

Council of the City of York, Pennsylvania

Henry Hay Nixon, President of Council
Sandie Walker, Vice President of Council
Judy A. Ritter-Dickson, Member of Council
Edquina Washington, Member of Council
H. Michael Buckingham, Member of Council

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MINUTES July 16, 2019 6:00 p.m.

[Resolutions Approved](#) | [Resolution No. 53](#) | [Bills Approved](#)

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Walker called the July 16, 2019 general public comment session to order at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 101 S. George St., York, PA, with the following members present: H. Michael Buckingham, Edquina Washington, and Henry Hay Nixon, with President Nixon presiding.

Members of the Administration in attendance included: Michael Helfrich, Mayor; Tom Ray, Acting Director of Business Administration; Chaz Green, Director of Public Works; Chad Deardorff, Fire Chief; and Jason Sabol, Assistant Solicitor.

Members of York City Council staff in attendance included: Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk.

I. Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Judith Fry & Shelly Hivner presented Council with pictures of Locust St. (300 block of E. Locust St.) and compared how it looked before the block was renovated, how it looked like right after renovations were made, and what it looks like today. She said the pictures the pictures show trash and abandoned vehicles. She asked what can be done to get their area zoned owner-occupied.

Youth members of CASA introduced themselves and said their mission is to build a better and stronger community. They all gave testimony on the importance of preserving the planet and described the negative effects changing weather and pollution poses to the long-term health of our planet. They asked residents to pledge to become more energy efficient.

Elizabeth Bupp complained about the proposed relocation of gas meters by Columbia Gas. She said the properties in the historic district qualify for an exemption to having the meters installed outside. She described how the meters work and the dangers of leaks and explosions.

Bryan Tate also discussed outside gas meters and how it does not compliment efforts to beautify the city. He said Columbia Gas is going to move the meters outside without the consent of the property owners. He said the properties in the Historic District are exempt from having to have meters installed outside. He said there is a signed agreement that gas meters are to remain indoors.

Evette Freeland spoke about the recent article about York City Police Departments posting racial comments on social media. She said this worries her as a woman of color. She said is it going to take our family members getting killed before something is done. She feels these words will become action if it's not addressed now. She said these police officers need to be reprimanded.

Nathan May spoke about the violence in the community. He said there are a lot of alleyways and residents are hoping to see more of a police presence and installation of additional streetlights.

Eva Haynes said a member of her family was a victim of violence. She said she sees downtown is being renovated but the rest of the city is being neglected.

Samantha Dorm said a grant was submitted for \$1 million with no matching funds required to help those being released from prison to get jobs as well as another grant for the Gang Violence Initiative (GVI). She said we need to hear from the community because there are grants that week can apply for, but the application period is time sensitive.

George Rhine spoke on behalf of individuals with disabilities. He said the sidewalks are in terrible condition and need to be repaired. He said residents are being given tickets for parking, yet the parking enforcement officers overlook the hazardous sidewalks they walk on every day.

Joanne Eckeledo spoke about curfew enforcement and asked that discussion happen on this law before the lives of our children are put into the hands of law enforcement. She said this law makes it possible for police to target minority youth. She said this could lead to violations and fines that could lead to jail. There is a pandemic of homeless youth in York City so law so this law could target them. She said she has some solutions and is willing to share those solutions.

President Nixon asked Ms. Eckeledo to contact the Mayor because he likes hearing solutions.

There being no further comment, President Nixon adjourned the public comment session at 6:44 p.m. and immediately convened in legislative session.

II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order: 6:44 p.m.

III. Roll Call

IV. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

V. Moment of Silence observed.

VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of June 4, 2019: Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and unanimously approved them as written.

VII. Presentations, Proclamations, Awards and Announcements

- **Michael Carew, [Citizens' Climate Lobby](#)** – Brief presentation on the Citizens' Climate Lobby's mission and goals.

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a non-profit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. Our consistently respectful, nonpartisan approach to climate education is designed to create a broad, sustainable foundation for climate action across all geographic regions and political inclinations. By building upon shared values rather than partisan divides and empowering our supporters to work in keeping with the concerns of their local communities, we work towards the adoption of fair, effective, and sustainable climate change solutions. Citizens' Climate Lobby organizes by establishing local chapters in congressional districts. Working as a team you'll experience the profound difference people can make by empowering and inspiring their elected representatives, local media, and community. To date, there 542 chapters active chapters across the globe. For more information on the Citizens' Climate Lobby, please visit: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/>. (Source: citizensclimatelobby.org)

VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:

- **Legislative Meeting:** Scheduled for Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on August 14th.

