEES," BY AMENDING MEMBERSHIP AND VARIOUS FEES RELATING TO RECREATION PROGRAMS

Councilmember Jones moved to adopt Ordinance #2026-20 for First reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilwoman Zollman.

Roll Call Vote

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

- C. 2026-21 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHURCH STREET REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councilmember Zollman moved to adopt Ordinance #2026-21 for First reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Roll Call Vote

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

- D. 2026-22 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING THE VALLEY STREET REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councilmember Jones moved to adopt Ordinance #2026-22 for First reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilwoman Zollman.

Roll Call Vote

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes



Councilmember Lewis-Chang Yes
Councilwoman Zollman Yes
Motion carried.

Councilwoman Jones moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2026-22 shall be at the Village Council Members meeting on Monday, September 14, 2026 beginning at 7:00 PM On this 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 Councilmember Zollman. All members were in favor and none opposed

- E. 2026-23 AN ORDINANCE OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE IN ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, REVISING THE 560 BERKELEY AVENUE STREET ADDRESS NUMBER TO 544, PURSUANT TO VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 90-10

Councilmember Lewis-Chang moved to adopt Ordinance #2026-23 for First reading/Introduction, seconded by Councilwoman Haskins.

Roll Call Vote

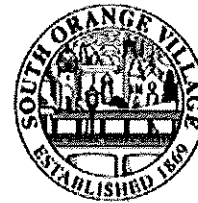
Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

Councilwoman Jones moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2026-19, #2026-20, #2026-21, #2026-23 shall be at the Village Council Members meeting on Monday, August 17, 2026 beginning at 7:00 PM On this 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 Councilmember Lewis-Chang. All members were in favor and none opposed

12. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

- A. 2026-181 RESOLUTION HIRING PER DIEM TELECOMMUNICATION DISPATCHERS IN THE SOUTH ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE FORCE



- B. 2026-182 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- C. 2026-183 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH MIDWEST CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR THE 2026 SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
- D. 2026-184 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO CP ENGINEERS FOR WHITEOAK DRIVE HYDRAULIC STUDY IN AN AMOUNT OF \$49,230.00
- E. 2026-185 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT AND HIRING OF JASON MITCHELL AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF RECREATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

Councilwoman Zollman moved to adopt Resolutions #2026-181 through #2026-185 of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

The following resolution pulled for Separate Action:

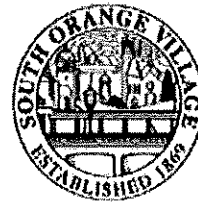
- F. 2026-186 RESOLUTION APPOINTING THOMAS HORTON AS A LIEUTENANT IN THE SOUTH ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Councilmember Lewis-Chang moved to adopt Resolution #2026-186 of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Zollman.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.



- G. 2026-187 RESOLUTION PROMOTING AND APPOINTING DYLAN O'CONNOR AS A SERGEANT IN THE SOUTH ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE FORCE

Councilmember Jones moved to adopt Resolution #2026-187 of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

- H. 2026-188 RESOLUTION PROMOTING AND APPOINTING NIKO NASISI AS A SERGEANT IN THE SOUTH ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE FORCE

Councilmember Jones moved to adopt Resolution #2026-188 of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis- Chang.

Roll Call Vote:

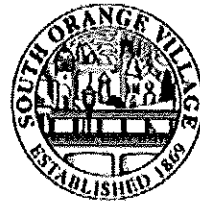
Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

13. Approval of Bills

- A. Councilwoman Zollman, Member of the Finance and Capital Projects Committee, presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer, dated July 27, 2026. The Village Council members were provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2026-189 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JULY 27, 2026, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$3,853,083.72



Councilwoman Zollman moved to adopt the Bills List Resolution #2026-101, seconded by Councilwoman Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

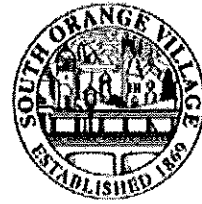
Councilwoman Canning	Absent
Councilmember Greenberg	Absent
Councilmember Haskins	Yes
Councilwoman Jones	Yes
Councilmember Lewis-Chang	Yes
Councilwoman Zollman	Yes

Motion carried.

