

# 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

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## MINUTES April 4, 2023 6:00 p.m.

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

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

2023 MEETINGS: Click [here](#) to view 2023 Council Meetings Dates

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Walker called the April 4, 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; and Don Hoyt, Assistant Solicitor.

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

I. Public Comment:

Saareef Hameed, resident, stated that on March 25, 2023, Mr. Keith Beatty passed away. He said he was the owner of Mission Home Ministries and received an award from the White House. He stated that Mr. Beatty changed so many lives through his work in the community and transformed the lives of youth in our community for years. He asked if a street name marker with Mr. Beatty's name could be placed on Boundary Avenue where he used to live.

City Clerk Thompson said she would relay the request to the Mayor's office.

There being no further comment, President Walker adjourned the public comment session at 6:05 PM and immediately convened in legislative session.

II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:05 PM.

III. Roll Call

IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

V. Moment of Silence was observed.

- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [March 21, 2023](#) (legislative); and [March 29, 2023](#) (committee). Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and unanimously approved them as written.
- VII. Presentations, Awards and Announcements: None
- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:
  - ▶ **Legislative Meeting:** The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on April 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - ▶ **Council Committee Meeting:** Scheduled for Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on April 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 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:** None

**Introduction of Bills**

1. Introduction of Bill No. 12 - A Bill  
 Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (ARPA funding in the amount of \$64,590 for a Project Manager position)  
 Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
 Originator: Economic & Community Development  
  
 Introduction of Bill No. 12, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget for **ARPA** funding in the amount of \$64,590 for a Project Manager position, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.
2. Introduction of Bill No. 13 - A Bill  
 Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (ARPA funding in the amount of \$200,000 for the Owner-Occupied & Senior Housing Rehab Programs)  
 Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
 Originator: Economic & Community Development  
  
 Introduction of Bill no. 13, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget for **ARPA** funding in the amount of \$200,000 for the Owner-Occupied & Senior Housing Rehab Programs, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.
3. Introduction of Bill No. 14 - A Bill  
 Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (ARPA funding in the amount of \$300,00 for drywall and removal of contaminated soil)  
 Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
 Originator: Economic & Community Development  
  
 Introduction of Bill No. 14, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget for **ARPA** funding in the amount of \$300,00 for drywall and removal of contaminated soil, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

4. Introduction of Bill No. 15 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (ARPA funding in the amount of \$230,000 for the city's portion of the YoCo Fiber project.)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development

Introduction of Bill No. 15, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget for **ARPA** funding in the amount of \$230,000 for the city's portion of the YoCo Fiber project, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

5. Introduction of Bill No. 16 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$245,241.00 - Overdose Data to Action grant #4100085402)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 16, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$245,241.00 for the Overdose Data to Action grant #4100085402, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

6. Introduction of Bill No. 17 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$72,98571 - HIV Prevention Program grant #4100079928)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 17, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$72,98571 for the HIV Prevention Program grant #4100079928, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

7. Introduction of Bill No. 18 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$5,000 - FHCCP Family Planning Program)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 18, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$5,000 for the FHCCP Family Planning Program, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

8. Introduction of Bill No. 19 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$56,859.00 - JAG award for period of 10/1/22-9/30/25)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Police

Introduction of Bill No. 19, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$56,859 for a Justice Assistance Grant award for the period of 10/1/22 through 9/30/25, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

9. Introduction of Bill No. 20 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$59,480.52 - Equitable Sharing Fund 26)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Police

Introduction of Bill No. 20, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$59,480.52 for Equitable Sharing Fund 26, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

10. Introduction of Bill No. 21 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$191,520.00 - 1601 Toronita St. for rental fees & taxes)  
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis  
Originator: Public Works

Introduction of Bill No. 21, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$191,520 for payment of rental fees and taxes for 1601 Toronita St., was introduced by Dennis, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

11. Introduction of Bill No. 22 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2023 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$87,009.00 - Purchase of Pelican Street Sweeper)  
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis  
Originator: Public Works (Highway)

Introduction of Bill No. 22, Session 2023, A Bill amending the FY2023 budget in the amount of \$87,009 for the purchase of a Pelican street sweeper, was introduced by Dennis, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

12. Introduction of Bill No. 23 - A Bill  
Approving the 2023 Codified Ordinance Replacement Pages. ([View](#)) (For 2022 laws)  
Introduced by: Lou Rivera  
Originator: City Council (City Clerk)

Introduction of Bill No. 23, Session 2023, A Bill approving the 2023 codified ordinance replacement pages (for 2022 laws), was introduced by Rivera, read by short title, and deferred to the April 18 meeting of Council.

### New Business – Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda

**Motion to consider consent agenda.** A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Washington, to consider all items on the consent agenda.

President Walker asked if Council requests to pull any items from the consent agenda.

City Clerk Thompson said the administration has requested to pull agenda item #17. President Walker requested to pull agenda item #18 for discussion.

