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

Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk Email: dthompso@vorkcitv.org



AGENDA **June 3, 2025** 6:00 p.m. Office of York City Council 101 S. George St. York, Pennsylvania 17401

Telephone: (717) 849-2246 Fax: (717) 812-0557

Website: www.yorkcity.org

Council meetings are streamed LIVE for viewing only on the following social media platforms: FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/CityofYorkPA/
YOUTUBE: https://www.youtube.com/c/WhiteRoseCommunityTV.

YOUTUBE: https://www.youtube.com/c/WhiteRoseCommunityTV. 2025 MEETINGS: Click heep to view 2025 Council Meetings Dates

CALL TO ORDER: President Washington called the June 3, 2025, 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, Betsy Buckingham, Vice President, and Edquina Washington, President with President Washington presiding.

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

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

I. Public Comment:

Don Hake, resident, suggested that reports on completed property inspections in the City of York should be publicly available, particularly for those seeking rental properties. He expressed concern about being told that such reports are not public information and stated that he believes this should change. Additionally, Mr. Hake inquired about city-owned properties, noting that the city possesses over 100 properties. He mentioned that this information was previously accessible online but is no longer publicly available. He questioned the difficulty in obtaining this data.

Warren Mohler, resident, raised concerns about the city's new trash collection company. He stated that he heard there would be an increase in trash collection fees and that most residents would receive toters at no charge. However, others, including himself, had to purchase their own trash cans at personal expense. He noted that he spent \$200 on trash cans and questioned why all residents were not provided toters. Mr. Mohler stated that he was informed the reasoning was related to parking on Market Street and concerns about traffic congestion. He argued that providing toters to all residents would significantly reduce litter.

President Washington asked Mr. Mohler to fill out the public comment form to allow the administration to address his concerns.

Joe Jefcoat, Treasurer, advised that Mr. Hake could find information regarding city-owned properties by visiting the county tax assessment office website. He also stated that if necessary, Mr. Hake could contact him directly, as he maintains a list of all tax-exempt properties within the city.

Manuel Gomez, resident, discussed the Trust Act, noting that although York City did not successfully enact it, the city was still flagged as ineligible for Federal funding. He compared this with Lancaster, which adopted the Trust Act but was not included on the flagged list.

Mr. Gomez also spoke about the desire to highlight positive aspects within the city rather than focusing solely on complaints. He commended Councilwoman Johnescu for her efforts to create structure within the honorary street name process but questioned the reasoning behind the application fee. He also expressed concern over the proposed sunset clause of 10 years, suggesting that honorary street names should be made permanent. He noted that if a sunset clause were implemented, it would apply retroactively to existing honorary street names, which is of concern to him. Mr. Gomez further also took exception to denying honorary street name signs if controversial because he feels it would be difficult to find individuals without a past. He stated that he does not fully understand the intent behind the legislation, though it was ultimately removed from the agenda. He encouraged dialogue and collaboration in crafting legislation, urging members to set aside egos and be perceptive toward one another before moving bills to committee.

Cindy Martin, resident, spoke about issues related to the new garbage collection service. She stated that waste collectors frequently drop trash onto the streets, which she then has to clean up. She emphasized her desire to maintain cleanliness in the neighborhood. Additionally, she noted that workers empty all the trash from her bin but sometimes leave remnants behind in the can.

There being no further public comment, President Washington adjourned the public comment session at 6:20 p.m.

- II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:20 p.m.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. Moment of Silence was observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of May 21, 2025 (legislative); May 28, 2025 (committee). Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and unanimously approved them as written.
- VII. Presentations, Awards and Announcements
- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:
 - ▶ Legislative Meeting: The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on July 9th.
- 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. 37 - A Resolution

Accepting the recommendations of HARB. (View)

Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu

Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 37, Session 2025, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing certificates of appropriateness for work to be done at 245 E. Princess St. and 245 E. Poplar St., was introduced by Johnescu, read at length, and on motion of Johnescu, seconded by Washington, Resolution No. 37 PASSED by the following vote; Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

Final Passage of Bills/Resolutions

2. Final Passage of Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 14

- A Bill

Consenting to the assignment of shared policing responsibilities for Penn State York. (<u>View</u>) (To change from Spring Garden Twp. to York County Regional Police Dept.)

Introduced by: Edquina Washington

Originator: Solicitor's Office

Final Passage of Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 14, Session 2025, A Resolution consenting to the assignment of shared policing responsibilities for Penn State York to change from Spring Garden Twp. to York County Regional Police Dept., which was introduced by Washington at the May 21 meeting of Council and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Washington, seconded by Johnescu, Bill No. 14, Ordinance No. 14, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

New Business - Introduction of Bills

3. <u>Introduction of Bill No. 15</u>

- A Bill

Amending the fiscal year 2025 City Budget. (<u>View</u>) (For the Economic & Community Development department by appropriating money not otherwise appropriated (MNOA) for Fund 29 for the Environmental Study required for the Affordable Housing Developer Program and Impediments to Affordable Fair Housing Study, in the amount of \$29,684.50 to add said remaining funds from FY2024 budget to the FY2025 budget.)

Introduced by: Edguina Washington

Originator: Economic & Community Development

Introduction of Bill No. 15, Session 2025, A Bill amending the fiscal year 2025 City Budget for the Economic & Community Development department by appropriating money not otherwise appropriated (MNOA) for Fund 29 for the Environmental Study required for the Affordable Housing Developer Program and Impediments to Affordable Fair Housing Study, in the amount of \$29,684.50 to add said remaining funds from FY2024 budget to the FY2025 budget, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the July 15 meeting of Council.

