

CITY OF EAST ORANGE  
THE EAST ORANGE CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 13, 2020

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of December 16, 2019)

**CHRISTOPHER D. JAMES**  
City Council Chairman

First Ward  
Christopher D. James  
Amy Lewis

Second Ward  
Christopher Awe  
Brittany D. Claybrooks

Third Ward  
Bergson Leneus  
Vernon Pullins, Jr.

Fourth Ward  
Casim L. Gomez  
Tameika Garrett-Ward

Fifth Ward  
Alicia Holman  
Mustafa AL-M. Brent



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The following minutes are of necessity, condensed and abridged and do not purport to contain the full contents of the matters discussed. The items referred are subject to legal opinion as to validity.

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
December 16, 2019**

The East Orange City Council met on December 16, 2019 at 5:35 P.M. in City Council Chambers, 44 City Hall Plaza, East Orange, and New Jersey. Adequate notice of such meeting was duly given in accordance with law, by publication in local newspapers and by posting on the bulletin board outside and within City Council Chambers.

**On Roll Call the following Members of Council were present:**

Casim L. Gomez; Jacquelyn E. Johnson; Bergson Leneus; Alicia Holman; Amy Lewis; Christopher Awe; Christopher D. James

**ABSENT**

Mustafa Al-M Brent (Illness)

Quilla E. Talmadge (Death in Family)

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Solomon Steplight, City Administrator

Ryan Lider, Corporation Counsel

Phyllis Bindi, Chief

Dominigos Saldida, Director

Andre Williams, Chief

Daniel Jennings, Director

Christopher Coke, Director

Monique Griffith, Director

City Administrator

Law Department

Police Department

Public Safety

Fire Department

Planning

Public Works

Health and Human Services

**ALSO PRESENT**

Tony Jackson

Brittany D. Claybrooks, Council Elect-2<sup>nd</sup> Ward

Mayor's Office

City Council Office

There were 7 Citizens in attendance.

**OPEN HEARING OF CITIZENS**

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Rules of City Council, each person wishing to address the Council, shall step up to the microphone, shall give his/her name in an audible tone for the record and unless further time is granted by the Presiding Officer, shall limit remarks to three minutes.

All members of the public are expected to conduct themselves in a proper manner. Any derogatory, abusive or threatening statements will not be permitted. The Chair will immediately rule such conduct out of order and terminate any further comments.

No Comments

**COMMITTEES**

100-ARTS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

200-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING

300-FINANCE

400-HEALTH AND EDUCATION

500-HOUSING, LICENSING AND INSPECTION

600-LAW AND LEGISLATION

700-PLANNING AND GRANTS

800-PUBLIC SAFETY

900-PUBLIC WORKS

1000-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

100 - ARTS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

TAMEIKA GARRETT-WARD-CHAIRWOMAN

Pullins, Brent, Lewis

Garrett-Ward, Awe, Gomez, Lewis - 2019

- |      |  |                                   |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 101. | Recreation Department                                    | In Committee                      |
| 102. | East Orange Public Library                               | In Committee                      |
| 103. | Minister James Andrew Settle – 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |

200 - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING

CASIM GOMEZ – CHAIRMAN

Awe, Claybrooks, Brent

Gomez, Talmadge, Holman, Brent - 2019

- |      |   |                                   |
|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 201. | Brick Church Mall   | In Committee                      |
| 202. | Brick Church Urban Renewal  | In Committee                      |
| 203. | Economic Development Corp.  | In Committee                      |
| 204. | Board of Adjustment   | In Committee                      |
| 205. | Community Development Corp.   | In Committee                      |
| 206. | Sanford Evergreen Connector   | In Committee                      |
| 207. | Resolution Condemning the Actions of Wells Fargo Bank as Being "Predatory Mortgage Practices" | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |

