

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
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MINUTES March 7, 2023 6:00 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER: President Walker called the March 7, 2023, 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: Kim Robertson, Acting Business Administrator; Joe Jefcoat, Treasurer; Michael Muldrow, Police Commissioner; and Don Hoyt, Assistant Solicitor.

City Council staff in attendance: Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk

I. Public Comment:

John Halfpenny, resident, said he recently moved to York from Philadelphia, and he is proud to call York his home. He said about two weeks ago there was a fire about two houses down from him at about 9:30PM. He said the emergency response was phenomenal and thankfully there were no injuries or fatalities, but the building was destroyed. Since the fire, he said the building seems to have been abandoned and nothing is being done about the building. He said there is a property value issue but he's most concerned about this being an attractive nuisance and it's dangerous. The burned property is located a few feet from an elementary school. He said he requests that city officials get involved to evaluate the property and put into place proper safety mechanisms. He said if this were your neighborhood and there is a burned building in your block and kids are 500 yards away, you would probably have the same concerns he is having.

Montez Parker, Sr., resident, asked for permission to approach the Council table. The Council President granted permission. He showed pictures of the burned property Mr. Halfpenny talked about before the property burned. He said there were boarded-up windows before the fire, and trash that was cluttered around the outside of the property that also caught fire. He said the owner came after the fire and removed the burned debris except for the tires. He showed pictures after the fire and how the property is in horrendous condition. He said he talked to the owner multiple times, and he asked if he would go half with him on a fence, so he doesn't have to look at the trash in the yard. He said the owner said he doesn't care because he doesn't have to look at the trash. He said the owner has been given notice to rectify property violations but he's playing the system. He also spoke about parking issues because of parents picking up their kids at Lincoln Charter School. He suggested using other

parking lots that are in close proximity to the school where cars can line up to drop off and pick up their kids from school. He said it might be a small inconvenience for them, but he has been in his house for nearly 30 years, and he's been inconvenienced multiple times over the years trying to get to his home. He said parents are now throwing trash out of their windows into the alleyway. He hopes something can be worked out. He also discussed landlords who don't have trashcans for their tenants. He said the skunks and possums are running him into his house because it's a buffet of trash for them. He said as a solution, maybe the landlord and residents can collaborate and develop a reporting system and have the landlord fine their tenants for not obeying the trash collection ordinance. He also said there is a large amount of debris being left in the alley in the 500 block of W. King St. He said his neighbor didn't put the trash there, but she got a fine for it. He asked if the large item trash pick-up program still exists. Council responded yes.

The City Clerk stated that she would forward these concerns to the administration.

There being no further discussion, the public comment session adjourned at 6:20 PM.

- II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:20 PM.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. Moment of Silence was observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023 (legislative); and March 1, 2023 (committee). Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and approved them by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.
- VII. Presentations, Awards and Announcements: None
- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:
 - ▶ **Legislative Meeting:** The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on March 15th.
 - ▶ **Council Committee Meeting:** Scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on March 22nd.
- 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.)

Final Passage of Bills / Resolutions

1. ~~Final Passage of Bill No. 54~~ - A Bill
~~Introduction of Bill No. 5~~ - A Bill
Amending Article 145 "Police Department." ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Police Department

City Clerk Thompson explained that this legislation was included on Council's agenda as final passage, however, the Bill has been sitting for more than 60 days, and according to law, it must be re-advertised. She asked Assistant Solicitor Hoyt for his opinion, and she cited and read Section 11018.9 "Publication required" of the 3rd Class City Code. (Citation: 3rd Class City Code, Section 11018.9 - Publication required.--A proposed ordinance, except as otherwise provided in

this chapter, shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation not more than 60 days nor fewer than seven days prior to enactment.)

Assistant Solicitor Hoyt said it should probably be re-advertised.

Motion to introduced as new Bill. A motion was made by Washington, seconded by Dennis to introduce this legislation as a new bill. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas – Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker – 5; Nays – 0.

Introduction of Bill No. 5, Session 2023, A Bill amending Article 145 “Police Department” of the Codified Ordinances to authorize Council to determine the number of police officers through adoption of the city budget, establish a Detective Commander, establish duty assignment, change the Detective Bureau to Investigation Bureau, and establish assignment authority granted to the Police Chief/Commissioner, and update language, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the March 21 meeting of Council.

City Clerk Thompson said she will re-advertise the legislation.

Introduction of Bills

2. Introduction of Bill No. 6 _____ - A Bill
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$53K for Financial Assistant)
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham
Originator: Treasurer

Introduction of Bill No. 6, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$53,000 for a Financial Assistant position in the city Treasurer’s Office, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the March 21 meeting of Council.

3. Introduction of Bill No. 7 _____ - A Bill
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (For Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for Family Health Council of Central PA (FHCCP) for the Family Planning Program, in the amount of \$21,242.00.)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development | Health

Introduction of Bill No. 7, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$21,242.00 for the Bureau of Health for the Family Health Council of Central PA (FHCC) for the Family Planning Program, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to March 21 meeting of Council.

4. Introduction of Bill No. 8 _____ - A Bill
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (For (1) Police Department to fund salaries and overtime for the Violence Intervention Team and overtime for the Patrol Division of \$400,000; (2) Fire Department to fund apparatus purchases by appropriating revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$500,000; (3) Health Bureau to fund General Fund expenses for program services by appropriating revenue in the amount of \$30,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund the Community Ecosystem Initiative by appropriating revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$70,000.)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Fire | Police | Health

Introduction of Bill No. 8, Session 2023, A Bill Amending the FY2023 budget for: (1) Police Department to fund salaries and overtime for the Violence Intervention Team and overtime for the Patrol Division of \$400,000; (2) Fire Department to fund apparatus purchases by appropriating revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$500,000; (3) Health Bureau to fund General Fund expenses for program services by appropriating revenue in the amount of

\$30,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund the Community Ecosystem Initiative by appropriating revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$70,000, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the March 21 meeting of Council.

