

# Council of the City of York, Pennsylvania

Sandie Walker, President of Council  
Edquina Washington, Vice President of Council  
Lou Rivera, Member of Council  
Betsy Buckingham, Member of Council  
Dr. Felicia O. A. Dennis, Member of Council

Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk  
Email: [dthomps@yorkcity.org](mailto:dthomps@yorkcity.org)



Office of York City Council  
101 S. George St.  
York, Pennsylvania 17401

Telephone: (717) 849-  
2246 Fax: (717) 812-0557

Website: [www.yorkcity.org](http://www.yorkcity.org)

## MINUTES April 5, 2022 6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Walker called the April 5, 2022, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 101 S. George St., York, PA, with the following members present: Dr. Felicia O. A. Dennis, Betsy Buckingham, Lou Rivera, Edquina Washington, Vice President, and Sandie Walker, President, with President Walker presiding.

**Members of the Administration in attendance included:** Michael Helfrich, Mayor; Kim Robertson, Acting Business Administrator; Melanie Baldwin, Grants Administration; and Jason Sabol, Assistant Solicitor.

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

### I. Public Comment:

Ryan Supler announced that the next Avenues Neighborhood Association (ANA) meeting will be held on April 18, 2022, at 5:30 PM at the York Ice Arena. For more information on ANA visit: [www.anayork.webs.com](http://www.anayork.webs.com). He then gave an update about the CODE Blue Emergency Shelter Program. Lastly, he said the Election's Office is looking for volunteers to help out during the elections. For more information, call (717) 771-9604.

Charlene Belcher spoke about the Shotspotter program. She said she lives in Dover, but her mom lives in the city and her and her family frequents the city of York. She said she understands the concerns about the Shotspotter program especially the problems with the system in Chicago. She said an Edgewater Analytics Report is available and gives good information on how accurate the Shotspotter is. She said Cooper Hospital, which is a level 1 hospital, aligned with the Shotspotter program. Over the course of a year, she said they were able to track gunshots which shaved 4 minutes off of calls which is significant when considering saving lives. Ms. Belcher also stated that the City of Oakland, CA, has good information on how they use Shotspotter and drones. They are required to turn in a yearly report that is made available to the public so they can continue receiving funding.

Sasha Kaufhold stated that she was picking up her child on the day the young man was shot and killed on Penn Park. The school was on lockdown because of it. She said police activity was present, kids were crying, and a body laid on the ground. She said she is scared her child will catch a bullet during recess. She said the emotional toll of seeing that dead body was traumatizing. She thought about moving to York City but after seeing what she saw, she said she's thinking twice about putting down roots here because of the violence. She said she wants to protect her children and her legacy. She encouraged Council to think about their vision for the city in the years to come and what small steps can be taken now toward that vision.

There being no further comment, President Walker adjourned the public comment session at 6:15 PM and immediately convened in legislative session.

- II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:15 PM.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance recited.
- V. Moment of Silence observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [March 15, 2022](#). Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and approved them as written by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.
- VII. Proclamations, Awards and Announcements: None
- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:
  - ▶ **Legislative Meeting:** The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on April 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - ▶ **Committee Meeting:** The next committee meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- IX. Status of Prior Committee Referrals: No reports.
- X. Legislative Agenda:

### Final Passage of Bills / Resolutions

1. Final Passage of Bill No. 18, Ordinance 17 - A Bill  
 Approving the 2022 Codified Ordinance replacement pages. ([View](#)) (For 2021 ordinances)  
 Introduced by: Lou Rivera  
 Originator: Council

Final Passage of Bill No. 18, Ordinance No. 17, Session 2022, A Bill approving the 2022 Codified Ordinance replacement pages (2021 ordinances), which was introduced by Rivera at the March 15 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Rivera, seconded by Dennis, Bill No. 18, Ordinance No. 17, Session 2022 passed by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.

