

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

Monday, October 24, 2022

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of October 11, 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
October 11, 2022**

The East Orange City Council met on October 11, 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

Dorothy Gallagher, CFO

Eladio Negron, Director

Malee Wing, Acting Corporation Counsel

Phyllis Bindi, Chief

Monica Reed, Director

Rupert Bell, Director

Jamal Pearson, Director

Yvonne C. Blake, Acting Director

City Administrator

Finance

Code Enforcement

Law Department

Police Department

Human Resources

Public Works

Recreation

Health Department

ALSO PRESENT

Tony Jackson

Muzammil Mohamed-Stevens

Mayors Office

Public Works

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. | JoanTonic – Memorial | Resolution to be presented |
| 104. | Remilus Pierre – Birthday | Resolution to be presented |
| 105. | Mabelteen “Tula” Tucker – Retirement | Resolution to be presented |
| 106. | Kathy Cantwell – 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 |

200 – BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING - Continued

CASIM GOMEZ – CHAIRMAN

Leneus, Brent, James

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 204. | Board of Adjustment | In Committee |
| 205. | Community Development Corp. | In Committee |
| 206. | Sanford Evergreen Connector | In Committee |
| 207. | Resolution Authorizing the Conditional Designation of SBF Estates Urban Renewal LLC as Redeveloper for 38 North Clinton Street and Authorizing the Execution of a Redevelopment Agreement | Resolution to be presented |
| 208. | Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Amended and Restated Redevelopment Agreement Entered into with 14 Summit Street Holdings Urban Renewal Entity, LLC | Resolution to be presented
Sent back to Committee – 10.11.22 |

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 #20 | 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 – 10.11.2022 | 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 - \$13,568.36 | Resolution to be presented |
| 323. | Resolution of Certification of Receipt of the Annual Audit Report for Calendar Year ending December 31, 2021 | Resolution to be presented |
| 324. | Corrective Action Plan for the Calendar Year Period Ended December 31, 2021, Audit | Resolution to be presented |
| 325. | State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) Grant | Resolution to be presented |
| 326. | State of New Jersey, Department of Health Federal Ending the Epidemic (EHE) 2023 Grant | Resolution to be presented |
| 327. | State of New Jersey, Department of Health State HIV Comprehensive Services 2023 Grant | Resolution to be presented |
| 328. | Resolution Authorizing the City of East Orange a One Year Extension for the Health Insurance Brokerage Services | Resolution to be presented |

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

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|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 329. | Resolution of the City of East Orange Authorizing Membership in the Texas Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) | Resolution to be presented |
| 330. | Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of Request for Qualification Proposals for Various Professional and Consultant Services | Resolution to be presented |
| 331. | Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Certified Public Accountant Services | Resolution to be presented |
| 332. | Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employees - \$101,611.53 | Resolution to be presented |
| 333. | Resolution Appointing the East Orange Municipal Public Defenders | Resolution to be presented |
| 334. | Resolution Terminating the Financial Agreement with Arlington Grove, LLC and by Extension it's Successor in Interest Carthage Arlington Urban Renewal, LLC | Resolution to be presented |

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

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|------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 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 |

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

- | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 801. | Police Department | In Committee |
| 802. | Fire Department | In Committee |
| 803. | Resolution Amending, I-374 of 2021 Reducing the Purchase of Twenty-Four (2022 PoliceCars) to Twenty (2023 Model Year) Police Cars | Resolution to be presented |
| 804. | Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of an Invitation to Bid to Furnish (4) Police Motorcycles | Resolution to be presented |

800 - PUBLIC SAFETY - Continued

AMY LEWIS – CHAIRWOMAN

Pullins, Jr., Garrett-Ward, Brent

- 805.** Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of a Joint Border Patrol (MOU) Between East Orange PD and Newark PD **Resolution to be presented**

900 - PUBLIC WORKS

MUSTAFA AL-M. BRENT – CHAIRMAN

Claybrooks, Holman, Gomez

901. Capital Improvement Projects under Construction
902. Streetscape In Committee
- 903.** Resolution Authorizing Tony Sanchez, LTD to Facilitate the Repair of Public Works Vehicles Through the Morris County Cooperative **Resolution to be presented**
- 904.** Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract to American Asphalt & Trucking LLC for Emergency Snow Plowing Services **Resolution to be presented**

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION

ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN

Gomez, Lewis, Pullins, Jr.

- 601.** Ordinances on First Reading Bond Ordinance No. 29 of 2022
Bond Ordinance Funding an Emergency Appropriation Providing for 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, by and in the City of East Orange, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey (The Local Unit) on Behalf of the East Orange Water Commission: Appropriating \$1,010,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,010,00 Bonds or Notes to Finance the Cost Thereof
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 Settlement of Litigation in the Matter of Khari Gardner v. City of East Orange, Et Als **Resolution to be presented**
- 610.** Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Litigation in the Matter of Raymond Garcia v. City of East Orange, Et Al **Resolution to be presented**
- 611.** Resolution Authorizing the Settlement of a Workers Compensation Litigation Omar Ferguson vs. City of East Orange **Resolution to be presented**

1000- COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1000. East Orange Parking Authority In Committee

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. Miguel Sanchez – New Resident, City needs to change, can't hear meetings online. Ampere Train Station needs To be rebuilt. No fine dining.
2. Erica Colman – All residents in her building received evection notice (36 families)
3. Leshia Richardson. – She also stated that they all received an evection notice
4. Virginia Jeffries – The meeting is not incompliant, and you are in violation.
5. Ms. Johnson – There was no Police presence around the school during open and closing times and maybe the shooting could have been avoided. Police presence is needed to deter crime.

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**