

**CITY OF EAST ORANGE
THE EAST ORANGE CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, April 11, 2022

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of March 28, 2022)

**CHRISTOPHER AWE
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
March 28, 2022**

The East Orange City Council met on March 28, 2022, at 5:42 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; Jr.; Tameika Garrett-Ward; Bergson Leneus; Brittany Claybrooks; Alicia Holman; Vernon Pullins, Jr.; Amy Lewis; Christopher D. James; Christopher Awe

ABSENT

Mustafa Al-M Brent

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Solomon Steplight, Acting City Administrator	City Administrator
Malee Wing, First Assistant Corporation Counsel	Law Department
Dorothy Gallagher, CFO	Finance
Jamal Pearson, Acting Director	Recreation
Romal D. Bullock	Tax Assessor
Bruce Davis, Acting Chief	Fire Department
Phyllis Bindi, Chief	Police Department
Monica Reed, Acting Director	Human Resources
Tiffany Harris-Delaney, Acting Director	Planning
Eladio Negrón, Acting Director	Code Enforcement
Monique Griffith, Acting Director	Health and Human Services
Pamela Holmes, Acting Director	East Orange Public Library
Rupert Bell, Acting Director	Public Works

ALSO PRESENT

Shantika Dorsey	Law Department
Farah Abuobead	Law Department
Muzammil Mohamed-Stevens	Public Works
Traci Morris, Commissioner	Rent Control
Merill Alston, Commissioner	Rent Control

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.

This Meeting of the East Orange City Council will be conducted via video conference, streaming on Facebook Live - [facebook.com/eocitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/eocitycouncil).

Residents may submit a written public comment or question via email to be read during the "Open Hearing of Citizens" portion of the meeting. Comments/questions are to be emailed in advance to citycouncil@eastorange-nj.gov by 5:00 PM.

1. Sloan Peterson – Neighborhood Disturbance pertaining to drinking, smoking and drugs
2. Virginia Jeffries – Multiple concerns regarding Lack of Adequate Public Notice for Virtual/Remote Public Meeting, Agenda from March 28th, Open Hearing of Citizens and the March 14th Committee Meeting – Open Hearing of Citizens

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
BRITTANY D. CLAYBROOKS - CHAIRWOMAN
Lewis, Gomez, Garrett-Ward

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|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 101. | Recreation Department | In Committee |
| 102. | East Orange Public Library | In Committee |
| 103. | Tanya Pulyado – Retirement | Resolution to be presented |

200 - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING
CASIM GOMEZ – CHAIRMAN
Leneus, Brent, James

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|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 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 Confirming the Appointment of Bridgett Green (Alternate #1) to the East Orange Zoning Board for a Period of Two (2) Years | Resolution to be presented |
| 208. | Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Nadia Moses (Alternate #4) to the East Orange Zoning Board for a Period of Two (2) Years | Resolution to be presented |
| 209. | Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Kellee Johnson to the East Orange Zoning Board for a Period of Four (4) Years | Resolution to be presented |
| 210. | Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Latonya Harrison to the East Orange Zoning Board for a Period of Four (4) Years | Resolution to be presented |
| 211. | Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Marilyn Jones (Alternate #2) to the East Orange Zoning Board for a Period of Two (2) Years | Resolution to be presented |

300 - FINANCE
VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN
Holman, James, Lewis

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| 301. | Personnel | Resolution Authorizing the Continued 45-Day Acting Appointment for the Position of Director of Planning -Tiffany Harris-Delaney
Resolution to be presented

Resolution Authorizing the Continued 45-Day Acting Appointment for the Position of Director of Human Resources – Monica Reed
Resolution to be presented

Resolution Authorizing the Continued 45-Day Acting Appointment for the Position of Director of Code Enforcement – Eladio Negron
Resolution to be presented

Confirmation of Appointment Dale A. Forde – Deputy Clerk
Resolution to be presented

Resolution Authorizing the Continued 45-Day Acting Appointment for the Position of City Administrator – Solomon Steplight
Resolution to be presented

Confirmation of Appointment of Jerome Pearson - Director of Arts, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
Resolution to be presented

Confirmation of Appointment Monique Griffith - Director of Health & Human Service
Resolution to be presented |
| 302. | Tax Refund | In Committee |

300 – FINANCE - Continued
VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN
Holman, James, Lewis

303.	Labor Negotiations	In Committee
304.	Tax Revaluation	In Committee
305.	Tax Sale Certificate	In Committee
306.	In Rem Foreclosure	In Committee
307.	Payroll #6	Resolution to be presented
308.	Stop Payments	In Committee
309.	Legal Transfer – CY2022	Resolution to be presented
310.	Tax Payment Plan	In Committee
311.	Tax Appeal Refund - \$25,773.94	Resolution to be presented
312.	Annual Tax Sale	In Committee
313.	Tax Abatement	In Committee
314.	In Lieu of Taxes	In Committee
315.	Bills, Claims & Appropriations – 3/28/2022	Resolution to be presented
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.	Authorize Temporary Emergency Appropriations Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 ET SEQ. (The Local Budget Law)	Resolution to be presented
324.	Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employees	Resolution to be presented

