

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

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of September 26, 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
September 26, 2022**

The East Orange City Council met on September 26, 2022, at 5:32 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.; Bergson Leneus; Brittany Claybrooks; Alicia Holman; Vernon Pullins, Jr; Amy Lewis; Christopher D. James; Christopher Awe

ABSENT

Mustafa Al-M Brent

Tameika Garrett-Ward (Arrived @ 5:58)

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Solomon Steplight, City Administrator

City Administrator

Dorothy Gallagher, CFO

Finance

Eladio Negron, Director

Code Enforcement

Malee Wing, Acting Corporation Counsel

Law Department

Phyllis Bindi, Chief

Police Department

Monica Reed, Director

Human Resources

Rupert Bell, Director

Public Works

Jamal Pearson, Director

Recreation

Yvonne C. Blake, Acting Director

Health Department

ALSO PRESENT

Tony Jackson

Mayors Office

Muzammil Mohamed-Stevens

Public Works

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.

1. Glen Brown – Tree Issues and Street Signs
2. Sharonda Allen – Sustainable Green Team in East Orange
3. Theodore Smith Jr. – Changing locations of Food Trucks
4. Jewel Haynes – Code Enforcement Issues and how the department is run and also concerns of Police Brutality
5. Joenathon Watson – Cannabis Ordinance and the process of how the city is not handling it.
6. Kamal McGregor – Food truck Ordinance, stated the city is not being flexible and fair and why did the license fee double to \$500.00.
7. Andre Matthews – Food truck is not making any money with the Ordinance in place and \$500.00 is too expensive.

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

- | | | |
|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 101. | Recreation Department | In Committee |
| 102. | East Orange Public Library | In Committee |
| 103. | East Orange High School 40 th Reunion Commendation | Resolution to be presented |
| 104. | Allen Motley – Retirement | Resolution to be presented |

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

- | | | |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 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 Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding and Right of Entry Agreement With Masjid As-Haabul Yameen, Inc. | Resolution to be presented |
| 208. | Authorization of a Resolution of Need for the Proposed Affordable Housing Project at 46-50 East Park Street in the City of East Orange | Resolution to be presented |

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

- | | | |
|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 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 #19 | Resolution to be presented |
| 308. | Stop Payments | In Committee |
| 309. | Legal Transfer | In Committee |
| 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 – 9.26.2022 | 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. | Authorized Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employees - \$12,025.73 | Resolution to be presented |
| 324. | U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) | Resolution to be presented |

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

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|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 325. | U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Home Investment Partnerships Grant (HOME) | Resolution to be presented |
| 326. | Resolution of the City Council of the City of
East Orange, in the County of Essex, State
of New Jersey (The Local Unit) Authorizing an
Emergency Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-46
and 40A:4-48 to Appropriate the Local Unit's Allocable
Share of the Unfunded Portion of Phase I of the Flood
Mitigation Facilities Project of the Joint Meeting of Essex
and Union Counties in an Amount Not to Exceed \$899,016.00 | Resolution to be presented |
| 327. | Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract to E-Z Go
Division of Textron, Inc. 1451 Marvin Griffin Road, Augusta,
Georgia 30906 for the Lease of Golf Carts for the East Orange
Golf Course Located at 44 Parsonage Hill Road, Livingston,
New Jersey | 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 |

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 |

700 – PLANNING and GRANTS
BERGSON LENEUS – CHAIRMAN
James, Pullins, Jr., 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 Award to Alpha
Drones USA, Inc. to Facilitate Federal Aviation
Administration (FAA) Part 107 Remote Pilot
Certification Training for East Orange Residnets | Resolution to be presented |
| 707. | Resolution Amending Resolution I-180 of 2022
Amending Contract for Professional Planning
Consultant Services to Nishuane Group, LLC | Resolution to be presented |
| 708. | Resolution to Authorize the Submission of a
Grant Application to the New Jersey Department
of Transportation for the FY2023 Transportation
Alternatives Set-Aside Program | Resolution to be presented |

800 - PUBLIC SAFETY
AMY LEWIS – CHAIRWOMAN
Pullins, Jr., Garrett-Ward, Brent

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|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 801. | Police Department | In Committee |
| 802. | Fire Department | In Committee |
| 803. | Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Regular Patrol Duty Bulley Proof Vests for Police Officers | Resolution to be presented |

900 - PUBLIC WORKS
MUSTAFA AL-M. BRENT – CHAIRMAN
Claybrooks, Holman, Gomez

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|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 901. | Capital Improvement Projects | under Construction |
| 902. | Streetscape | In Committee |
| 903. | Resolution Authorizing the City to Advertise for the Citywide Sidewalk Construction – Phase I | Resolution to be presented |

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION
ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN
Gomez, Lewis, Pullins, Jr.

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 601. | Ordinances on First Reading | In Committee |
| 602. | Ordinances on Second and Final Reading | In Committee |
| 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 Authorizing the Settlement of a Workers Compensation Litigation Matter (\$314,800.00) | Resolution to be presented |
| 610. | Resolution Authorizing the Settlement of a Workers Compensation Litigation Matter (\$295,250.00) | Resolution to be presented |
| 611. | Resolution Authorizing the Settlement of a Workers Compensation Litigation Matter (\$50,781.00) | Resolution to be presented |
| 612. | Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Litigation In the Matter of Lawsoft, Inc. v. SHI International Corp. v. City of East Orange, et als (\$240,000) | Resolution to be presented |
| 613. | Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Litigation in the Matter of Earl Clemons v. City of East Orange, et als (\$60,000) | 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 6:15 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**