

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

Monday, February 27, 2023

5:30 P.M.

(Minutes from the Meeting of February 14, 2023)

**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
February 14, 2023**

The East Orange City Council met on February 14, 2023, at 5:35 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; Brittany Claybrooks; Mustafa Al-M Brent; Bergson Leneus; Alicia Holman; Vernon Pullins, Jr.; Amy Lewis; Christopher Awe

ABSENT

Tameika Garrett-Ward (arrived @ 5:37 pm)

Christopher D. James (arrived @ 5:36 pm)

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Solomon Steplight, City Administrator	City Administrator
Ronald Hunt, Corporation Counsel	Law Department
Dorothy Gallagher, CFO	Finance
Yvonne C. Blake, Acting Director	Health and Human Services
Tiffany Harris-Delaney, Director	Planning
Jamal Pearson, Director	Recreation
Eladio Negron, Director	Code Enforcement
Tina Sakajani	Tax Assessor
Monica Reed, Director	Human Resources
Rupert Bell, Director	Public Works
Phyllis Bindi, Chief	Police Department
Bruce Davis, Acting Chief	Fire Department
Maurice Boyd, Acting Public Safety Director	Police Department

ALSO PRESENT

Racquel Ferguson, Purchasing Agent	Procurement
Tony Jackson	Mayor's Office
Muzammil Mohamed-Stevens	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

BERGSON LENUES - CHAIRMAN

James, Brent, Lewis

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 101. | Recreation Department | In Committee |
| 102. | East Orange Public Library | In Committee |
| 103. | Juanita Rowe - Memorial | Resolution to be presented |

200 - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING

CHRISTOPHER D. JAMES – CHAIRMAN

Leneus, Pullins, Jr., Brent

- | | | |
|------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 201. | Brick Church Mall | In Committee |
| 202. | Brick Church Urban Renewal | In Committee |
| 203. | Economic Development Corp. | In Committee |

300 - FINANCE

VERNON PULLINS, JR. – CHAIRMAN

Lewis, Holman, Gomez

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 #2 | Resolution to be presented |
| 308. | Payroll #3 | Resolution to be presented |
| 309 | Stop Payments | In Committee |
| 310 | Legal Transfer 2022 | In Committee |
| 311. | Tax Payment Plan | In Committee |
| 312. | Tax Appeal Refund | In Committee |
| 313. | Annual Tax Sale | In Committee |
| 314. | Tax Abatement | In Committee |
| 315. | In Lieu of Taxes | In Committee |
| 316. | Bills, Claims & Appropriations – 2.14.23 | Resolution to be presented |
| 317. | Tax Sale Assignment | In Committee |
| 318. | Tax Lien | In Committee |
| 319. | Tax Lien Redemption | In Committee |
| 320. | Budget Insertions | In Committee |
| 321. | Status of Women | In Committee |
| 322. | Auction | In Committee |
| 323. | Duplicate Tax Payments - \$15,121.44 | Resolution to be presented |
| 324. | Resolution Amending the Gas Mileage Reimbursement Rate for City Employees | Resolution to be presented |
| 325. | Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employees | Resolution to be presented |
| 326. | Authorize Temporary Emergency Appropriations Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:4-1 ET SEQ (The Local Budget Law) | Resolution to be presented |
| 327. | Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contracts for Tax Appeal Defense Counsel | Resolution to be presented |
| 328. | Authorize Payment of Accumulated Absence Liabilities to Former Employee | Resolution to be presented |

400 – HEALTH and EDUCATION
MUSTAFA AL-M. BRENT – CHAIRMAN
Claybrooks, Gomez, James

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.

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
TAMEIKA GARRETT-WARD – CHAIRWOMAN
Gomez, Claybrooks, 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
706.	Resolution Authoring the City of East Orange to Apply for a Grant from the Bloomberg Philanthropies for the 2023 Public Art Challenge	Resolution to be presented
707.	A Resolution Authorizing the Award of Home Funds to Sierra House Community Housing Development Organization for an Affordable Housing Project in the Greenwood Redevelopment Area Located at 70 Chestnut Street	Resolution to be presented

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

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

900 - PUBLIC WORKS
CASIM GOMEZ – CHAIRMAN
Pullins, Jr., Garrett-Ward, Claybrooks

901.	Capital Improvement Projects	under Construction
902.	Streetscape	In Committee
903.	Resolution Accepting the Bid of A.B. Contracting, LLC for Columbian Park Improvements- Field House and Swimming Pool	Resolution to be presented
904.	Resolution Authorizing the City of East Orange to Enter into a Right of Entry Agreement with PSE&G	Resolution to be presented

600 - LAW AND LEGISLATION
ALICIA HOLMAN – CHAIRWOMAN
Garrett-Ward, Lewis, Leneus

601. Ordinances on First Reading

Ordinance No. 3 of 2023

An Ordinance to Transfer a City Property Upper Greenwood Realty LLC, In the Greenwood Redevelopment Area Under the Auspices of N.J.S.A.40:12A-1 et. Seq., Known as the “Local Redevelopment and Housing Law”

Ordinance No. 4 of 2023

Municipal Budget Appropriation and Establish a Cap Bank Pursuant (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)- to be transferred to Finance

602. Ordinance on Second and Final Reading

Ordinance No. 1 of 2023

An Ordinance Authorizing the City of East Orange Purchase for a Public Purpose the Improvements and Property Located at 18-20 Ashland Avenue, identified on the Tax Maps as Block 541, Lot 14, East Orange, New Jersey

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 Waiving the Twenty Day Effective Period on Ordinance No. 1 of 2023

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.

NONE

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Justin R. Brown, Deputy City Clerk

THE EAST ORANGE CITY COUNCIL
AMENDED 2023 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 2023 Meeting Dates.

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

Monday, January 9, 2023
Annual Reorganization Meeting

Committee Discussion
& Agenda Meetings

5:30 PM

Monday, January 23rd

~~Monday, February 13th~~
 Tuesday, February 14th
 Monday, February 27th

Monday, March 13th
 Monday, March 20th

Monday, April 10th
 Monday, April 24th

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Monday, May 8th
 Tuesday, May 30th

Monday, June 12th
 Monday, June 26th

Monday, July 10th
 Monday, July 24th

Monday, August 14th
 Monday, August 28th

Monday, September 11th
 Monday, September 25th

Tuesday, October 16th
 Monday, October 30th

Monday, November 13th
 Monday, November 27th

Monday, December 11th
 Monday, December 18th

Regular Official
Meetings

6:00PM

Monday, January 23rd

~~Monday, February 13th~~
 Tuesday, February 14th
 Monday, February 27th

Monday, March 13th
 Monday, March 20th

Monday, April 10th
 Monday, April 24th

Monday, May 8th
 Tuesday, May 30th

Monday, June 12th
 Monday, June 26th

Monday, July 10th
 Monday, July 24th

Monday, August 14th
 Monday, August 28th

Monday, September 11th
 Monday, September 25th

Tuesday, October 16th
 Monday, October 30th

Monday, November 13th
 Monday, November 27th

Monday, December 11th
 Monday, December 18th

City Council Reorganization Meeting
Monday, January 1, 2024
@ Noon

Amended 1.23.2023