

# 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  
Lou Rivera, Member of Council

Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk  
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## MINUTES October 20, 2020 6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Nixon called the October 20, 2020 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Lou Rivera, Edquina Washington, Judy A. Ritter-Dickson, Sandie Walker, Vice President, and Henry Hay Nixon, President, with President Nixon presiding. All members of Council teleconferenced in from remote locations.

**Members of the Administration in attendance included:** Michael Helfrich, Mayor; Tom Ray, Business Administrator; and Jason Sabol, Assistant Solicitor. All teleconferenced in from remote locations.

**Members of York City Council staff in attendance included:** Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk who also teleconferenced in from a remote location.

**NOTICE:** Council's meeting format has been altered due to the Declaration of Disaster Emergency issued by Governor Wolf amid the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic and the recent breach to the city's information technology department. Public Comment will only be received on agenda items. General public comment is suspended until further notice. Below are ways citizens may watch and participate in the Council meeting:

1. For public view only link, please visit <https://www.yorkcity.org/events/> and click on the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Link will be made available no later than 4pm on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.
2. For public call-in number, please visit <https://www.yorkcity.org/events/>. Link will be made available no later than 4pm Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. To request to comment during the meeting, you must press \*9 to "Raise your hand." When recognized, press \*6 to unmute/mute your microphone. Zoom will also remind you to press \*6 after you are recognized to speak. Also, those watching in Zoom may use the "Raise Hand" feature to indicate you request to comment.
3. Watch the meetings on Comcast Cable Channel 18.
4. Watch the meetings live on Facebook (Search for "City of York").
5. Watch the meetings online at [www.wrct.tv](http://www.wrct.tv)
6. Email comments on agenda items to the City Clerk at [dthomps@yorkcity.org](mailto:dthomps@yorkcity.org) no later than 3PM on the day of the scheduled meeting.
7. Mail comments on agenda items to: Office of City Clerk, Attn: Public Comment, 101 S. George St., York, PA 17401. Comments must be received the day prior to the scheduled meeting date by 4PM.
8. Persons with hearing impairments may call the Deaf Center at TDD (717) 848-6765 for assistance.

I. Called Legislative Meeting to Order: 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [September 15, 2020](#). Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and unanimously approved them as written.

All members of Council and the Mayor read the following statement with each reading separate paragraphs:

### **CITY OF YORK LEADERS UNITED**

(21 Oct 2020) York, PA — At York City Council’s October 20, 2020 legislative meeting, Mayor Michael Helfrich and members of City Council released the following statement in response to questions surrounding the resignation of Commissioner Osborne Robinson and police-community relations:

“We, as city officials, envision a joyful, united, and engaged community where people have the power to express their ideas and concerns freely. Our mission is to promote social equity and improve quality of life by building vibrant communities where everyone can live, work and play together.

Our priority is to keep our residents and visitors safe and well informed. There have been rumors and speculations surrounding the resignation of Police Commissioner Robinson. We stand before you united to ease the community’s concerns.

At a time when our citizens are expressing raw and real emotions in response to the senseless deaths and mistreatment of African Americans across the country, we need healing now more than ever. This is one of the lowest points our country has faced in decades. We know that our residents are angry, hurting and saddened by these events. This is understandable. We will not accept police brutality and we responded immediately with publishing our use of force policy and assembling a team to evaluate and implement #8CantWait, a nationwide campaign to bring immediate change to police departments.

America is facing the COVID-19 pandemic as well as a racial pandemic that is devastating the lives and livelihood of communities of color. Racism poses a public health threat, and the psychological burden is immense. We want you to know that we hear your cries, and we vow to work to heal this community through outreach and inclusion. Real and honest dialogue about race and police-community relations are already underway which will lead to positive changes and improvements in transparency and citizen involvement in reviewing the actions of local law enforcement.

We will work with our residents towards building a welcoming community, but we cannot do it without you. Let us focus on solutions to the issues our community is facing and resolve to make a difference. We are open to joining with our community and law enforcement in working together to eradicate the systemic inequalities and racial unrest in our community.

As elected officials we do not always have the answers. It may take some time but we want to work together so that our community can heal and grow together in unity. We wish to work with you hand-in-hand – not just for today, but for generations to come.”

Submitted by:

Michael R. Helfrich, Mayor

Henry Hay Nixon, President of Council

Sandie Walker, Vice President of Council

Judy A. Ritter-Dickson, Member of Council

Edquina Washington, Member of Council

Lou Rivera, Member of Council

#### IV. Presentations, Proclamations, Awards and Announcements

- Executive Session: Council met in executive session on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.
- Presentation: Elaine Bonneau, Downtown Inc., will present the York Business Improvement District Authority’s (YBIDA) Assessment Renewal Plan.

