

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

Monday, January 23, 2023

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of December 19, 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
December 19, 2022**

The East Orange City Council met on December 19, 2022, at 5:39 P.M. in City Council Chambers, 44 City Hall Plaza, East Orange, and New Jersey. Adequate notice of such a 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.; Vernon Pullins, Jr; Bergson Leneus; Brittany Claybrooks; Alicia Holman; Amy Lewis; Christopher D. James; Christopher Awe

ABSENT

Mustafa Al-M Brent

Tameika Garrett-Ward (arrived @ 5:43 PM)

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Solomon Steplight, City Administrator

Ronald Hunt, Corporation Counsel

Yvonne C. Blake, Acting Director

Tiffany Harris-Delaney, Director

Jamal Pearson, Director

Eladio Negron, Director

Tina Sakajani

Monica Reed, Director

Rupert Bell, Director

Maurice Boyd, Acting Public Safety Director

City Administrator

Law Department

Health and Human Services

Planning

Recreation

Code Enforcement

Tax Assessor

Human Resources

Public Works

Police Department

ALSO PRESENT

Racquel Ferguson, Purchasing Agent

Tony Jackson

Muzammil Mohamed-Stevens

Deputy Chief Crespin

Carla Roberts, Deputy Chief

Onica Woodman

Procurement

Mayor's Office

Public Works

Fire Department

Police Department

Finance

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

BERGSON LENUES - CHAIRMAN

James, Brent, Lewis

Claybrooks, Lewis, Gomez, Garrett-Ward - 2022

- | | | |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 101. | Recreation Department | In Committee |
| 102. | East Orange Public Library | In Committee |
| 103. | Rodger & Joyce Harris
60 th Wedding Anniversary | Resolution to be presented |
| 104. | Resolution Authorizing an Emergency
Contract for the Child & Adult Care
Food Program Service | Resolution to be presented |
| 105. | Johnny L. Atkinson, Sr. – Memorial | Resolution to be presented |
| 106. | Honorable Arthur L. Wright – Memorial | Resolution to be presented |

200 - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING

CHRISTOPHER D. JAMES – CHAIRMAN

Leneus, Pullins, Jr., Brent

Gomez, Leneus, Brent, James - 2022

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|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 201. | Brick Church Mall | In Committee |
| 202. | Brick Church Urban Renewal | In Committee |
| 203. | Economic Development Corp. | In Committee |
| 204. | Resolution Authorizing the Execution
of an Amended Licensing Agreement
for 20-30 Evergreen | Resolution to be presented |
| 205. | Resolution Authorizing the Execution
of a Redevelopment Agreement between
the City of East Orange and Upper Greenwood
Realty, LLC for 147 & 119 North 15 th Street | Resolution to be presented |
| 206. | Resolution Designating Upper Greenwood
Realty, LLC as Redeveloper for 147 & 119
North 15 th Street located in the Greenwood
Redevelopment Area | Resolution to be presented |
| 207. | Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a First
Amendment to Financial Agreement by and
Between the City of East Orange and 89 North
Arlington Urban Renewal, LLC with respect to
The Property located at 89 North Arlington,
Block 360, Lot 1 | Resolution to be presented |

300 - FINANCE

VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN

Lewis, Holman, Gomez

Pullins, Jr., Holman, James, Lewis - 2022

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|------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 #24 | Resolution to be presented |
| 308. | Stop Payments | In Committee |
| 309. | Legal Transfer 2022 - \$6,936,100.00 | In Committee |
| 310. | Legal Transfer 2022 - \$743,600.00 | Resolution to be presented |
| 311. | Tax Payment Plan | In Committee |
| 312. | Tax Appeal Refund | In Committee |
| 313. | Annual Tax Sale | In Committee |
| 314. | Tax Abatement | In Committee |

300 – FINANCE - Continued
VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN
Lewis, Holman, Gomez
Pullins, Jr., Holman, James, Lewis - 2022

