



# The City of York Pennsylvania

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

Edquina Washington, President  
Betsy Buckingham, Vice President  
Dr. Felicia O. A. Dennis, Member  
Elizabeth Bupp, Member  
Teresa Johnescu, Member  
Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk  
P: (717) 849-2246  
F: (717) 812-0557  
dthompso@yorkcity.org

## COMMITTEE MINUTES February 28, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Fire/Police	Public Works	Econ & Comm Development	Business Admin	Rules & Admin
Washington Buckingham Dennis	Dennis Washington Johnescu	Washington Buckingham Johnescu	Buckingham Johnescu Bupp	Bupp 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 Washington called the February 28, 2024, committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 101 S. George St., York, PA, with the following members present: Elizabeth Bupp, Teresa Johnescu, Betsy Buckingham, Vice President (via telephone), and Edquina Washington, President.

**Members of the Administration in attendance included:** Kim Robertson, Business Administrator; Samanth Zahm, Deputy Director, Bureau of Health; James Crosby, Director, Bureau of Housing; Kittrell Barnes, Manager, Parking Bureau; Dave Rudolph, Supervisor, Electrical Bureau; and Assistant Solicitor Brett Flower.

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

- I. Called the committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Committee Issues for the **March 5 & 19, 2024** legislative Agendas as follows:

**[CLICK HERE TO VIEW ISSUES CHART](#)**

### ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Washington, Chair; Buckingham; Johnescu)

1. Resolution authorizing the submission of the 2023 CAPER (BHS) ([View](#))

James Crosby, Director, Bureau of Housing Services, said this is their annual report which is submitted to HUD every year. He said this covers fiscal year 2023 and we need Council approval before we submit it. We are happy with the performance, and we are now seeing pre-covid numbers. He said we had 13 low-moderate income people who purchased homes through the first-time homebuyer's program, and we'd like to increase that number to about 25 people in 2024. March 4-18 the plan will be on display for the public. He thanked Councilwoman Bupp for adding comments during their meeting and they plan to make those edits before they put it on display.

Councilwoman Johnescu said she was amazed by the scope of what is covered under these two grants. She asked what a goal is for next year where he'd like to do better and build upon.

Director Crosby said probably the adult literacy program because they have seen a drop in that activity. Also, the number of people that took advantage of first-time homebuyer activities. He said he would like to see those numbers increase as well.

**DECISION:** A motion was made by Johnescu, seconded by Washington, to place this item on the 3/19/24 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 3; Nays - 0.

2. Resolution authorizing various grant award agreements (Health) ([View](#))

Samanth Zahm, Deputy Director of Health, said Section one of the resolution is to approve a contract in the amount of \$100,000 for family planning program services including education, counseling, and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. Section two is to approve a contract for \$75,000 for women's health services program services including education, counseling, screening, and testing related to women's health conditions and menstrual services. Section three is to approve a contract in the amount of \$3,705,687.48 to enhance laboratory, surveillance, informatics, and other workforce capacity by strengthen laboratory testing; improve surveillance and reporting; use data to enhance investigation, response, and prevention; and coordinate and engage with partners in the City.

Councilwoman Bupp said Section 3 talks about PA Dept. of Health lab services for \$3.7M for the period of 7/1/23-6/30/26. She asked if the \$3.7M is for those three years or one year of the three.

Director Zahm said it's for the 3 years and it's not new money, it's rollover money we haven't spent.

Councilwoman Bupp asked what money they plan to spend next.

Director Zahm said she would have to get that number because they have been delayed because they wanted to make sure everything else was approved but so far, over the past 6 months, they have only used money for personnel. She said we have to also submit budgeting justification with the plan to prove how we plan to utilize this funding.

Director Robertson said this money is already in the city's 2024 operating budget. This is just the approving the agreement. She said this is COVID funding so it's under Fund 26.

**DECISION:** A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Johnescu, to place this item on the 3/5/24 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 3; Nays - 0.

3. Resolution authorizing various budget transfers (Health) ([View](#))

Director Zahm said these transfers are to shift personnel funds around to accommodate the 3% COLA's granted to staff.

**DECISION:** A motion made by Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, to place this item on the 3/5/24 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 3; Nays - 0.

4. Bill authorizing various budget amendments (Health) ([View](#))

Director Zahm said section one is funding received from the state to provide inspections for lead; the second is additional funding received for the lead program; the third is adding the \$75K for women's health services into the 2024 budget; and the last is a donation received in the amount of \$700 which we are adding to Fund 26 - special projects.

Councilwoman Bupp thanked the organization who gave the \$700 donation. Director Zahm said the donation was received from York Hospital Nursing Association.

**DECISION:** A motion made by Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, to place this item on the 3/5/24

legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas – Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington – 3; Nays – 0.

### POLICE (Washington, Chair; Buckingham; Dennis)

---

6. Bill authorizing a budget amendment for a PCCD grant - \$539,802 (Police) ([View](#))

Administrator Robertson said this is a PCCD grant coming in through the county. The grant was approved last year, and we did a budget amendment to add it to the 2023 budget. This year we are just confirming the amounts to carry over for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. The police department has various funding sources, and we want to make sure we have all of them included in the budget, so we needed to add this to the 2024 budget, so we draw down from it.