Elaine Bonneau discussed the renewal of the business improvement district five year plan. She said the current assessment is 1 mill (or \$1 for every \$1,000 of property value) which equals \$124,000 annually. Only commercial properties are assessed, not residential. She said the new plan will be for 2021-2025. She then

outlined the structure of the Business Improvement District and its board members. She said the York Business Improvement District Authority (YBIDA) would like to continue the geographic boundaries and the 1 mill assessment. In March, the BID renewal committee made its recommendations to the full YBIDA board with unanimous approval. Property owners did receive a copy of the 5-year business plan and a public hearing was held to receive public comment on the plan. Ms. Bonneau said the board wants to maintain a clean, safe, and welcoming community for the business improvement district, its residents, and visitors. For information on the business improvement district please visit [www.downtownyork.com/ybida](http://www.downtownyork.com/ybida).

V. Meeting(s) Scheduled:

- **Next Council Legislative Meeting:** Scheduled for **Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** Agenda items are due by 12 noon on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

VI. Status of Prior Committee Referrals: No reports.

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

President Nixon stated that agenda item 4 will be removed from the consent agenda as it is final passage of a bill. He asked if there is a motion to consider all remaining items on the legislative agenda as a consent agenda.

Motion to remove items from the consent agenda: A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Washington, to remove items 5, 8 & 12 from the consent agenda to allow for discussion and to accept all other items as a consent agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas – Rivera, Washington, Ritter-Dickson, Walker, Nixon – 5; Nays – 0.

President Nixon asked if there is any Council comment on consent agenda items? There was no comment.

Next, President Nixon asked if there is there any administration comment? There was no comment.

President Nixon asked if any public comment has been received. The City Clerk responded that no public comment has been received.

Motion to approve items on consent agenda: A motion made by Walker, seconded by Washington, to approve all consent agenda items. The motion PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Rivera, Washington, Ritter-Dickson, Walker, Nixon – 5; Nays – 0.

**Subdivision / Land Development / HARB**

1. Resolution No. **89** - A Resolution  
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Judy A. Ritter-Dickson  
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 89, Session 2020, a Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing a certificate of appropriateness for in the applications filed by Teresa Jonescu for work to be done at 31 S. Queen St.; St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Mission for work to be done at 129 S. Beaver St. 3; YWCA of York for work to be done at 320 E. Market St.; Josh Lutz for work to be done at 301 W. Philadelphia St.; and the YWCA of York for work to be done at 634 S. George St., was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

2. Resolution No. **90** - A Resolution  
Approving the final land development plan submitted by Nutec Group on behalf of Precision Custom Components. (For an addition to an existing industrial use at 500 Lincoln St.) ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Judy A. Ritter-Dickson  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (PP&Z)

A Resolution approving the final land development plan submitted by Nutec Group on behalf of Precision Custom Components for an addition to an existing industrial use at 500 Lincoln St. was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

3. Resolution No. 91 - A Resolution Approving the final land development plan submitted by Nutec Group on behalf of the White Rose Pickleball Assoc. (For pickleball courts in Memorial Park - 941 Vander Ave.) ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Judy A. Ritter-Dickson  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (PP&Z)

Resolution No. 91, Session 2020, a Resolution approving the final land development plan submitted by Nutec Group on behalf of the White Rose Pickleball Assoc. for pickleball courts in Memorial Park (941 Vander Ave.) was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

### Final Passage of Bills / Resolutions

4. Final Passage of Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 14 - A Bill Making an appropriation not otherwise appropriated (MNOA). (\$20,000 for Special Events – The Parliament) ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Sandie Walker  
Originator: Public Works (Recreation & Parks)

Final Passage of Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 14, Session 2020, A Bill making an appropriation not of monies not otherwise appropriated (MNOA) in the amount of \$20,000 for Special Events contract with The Parliament, which was introduced by Walker at the September 15, 2020 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Walker, seconded by Ritter-Dickson, Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 14, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Rivera, Washington, Ritter-Dickson, Walker, Nixon – 5; Nays – 0.

### New Business

5. Resolution No. 92 - A Resolution Appointing Michael Muldrow as the York City Police Commissioner. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Mayor

Resolution No. 92, Session 2020, a Resolution appointing Michael Muldrow as Police Commissioner effective October 26, 2020 at an annual salary of \$110,000, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Ritter-Dickson, Resolution No. 92 came up for discussion.

Councilman Rivera said he's honored to take part in this important appointment.

Vice President Walker thanked all who sent their comments to Council in support of this appointment.

President Nixon said he agrees with Vice President Walker and said it was wonderful to hear from so many people.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 92 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Rivera, Washington, Ritter-Dickson, Walker, Nixon – 5; Nays – 0.

Mr. Muldrow thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and said he's looking forward to the task.