400 – HEALTH and EDUCATION
TAMEIKA GARRETT-WARD – CHAIRWOMAN
Brent, Claybrooks, Leneus

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 Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Special Senior Services Programs for 2022	Resolution to be presented

500 – HOUSING, LICENSING AND INSPECTION
CHRISTOPHER D. JAMES – CHAIRMAN
Garrett-Ward, Leneus, Claybrooks

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 Confirming the Appointment of Traci Motley (Landlord) to the East Orange Rent Control Board for a Period of Three (3) Years	Resolution to be presented

500 – HOUSING, LICENSING AND INSPECTION - Continued

CHRISTOPHER D. JAMES – CHAIRMAN

Garrett-Ward, Leneus, Claybrooks

509. Resolution Confirming the Re-Appointment of Renee Bowers Franklin (Tenant) to the East Orange Rent Control Board for a Period of Three (3) Years **Resolution to be presented**
510. Resolution Confirming the Re-Appointment of Sean Middleton (Landlord) to the East Orange Rent Control Board for a Period of Three (3) Years **Resolution to be presented**
511. Resolution Confirming the Re-Appointment of Mike Galloway (Landlord) to the East Orange Rent Control Board for a Period of Three (3) Years **Resolution to be presented**

700 – PLANNING and GRANTS

BERGSON LENEUS – CHAIRMAN

James, Pullins, Holman

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
706. Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of Request for Proposal for Branding & Marketing Consultants **Resolution to be presented**

800 - PUBLIC SAFETY

AMY LEWIS – CHAIRWOMAN

Pullins, Garrett-Ward, Brent

801. Police Department In Committee
802. Fire Department In Committee

900 - PUBLIC WORKS

MUSTAFA AL-M. BRENT – CHAIRMAN

Claybrooks, Holman, Gomez

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

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION

ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN

Gomez, Lewis, Pullins

601. Ordinances on First Reading In Committee
602. Ordinance on Second and Final Reading **Ordinance No. 10 of 2022**
An Ordinance Amending Sections 260-14 of the East Orange City Code to Provide for the Creation of No Parking – 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Nassau Place, Northbound & Southbound)
- Ordinance No. 11 of 2022**
An Ordinance Amending Sections 260-9 of the East Orange City Code to Provide for the Creation of No Parking – 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM (Watson Avenue, Westbound)
- Ordinance No. 12 of 2022**
An Ordinance to Amend and Supplement Chapter 260-9 of the Code of the City of East Orange for the Creation of Three-Way “T” Intersection Stop Sign (North Arlington Avenue and New Street)
- Ordinance No. 13 of 2022**
An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 43 of 2021 Which Legalized and Regulated the Sale of Cannabis and Cannabis Related Products within the City of East Orange

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION - Continued

ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN

Gomez, Lewis, Pullins

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| 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 In Support of the Confirmation of the Honorable Ketanji Brown Jackson to the United States Supreme Court | Resolution to be presented |
| 610. | Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Lauren Shears (First Ward) to the East Orange Water Commission | Resolution to be presented |
| 611. | Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Alison Rolling (Fifth Ward) to the East Orange Water Commission | Resolution to be presented |

1000– COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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| 1000. | East Orange Parking Authority | In Committee |
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Meeting adjourned at 10:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cynthia S. Brown, City Clerk

THE EAST ORANGE CITY COUNCIL 2022 SCHEDULED MEETING DATES

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 2022 Meeting Dates.

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

Committee Discussion & Agenda Meetings 5:30PM

Monday, January 10th
Monday, January 24th

Monday, February 14th
Monday, February 28th

Monday, March 14th
Monday, March 28th

Monday, April 11th
Monday, April 25th

Monday, May 9th
Tuesday, May 23rd

Monday, June 13th
Monday, June 27th

Monday, July 11th
Monday, July 25th

Monday, August 8th
Monday, August 22nd

Monday, September 12th
Monday, September 26th

Tuesday, October 11th
Monday, October 24th

Tuesday, November 14th
Monday, November 28th

Monday, December 12th
Monday, December 19th

Regular Official Meetings 6:00PM

Monday, January 10th
Monday, January 24th (Virtual)

Monday, February 14th (Virtual)
Monday, February 28th (Virtual)

Monday, March 14th (Virtual)
Monday, March 28th (Virtual)

Monday, April 11th
Monday, April 25th

Monday, May 9th
Tuesday, May 23rd

Monday, June 13th
Monday, June 27th

Monday, July 11th
Monday, July 25th

Monday, August 8th
Monday, August 22nd

Monday, September 12th
Monday, September 26th

Tuesday, October 11th
Monday, October 24th

Tuesday, November 14th
Monday, November 28th

Monday, December 12th
Monday, December 19th

**City Council Reorganization Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2023
@ 5:30 PM**