IX. Status of Prior Committee Referrals: No reports.

X. Legislative Agenda: (Order of Business – Action on Subdivision/Land Development & HARB Resolutions; Final Passage of Bills/Resolutions; New Business.)

Subdivision / Land Development / HARB

1. **Resolution No. 55** - A Resolution
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))
Introduced by: H. Michael Buckingham
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 55, Session 2019, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing certificates of appropriateness to Russell Oft, Jr. for work to be done at 244-246 W. Market St., and Daniel G. Walczyk for work to be done at 148 W. Philadelphia St., was introduced by Buckingham, read at length and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 55 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

2. **Resolution No. 56** - A Resolution
Approving the final land development plan submitted by Habitat for Humanity. (For construction of 14 single-family homes at 701-731 Chestnut St.) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development (PP&Z)

Resolution No. 56, Session 2019, A Resolution approving the final land development plan submitted by Habitat for Humanity for construction of 14 single-family homes at 701-731 Chestnut St., was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 56 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

3. **Resolution No. 57** - A Resolution
Approving the final land development plan submitted by Keystone Kidspace. (For redevelopment of 369 N. George St. into a museum) ([View](#))
Introduced by: H. Michael Buckingham
Originator: Economic & Community Development (PP&Z)

Resolution No. 57, Session 2019, A Resolution approving the final land development plan submitted by Keystone Kidspace for redevelopment of 369 N. George St. into a museum, was introduced by Buckingham, read at length and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 57 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

Final Passage of Bills / Resolutions

4. **Final Passage of Bill No. 12, Ordinance No. 11** – A Bill
Amending Article 149 “Fire Department” of the Codified Ordinances. (To authorize the Dept. of Fire/Rescue Services to recover costs and expenses for its fire/emergency services.) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Dept. of Fire/Rescue Services

Final Passage of Bill No. 12, Ordinance No. 11, Session 2019, A Bill amending Article 149 “Fire Department” of the Codified Ordinances to authorize the Dept. of Fire/Rescue Services to recover costs and expenses for its fire/emergency services, which was introduced by Washington at the June 4, 2019 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington,

seconded by Buckingham, Bill No. 12, Ordinance No. 11, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

5. Final Passage of **Bill No. 13, Ordinance No. 12** – A Bill
Amending the 2019 HOME Investment Partnership Program. (To reflect changes in revenue/expenses resulting from reallocations of funds/program income for York Habitat - \$75,000) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Judy A. Ritter-Dickson
Originator: Economic & Community Development (BHS)

Final Passage of Bill No. 13, Ordinance No. 12, Session 2019, A Bill amending the 2019 HOME Investment Partnership Program to reflect changes in revenue/expenses resulting from reallocations of funds/program income for York Habitat in the amount of \$75,000, which was introduced by Ritter-Dickson at the June 4, 2019 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Bill No. 13, Ordinance No. 12, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

6. Final Passage of **Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 13** – A Bill
Amending the 2019 Budget. (\$100,000 for a Family Health Council STD services agreement) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Judy A. Ritter-Dickson
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Final Passage of Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 13, Session 2019, A Bill amending the 2019 Budget in the amount of \$100,000.00 for a grant award from the Family Health Council of Central PA, Inc. for Family Health Council STD services, which was introduced by Ritter-Dickson at the June 4, 2019 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 13, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

7. Final Passage of Resolution No. **53** – A Resolution
Establishing a billing list of fees to be charged for recovery costs/expenses for fire and emergency services. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Final Passage of Resolution No. 53, Session 2019, A Resolution establishing a list of billing fees to be charged for fire/rescue recovery costs and expenses for fire and emergency service (established with passage of Bill No. 12, Ordinance No. 11 of 2019 amending Article 149 “Fire Department”), which was introduced by Washington at the June 4, 2019 meeting and Council and read at length, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 53 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

New Business

8. Introduction of **Bill No. 15** - A Bill
Amending Article 737 “Minors Curfew” of the Codified Ordinances. (To define “guardian”) ([View](#))
Introduced by: H. Michael Buckingham
Originator: Mayor

Introduction of Bill No. 15, Session 2019, A Bill amending Article 737 “Minors Curfew” of the Codified Ordinances to define “guardian,” was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to August 20th legislative meeting for consideration of final passage.

