

# 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 October 15, 2024 6:00 p.m.

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Washington called the October 15, 2024, 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, and Edquina Washington, President, with President Washington presiding. Councilwoman Felicia Dennis was absent.

**Members of the Administration included:** Kim Robertson, Business Administrator; Joe Jefcoat, Treasurer; and Brett Flower, Assistant Solicitor.

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

- I. Public Comment: None
- II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:00 PM.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. Moment of Silence was observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of October 1, 2024 (Legislative - [View](#)). Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and unanimously approved them as written.
- VII. Presentations, Awards and Announcements

President Washington read a statement paying respect to the late, retired Fire Chief David Michaels who passed away on October 11, 2024.

- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:

► **Council Committee Meeting:** Scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on October 16th. - CANCELED.

► **Legislative Meeting:** Next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on October 30th.

- 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)

**Subdivision/Land Development/HARB:**

- 1. Resolution No. 99 - A Resolution  
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu  
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 99, Session 2024, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing a certificate of appropriateness for work to be done at 382 W. King St., was introduced by Johnescu, read at length, and on motion of Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, and PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington – 4; Nays – 0.

**Final Passage of Bills/Resolutions**

- 2. Final Passage of Bill No. 34, Ordinance No. 34 - A Bill  
Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (By appropriating revenue/expenditures for CDBG grant funding reflecting changes due to unexpended funding from 2017 and 2021 in the amount of \$35,655.94)  
Introduced by: Edquina Washington  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Bureau of Housing Services)

Final Passage of Bill No. 34, Ordinance No. 34, Session 2024, A Bill amending the 2024 Budget Moved by appropriating revenue and expenditures for CDBG grant funding reflecting changes due to unexpended funding from 2017 and 2021 in the amount of \$35,655.94, which was introduced by Washington at the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded Johnescu, Bill No. 34 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Bupp said residents my contact the Bureau of Housing Services to review the CDBG plan.

There being no further discussion, Bill No. 34, Ordinance No. 34, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington – 4; Nays – 0.

- 3. Final Passage of Bill No. 35, Ordinance No. 35 - A Bill  
Amending Article 951 “Municipal Solid Waste Management Act.” ([View](#)) (To add requirements for proper disposal of approved liquids, clarification on required refuse containers, change the billing frequency for refuse collection service fees from monthly to quarterly, include the obligation that property owners maintain updated contact information, and change the determining criteria for a property to be considered vacant for refuse fee billing.)  
Introduced by: Elizabeth Bupp  
Originator: Public Works / Business Administration

Final Passage of Bill No. 35, Ordinance No. 35, Session 2024, A Bill amending Article 951 “Municipal Solid Waste Minimization Act” of the Codified Ordinances to add requirements for proper disposal of approved liquids, clarification on required refuse containers, change the billing frequency for refuse collection service fees from monthly to quarterly, include the

obligation that property owners maintain updated contact information, and change the determining criteria for a property to be considered vacant for refuse fee billing, which was introduced by Bupp at the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Council, and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion made by Bupp, seconded by Buckingham, Bill No. 35 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Johnescu said this bill is doing a lot but its going to move the refuse billing monthly to quarterly because we are spending almost \$400K per year for York Water Company to send out our bills. This will be a significant savings to the city when the billing comes back in house. She said she feels this is a great move for residents and taxpayers.

Councilwoman Bupp said this bill also asks that residents update their contact information for the city. She asked BA Robertson to explain how people should share their information.

Business Administrator Robertson said we first need to update everyone's information through March 31, 2025. Second, we will determine who is eligible for the minimum flat rate. Third, we want to make sure the Treasurer's office can handle the billing and then determine how we can update everyone's information, but we don't have that nailed down yet.

President Washington said ensure we have an effective campaign to inform our residents of this updated law. BA Robertson said we are working with York Water Company on how to add information on the bills, as well as press releases, and WRCT to get the information disseminated.

Treasurer Jefcoat said we are just at the beginning of the process, and he hopes everyone will stay flexible with them while they put this into action. He said OpenGov will give us the flexibility to gather proper information from residents.

There being no further discussion, Bill No. 35, Ordinance No. 35 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - 0.

4. Final Passage of Bill No. 36, Ordinance No. 36 - A Bill Amending Article 952 "Waste Minimization and Recycling." ([View](#)) (To add a minimum weekly collection requirement for those that are not served by the curbside program provided by the City of York) Introduced by: Elizabeth Bupp  
Originator: Public Works / Business Administration

Final Passage of Bill No. 36, Ordinance No. 36, Session 2024, A Bill amending Article 952 "Waste Minimization and Recycling" of the Codified Ordinances to add a minimum weekly collection requirement for those that are not served by the curbside program provided by the City of York, which was introduced by Bupp at the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion made by Bupp, seconded by Washington, and came up for discussion.

Business Administrator Robertson said this is a requirement for grant funding we receive for our recycling program.

There being no further discussion, Bill No. 36, Ordinance No. 36, PASSED by the following votes: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - 0.

5. Final Passage of Resolution No. 98 - A Resolution Increasing the fee for duplicate bills from \$5 to \$10. ([View](#)) (Fee charged to all companies/firms and to individuals without a homestead exclusion who request duplicate bills & for all requests submitted after the face deadline. Property owners seeking duplicate bills of their homesteaded parcel will continue to pay \$5 for a duplicate bill if requested before the face deadline.)

Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Treasurer

Final Passage of Resolution No. 98, Session 2024, A Resolution increasing the fee for duplicate bills from \$5 to \$10 for the fee charged to all companies/firms and to individuals without a homestead exclusion who request duplicate bills & for all requests submitted after the face deadline. Property owners seeking duplicate bills of their homesteaded parcel will continue to pay \$5 for a duplicate bill if requested before the face deadline, which was introduced by Buckingham and the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Council and read at length, came up for final passage. On motion of Buckingham, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 98 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Buckingham said \$5 does not cover our costs and doesn't seem to be much of a deterrent so we hope this increase will allow us to continue to provide this service.

Treasurer Jefcoat said we will continue to offer a copy of the bill for \$5 for homestead exclusion before the penalty date.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 98 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - 0.

**New Business - Introduction of Bills:** None

**New Business - Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda:** None

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Vice President Buckingham said the budget hearings have been rescheduled to October 22 & 23 to allow firefighters and employees to attend Fire Chief David Michaels' funeral service.

President Washington reminded everyone the last day to register to vote is October 21.

XIII. Administration Comment

Business Administrator Robertson said we are about to start the roof replacement at City Hall. As part of that process, we have blocked off the front of City Hall including the front entrance which will remain closed until the project is done. All other entry points will still be accessible. The front row of parking in the customer lot is also blocked off to allow our construction crew to use those spaces.

Treasurer Jefcoat said we need to make some big signs and attach them to the barriers at the front of the building because he said he met a gentleman was confused as to how he could enter the building because he didn't know where to enter since the construction tape was up.

XIV. Adjournment: There being no further business, the October 15th meeting of Council adjourned at 6:25 PM.

  
Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk

  
Edquina Washington, President of Council