



The City of York Pennsylvania

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

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Lou Rivera, Member
Betsy Buckingham, Member
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COMMITTEE MINUTES May 31, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Fire/Police	Public Works	Econ & Comm Development	Business Admin	Rules & Admin
Washington Dennis Buckingham	Dennis Washington Rivera	Washington Walker Buckingham	Buckingham Walker Rivera	Rivera Washington Dennis

***Bold text indicates Chairperson**

Note: General Committee is chaired by Council President or designee and includes all Council members.

CALL TO ORDER: President Walker called the May 31, 2023, committee 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.

Members of the Administration in attendance included: Kim Robertson, Acting Business Administrator; Chaz Green, Director of Public Works; James Crosby, Director Bureau of Housing Services; William Slegger, Fire Chief; Monica Kruger, Director of Health; Samantha Zahm, Bureau of Health; Joe Jefcoat, Treasurer; and Assistant Solicitor's Don Hoyt and Brett Flower .

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

- I. Call committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Committee Issues for the June 6, 2023 legislative Agendas as follows:

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GENERAL
Walker, All Council
members

Presentation - Sharee McFadden - Phase I of the CCI & ABC's initiative (POSTPONED - date t/b/d)

Resolution exonerating municipal taxes for Keystone Kidspace

Attorney Niles Benn said the county assessment board granted their exoneration on April 4, 2023. No other taxing authorities filed an appeal. So, he said we are asking for forgiveness of the taxes paid in January. Amount requested to exonerate is \$13,084.99.

DECISION: Motion made by Buckingham, seconded by Washington, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill No. 6 amending the FY2023 budget to hire a Financial Assistant for the Treasurer's Office

Treasurer Jefcoat said he previously presented his case requesting staff assistance. He said he has made himself available to answer questions and to present any requested

documentation. He outlined the functions and challenges of his office and staffing concerns.

President Walker asked for an update.

Administrator Robertson said the Deputy Treasurer was doing other functions in addition to her required duties and was the middle person in answering questions from the public, however, some of those duties have been transferred to another staff accountant.

Councilwoman Buckingham asked if the Deputy Treasurer is now full-time.

Treasurer Jefcoat said she still serves as the Revenue supervisor but is thankful she doesn't have to deal with the water bill inquiries.

DECISION: Motion made by Rivera, seconded by Washington to place on the 6/6/23 agenda. The motion FAILED by the following vote: Yeas - Rivera, Washington - 2; Nays - Dennis, Buckingham, Walker - 3.

PUBLIC WORKS
Dennis, Washington,
Rivera

Amending the FY2023 in the amount of \$350K for capital upgrades to the Princess St. Center

President Walker said she asked that this appear on tonight's agenda for discussion. She said we had a capital needs assessment done in the fall of 2019 which is a guide for City Council, and the Administration on capital projects that need priority. She said Princess St. Center has been identified as a condemned building for over a year. She stated that if we don't do something to the building, it will continue to decline.

Administrator Robertson said the Mayor's main concern is if the dollar amount will be enough to cover the entire project or just the start of the required repairs. She said he feels this might not be enough to cover what's on the needs assessment especially when considering recent damage to the property.

President Walker said this would be a start from the 2019 capital needs assessment which is the only document we have to review. She said this would be a good statement from Council to show our commitment and to get the ball rolling.

Director Green said he received a request from Buchart-Horn for an updated needs assessment so he's waiting to hear back from the Mayor on approval of an updated assessment.

DECISION: A motion made by Washington, seconded by Dennis, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Dennis, Washington - 2; Nays - Rivera - 1.

Resolution awarding a contract for the Farquhar Park Master Plan Site Plan

Director Green said we went out for bid on this and received three bids and the one we chose was YSM Landscape Architects for \$49,800.00. He said half will be paid through DCNR and the other half will be paid from the city's coffers.

DECISION: A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Washington, to place this item on the 6/6/23 agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill amending the FY2023 Budget for the George St. Repaving Project - \$350K

Director Green said we have money budgeted for this project. More work needed to be done this summer, so we need to make sure funds are available for that. This is a pass-through grant and once the state gives the final approval, they send the money directly to us.

DECISION: A motion was made by Rivera, seconded by Washington, to place this item on the **6/6/23** legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

ED/COMM DEV
Washington, Walker,
Buckingham

Resolution amending the 2023 Annual Action Plan - COVID-19 Public Services

Director Crosby said we have \$111,233.82 in unspent COVID-19 funding. We are proposing to revise our action plan to fund Bell Socialization for its rental assistance program.

DECISION: A motion was made by Washington, seconded by Buckingham, to place this item on the **6/6/23** legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution authorizing an extension to the Title 1 funding agreement with Bell Socialization Services

Director Crosby said this is the actual agreement we'll be entering to with Bell Socialization for the rental assistance program.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Walker, to place this item on the **6/6/23** legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution authorizing an extension to the Title 1 funding agreement with Public Works

Director Crosby said Public Works had unexpended funds from 2022 to complete some projects they didn't get to last year - Lincoln St., Willis Lane, and Front St. improvements, and Penn, Hudson and Bantz Park projects.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Walker, to place this item on the **6/6/23** legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution authorizing an extension to the Title 1 funding agreement with the York County Planning Commission

Director Crosby said we received \$200,000 in ARPA funding and this will be used toward our agreement with the York County Planning Commission.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Walker, to place this item on the **6/6/23** legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill amending the FY2023 Budget for the Bureau of Health

Samantha Zahm, Health Bureau, said there are 11 budget adjustments and we're basically doing some house cleaning to allow expenditures.

