

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice President Buckingham called the November 6, 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, Felicia Dennis, and Betsy Buckingham, Vice President, with Vice President Buckingham presiding.

**Members of the Administration included:** Kim Robertson, Business Administrator; Tammy Bethea, Program Funding Analyst, Bureau of Housing Services; Jada Richardson, Director, Bureau of Housing Services; Monica Kruger, Director of Health; and Brett Flower, Assistant Solicitor.

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

I. Public Comment:

Corey Jackson, resident, said the tranquility of his neighborhood is disrupted with late night parties and public disturbances from college students. Despite previous efforts to address his concerns through contacting city officials and police, he said the problem still exists. He said the college students are causing detrimental disturbances in his neighborhood. He said following the noise ordinance and intervention are necessary to help him and his neighbors live in peace.

There being no further business, the public comment session was adjourned at 6:03 p.m. Vice President Buckingham immediately convened in legislative session.

II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order 6:03 p.m.

III. Roll Call

IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

V. Moment of Silence was observed.

VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [October 15, 2024](#). Council unanimously approved the minutes 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, November 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on November 13th.

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. 100 - A Resolution Approving a revised Land Development/Stormwater Plan submitted by Wellspan/Warehouse. ([View](#)) (Revised LD/stormwater plan, E&S plan, PCSM plan, and stormwater calculations for 1001 S. George St.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Planning)

Resolution No. 100, Session 2024, A Resolution approving a revised Land Development / Stormwater Plan submitted by Wellspan/Warehouse for Revised LD/stormwater plan, E&S plan, PCSM plan, and stormwater calculations for 1001 S. George St., was introduced by Buckingham, read at length, and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 100 came up for discussion.

Joe Stein was in attendance and explained that this is the Surgical and Critical Care Tower at York Hospital and through the final budgeting of these project, they had to value engineer some of the items out that impacted the stormwater management. Previously there was a green roof that was going to management the stormwater that complied with the city's stormwater ordinance. However, that was an expensive process, and it was removed from their process because of budgetary concerns. They will relocate the stormwater to the south side where they will install two rain gardens with underground storage to transfer the flow from the roof to the ground level. Once the decision was made, we re-processed the plan and that's why we are here before you tonight.

Vice President Buckingham said the City Planning recommended approval based on the engineer's review and asked if that happened.

Mr. Stein said the law mandates we control the rate, volume and water quality. Previously there was no stormwater management. We are around 6,000-7,000 cubic feet, that volume of water would be addressed through the green roof. We still have a portion of green roof that will remain but what they did was take all of that management area and relocated to the rain garden. He said this has been approved by the County Conversation District and city engineer. He said it's an apples-to-apples switch.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 100 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham - 4; Nays - 0.

**Final Passage of Bills/Resolutions:** None

## New Business

2. Introduction of Bill No. 37 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Health Bureau by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$35,655.94 associated with Community Development Block Grant funding through the Housing Bureau to support the Healthy Moms Healthy Babies program.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 37, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 Budget for the Health Bureau by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$35,655.94 associated with Community Development Block Grant funding through the Housing Bureau to support the Healthy Moms Healthy Babies program was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

3. Introduction of Bill No. 38 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Fire Department by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$25,000.00 associated with a grant from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner for a new HVAC system for Fire Station 2.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Fire/Rescue

Introduction of Bill No. 38, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 Budget for the Fire Department by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$25,000.00 associated with a grant from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner for a new HVAC system for Fire Station 2, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

4. Introduction of Bill No. 39 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$75,000 Associated with a grant from the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) to expand digital literacy access for justice-impacted individuals through the Talent for Tomorrow Digital Equity Challenge program.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration (Mayor)

Introduction of Bill No. 39, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 Budget in the amount of \$75,000 Associated with a grant from the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) to expand digital literacy access for justice-impacted individuals through the Talent for Tomorrow Digital Equity Challenge program, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

5. Introduction of Bill No. 40 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (By appropriating expenditures from the **American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA"** funds for York County Planning Commission's Lead Hazard Reduction Capacity Building Grant Program in the amount of \$75,000.00.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Business Administration

Introduction of Bill No. 40, Session 2024, A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget by appropriating expenditures from the **American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA"** funds for York County Planning Commission's Lead Hazard Reduction Capacity Building Grant Program in the amount of \$75,000.00, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

6. Introduction of Bill No. 41 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (For the Recreation & Parks bureau by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$25,000.00 associated with a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for plan and design costs associated with the Parks Master Plan.)  
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis  
Originator: Public Works (Parks & Recreation)

Introduction of Bill No. 41, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 Budget for the Recreation & Parks bureau by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$25,000.00 associated with a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for plan and design costs associated with the Parks Master Plan, was introduced by Dennis, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

7. Introduction of Bill No. 42 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (By appropriating additional revenue and expenditures from Family Health Council of Central PA (FHCCP) for the Women's Health Services, in the amount of \$15,000.00.)  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 42, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 Budget by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures from Family Health Council of Central PA (FHCCP) for the Women's Health Services, in the amount of \$15,000.00, was introduced by Buckingham, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

8. Introduction of Bill No. 43 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Bill Establishing Article 196 "Tax Forgiveness Review Committee" of the Codified Ordinances. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu  
Originator: City Council (City Clerk)

Introduction of Bill No. 43, Session 2024, A Bill establishing Article 196 "Tax Forgiveness Review Committee" of the Codified Ordinances, was introduced by Johnescu, read by short title, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

9. Introduction of Resolution No. 101 (Will be on the 11/19/24 agenda) - A Resolution Establishing an application fee in accordance with Article 196 "Tax Forgiveness Review Committee" of the Codified Ordinances ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu  
Originator: City Council (City Clerk)

**(Note:** Fee legislation must sit for at least one meeting prior to consideration of final passage. Therefore, this resolution will be considered for final passage on or after November 19, 2024)

Resolution No. 101, Session 2024, A Resolution establishing an application fee in accordance with Article 196 "Tax Forgiveness Review Committee" of the Codified Ordinances, was introduced by Johnescu, read at length, and deferred to the 11/19/24 meeting of Council.