6. Resolution No. 93 - A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with All City Management Services. (For school crossing guards services) Introduced by: Sandie Walker ([View](#))  
Originator: Business Administration (HR)

Resolution No. 95, Session 2020, a Resolution authorizing an agreement with All City Management Services for school crossing guards services for the 2020-2021 school year was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

7. Resolution No. 94 - A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with the York City School District. (For school crossing guard services)([View](#))  
Introduced by: Sandie Walker  
Originator: Business Administration (HR)

Resolution No. 94, Session 2020, a Resolution authorizing an agreement with the York City School District for school crossing guard services for the 2020-2021 school year was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

8. Resolution No. 95 - A Resolution Approving the 2019-2022 FOP union agreement. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Sandie Walker  
Originator: Business Administration (HR)

Resolution No. 95, Session 2020, A Resolution approving the 2019-2020 Fraternal Order of Police Bargaining (Union) agreement, was introduced by Walker, read at length, and on motion of Walker, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 95 came up for discussion.

President Nixon asked for a short explanation of the contract for the public.

Business Administrator Tom Ray said this contract is essentially the results of an arbitration award from this year. The arbitration covers wages, health insurance, benefits, etc. The other document deals with the FOP membership. The FOP president, executive staff, and the city agreed to combined both those documents into one. He said combining these documents will allow them to know which documents we are working with instead of having to deal with two. There is a wage increase for each year and some minor modifications to some language that is amicable to both parties. The award was beneficial to the city and the union.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 95 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Rivera, Washington, Ritter-Dickson, Walker, Nixon – 5; Nays – 0.

9. Resolution No. 96 - A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). (\$38,500/yr for 3yrs for the Enterprise secured licensing system) ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Judy A. Ritter-Dickson  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Resolution No. 96, a Resolution authorizing an agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) in the amount of \$38,500/yr for 3yrs for the Enterprise secured licensing system, was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

10. Resolution No. 97 - A Resolution Authorizing the filing of a proposal for grant funds with the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). (Grant funding in the amount of \$47,925 for body-worn camera technology) ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Police

Resolution No. 97, Session 2020, a Resolution authorizing the filing of a proposal for grant funds with the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for grant funding in the amount of \$47,925 for body-worn camera technology, was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

11. Resolution No. 98 - A Resolution Proclaiming November 1, 2020 as “Extra Mile Day” in the City of York, PA. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Sandie Walker  
Originator: Council

Resolution No. 98, Session 2020, a Resolution proclaiming November 1, 2020 as “Extra Mile Day” in the City of York, PA, was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

12. Resolution No. 99 - A Resolution Proclaiming the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Week” in the City of York, PA. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Lou Rivera  
Originator: Council (Rivera)

Resolution No. 99, Session 2020, A Resolution proclaiming the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Week in the City of York, PA, was introduced by Councilman Rivera, read at length, and on motion of Rivera, seconded by Walker, Resolution No. 99 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Rivera, Washington, Ritter-Dickson, Walker, Nixon – 5; Nays – 0.

13. Resolution No. 100 - A Resolution Extending the Declaration of Disaster Emergency to November 30, 2020 for the City of York. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Mayor | Solicitor

Resolution No. 100, Session 2020, extending the Declaration of Disaster Emergency to November 30, 2020 for the City of York, PA, was approved unanimously by consent agenda with no discussion or public comment.

VIII. Requests for Future Meetings

IX. Council Comment

Vice President Walker announced some polling location changes. Ward 11 (St. Matthews Church) has been changed to Madison Church of the Brethren, 645 Madison Ave. Ward 14 (Kelly Manor) has been changed to Faith UCC, 509 Pacific Ave.

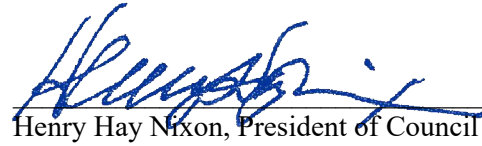
X. Administration Comment

Mayor Helfrich thanked everyone for supporting Commissioner Muldrow’s appointment. He also thanked Council for the Indigenous Peoples resolution. He said there are Indigenous people in York County who never left York. He said some were here for 5,000 years before the Susquehannocks. He then announced that Saturday’s “Good Trouble Ballot March” will meet at 12 noon at Penn Park on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and then will march to the county building for ballot drops and a voter registration drive. Also, York Merchant, 400 block of E. Market St. will have an open house initiative for businesses that want to open up craft shops and other small

businesses. Mayor Helfrich then said downtown events will include the Spooky Flea Market in Royal Square, and Kinsley will be bringing the Christmas Tree for light up night in downtown York.

- XI. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2020. There being no further business, the October 20, 2020 legislative meeting of Council adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

  
Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk

  
Henry Hay Nixon, President of Council