2. Final Passage of Bill No. 19, Ordinance 18 - A Bill  
 Approving the transfer of funds in the FY2021 City Budget. ([View](#)) (For Environmental Services and Recreation/Parks making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the combined amount of \$885.19 to fund the remaining laundry/cleaning service costs for 2021)  
 Introduced by: Felicia Dennis  
 Originator: Public Works | Environmental Services | Parks/Recreation

Final Passage of Bill No. 19, Ordinance No. 18, Session 2022, A Bill approving the transfer of funds in the FY2021 City Budget for Environmental Services and Recreation/Parks making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the combined amount of \$885.19 to fund the remaining laundry/cleaning service costs for 2021, which was introduced by Dennis at the March 15 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Dennis, seconded by Rivera, Bill No. 19, Ordinance No. 18, Session 2022 passed by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.

3. Final Passage of Bill No. 20, Ordinance 19 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2021 City Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Fire Department by appropriating revenue and expenditure for architect/engineer/consultant services for the Rex/Laurel Fire Station renovation in the amount of \$35,251.92)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Final Passage of Bill No. 20, Ordinance No. 19, Session 2022, A Bill amending the FY2021 City Budget for the Fire Department by appropriating revenue and expenditure for architect/engineer/consultant services for the Rex/Laurel Fire Station renovation in the amount of \$35,251.92, which was introduced by Washington at the March 15 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Bill No. 20, Ordinance No. 19 passed by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.

4. Final Passage of Bill No. 21, Ordinance 20 - A Bill  
Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated. ([View](#)) (In the amount of \$5,500.00 for office equipment/furniture and capital – DP Software for the Treasurer’s Office paid out of the General Fund)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Treasurer

Final Passage of Bill No. 21, Ordinance No. 20, Session 2022, A Bill making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$5,500.00 for office equipment/furniture and capital – DP Software for the Treasurer’s Office paid out of the General Fund, which was introduced by Buckingham at the March 15 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Buckingham, seconded by Dennis, Bill No. 21, Ordinance No. 20 passed by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.

5. Final Passage of Bill No. 22, Ordinance 21 - A Bill  
Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated. ([View](#)) (In the amount of \$43,528.41 to fund vehicle and vehicle/lease purchase expenses for the Fire Department paid out of the Capital Projects Fund)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Final Passage of Bill No. 22, Ordinance No. 21, Session 2022, A Bill making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$43,528.41 to fund vehicle and vehicle/lease purchase expenses for the Fire Department paid out of the Capital Projects Fund, which was introduced by Washington at the March 15 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded by Rivera, Bill No. 22, Ordinance No. 21 passed by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.

### Introduction of Bills

6. Introduction of Bill No. 23 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2022 City Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) grant renewal (#4100082860), in the amount of \$35,245.00)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development | Health

Introduction of Bill No. 23, Session 2022, A Bill amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) grant renewal (#4100082860), in the amount of \$35,245.00, was

introduced by Washington, read by short title and deferred to the April 19 meeting of Council.

7. Introduction of Bill No. 24 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2022 City Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Fund 26 Special Projects account for Environmental Lead Investigations in the amount of \$1,620.00)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development | Health

Introduction of Bill No. 24, Session 2022, A Bill amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Fund 26 Special Projects account for Environmental Lead Investigations in the amount of \$1,620.00, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 19 meeting of Council.

8. Introduction of Bill No. 25 - A Bill  
Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated. ([View](#)) (In the FY2022 York City Budget in the amount of \$77,000 in American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" funding for demolition of the property located at 38 East South Street, City of York, County of York, PA, by A Plus Inc)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Originator: Economic & Community Development | PP&Z

Introduction of Bill No. 25, Session 2022, A Bill making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the FY2022 York City Budget in the amount of \$77,000 in American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" funding for demolition of the property located at 38 East South Street, City of York, County of York, PA, by A Plus Inc, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 19 meeting of Council.

