

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



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

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

Website: www.yorkcity.org

MINUTES June 7, 2022 6:00 p.m.

Council meetings are streamed LIVE for viewing only on the following social media platforms:

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofYorkPA/>

YOUTUBE: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WhiteRoseCommunityTV>.

CALL TO ORDER: President Walker called the June 7, 2022, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 101 S. George St., York, PA, with the following members present: Felicia 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; David Rudolph, Electrical Supervisor; and Jason Sabol, Assistant Solicitor.

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

I. Public Comment:

Chastity Frederick, York City Bureau of Health, thanked all for a group effort in repealing the residency requirement. She said this will help fill positions especially in the Health Bureau to allow them to continue to provide needed services to the community. She said since the residency repeal has passed, they have received new applicants. She thanked our elected officials for all that they do.

There being no further comment, President Walker adjourned the public comment session at 6:04 PM and immediately convened in legislative session.

II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:04 PM.

III. Roll Call

IV. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

V. Moment of Silence observed.

VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [May 18, 2022](#) (Legislative); [May 25, 2022](#) (Special Legislative); and [May 25, 2022](#) (Committee). 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:

Council will observe its summer recess after tonight's meeting. The summer recess schedule of when Council will meet is as follows:

- ▶ **July 19, 2022 (6PM)** - Agenda items due 12 noon on 7/13/22
- ▶ **August 16, 2022 (6PM)** - Agenda items due 12 noon on 8/10/22

VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:

- ▶ **Legislative Meeting:** The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 6PM in Council Chambers. Agenda items due 12 noon on 7/13/22.

IX. Status of Prior Committee Referrals:

Remains in committee: A Bill - ([View](#)) Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Bureau of Housing Services to fund additional financing for the Habitat for Humanity Chestnut Street Housing Project by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$500,000; (2) Community & Economic Development to fund blighted property acquisitions through the Redevelopment Authority by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$550,000; (3) Bureau of Permits & Inspections to fund salaries/wages and other related expenses for two (2) additional property maintenance inspector by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$88,034.80.

X. Legislative Agenda:

Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda

Motion to consider consent agenda. A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Washington, to consider agenda items 1-7 as a consent agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

President Walker asked if there was any Council or Administration comment on agenda items 1-7. There was none. President Walker asked if there was any public comment on agenda items 1-7. There was none.

Motion to approve consent agenda items. A motion made by Buckingham, seconded by Dennis, to approve consent agenda items 1-7. The motion to approve passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

1. Resolution No. 70 - A Resolution Appointing Lauren McLane Gross to HARB. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham
Originator: Council

Resolution No. 70, Session 2022, A Resolution appointing Lauren McLane Gross as a member of the Historical Architectural Review Board to serve until the first Monday of January 2027, was introduced by Buckingham, and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

2. Resolution No. 71 - A Resolution Approving the preliminary/final land development plan submitted by Hartman & Associates. ([View](#)) (To consolidate 3 lots and construct 20 space paved parking lot at 480-486 W. Philadelphia St.)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development | Planning

Resolution No. 71, Session 2022, A Resolution approving the preliminary/final land development plan submitted by Hartman & Associates to consolidate 3 lots and construct a 20 space paved

parking lot at 480-486 W. Philadelphia St., was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

3. Resolution No. 72 - A Resolution
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Lou Rivera
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 72, Session 2022, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing certificates of appropriateness for work to be covered in the applications filed by James & Lourdes Abrams for work to be done at 15 S. Pershing Ave., and Ken Husband for work to be done at 332 W. Newton Ave., was introduced by Rivera and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

Note: The application for 17-19 S. George St. was included as part of the resolution in error and was therefore stricken from the resolution. The application for 237-241 W. Market St. was missed on the resolution in error but is automatically approved as Council observes its summer recess at the conclusion of tonight's 6/7/22 meeting. (HARB's recommendations are automatically approved during Council's summer recess.)

4. Resolution No. 73 - A Resolution
Authorizing filing for RACP funding. ([View](#)) (\$1.5 million for the Rex/Laurel Renovation Project)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Redevelopment Authority

Resolution No. 73, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing the filing for Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovation Project, was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

5. Resolution No. 74 - A Resolution
Amending the 2022 Annual Action Plan. ([View](#)) (CDBG/HOME)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development | BHS

Resolution No. 74, Session 2022, Resolution amending the 2022 Annual Action Plan for FY2022 for CDBG & HOME, was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

6. Resolution No. 75 - A Resolution
Amending the 2019 Annual Action Plan. ([View](#)) (CDBG-COVID)(COVID-19)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development | BHS

Resolution No. 75, Session 2022, A Resolution amending the 2019 Annual Action Plan for FY2019 for the CDBG-CV (COVID-19) funding, was introduced by Washington and approved unanimously by consent agenda.

7. Resolution No. 76 - A Resolution
Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$60K for the "It's About Change" program from CDBG-CV)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development | BHS

Resolution No. 76, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer in the amount of \$60,000 for the It's About Change program from CDBG-CV, was approved unanimously by

consent agenda.