5. Introduction of Bill No. 9 - A Bill
Amending Article 153 "Vehicle Operation & Parking." ([View](#)) (Subsection 513.18(b) "Application Process" and 513.18(c)(5) "Nonexclusive Right" to remove the fee for a handicapped parking space applications and to allow spaces to be assigned.)
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham
Originator: Business Administration | Parking

Introduction of Bill No. 9, Session 2023, A Bill amending Article 153 "Vehicle Operation & Parking," Subsection 513.18(b) "Application Process," and 513.18(c)(5) "Nonexclusive Right" to remove the fee for a handicapped parking space application and to allow parking spaces to be assigned, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the March 21 meeting of Council.

6. Introduction of Bill No. 10 - A Bill
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (For the York City Human Relations Commission by appropriating money not otherwise appropriated for the Holliday Diversity Luncheon Fund 26 Special Projects account, in the amount of \$13,500.00.)
Introduced by: Lou Rivera
Originator: Human Relations Commission

Introduction of Bill No. 10, Session 2023, A Bill Amending the FY2023 budget for the York City Human Relations Commission by appropriating money not otherwise appropriated for the Holliday Diversity Luncheon Fund 26 Special Projects account, in the amount of \$13,500.00, was introduced by Rivera, read by short title, and deferred to the March 21 meeting of Council.

7. Introduction of Bill No. 11 - A Bill
Amending the FY2022 Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Public Works Department to pay the final invoices to Kinsley Construction for King Street Bike Lane work expenditures from PennDot funding, in the amount of \$75,100.00)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works

Introduction of Bill No. 11, Session 2023, A Bill Amending the FY2022 budget for the Public Works Department to pay the final invoices to Kinsley Construction for King Street Bike Lane work expenditures from PennDot funding, in the amount of \$75,100.00, was introduced by Dennis, read by short title, and deferred to the March 21 meeting of Council.

Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda

Motion to consider consent agenda. A motion was made by Buckingham seconded by Dennis, to consider agenda items 8-15 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 were any items Council would like to pull from the consent agenda. There were no requests.

President Walker asked if there was any comment from Council. There was none.

President Walker asked if there was any comment from the Administration.

Administrator Robertson said they have not finalized the parking agreement with the Yorktowne Hotel and as

such asked that agenda item #10 be moved to the March 21 agenda. There was no objection from Council.

President Walker asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

Motion to approve items on the consent agenda. A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Buckingham, to approve consent agenda items 8, 9 and 11-15. The motion to approve PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

8. Resolution No. 14 - A Resolution
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 14, Session 2023, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing a certificate of appropriateness to Elite Property Management for work to be done at 157 N. Newberry St., was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

9. Resolution No. 15 - A Resolution
Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$51,380.00 for liability insurance policies)
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham
Originator: Business Administration | Risk Management

Resolution No. 15, Session 2023, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer in the amount of \$51,380.00 for Risk Management for 2023 liability insurance policies, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

10. Resolution No. PULLED will be on 3/21/23 agenda - A Resolution
Authorizing an agreement with the Yorktowne Hotel. ([View](#)) (For parking in the Market St. garage)
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham
Originator: Business Administration | Parking

Agenda item #10 was pulled from the agenda at the request of Acting Business Administrator Robertson and deferred to the March 21, 2023 legislative agenda.

11. Resolution No. 16 - A Resolution
Authorizing a Mobile Data Computers agreement with the County of York. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Police

Resolution No. 16, Session 2023, A Resolution authorizing Mobile Data Computers agreement with the County of York in the amount of \$67,192.05/yr., was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

12. Resolution No. 17 - A Resolution
Approving C.S. Davidson billing rates. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 17, Session 2023, A Resolution approving the year 2023 billing rates for C.S. Davidson, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

13. Resolution No. 18 - A Resolution
Approving Transportation Resource Group (TRG) bill rates. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 18, Session 2023, A Resolution approving the year 2023 billing rates for Transportation Resource Group, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

14. Resolution No. 19 – A Resolution Awarding a contract to General Recreation, Inc. ([View](#)) (For playground equipment - Williams Park)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works | Recreation & Parks

Resolution No. 19, Session 2023, A Resolution awarding a contract to General Recreation, Inc. in the amount of \$74,740.08 to provide playground equipment at Williams Park, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

15. Resolution No. 20 – A Resolution Authorizing an Operations & Maintenance Agreement. ([View](#)) (For PCSM BMP's - N. Pershing)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 20, Session 2023, A Resolution authorizing an Operations & Maintenance Agreement Post Construction Stormwater Management Best Management Practices located on N. Pershing Ave., Parcel #030490100130000000, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Councilwoman Buckingham said she has been receiving calls about sewer issues. She reminded residents that the city no longer owns the sewer system so please contact PA American Water Company (PAWC).

President Walker said the public comment issues will be referred to the administration for response. She suggested that residents in the W. King St. area also contact the Salem Square Community Association as they might be able to assist them with their concerns.

XIII. Administration Comment: None

XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of Council is scheduled for March 21, 2023 at 6PM. There being no further discussion, the March 7, 2023 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:33 PM.

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



Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk



Sandie Walker, President of Council