300 - FINANCE

CHRISTOPHER AWE – CHAIRMAN

Lewis, Pullins, Holman

Talmadge, Lewis, Johnson, Awe - 2019

- |      |   |                                   |
|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 301. | Personnel   | In Committee                      |
| 302. | Tax Refund  | In Committee                      |
| 303. | Labor Negotiations  | In Committee                      |
| 304. | Tax Revaluation   | In Committee                      |
| 305. | Tax Sale Certificate  | In Committee                      |
| 306. | In Rem Foreclosure  | In Committee                      |
| 307. | Payroll No. 25  | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |
| 308. | Stop Payments   | In Committee                      |
| 309. | Legal Transfer - 2019   | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |
| 310. | Tax Payment Plan  | In Committee                      |
| 311. | Tax Appeal Refund   | In Committee                      |
| 312. | Annual Tax Sale   | In Committee                      |
| 313. | Tax Abatement   | In Committee                      |
| 314. | In Lieu of Taxes  | In Committee                      |
| 315. | Bills, Claims & Appropriations  | In Committee                      |
| 316. | Tax Sale Assignment   | In Committee                      |
| 317. | Tax Lien  | In Committee                      |
| 318. | Tax Lien Redemption   | In Committee                      |
| 319. | Budget Insertions   | In Committee                      |
| 320. | Status of Women   | In Committee                      |
| 321. | Auction   | In Committee                      |
| 322. | Duplicate Tax Payments  | In Committee                      |
| 323. | Public Entity Joint Insurance Fund Joint Trust and Resolution to Rejoin | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |
| 324. | Resolution to Join the Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund          | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |

300 – FINANCE - Continued  
CHRISTOPHER AWE – CHAIRMAN  
Lewis, Pullins, Holman  
Talmadge, Lewis, Johnson, Awe - 2019

- |      |   |                            |
|------|---|----------------------------|
| 325. | Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employee                       | Resolution to be presented |
| 326. | Resolution for Member Participation in the Educational Cooperative Pricing System             | Resolution to be presented |
| 327. | State of New Jersey Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Grant | Resolution to be presented |

400 – HEALTH and EDUCATION  
BERGSON LENEUS – CHAIRMAN  
Garrett-Ward, Holman, Claybrooks  
Leneus, Garrett-Ward, Brent, Holman – 2019

- |      |  |                            |
|------|--|----------------------------|
| 401. | Child Guidance Clinic  | In Committee               |
| 402. | Health Department  | In Committee               |
| 403. | Mental Health Board  | In Committee               |
| 404. | East Orange General Hospital   | In Committee               |
| 405. | East Orange Board of Education   | In Committee               |
| 406. | Resolution Authorizing the City to Purchase two (2) 2020 Ford Transit-350 Passenger RWD Medium Roof Vans for the Health Department | Resolution to be presented |

500 – HOUSING, LICENSING AND INSPECTION  
ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN  
Claybrooks, Gomez, Leneus  
Holman, Johnson, Talmadge, Leneus - 2019

- |      |  |                            |
|------|--|----------------------------|
| 501. | Rent Leveling  | In Committee               |
| 502. | Affordable Housing Program   | In Committee               |
| 503. | Housing Authority  | In Committee               |
| 504. | Housing, Planning & Coordinating   | In Committee               |
| 505. | Private Parking Rentals  | In Committee               |
| 506. | Senior Citizens Housing  | In Committee               |
| 507. | Housing Summit   | In Committee               |
| 508. | Resolution for the Refund of Certificate of Conformity Inspection Fee - \$200.00 | Resolution to be presented |

700 – PLANNING and GRANTS  
BRITTANY D. CLAYBROOKS – CHAIRWOMAN  
Gomez, Leneus, Garrett-Ward  
Awe, Gomez, Leneus, Garrett-Ward - 2019

- |      |                             |              |
|------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 701. | Community Development       | In Committee |
| 702. | Safe and Clean              | In Committee |
| 703. | Small Tools Library         | In Committee |
| 704. | Green Acres Grant           | In Committee |
| 705. | Women's Summit in Committee | In Committee |

800 - PUBLIC SAFETY  
AMY LEWIS – CHAIRWOMAN  
Brent, Garrett-Ward, Pullins  
Lewis, Brent, Garrett-Ward, Johnson - 2019

- |      |                   |              |
|------|-------------------|--------------|
| 801. | Police Department | In Committee |
|------|-------------------|--------------|