President Walker asked Council, the Administration and the public if there was any discussion on consent agenda items. There was none.

**Motion to approve consent agenda items.** A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Washington, to approve consent agenda items 13-16. The motion to approve agenda items 13-16 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

13. Resolution No. 26 - A Resolution  
Approving appoints to various boards. ([View](#)) (A. Banks - HRC; B. Gifford - HARB)  
Introduced by: Lou Rivera  
Originator: Mayor / Council

Resolution No. 26, Session 2023, A Resolution appointing Anu Banks as a member of the Human Relations Commission to fill the unexpired term of Stephanie Seaton, which term shall expire January 16, 2025, and appointing Blake Gifford as an alternate member of the Historical Architectural Review Board to fill the unexpired term of Alan Neff, which term shall expire the first Monday of January 2026, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

City Clerk Thompson administered the oath of office to Mr. Banks and Mr. Gifford.

14. Resolution No. 27 - A Resolution  
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 27, Session 2023, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing certificates of appropriateness for work to be covered in the applications filed by Shelton Scott for work to be done at 157 S. Pershing Ave., Royal Square Development for work to be done at 203-213 S. Beaver St., Van Jura for work to be done at 404 W. Market St., and Jacob Meckley for work to be done at 54 S. Pine St., was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

15. Resolution No. 28 - A Resolution  
Authorizing an agreement with Altec. ([View](#)) (\$157,421.00 for purchase of AT40G bucket truck)  
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis  
Originator: Public Works (Highway)

Resolution No. 28, Session 2023, A Resolution authorizing an agreement with Altec in the amount of \$157,421.00 for purchase of a AT40G bucket truck, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

16. Resolution No. 29 - A Resolution  
Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$65,000 for purchase of cubicles/desks and two used vehicles)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Police

Resolution No. 29, Session 2023, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer for the Police Department in the amount of \$65,000 for purchase of cubicles, desks, and two used vehicles, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

17. Resolution No. (PULLED - Moved 4/18/23 agenda) - A Resolution  
Authorizing an agreement for self-insurance workers' compensation plan. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration (HR)

Agenda item #17 was pulled at the request of the Administration and will be placed on the 4/18/2023 legislative agenda for consideration of passage.

18. Resolution No. 30 - A Resolution  
Extending the declaration of disaster emergency to 4/30/23. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Mayor

Resolution No. 30, Session 2023, A Resolution extending the Declaration of Disaster Emergency relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, was introduced by Buckingham, read at length, and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 30 came up for discussion.

President Walker asked if this resolution is still necessary.

Administrator Robertson said she is not aware of any reasoning behind continuing this.

City Clerk Thompson said she believes she remembers the declaration being extended to allow the city's health department to apply for grants.

Assistant Solicitor Hoyt said it might be worth asking the Health Bureau if they are aware of why we may need to keep this resolution going.

Councilman Rivera said he would suggest keeping this in place through April and check with other municipalities to see if they are still doing this.

Councilwoman Buckingham said the state pulled out of the state of emergency back in 2021.

Michael Walker, resident, said there should be a document to explain this from the original declaration.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 30 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Buckingham, Rivera, Washington, Walker - 5; Nays - 0.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Councilman Rivera said he visited Penn Market, and he was extremely impressed with the robust vendors and atmosphere. He invited residents to visit and see how diverse it is and the variety of vendors there.

President Walker said at the last Council meeting, she requested information from Ms. Leigh Smith on Section 3 of the HUD funding agreement, and she thanked her for sending that information over. She asked if the information was public. Ms. Smith said it is. President Walker said she will forward the information to Council. She then said how important it is for the city to complete Article 136, the local sourcing initiative and procurement. She said our residents are not benefiting from business from an economic standpoint. She said she believes that once we get these items in order, we can boost the economy for our residents. For too long, she said there have been projects that occur, but you do not see people within our community working. She said she is proud that when the school district did projects, they sourced out to local residents. Looking at the information provided by Ms. Smith, she said she did not see any local businesses that were part of the funding that was distributed from the general contractor. She said she would like local residents and businesses to be taken into consideration especially when we have multi-million-dollar projects happening in our city because we need to see our local residents working on these projects.

President Walker then applauded the Human Relations Commission for a wonderful Dr. Holliday Luncheon. She said it was very inspiring. She then introduced the new Director of the Human Relations Commission, Clair Toomey.

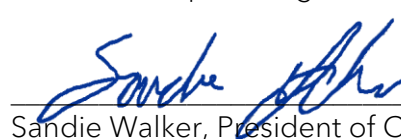
Ms. Clair Toomey, HRC Director, said she is excited about being here and she sees such great potential and she hopes to build from the foundation already established.

XIII. Administration Comment: None

XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of City Council is scheduled for April 18, 2023 at 6PM in Council Chambers. There being no further business, the April 4, 2023 meeting adjourned at 6:26 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