9. Introduction of Bill No. 26 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2022 City Budget (ARPA). ([View](#)) (As follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration | IT | Human Resources | Econ. Dev.

Introduction of Bill No. 26, Session 2022, A Bill amending the FY2022 City Budget (ARPA) as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the April 19 meeting of Council.

10. Introduction of Bill No. 27 - A Bill  
Deleting references to the City of York General Authority. ([View](#)) (In Article 123 - Mayor, Article 509 - Parking Meters, and Article 517 - City Parking Lots)  
Introduced by: Lou Rivera  
Originator: Solicitor's Office

Introduction of Bill No. 27, Session 2022, A Bill deleting references to the City of York General Authority in Article 123 - Mayor, Article 509 - Parking Meters, and Article 517 - City Parking Lots, was introduced by Rivera, read by short title, and deferred to the April 19 meeting of Council.

### Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda

**Motion for consent agenda.** A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Buckingham, to consider agenda items 11-17 as a consent agenda. President Walker asked that agenda items 12 & 17 be removed from the consent agenda to allow for discussion. The motion to approve agenda items 11 and 13-16 as a consent agenda passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

President Walker asked if there was any comment from Council on the consent agenda items. There was none.

President Walker asked if there was any comment from the Administration on the consent agenda items. There was none.

President Walker asked if there was any comment from the public on the consent agenda items. There was none.

**Motion to approve items on the consent agenda.** There being no further comments, on motion of Rivera, second by Washington, agenda items 11 and 13-16 were approved by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

11. Resolution No. 42 - A Resolution  
Approving the preliminary/final subdivision plan submitted by Warehaus. ([View](#)) (For 320 N. George St.)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development | PP&Z

Resolution No. 42, Session 2022, A Resolution approving the preliminary/final subdivision plan submitted by Warehaus for 320 N. George St. was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

12. Resolution No. 43 - A Resolution  
Declaring April 2022 as Fair Housing Month in the City of York. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis  
Originator: Human Relations Commission

Motion to read by short title. A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Washington, to read Resolution No. 43 by short title. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

Resolution No. 43, Session 2022, A Resolution declaring April 2022 as Fair Housing Month in the City of York, was introduced by Dennis, read by short title, and on motion of Dennis, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 43 came up for discussion.

Stephanie Seaton, Chair, York City Human Relations Commission, thanked Council for considering this Resolution. She said 54 years ago on this date, riots were happening because of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She said housing is at a critical stage especially

since the pandemic. She thanked the members and organizations who are partners in fair housing in our community. She said he YCHRC is standing ready to address housing issues for members of our community. She thanked Council and the Administration for its support and thanked her fellow commissioners and all who address the housing needs of our residents. She said if you know anyone who is experiencing discrimination in housing, call us at (717) 846-2929 and our office is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of 101 S. George St., York, PA.

Joyce Santiago, Executive Director, Affordable Housing Advocates, said we are here to ensure affordable housing. She said she appreciates the recognition of Fair Housing Month.

Jose Santiago, YMCA, said this is important because housing is critical at this moment and as providers, we need to work together to correct the wrongs in housing.

Terry Abruzzese, & Natasha Kukorlo, York Habitat for Humanity, said a lot of people are living in their cars because of the housing crisis and that they build safe, affordable housing for residents. They are currently revitalizing the 700 block of W. Chestnut St. and they are still accepting applications for Habitat Homes. They then outlined the qualifications to receive a Habitat home.

