

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

Monday, March 8, 2021

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of February 22, 2021)

**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
February 22, 2021**

The East Orange City Council met on February 22, 2021 at 5:30 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.; Mustafa Al-M Brent Vernon Pullins, Jr. Tameika Garrett-Ward; Bergson Leneus; Alicia Holman; Christopher Awe; Brittany Claybrooks; Christopher D. James

ABSENT

Amy Lewis

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Honorable Ted R. Green	Mayor
Solomon Steplight, City Administrator	City Administrator
Ryan Linder, Corporation Counsel	Law Department
Phyllis Bindi, Chief	Police Department
Andre Williams, Chief	Fire Department
Dorothy Gallagher, Acting CFO	Finance
Monique Griffith, Director	Health and Human Services
Mark Barner, Director	Property Maintenance
Carolyn R. Reed, Director	East Orange Public Library
Mabelteen Tucker, Director	Human Resources
Daniel Jennings, Director	Planning

ALSO PRESENT

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.

In accordance with Executive Order 107, the City of East Orange Offices are closed to the public. For the safety of residents and employees, the Meetings of the East Orange City Council are being conducted via video conference, streaming on Facebook Live - [facebook.com/eocitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/eocitycouncil) until further notice.

Residents are allowed to 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](mailto:citycouncil@eastorange-nj.gov) by **5:00 PM**.

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

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 101. | Recreation Department | In Committee |
| 102. | East Orange Public Library | In Committee |
| 103. | Marcia E. Spence – Memorial | Resolution to be presented |
| 104. | Harold S. Reed – Memorial | Resolution to be presented |

200 - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING
CASIM GOMEZ – CHAIRMAN
Awe, Claybrooks, Brent

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 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 Approving a Rider to the Second Financial Agreement Between the City of East Orange and McIver Homes, L.P. | Resolution to be presented |

300 - FINANCE
CHRISTOPHER AWE – CHAIRMAN
Lewis, Pullins, Holman

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 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. 4 | 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 – 2/22/2021 | 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 - \$4,307.30 | Resolution to be presented |
| 323. | Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities for Former Employee - \$2,318.57 | Resolution to be presented |
| 324. | Authorize Temporary Emergency Appropriation | Resolution to be presented |
| 325. | Corrective Action Plan for the Calendar Year Period Ended December 31, 2019 (Schedule of Findings and Question Costs) | Resolution to be presented |

300 – FINANCE - Continued
CHRISTOPHER AWE – CHAIRMAN
Lewis, Pullins, Holman

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 326. | Corrective Action Plan for the Calendar Year
Period Ended December 31, 2019 (Schedule
of Audit Findings and Recommendations) | Resolution to be presented |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|

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

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 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 and Approving a
Memorandum of Understanding Between
the City of East Orange and Best Care
College Regarding Execution of the Field
Experience Program | Resolution to be presented |

500 – HOUSING, LICENSING AND INSPECTION
ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN
Claybrooks, Gomez, Leneus

- | | | |
|------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 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
BRITTANY D. CLAYBROOKS – CHAIRWOMAN
Gomez, Leneus, Garrett-Ward

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 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 Supporting an Application to and
Acceptance of Award from The NJ Transit, Local
Programs and Minibus Support (LPS)-5310
Grant Program | Resolution to be presented |
| 707. | Resolution Supporting an Application to and
Acceptance of Award from the NJ State League
of Municipalities (NJLM) Foundation – Funding
Opportunity for Connectivity Grants Program | Resolution to be presented |

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

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

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

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

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

- | | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 601. | Ordinances on First Reading | <p><u>Ordinance No. 4 of 2021</u>
An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of First Amendments to Financial Agreements for payments In Lieu of Taxes with Brick Church Urban Renewal I LLC, Brick Church Urban Renewal LL LLC, Brick Church Urban Renewal III LLC, Brick Church Urban Renewal IV LLC, Brick Church Urban Renewal V LLC, and Brick Church Urban Renewal VI LLC Pursuant to the Long Term Tax Exemption and The Redevelopment Area Bond Financing Law With Respect to 533 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard also Identified as Block 683, Lot 1, 15-33 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard also Identified as Block 683, Lot 4.01, 507 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard also Identified as Block 683, Lot 4.02 and 513-517 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard also Identified as Block 683, Lot 5, All in The City of East Orange, In The County of Essex State of New Jersey and Authorizing Certain Other Actions in Connection Therewith</p> <p><u>Ordinance No. 5 of 2021</u>
An Ordinance to Transfer City Owned Lots to SBF Development, LLC or an Entity to be Created in the Greenwood Redevelopment Area Under the Auspices of N.J.S.A.40:A-1 et seq, Known as the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law</p> <p><u>Bond Ordinance No. 6 of 2021</u>
Bond Ordinance Providing for Various 2021 Capital Acquisitions and Improvements, By and In the City of East Orange, In the County of Essex, State of New Jersey (The "City"): Appropriating \$5,941,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,772,950 in Bonds or Notes of the City to Finance Part of the Costs Thereof</p> <p><u>Bond Ordinance No. 7 of 2021</u>
Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Improvements to Columbian Park and Oval Park in and By the City of East Orange in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey (The "City") Reappropriating \$733,800 in Bond Proceeds Not Needed for Their Original Purpose From Section 3(b) of Bond Ordinance Number 59 of 2016 Finally Adopted December 19, 2016 of the City, to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof and Appropriating An Additional \$6,086,200 From the Open Space Trust Fund and Authorizing the Issuance of \$6,064,200 Bonds or Notes of the City to Finance Part of The Cost Thereof</p> |
| 602. | Ordinance on Second and Final Reading | In Committee |
| 603. | Bingo/Raffles | In Committee |
| 604. | A.B.C. | In Committee |
| 605. | City Council Rules – 2021 | Resolution to be presented |
| 606. | Settlements | In Committee |
| 607. | Comcast/Suburban Cable Contract | In Committee |

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION - Continued

VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN

Leneus, Lewis, Awe

608. Taxi Cabs vs. Livery Licenses

In Committee

1000– COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1000. East Orange Parking Authority

In Committee

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cynthia S. Brown, City Clerk