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|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 315. | In Lieu of Taxes | In Committee |
| 316. | Bills, Claims & Appropriations – 12.12.22 | Resolution to be presented |
| 317. | Bills, Claims & Appropriations – 12.19.22 | Resolution to be presented |
| 318. | Tax Sale Assignment | In Committee |
| 319. | Tax Lien | In Committee |
| 320. | Tax Lien Redemption | In Committee |
| 321. | Budget Insertions | In Committee |
| 322. | Status of Women | In Committee |
| 323. | Auction | In Committee |
| 324. | Duplicate Tax Payments - \$600.00 | Resolution to be presented |
| 325. | Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employees | Resolution to be presented |
| 326. | Resolution of the City of East Orange, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, Determining the form and the details of its “Note Relating to the Water Bank Construction Financing Program of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank”, to be issued in the Principal Amount of up to \$1,925,000, and Providing for the Issuance and Sale of such note to the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank, and Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of such Note by the City of East Orange in favor of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank, all Pursuant to the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank Water Bank Construction Financing Program | Resolution to be presented |
| 327. | Resolution Authorizing the City of East Orange to enter into a Contract to purchase Office Furniture from AIS, a State Approved Contract Vendor State Contract #19-Food-00876 | Resolution to be presented |
| 328. | N.J. Department of Law and Public Safety Emergency Management Agency Assistance (EMAA) 2022 Grant | Resolution to be presented |
| 329. | Resolution Authorizing the Installation and Upgrade of the Council Chambers Audio and Video System | Resolution to be presented |

400 – HEALTH and EDUCATION
MUSTAFA AL-M. BRENT – CHAIRMAN
Claybrooks, Gomez, James
Garrett-Ward, Brent, Claybrooks, Leneus - 2022

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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
BRITTANY D. CLAYBROOKS – CHAIRWOMAN
Holman, Leneus, Pullins, Jr.
James, Garrett-Ward, Leneus, Claybrooks - 2022

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

500 – HOUSING, LICENSING AND INSPECTION - Continued

BRITTANY D. CLAYBROOKS – CHAIRWOMAN

Holman, Leneus, Pullins, Jr.

James, Garrett-Ward, Leneus, Claybrooks - 2022

507. Housing Summit In Committee

700 – PLANNING and GRANTS

TAMEIKA GARRETT-WARD – CHAIRWOMAN

Gomez, Claybrooks, Holman

Leneus, James, Pullins, jr., Holman - 2022

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

800 - PUBLIC SAFETY

AMY LEWIS – CHAIRWOMAN

Brent, James, Garrett-Ward

Lewis, Pullins, Jr., Garrett-Ward, Brent - 2022

801. Police Department In Committee

802. Fire Department In Committee

900 - PUBLIC WORKS

CASIM GOMEZ – CHAIRMAN

Pullins, Jr., Garrett-Ward, Claybrooks

Brent, Claybrooks, Holman, Gomez - 2022

901. Capital Improvement Projects under Construction

902. Streetscape In Committee

903. Resolution Authorizing the Designation of Restricted Parking Spaces **Resolution to be presented**

904. Resolution Accepting the Proposal of Rubberized Path Installation in Columbian Park **Resolution to be presented**

905. Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract to William J. Guarini, Inc., for General Plumbing Services at Municipal Buildings & Facilities **Resolution to be presented**

906. Resolution Authorizing and Ratifying the Extension of the Contract for Global Positioning Vehicle Fleet Management System Services Pursuant to Resolution I-305 of 2018 **Resolution to be presented**

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION

ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN

Garrett-Ward, Lewis, Leneus

Holman, Gomez, Lewis, Pullins, Jr. - 2022

601. Ordinances on First Reading In Committee

602. Ordinances on Second and Final Reading **Ordinance No. 31 of 2022**
An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of East Orange, Article XXIV, “Abandoned Property Designation Program” (Adopted 12.08.2008 as Ord. 23 of 2008 and Amended by Ord. 27 of 2014)

603. Bingo/Raffles In Committee

604. A.B.C. In Committee

605. City Council Rules In Committee

606. Settlements In Committee

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION - Continued

ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN

Garrett-Ward, Lewis, Leneus

Holman, Gomez, Lewis, Pullins, Jr. - 2022

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|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 607. | Comcast/Suburban Cable Contract | In Committee |
| 608. | Taxi Cabs vs. Livery Licenses | In Committee |
| 609. | Twenty-day Waiver on Ordinance #36 of 2022 | Resolution to be presented |

1000– COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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| 1000. | East Orange Parking Authority | In Committee |
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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. Deborah White – Spaxel Mgmt. filed several complaints regarding various issues including the elevator, with Code Enforcement about Issues at 120 South Harrison Street and also reached out to the DCA and the State.
2. Marie Holland – Requesting Security Guards at 545 Park Avenue (Senior Building)

Meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cynthia S. Brown, City Clerk