Mina Edmonson, YCHRC Commissioner, invited all to a Fair housing Clinic on April 25 from 10-6pm in Council Chambers to learn more about fair housing. She said they will have speakers and information tables set up.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 43 passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

13. Resolution No. 44 - A Resolution Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$32,166.66 for clothing/shoe/uniforms/equipment)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Resolution No. 44, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer in the amount of \$32,166.66 for clothing/shoe/uniforms/equipment for the Department of Fire/Rescue Services was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

14. Resolution No. 45 - A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with InVeris Training Solutions. ([View](#)) (For SURVIVR Simulator, installation/training, software updates, tech support - \$62,500.00)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Resolution No. 45, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing an agreement with InVeris Training Solutions for SURVIVR Simulator, installation/training, software updates, tech support in the amount of \$62,500.00 for the Department of Fire/Rescue Services was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

15. Resolution No. 46 - A Resolution Authorizing a Lease Agreement with York County Economic Development Corporation. ([View](#)) (For 435 W. Philadelphia St. for the Bureau of Health)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development | Health

Resolution No. 46, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing a Lease Agreement with York County Economic Development Corporation for 435 W. Philadelphia St. for the Bureau of Health, was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

16. Resolution No. 47 – A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) ([View](#)) (To increase efficiency in work related to COVID-19 and other public health conditions)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development | Health

Resolution No. 47, Session 2022, A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) to increase efficiency in work related to COVID-19 and other public health conditions, was introduced by Washington, and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

17. Resolution No. 48 – A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with A Plus Inc. ([View](#)) (For demolition of 38 E. South St.)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development | PP&Z

Resolution No. 48, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing an agreement with A Plus Inc for demolition of 38 E. South St., was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Rivera, Resolution No. 48 came up for discussion.

Selena Schriver said they live next to this property and were displaced from the only place they've called home because they were instructed by city officials to evacuate their property. Ms. Schriver stated that she, her family, and her emotional support dog took one final glance of their home before they loaded all of their belongings into their car. She said they begged and pleaded with relatives for a place to stay to no avail. She said they were provided with emergency contacts but none of them could help them. Ms. Schriver said some of them wanted to split up her family and send her dog to the SPCA. She said she could not do that. Right now, Ms. Schriver stated that they are staying at a hotel until Monday. After that, they don't know where they will go and will probably end up in their vehicle. She said they don't have enough money to stay for another week in a hotel. She asked that the property come down soon so they can go back home.

President Walker said those who are here today that spoke about fair housing might be able to help. She said although Council is not able to assist, we empathize with your situation. She asked that Ms. Schriver stick around after the meeting and speak with them.

Stephanie Seaton, YCHRC Chair, said they have spoken with Mr. Schriver and there has been expediency on addressing this, but she understands that it doesn't seem like it because of the critical nature of their situation. She said this is critical and we will work with Ms. Schriver.

Joyce Santiago, Executive Director, Affordable Housing Advocates, asked if the city's HOME funds can help with housing. She said we have to do better as a community to address these housing issues.

Mayor Helfrich said he's not sure because he believes those dollars are allocated based on HUD rules. He said this is not a property owned by the city - we are demolishing a safety hazard.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 48 passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Councilwoman Buckingham announced assistance programs available for overdue sewer/water bills. You can apply at the County Assistance office by calling (717) 771-1100 or online at [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us). For property tax/rental rebate assistance, please contact Rep. Carol Hill-Evans' office at (717) 848-9595 or visit her office at 53 E. North St., Suite 3, York, PA.

XIII. Administration Comment

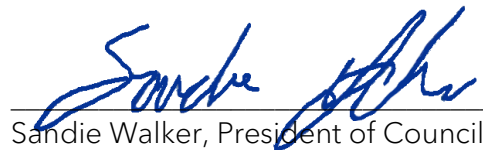
Mayor Helfrich said water shutoff notices are about to be distributed. He said we have been working for over 3 years to help people get caught up with their bills, including the Amnesty Program but now comes the time that the shutoff notices will be issued. He said if you know you're behind and you haven't gotten a notice yet, take advantage of this lapse and see what you can do get caught up.

XIV. Adjournment

The next legislative meeting of City Council is scheduled for April 19, 2022, at 6PM in Council Chambers. There being no further business, the April 5, 2022 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:49PM.

XV. Resumption of Public Comment Period (at the discretion of the presiding officer): None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandie Walker, President of Council