**DECISION:** A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded by Washington, to place this item on the 3/5/24 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas – Buckingham, Washington – 2; Nays – 0.

### GENERAL (Washington, Chair; All members of Council)

---

7. Bill authorizing a budget amendment - Holliday Luncheon for \$9,999; Fund 26 for \$136,000 (HRC) ([View](#))

Administrator Robertson said for Section 1, we just had an amendment for this exact fund but they received a large donation that they were able to add to the bucket for the Holliday Luncheon. Section 2 is for a grant subaward from the Health Bureau for Downtown Businesses Anti-Discrimination Training in the amount of \$68,000.00, and for a Youth Coalition Collaborative in the amount of \$68,000.00. She said HRC Director Clare Twomey is ready to move forward to get things moving in the community.

**DECISION:** A motion was made by Johnescu, seconded by Bupp, to place this item on the 3/5/24 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington – 4; Nays – 0.

8. Bill authorizing a budget amendment - ARPA – New Roof & Generators (Mayor) ([View](#))

Administrator Robertson said with the ARPA money the city received, we were able to claim \$10M for lost revenue reimbursement. We have been holding on to that with the hope that we could use it toward reducing the healthcare expenses for next year's budget. The mayor is looking to add whatever is left over to year 2025 to reduce expenses for healthcare in our risk management account. There are still projects we could use these funds for, and the roof repair was identified. The mayor agreed to use a portion of the \$10M to repair/replace four city building roofs and to supply five backup generators.

Supervisor Rudolph said the roof projects include a City Hall full roof replacement roof to replace the current shingles with 75 yr. life shingles. Next, he said the current roof on the police department building was installed in the 1940's, so it will be replaced with new slate. Also, a roof replacement will be done at Eagle Fire Station since the Fire Dept is back in there - this will have an architectural shingle. The Roller Rink repair will include a coating repair/patch instead of replacing it because it would have cost too much money - we will get about 20 yrs. out of this coating.

Councilwoman Bupp asked if an RFP will be done for the roof installations.

Supervisor Rudolph said we'll use the US Communities purchasing program through approved by the state.

Councilwoman Bupp asked if gutters and downspouts will be replaced. Supervisor Rudolph said only on an as-needed basis.

Supervisor Rudolph said for the generators project, there will be full building generators at City Hall, and Goodwill, Vigilant, Eagle, and Lincoln Fire stations. He said we never had a problem with needing a generator until we had the breach to our infrastructure when we had the break-in at City Hall a few years back. He gave a brief explanation of the installation process.

Councilwoman Bupp asked how often the fire stations have lost power.

Supervisor Rudolph said it happen more than you think. The problem with the stations is that they did backup power for the lighting but not the garage door. So, when we lose power, the fire trucks can't get out of the firehouse. He said with this generator, it will bring us up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Councilwoman Bupp asked if we can re-sell the old generators.

Supervisor Rudolph said some of the generators are well past their life cycle. He said the generator at Station 1 is in good working order, so we hope to move that to the Highway Dept. Other ones that are usable, we'll try to resource out to other city facilities.

Director Zahm said for emergency preparedness we have an emergency command center that has to keep our vaccinations cool and generators can serve as a backup to preserve their vaccinations.

**DECISION:** A motion was made by Johnescu, seconded by Bupp, to place this item on the 3/5/24 legislative agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - 0.

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (Buckingham, Chair; Johnescu, Bupp)**

---

### 9. Resolution authorizing an agreement with Esi for parking garage cameras (Parking) ([View](#))

Kittrell Barnes, Manager, Parking Bureau, said we are looking to upgrade the cameras in the parking garages. Currently we only have cameras at the entry, so we want to add additional cameras to increase security. We want to protect our assets and those of our customers, so we want to have full coverage of our garages so that we can better monitor activity.

Councilwoman Johnescu asked how old the current cameras are.

David Rudolph, Supervisor, Electrical Bureau, said they are 17 years old. He said the cameras at City Hall were recently upgraded using these same cameras and they have crystal clear footage. These new cameras offer a much better AI interface for searching incidents.

Councilwoman Johnescu said she supports the security idea and asked if we've had much criminal activity.

Manager Barnes said basically we have seen kids playing the garage, people doing burnouts with their tires, damage to the elevators, etc. He said usually it's just property damage issues.

Councilwoman Johnescu asked how many years we can expect to get out of these cameras and what's the maintenance look like.

Supervisor Rudolf said the life expectancy of these cameras is about 15 years life and we have the capability to update the programming and software over the years.

President Washington thanked Mr. Barnes and Mr. Rudolph for making sure our garages are safe.

**DECISION:** A motion was made by Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, to place this item on the **3/5/24** agenda. The motion passed by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham - 3; Nays - 0.

**III. Council Comment**

Councilwoman Bupp said this coming Friday is 1<sup>st</sup> Friday in the city so check out the activities. She then announced several events happening throughout the city.

**IV. Administration Comment:** None

**V. Next Committee Meeting** March 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

**VI. Adjournment:** There being no further business, the February 28, 2024 committee meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edquina Washington, President of Council