800 - PUBLIC SAFETY - Continued  
AMY LEWIS – CHAIRWOMAN  
Brent, Garrett-Ward, Pullins  
Lewis, Brent, Garrett-Ward, Johnson - 2019

- |      |   |                                   |
|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 802. | Fire Department   | In Committee                      |
| 803. | Resolution Authorizing the City Through a Purchase and Trade-In Agreement to Obtain Weapons and Accessories for the Police Department | <b>Resolution to be presented</b> |

900 - PUBLIC WORKS  
MUSTAFA AL-BRENT – CHAIRMAN  
Holman, Awe, Gomez  
Brent, Holman, Awe, Gomez - 2019

- |      |                              |                    |
|------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 901. | Capital Improvement Projects | under Construction |
| 902. | Streetscape                  | In Committee       |

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION  
VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN  
Leneus, Lewis, Awe  
Johnson, Leneus, Lewis, Talmadge - 2019

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| 601. | Ordinances on First Reading  | In Committee  |
| 602. | Ordinances on Second and Reading   | <b><u>Ordinance No. 47 of 2019</u></b><br>An Ordinance Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et. seq., Amending and Supplementing the Transit Village District Redevelopment Plan to Permit Existing Nonconforming Gasoline Stations to Convert Repair Bays to Retail Space<br><b><u>Ordinance No. 48 of 2019</u></b><br>An Ordinance to Approve the Tax Exemption and to Authorize the Execution of a Financial Agreement Between the City of East Orange and 502 William Street Urban Renewal<br><b><u>Ordinance No. 49 of 2019</u></b><br>An Ordinance to Approve the Tax Exemption and to Authorize the Execution of a Financial Agreement Between the City of East Orange and Crossroads at Park Avenue Urban Renewal<br><b><u>Ordinance No. 50 of 2019</u></b><br>An Ordinance to Transfer City Owned Property Block 50 Lot 27.74 in the Greenwood Avenue Redevelopment Area to the East Orange Housing Authority under the Auspices of N.J.S.A. 40:12-1 et. seq., known as the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law |
| 603. | Bingo/Raffles  | In Committee  |
| 604. | A.B.C.   | In Committee  |
| 605. | City Council Rules   | In Committee  |
| 606. | Settlements  | In Committee  |
| 607. | Comcast/Suburban Cable Contract  | In Committee  |
| 608. | Taxi Cabs vs. Livery Licenses  | In Committee  |
| 609. | Resolution Waiving the Twenty Day Effective Period on Ordinance No. 48 of 2019 | <b>Resolution to be presented</b>   |
| 610. | Resolution Waiving the Twenty Day Effective Period on Ordinance No. 49 of 2019 | <b>Resolution to be presented</b>   |

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Cynthia S. Brown, City Clerk



# EAST ORANGE CITY COUNCIL Public Meeting Dates 2020

**& Times** / 5:30 PM COMMITTEE DISCUSSION & AGENDA MEETINGS  
6:00 PM REGULAR OFFICIAL MEETINGS

**East Orange City Hall**  
44 City Hall Plaza | East Orange, NJ 07018  
Phone: 973-266-5120



**Meetings** are held every 2nd & 4th Monday of the month.  
Residents are Encouraged to Attend.

In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, Public Notice is hereby given that the East Orange City Council has established the following 2020 Meeting Dates.

Formal action may take place at these Meetings. Executive Sessions may be held at Committee Meetings or at Regular Meetings. The Meetings will be held in the City Council Chambers located at 44 City Hall Plaza, East Orange, New Jersey. 07018

- MONDAY, JANUARY 13th
- MONDAY, JANUARY 27th
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24th
- MONDAY, MARCH 9th
- MONDAY, MARCH 23rd
- MONDAY, APRIL 13th
- MONDAY, APRIL 27th
- MONDAY, MAY 11th

- TUESDAY, MAY 26th
- MONDAY, JUNE 8th
- MONDAY, JUNE 22nd
- MONDAY, JULY 13th
- MONDAY, JULY 27th
- MONDAY, AUGUST 10th
- MONDAY, AUGUST 24th
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th

- TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13th
- MONDAY, OCTOBER 26th
- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9th
- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 14th
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 28th

**CITY COUNCIL  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021  
@ 6:00 PM**