Final Passage of Bills / Resolutions

8. Final Passage of Bill No. 38, Ordinance 37 - A Bill Amending the City Budget for FY2022. ([View](#)) (By appropriating revenue and expenditures for CDBG and HOME grant funding reflecting changes of actual allocation amounts for the Department of Public Works, CDBG Administration, and HOME Administration and General Projects)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Business Administration (For Public Works/BHS)

Final Passage of Bill No. 38, Ordinance No. 37, Session 2022, A Bill amending the City Budget for FY2022 by y appropriating revenue and expenditures for CDBG and HOME grant funding reflecting changes of actual allocation amounts for the Department of Public Works, CDBG Administration, and HOME Administration and General Projects, which was introduced by Washington at the May 25 special meeting of Council, and read by short title, came up for final passage. There being no discussion or public comment, Bill No. 38, Ordinance No. 37 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

Items for Consideration of Committee Waiver & Action

The following items are being submitted by the Interim Business Administrator for consideration of a waiver to the committee requirement to allow introduction of two (2) bills and action on one (1) resolution. An affirmative vote of four members of Council is needed to waive the committee requirement. Click [here](#) to read the memo submitted by the Interim Business Administrator. If the waiver is approved, a special meeting is being requested to consider passage of the two bills.

Motion to waive committee requirement. A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Washington, to waive the committee requirement to allowing the introduction of two Bills and one Resolution. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington - 4; Nays - Walker - 1.

9. Introduction of Bill No. 39 (Date of final passage t/b/d) - A Bill Amending the FY2022 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$100,000 for the Family Planning Program)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Business Administration (For Economic & Community Development | Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 39, Session 2022, A Bill amending the FY2022 budget in the amount of \$100,000 for the Family Planning Program was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to a future meeting of Council. (**Note:** Council has not determined a date for a special meeting to consider final passage of this Bill. If no special meeting date is determined, this Bill will be on Council's 7/19/22 agenda for consideration of final passage.)

10. Introduction of Bill No. 40 (Date of final passage t/b/d) - A Bill Amending the FY2022 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$250,000 for repairs/replacement of air conditioning units)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Business Administration (For Police)

Introduction of Bill No. 40, Session 2022, A Bill amending the FY2022 budget in the amount of \$250,000 for repairs/replacement of air conditioning units at the Police Station, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to a future meeting of Council. (**Note:** Council has not determined a date for a special meeting to consider final passage of this Bill. If no special meeting date is determined, this Bill will be on Council's 7/19/22 agenda for consideration of final passage.)

11. Resolution No. 77 - A Resolution Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$238,750 for the Safe & Healthy Communities Program)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Business Administrator (For Economic & Community Development | Health)

Resolution No. 77, Session 2022, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer in the amount of \$238,750.00 for the Safe & Healthy Communities Program, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 77 came up for discussion.

Acting Business Administrator Kim Robertson said we are at the tail end of the budget cycle that ends in June, so we had to shift budget categories. She said this item didn't make it to committee because the approval for the shift from the state didn't come until after the committee deadline.

Sam Zahn, Health Dept., said the state did a budget amendment and we literally just received the contract so this is the shift to revise the funding after we received the contract.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 77 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

- XI. **Requests for Future Meetings:** A request has been submitted for a special meeting to consider passage of agenda items 9 & 10. Council to determine special meeting date/time.

- XII. Council Comment

President Walker asked for an update for the ARPA administrator position.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said the position is posted on the city's website and we are accepting applications for that position.

President Walker asked if there is a reason why this switched from a contracted to full-time position.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said since the residency is no longer a detriment to hiring, it is believed that we could hire a full-time person to supplement our current grant. She outlined the difference between contractor versus employee.

President Walker said the Mayor kept saying he wanted this to be a contracted position.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said he did until the residency was lifted. She said we will interview qualified candidates as they come through.

Councilwoman Buckingham asked if this is a temporary position because it's being funded by ARPA.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said she needs to discuss that with the Mayor and Human Resources.

Councilman Rivera asked who this person would report to.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said this position would report to the Business Administrator but will work in collaboration with Melanie Baldwin, our current Grants Administrator.

President Walker asked how the benefits are being covered.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said this year is already budgeted and allocated for across the board for positions. She said just FICA needs to be budgeted. Next year, she said there will be a portion of fringe benefits and direct costs that will be funded by ARPA.

Councilman Rivera said he's confused. He said you are hiring someone to overlook ARPA, but you don't have that person working under Melanie Baldwin our current Grants Administrator.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said this person will solely work on ARPA. Melanie will work on other grants. She said Melanie will be involved in the interview process.

President Walker said this was never intended to be an internal position because of the amount of money and the experience requested. She said at the April elected officials meeting, the Mayor said he was also on the same page. She stated that when she sent the email on 5/31/22 about this position, and didn't receive a response back, she eventually heard from someone else that this was not switched to a full-time position. She asked if ARPA funds could be used next year to pay for benefits for this position.

Melanie Baldwin, Grants Administrator said benefits are authorized under ARPA. She said the new person needs to learn E-Civis and OpenGov, as well as other programs, and she does not know how long that learning curve will take especially since Business Administration will have to train them.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said please visit www.yorkcity.org/employment for more information on this position.

Councilman Rivera asked if there is any update on filling the Business Administrator position.

Acting Business Administrator Robertson said we have some applicants we're following up with.

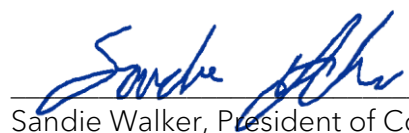
President Walker then thanked Police Commissioner Muldrow for heading up the ShotSpotter informational session yesterday. She said it was informative and ShotSpotter representatives were available to answer questions. If you get a chance to review the session, she said please do so. President Walker stated that we look forward to moving along with some policy driven discussion and there are some things we need to do with Lancaster as well to get some answers to questions we've had about ShotSpotter over the past year.

XIII. Administration Comment: None

XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative session of Council is scheduled for July 19, 2022 at 6PM in Council Chambers. There being no further business, the June 7, 2022 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:29PM.

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


Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk


Sandie Walker, President of Council