Director Kruger said the workforce development was earmarked for staff. During COVID we had a severe decrease and public health felt the burden. Some of this is in order to

retain the staff we have and be able to invest in the public health infrastructure from training new staff, incentivizing and other things we lost during COVID.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Walker, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution authorizing various grant award agreements for the Bureau of Health

Ms. Zahm said although our grants are ongoing, we are up to that time when everything is up for renewal. Grants start July 1 so we should get the grants shortly, which will need circulated and signed.

Director Kruger said we're trying to be proactive in getting this out there and done.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded Walker, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

POLICE
Washington, Dennis,
Buckingham

Resolution authorizing an agreement between the Police & YCCF for the Embracing Aging Program (Aging In Place Camera Program) - \$6K

Administrator Robertson said this agreement does not necessarily need to be approved by Council because it's under the threshold of needing approval, but it is helpful for the next item where it shows we are amending the budget. We are getting money toward the security camera program for seniors.

Vice President Washington said Commissioner Muldrow said there have been over 200 cameras placed in our community.

Vice President Washington said since this does not need to be placed on the legislative agenda, we'll move on to the next item.

Bill amending the FY2023 budget - MNOA for Aging In Place Camera Program - \$40,427.00

Administrator Robertson said this funding falls under Fund 26 and we only put in expenses when we have revenue. She said we do our best to budget our funds, but we don't always know right away. So, this is adding to the funding for the camera program.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Dennis, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution authorizing a budget transfer for uplift kits - \$68K

Administrator Robertson said this is additional money needed to finish off police vehicles, mobile cameras for the investigation bureau, and pocket park, which is installation of a small playground to entertain children that accompany their parents while visiting the police department. This money is already budgeted, we're just moving it from one bucket to another.

DECISION: A motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Buckingham, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution authorizing a \$11.2K budget transfer for GVI new vehicles

Administrator Robertson said this is within three of the already approved ARPA programs in the police department, which part of the budget was to purchase vehicles. She said we ran into a situation where one of the vehicles costs more than what was budgeted but the other two had funding left over so we are asking to shift funding from one program to another so we can finish out paying for a vehicle for the GVI program.

DECISION: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Dennis, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

FIRE

Washington, Dennis,
Buckingham

Ordinance - Fire - ARPA - Funding for Engine & Truck

Fire Chief Sleeper said we were originally going to get a ladder truck but because of the manufacturer, there has been an increase in time of about three years, so he had to ask for a ladder truck and engine truck. Unfortunately, he said we didn't have all funds which is why he's asking for additional funding. He said the problem is the cost of the apparatus is going up and right now the new engine has gone up \$200,000. Every couple of weeks there is an increase so he said he would like the money now because we might not see these again until 2026. He said if we wait, it could cost \$500,000 more. If we order now, he said we get locked into a set price.

DECISION: A motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Buckingham, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously. (**Note:** A special meeting of Council will be held on June 13, 2023 at 2PM to consider passage of this legislation.)

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Buckingham, Walker,
Rivera

Resolution authorizing Billing & Revenue Service Agreement with the York Water Company

Administrator Robertson said we had an agreement with York Water Company to bill customers for sanitary sewer usage and refuse collection. However, since we sold the WWTP and sanitary sewer system about a year ago, we are updating our agreement to take out the sewer portion. She said we have an agreement we're all happy with.

DECISION: A motion was made by Walker, seconded Buckingham, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

RULES/ADMIN

Rivera, Washington,
Dennis

Resolution granting the Mayor authority to designate open container areas

Administrator Robertson said this resolution is following the current ordinance (Article 713.03) wherein the Mayor is asking for permission from Council to authorize open containers in designated areas.

Councilwoman Buckingham asked if this is something that needs to be approved every year.

Administrator Robertson said the has been the practice, but the next agenda item will address that.

DECISION: A motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Washington, to place the item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill amending Article 713.03 to sole authority to designate open container areas.

Administrator Robertson said in order to avoid the process have requiring Council approval, the Mayor has requested that the ordinance be amended to remove the need for Council's approval, thereby allowing him to solely designate areas for open containers.

DECISION: A motion was made by Washington, seconded by Dennis, to place this item on the 6/6/23 legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Council Comment

Vice President Washington shared on behalf of Commissioner Muldrow that any residents that have Hyundai's or Kia's with model years 2011-2022, the police are providing free steering wheel locks. She said although her car was not stolen, it was a victim of vandalism. She said 28 vehicles with said make have been stolen in York county this year. She then announced that if any resident wants to show their support of the police department, they can receive yard signs free from the police department.

Councilwoman Buckingham asked if a press release could be done about the wheel locks. Vice President Washington said she'll ask Commissioner Muldrow.

President Walker said she knows of a victim, so she encouraged residents to get the wheel lock.

President Walker then asked about the summer bowling program. She said knows it was put on pause because of COVID but residents asked her if it will occur this year. She said information on the program that could be provided to Council would be appreciated.

Councilman Rivera asked for officer sitting in the back of chambers to introduce herself.

Officer Ortega introduced herself and said she's assigned to downtown patrol and is happy to be here.

IV. Administration Comment


Administrator Robertson said the administration is requesting a special meeting to consider final passage of the bill regarding purchase of the fire apparatus. We don't want to initiate the purchase until we have the budget amendment. (Note: Council scheduled the special meeting for June 13th at 2PM.)

V. Next Committee Meeting September 27, 2023 in Council Chambers. Committee agenda items due by 12 noon on September 20th.

VI. Adjournment: There being no further business, the May 31, 2023 committee meeting adjourned at 6:54PM.



Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk



Sandie Walker, President of Council