9. Introduction of **Bill No. 16** - A Bill
Amending the 2019 Budget. (\$175,000 for purchase of a records management system) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Police

Introduction of Bill No. 16, Session 2019, A Bill amending the 2019 Budget in the amount of \$175,000 for the Police Department for purchase of a records management system, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the August 20th legislative meeting for consideration of final passage.

10. Resolution No. **58** - A Resolution Appointing and reappointing members to various boards and authorities. (S. Sexton, H. Myers & D. Wright to HRC; M. Burgos to Planning; Elizabeth Bupp to Zoning) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Mayor | Council

Resolution No. 58, Session 2019, A Resolution consenting to the reappointment of Stanley Sexton, Harold Myers, and Dawn Wright to the York City Human Relations Commission to serve until July 16, 2022; Appointment of Maribel Burgos to the York City Planning Commission to serve until January 1, 2020; and Appointment of Elizabeth Bupp as a regular member of the York City Zoning Hearing Board to serve until January 1, 2024, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 58 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

As Ms. Bupp was in attendance, the City Clerk administered to her the oath of office.

11. Resolution No. **59** - A Resolution Authorizing the submission of a proposal for funds with DCED. (\$3M Multimodal Transportation Funds for the Duke St, Penn St., and NWT neighborhood street improvement project) ([View](#))
Introduced by: H. Michael Buckingham
Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 59, Session 2019, A Resolution authorizing the submission of a proposal for funds with the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for Multimodal Transportation funds in the amount of \$3 million for the Duke St., Penn St., and Northwest Triangle street improvement project, was introduced by Buckingham, read at length, and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 59 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

12. Resolution No. **60** - A Resolution Awarding a contract to Kinsley Construction. (\$375,952.00 for the 2019 Street Improvement Project of Pershing Ave., Kurtz Ave., & Phila. St.) ([View](#))
Introduced by: H. Michael Buckingham
Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 60, Session 2019, A Resolution awarding a contract to Kinsley Construction in the amount of \$375,952.00 for the 2019 Street Improvement Project for Pershing Ave., Kurtz Ave., and Philadelphia St., was introduced by Buckingham, read at length, and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 60 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

13. Resolution No. **PULLED** - A Resolution Authorizing a budget transfer for Public Works. (\$35,000.00 for engineering services for Poorhouse Run) ([View](#))
Originator: Public Works

PULLED: This item was pulled from the agenda because budget transfers require the approval of 4 members of Council. As there were not enough members present to consider this Resolution, it was deferred to the August 20th legislative meeting for consideration of final passage.

14. Resolution No. 61 - A Resolution Appointing probationary firefighters. (C. McCullough, T. Firestone, J. Sandmeyer, & D. Vaughn) ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Fire/Rescue

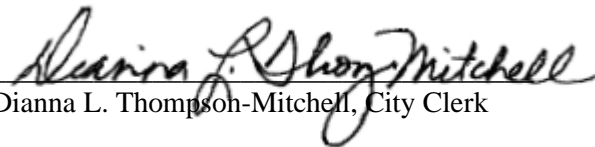
Resolution No. 61, Session 2019, A Resolution appointing Christopher McCullough, Tylin Firestone, Jason Sandmeyer, and Dylan Vaughn as probationary firefighter's, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 61 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

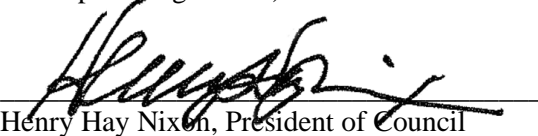
Chief Deardorff said these individuals will take the place of two resignations and two retirees.

15. Resolution No. 62 - A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with PA Fire Recovery Service, LLC. (For fee collection services related to Article 149 "Fire Dept.") ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Resolution No. 62, Session 2019, A Resolution authorizing an agreement with PA Fire Recovery Service, LLC, for fee collection services related to costs and expenses for emergency services authorized by Article 149 "Fire Department" of the Codified Ordinances, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 62 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Washington, Buckingham, Nixon – 3; Nays – 0.

- XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None
- XII. Council Comment: None
- XIII. Administration Comment: None
- XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative session of City Council is scheduled for August 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.
- XV. Resumption of Public Comment Period (at the discretion of the presiding officer): None


Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk


Henry Hay Nixon, President of Council