

# Council of the City of York, Pennsylvania

Edquina Washington, President of Council  
Betsy Buckingham, Vice President of Council  
Dr. Felicia O. A. Dennis, Member of Council  
Elizabeth Bupp, Member of Council  
Teresa Johnescu, Member of Council

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## MINUTES February 6, 2024 6:00 p.m.

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

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

2024 MEETINGS: Click [here](#) to view 2024 Council Meetings Dates

CALL TO ORDER: President Washington called the February 6, 2024 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 101 S. George St., York, PA, with the following members present: Teresa Johnescu, Elizabeth Bupp, Felicia Dennis, Betsy Buckingham, Vice President, and Edquina Washington, President.

Members of the Administration in attendance included: Kim Robertson, Business Administrator; and Brett Flower, Assistant Solicitor.

City Council Staff in attendance included: Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk.

### I. Public Comment:

Marilyn Hake, resident, said while on the Rail Trail off of Kingsmill Rd. by the ice company, is a homeless encampment and the debris and trash stretches beyond their encampment.

Councilwoman Johnescu said she was on a walk with Mrs. Hake and witnessed this herself.

Business Administrator Kim Robertson said the Administration is aware of the homeless encampment and they are working on it.

Derrick Mannifore, Esq. said he is representing Mr. Themis Sacarellos who owns many properties including Round-the-Clock Diner. He said Mr. Sacarellos is interested in leasing 1601 Toronita St. or purchasing it. Attorney Mannifore said Mr. Sacarellos has developed in the surrounding area is willing to pay market rate. He said he just wants to put this on the record that his client would like to lease or purchase the property.

Themis Sacarellos, owner of Round the Clock Diner, said he is developing various businesses, including the former San Carlos. He said the property is in disrepair and he's hoping to renovate the property and make it better for the community. He said he also redeveloped the old Bob Evans and made it a Starbucks. He named several other properties he developed into businesses.

President Washington said she'll share said interest with the Department of Economic Development.

There being no further discussion, the public comment period adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

- II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:07 p.m.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. Moment of Silence was observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [January 2, 2024](#) (legislative) & [January 24, 2024](#) (committee). Council dispensed with the reading of the Minutes and unanimously approved them as written.
- VII. Presentations, Awards and Announcements

► Proclamation – Proclaiming January 2024 as “Poverty Awareness Month” in the City of York, PA. (Submitted by Community Progress Council) (Click [here](#) to read proclamation)

President Washington read the proclamation in its entirety.

Robin Rohrbaugh, CEO, Community Progress Council, thanked Council for honoring this resolution. Since the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was canceled, she is pleased that Council agreed to push the proclamation to tonight’s meeting. Ms. Rohrbaugh gave a brief history of Community Progress Council. She then shared statistics on poverty and said it’s our job to help get people on their feet and to becoming self-sufficient. She said they look at several factors to help individuals reach economic self sufficiency and change the lives of children and their families. She said we look forward to partnering with the city and she thanked the city for supporting their efforts. She thanked Vice President Buckingham for serving as a board member.

- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:

► **Legislative Meeting:** The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on February 14th.

► **Council Committee Meeting:** Scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on February 21st.

- IX. Status of Prior Committee Referrals:

**Rules & Administrative Code Committee:** At the 1/24/2024 committee meeting, legislation was discussed to amend Article 725 “Firearms and Weapons” of the Codified Ordinances to regulate the discharging of firearms in the city, and switchblade possession (Click [here](#) to see proposed legislation). By majority vote of the committee, the legislation was voted to remain in committee for further discussion. On 1/26/24, a request was submitted via email from Police Commissioner Muldrow to withdraw the legislation from consideration. Therefore, the legislation will be allowed to die in committee.

- 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 / Resolutions

1. Introduction of Bill No. 1 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2024 Budget for the Bureau of Health. ([View](#)) (By appropriating additional revenue and expenditures for the following: **(1)** Tuberculosis (TB) program (#4100092068) in the amount of \$21,569.00; **(2)** the HIV Prevention Program (#4100095584) in the amount of \$36,000.00; and **(3)** for Act 12 and Act 315 funding in the amount of \$53,888.64)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 1, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 Budget for the Bureau of Health by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures for the following: **(1)** Tuberculosis (TB) program (#4100092068) in the amount of \$21,569.00; **(2)** the HIV Prevention Program (#4100095584) in the amount of \$36,000.00; and **(3)** for Act 12 and Act 315 funding in the amount of \$53,888.64, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council.

2. Introduction of Bill No. 2 - A Bill  
Amending the fiscal year 2024 City Budget for the Office of Information Technology. ([View](#)) (By appropriating money not otherwise appropriated for Other Professional Services from Fund 70 Internal Services, in the amount of \$315,000.00)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration (Info Technology)

Introduction of Bill No. 2, Session 2024, A Bill amending the fiscal year 2024 City Budget for the Office of Information Technology by appropriating money not otherwise appropriated for Other Professional Services from Fund 70 Internal Services, in the amount of \$315,000.00, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council.

3. Introduction of Bill No. 3 - A Bill  
Amending the fiscal year 2024 City Budget for the York City Human Relations Commission. ([View](#)) (By appropriating money not otherwise appropriated for the "Holliday Diversity Luncheon" Fund 26 Special Projects account, in the amount of \$8,180.65)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Human Relations Commission

Introduction of Bill No. 3, Session 2024, A Bill amending the fiscal year 2024 City 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 \$8,180.65, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council.