14. Mayor Report

Mayor Collum discussed the following:

- Announced that she would be participating in a New Jersey Conference of Mayors meeting with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) regarding the proposed REAL (Resilient Environments and Landscapes) stormwater resilience regulations. She noted that South Orange supports the regulations while advocating for refinements that recognize the varying needs of municipalities and strengthen future storm preparedness and mitigation efforts.
- Provided an update on the South Orange–Maplewood Community Shuttle Initiative, stating that the Village continues to work with community volunteers and regional partners. The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) has offered technical assistance with survey development, route planning, and long-term sustainability planning, and the Village anticipates entering into a market research agreement this fall.
- Thanked the students who participated in the "Mayor for a Day" program, commending their creativity and civic engagement. She highlighted the students' proposals for improvements to the South Orange Pool and other community amenities.
- Addressed misinformation circulating on social media regarding the South Orange Self Storage property. Mayor Collum clarified that:
 - The sale of the property to PSE&G was a private real estate transaction and did not involve eminent domain or government condemnation.
 - The Village has not received any demolition or redevelopment applications for the site.
 - Preliminary discussions with PSE&G have focused on ensuring any future proposal aligns with the Valley Street Redevelopment Plan,



Village Master Plan, quality design standards, pedestrian improvements, and potential community benefits.

- Any future redevelopment proposal will undergo the normal public review process, and residents will have opportunities for public input before any approvals are considered.

15. Village Administrator Report

Administrator Doran reported:

- PSE&G will begin major gas main replacement work on South Orange Avenue beginning approximately August 10.
- Traffic management plans and construction schedules will be released once finalized.
- Public notification will be provided before work begins.

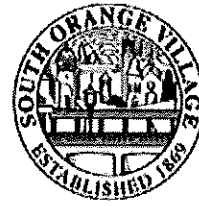
Mayor Collum thanked staff for their coordination with a private property owner on a recent demolition project.

16. Village Attorney Report

There was no report from the Village Attorney.

17. Council Members Reports

- A. Councilwoman Canning – There was no report.
- B. Councilmember Greenberg – There was no report.
- C. Councilmember Haskins – There was no report.
- D. **Councilwoman Jones reported on the following:**
 - **TAPS Committee** – Draft minutes are available through the Village Clerk's Office upon request.
 - **SOPA**
 - Parking fee review continues.
 - Possible parking permit changes expected for the next fiscal year.
 - Review of policies regarding apartment residents, second vehicles, and visitor parking.
 - Senior Shuttle updates.
 - America 250 Committee



- o Planning continues for National Black Business Month programming in August.

Councilwoman Jones provided an update on the America 250 initiative, noting work with South Orange Downtown to identify historically significant businesses dating back to the 1920s and the development of interpretive signage.

- E. Councilmember Lewis-Chang – There was no report.
- F. **Councilwoman Zollman provided the following updates:**

South Orange Downtown Update:

- Reported that the World Cup Downtown Promotion concluded successfully, featuring business specials, giveaways, a trophy hunt, and a storefront decorating contest, and thanked participating businesses.
- Commended Village staff for their coordination of the demolition of the fire-damaged buildings on South Orange Avenue and encouraged residents to continue supporting nearby businesses affected by the project.
- Announced that South Orange Downtown is planning a Commercial Lease and Tenant Education Workshop for local business owners this fall.
- Reminded residents of the Able Baker ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 29, 2026.
- Shared that the former Fox & Falcon location is moving forward with a new tenant and encouraged residents to stay tuned for an official announcement.

SPACE Committee Update:

- Reported that the Strategic Partnerships and Citizen Engagement (SPACE) Committee continues coordinating with Seton Hall University in preparation for the fall semester, including participation in Welcome Weekend, Family Weekend, Community Day, and initiatives to connect students and families with local businesses.
- Shared that Seton Hall reported a 46% reduction in student noise violations compared to the previous year, attributed to enhanced student education and ongoing collaboration with the Village.



- Provided an update on the America 250 initiative, noting work with South Orange Downtown to identify historically significant businesses dating back to the 1920s and the development of interpretive signage.

18. Public Comment

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

19. New Business

There were no new business items discussed.

20. Next Regular Meeting Date

A. Monday, August 17, 2026

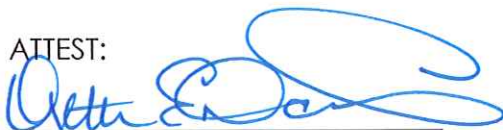
21. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Jones moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Zollman. Mayor Collum adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:06 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://southorangelwpnj.portal.civicclerk.com/event/3322/media>

ATTEST:


Ojetti E. Davis, Village Clerk

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE


Sheena C. Collum, Village Mayor