10. Resolution No. 102 - A Resolution Reappointing and appointment members to various boards. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu  
Originator: Mayor / Council

Resolution No. 102, Session 2024, A Resolution consenting to the following:

1. Reappointment by the Mayor of Joanne Wilmore as a member of the York Business Improvement District Authority (Downtown Inc) which term shall expire the first day of January 2030.
2. Reappointment by the Mayor of John Klinedinst as a member of the York Business Improvement District Authority (Downtown Inc) which term shall expire the first day of January 2030.
3. Reappointment by the Mayor of Julian Tolbert as a member of the York Business Improvement District Authority which term shall expire the first day of January 2030.
4. Reappointment of Lisa Welty as a member of the York City Civil Service Board which term shall expire the first Monday of January 2029.
5. Reappointment of Dennis Kunkle as a member of the Historical Architectural Review Board which term shall expire the first Monday of January 2030.
6. Reappointment of Franklin Williams as a member of the York City Zoning Hearing Board which term shall expire January 1, 2030.
- ~~7. Appointment of Betsy Buckingham as a member of the York City Parks Conservancy Board which term shall expire the first Monday of January 2026.~~

Resolution No. 102 was introduced by Johnescu, read at length, and on motion of Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 102 came up for discussion.

**Motion to amend.** Vice President Buckingham made a motion to amend the resolution to remove her appointment to the York City Parks Conservancy Board because the Board has not yet approved her appointment. The motion to amend was seconded by Johnescu and passed by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham - 4; Nays - 0.

There being no further discussion, on motion of Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 102, as amended, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham - 4; Nays - 0.

11. Resolution No. 103 - A Resolution Approving Health Insurance services contracts. ([View](#)) (Vision Benefits, EPLS Prescription, and Mutual Of Omaha term life)  
 Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
 Originator: Business Administration

Resolution No. 103, Session 2024, A Resolution approving the following contracts for health insurance services:

1. Contract for services as proposed by Vision Benefits of America (VBA) for vision insurance coverage for 2025-2026
2. Contract for services as proposed by EPLS LLC for Prescription Consulting the year 2025
3. Contract for services as proposed by Mutual of Omaha for Basic Term Life and AD&D, Voluntary Term Life and AD&D coverage for 2025-2027.:

Resolution No. 103 was introduced by Buckingham, read at length, and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 103 came up for discussion.

Business Administrator Robertson said VBA has been our vision insurance carrier for at least 15 years and their rates have stayed the same. We started using EPLS the beginning of this year and they help us find lower cost prescriptions. Mutual of Omaha is for all employee groups, the city pays for basic term life insurance with accidental death and dismemberment coverage. Our broker bid out this and Mutual of Omaha expressed interest and it's a savings for us.

Councilwoman Bupp asked for an explanation of the services provided by EPLS.

Administrator Robertson said they work with our prescription carrier TrueRx to assess high-cost medications which is sent to EPLS, and they work with providers to find alternative sources to save money for prescriptions for our employees.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 103 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham - 4; Nays - 0.

## Supplemental Agenda

Motion to waive 215: A motion was made by Buckingham, seconded Dennis, to waive the provisions of Resolution 215 of Session 1969 to permit consideration of one resolution. The motion PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham - 4; Nays - 0.

12. Resolution No. 104 - A Resolution Approving the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, FY2024 Annual Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan. ([View](#))  
Introduced by: Betsy Buckingham  
Originator: Economic & Community Development (BHS)

Resolution No. 104, Session 2024, A Resolution approving the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, FY2024 Annual Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan, was introduced by Buckingham, read at length, and on motion of Buckingham, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 104 came up for discussion.

Jada Richardson, Director, Bureau of Housing Services, explained that the Consolidated Plan is required by HUD every 5 years, and the Action Plan is an update to the plan that is done annually. She said we held sessions over the summer which was attended by 125 residents. We did extensive research in the community on where to focus our efforts. The Citizen Participation is a document to guide our efforts on how to keep the residents informed.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 104 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham - 4; Nays - 0.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Councilwoman Bupp reminded people to read history books. On 11/16/24 there is an event on the Articles of Confederation and York's role in the creation of the United States. She reminded kids to take an active role in their education because their best chance at success is their education.

Councilwoman Dennis suggested a public announcement about electric heaters, especially for our Haitian community who may not understand, and how to properly use them to help prevent fires.

Monica Kruger, Director, Bureau of Health, said the Health Bureau works with the Fire Dept. to educate residents on what to do in case of a fire and we worked on door hangers and made sure they were distributed. She added that through the Health Dept. family visits, they educate residents, especially our non-English speaking residents, on various public safety issues.

XIII. Administration Comment: None

- XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of City Council is scheduled for November 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. There being no further business, the November 6, 2024 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:38 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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Betsy Buckingham, Vice President of Council