4. Resolution No. 9 - A Resolution  
Authorizing placement of a memorial at Veterans Memorial Park. ([View](#)) (Four Chaplains and Coast Guardsman Charles Walter David, Jr.)  
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu  
Originator: Mayor

Motion to read by short title. A motion was made by Washington, seconded by Dennis, to read the resolution by short title. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - Bupp - 1.

Resolution No. 9, Session 2024, A Resolution authorizing placement of a Four Chaplains and Coast Guardsman Charles Walter Dave, Jr., memorial at Veterans Memorial Park, was introduced

by Johnescu, read by short title, and came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Johnescu said members of the Board of Directors of the Veterans Memorial Gold Star Garden Healing & Peace Garden attended Council's January committee meeting and outlined the concept, design, and placement of the memorial and provided Council with colored renderings of the project. She said these men gave their lives to save others during WWII and this serves as a reminder of their sacrifice.

Jodi Keller, Four Chaplains Board, thanked Council for considering this resolution and honoring these individuals.

There being no further discussion, on motion of Johnescu, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 9 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

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

President Washington asked Council if there were any items requested be pulled from the consent agenda. There were no requests.

**Motion to consider consent agenda.** A motion was made by made by Buckingham, seconded by Dennis, to consider agenda items 5-11 as a consent agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

President Washington asked if there was any Council, Administration, or public comment. There was none.

**Motion to approve consent agenda items.** A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Washington, to approval agenda items 5-10. The to approve PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

5. Resolution No. 10 - A Resolution  
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu  
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 10, Session 2024, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing certificates of appropriateness for work to be covered in the following applications: Application filed for work to be done at 43-45 W. Market St.; Application filed for work to be done at 48 E. Market St.; Application filed for work to be done at 426 E. Market St. (revised application); Application filed for work to be done at 466-468 E. Market St.; and to deny a certificate of appropriateness as recommended by the HARB for work to be done at 426 E. Market St. (application was revised & resubmitted), was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

6. Resolution No. 11 - A Resolution  
Appointing/Reappointment members to various boards. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Elizabeth Bupp  
Originator: Mayor / Council

Resolution No. 11, Session 2024, A Resolution approving the reappointment made by Council of Sharon Smith to the York City Board of Health, which term shall expire the first Monday of April 2028; Reappointment made by the Mayor of Matthew Davis to the York City Planning Commission, which term shall expire the first day of January 2028; Reappointment made by the Mayor of Maribel Burgos to the York City Planning Commission, which term shall expire the first day of January 2028; Appointment of Christopher Echterling, M.D., as a member of the York City

Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Joanne Henderson, which term shall expire on the first Monday of April 2027, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

7. Resolution No. 12 - A Resolution Amending Non-sufficient Fund & Stop Payment fee. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Treasurer

Resolution No. 12, Session 2024, A Resolution increasing the non-sufficient fund and stop payment fees from \$35 to \$40, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

8. Resolution No. 13 - A Resolution Appointing probationary firefighters. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Mayor / Fire/Rescue

Resolution No. 13, Session 2024, A Resolution appointing Justin Ford, Ethan Six, Kenneth Swartz, Brian Graber, Tristin Russell, and Jacob Cochran as probationary firefighters, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

9. Resolution No. 14 - A Resolution Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$152,053.90 - For Public Health Emergency Preparedness)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Resolution No. 14, Session 2024, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer in the amount of \$152,053.90 for the Health Department for Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

10. Resolution No. 15 - A Resolution Authorizing an agreement with Willis of Pennsylvania. ([View](#)) (For general liability and worker's comp insurance)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration

Resolution No. 15, Session 2024, A Resolution approving an agreement with Willis of Pennsylvania for general liability and workers' comp insurance through 2026, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

11. Resolution No. 16 - A Resolution Authorizing various agreements for various insurances. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration

Resolution No. 16, Session 2024, A Resolution authorizing contracts for services as proposed by Old Republic International Corporation for General Liability/Professional Liability insurance for the year 2024; Old Republic International Corporation for Commercial Property/Inland Marine insurance for the year 2024; W. R. Berkley Corporation for Commercial Umbrella- Primary insurance for the year 2024; Zurich, for crime insurance for the year 2024; AXIS for cyber insurance for the year 2024; AXA XL Group of Companies for Police Professional Liability insurance for the year 2024; Old Republic International Corporation, for Business Auto and Business Auto - Fire Truck Physical Damage insurance for the year 2024; Old Republic International Corporation, for General Liability/Public Entity Management Liability insurance for the year 2024, was approved unanimously by consent agenda.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Councilwoman Bupp said Matt Jackson reached out to her to talk about a resolution related to poverty because he too was aware of poverty awareness week. She read his request and said his focus was on guaranteed incomes and that a national road show would take place and he would like the city to be part of the conversation. She then invited the public to watch the trailer for *It's Basic* by Marc Levin at [www.itsbasicdocumentary.com](http://www.itsbasicdocumentary.com). The documentary focuses on poverty and inequalities.

Councilwoman Dennis said it's Black History Month so let's embrace black history.

President Washington congratulated Vice President Buckingham on receiving an award this weekend.

XIII. Administration Comment: None

XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6PM in City Council Chambers. There being no further business, the February 6, 2024 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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

  
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Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk

  
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Edquina Washington, President of Council