4. Introduction of Bill No. 16

- A Bill

Amending the FY2025 City Budget. (<u>View</u>) (For Bureau of Health by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures from Family Health Council of Central PA (FHCCP) for the Women's Health Services, in the amount of \$5,000.)

Introduced by: Edguina Washington

Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 16, Session 2025, A Bill amending the FY2025 City Budget for Bureau of Health by appropriating additional revenue and expenditures from Family Health Council of Central PA (FHCCP) for the Women's Health Services, in the amount of \$5,000, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the July 15 meeting of Council.

5. Introduction of Bill No. 17

- A Bill

Amending the FY2025 City Budget. (<u>View</u>) (For Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Healthy Moms Healthy Babies Home Visiting Program Grant (#4100095409) in the amount of \$10,000.)

Introduced by: Edquina Washington

Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 17, Session 2025, A Bill amending the FY2025 City Budget for Bureau of Health by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Healthy Moms Healthy Babies Home Visiting Program Grant (#4100095409) in the amount of \$10,000, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the July 15 meeting of Council.

New Business - Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda

Resolution No. 38 6.

- A Resolution

Authorizing the acceptance of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funds. (View) (\$500,000.00 for the York Bike Share Project)

Introduced by: Felicia Dennis Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 38, Session 2025, A Resolution authorizing acceptance of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the York Bike Share Project, was introduced by Dennis, read at length, and on motion of Dennis, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 38 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

7. Resolution No. 39

Awarding a contract to Kinsley Construction, Inc. (View) (For the 2025 Street Improvement Project) Introduced by: Felicia Dennis

Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 39, Session 2025, A Resolution awarding a contract to Kinsley Construction in the amount of \$546,328.00, for the 2025 Street Improvement Project, was introduced by Dennis, read at length, and on motion of Dennis, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 39 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

8. Resolution No. 40

Authorizing an agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI). (View) (\$126,600.00 total for 3 yrs. for mapping & tracking of disease cases.)

Introduced by: Edguina Washington

Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Resolution No. 40, Session 2025, A Resolution authorizing an agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) in the amount of \$126,600.00 to extend its active Enterprise License Agreement for a 3-year period for mapping and tracking of disease cases, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 40 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Bupp stated that the PMIs plan to utilize the ESRI system to monitor inspections, with the goal of improving reporting efficiency. She expressed enthusiasm for the tool and looks forward to seeing how the administration implements it.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 40 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas -Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

9. Resolution No. 41

- A Resolution

Appointing probationary police officers. (View) Introduced by: Edquina Washington

Originator: Mayor / Police

Resolution No. 41, Session 2025, A Resolution appointing the following as probationary police officers, 1. Kenneth Brittan, 2. Michael Kiser, 3. Charles Dashnaw, 4. Bradley Engle, 5. Dylan Hall, 6. Michael Cruz, 7. Jordan Sellers, 8. Jacob Vega, 9. Carman Pringle, and 10. Aaron Weatherill Jr., was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 41 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington – 5; Nays – 0.

10. Resolution No. 42

- A Resolution

Increasing refuse collection fees. (View)

Introduced by: Felicia Dennis

Originator: Business Administration / Public Works

Resolution No. 42, Session 2025, A Resolution increasing refuse collection fees as follows:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Fee Per Year</u>	<u>Fee Per Quarter</u>
Minimum (per unit)	\$180.00	\$45.00
Residential #1	\$440.00 (Base Rate)	\$110.00
Commercial #2	\$880.00 (Base Rate)	\$220.00
Residential #(X)	(X) x \$440.00 (Base Rate) = A	Annual Rate
` ,		
Commercial #(X)	(X) x \$880.00 (Base Rate) = Annual Rate	

The Resolution was introduced by Dennis, read at length, and on motion of Dennis, seconded by Johnescu Resolution No. 42 came up for discussion.

Administrator Robertson briefly explained how the amounts were calculated.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 42 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington – 5; Nays – 0.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

President Washington reminded residents that a Juneteenth celebration will take place on June 21 at Campus Park. She encouraged more vendors to participate and directed interested individuals to register via the city's Parks and Recreation Department website.

Councilwoman Dennis reported that she received calls from residents in the York Fair area regarding parking permit issues during the Rock the Country concert at the fairgrounds. Residents stated that no prior mailed notices were sent to them about the requirement to obtain a permit, resulting in tickets being issued. They mentioned being instructed to check online or Facebook for information.

Vice President Buckingham responded to Councilwoman Dennis' comment that the administration is waiving the issued tickets and is actively exploring alternative solutions. She also acknowledged concerns raised about the volume levels during the event.

Councilwoman Johnescu informed residents that, moving forward, recycling collection will occur only on the newly designated recycling day. She noted that while notices were distributed, some were scattered on sidewalks, resembling confetti. She provided details on the updated collection schedule and assured residents that Public Works had contacted property managers and issued news releases regarding the changes. However, she acknowledged that some confusion remained.

Administrator Robertson thanked Council for approving the refuse fees. She stated that the administration will revisit the fees in the future to determine if any adjustments are necessary. Additionally, she noted that there are administrative matter that need to be addressed as the billing system transitions from the York Water to the city.

XIV. Resumption of Public Comment Period (at the discretion of the presiding officer)

Shareef Hameed, resident, stated that honorary street names should be embraced and that the process should not be intimidating. He emphasized that York is simply catching up with other cities that have already implemented similar initiatives. He stated that he advocates for honorary street names to be made available to those who truly deserve the recognition.

XV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of Council is scheduled for July 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM in City Council Chambers. There being no further business, the June 3, 2025, meeting of Council adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk

Edquina Washington, President of Council