

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 December 2, 2025 6:00 p.m.

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

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

2025 MEETINGS: Click [here](#) to view 2025 Council Meetings Dates

CALL TO ORDER: President Washington called the December 2, 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 Johescu, Betsy Buckingham, Vice President, and Edquina Washington, President with President Washington presiding.

Members of the Administration included: Kim Robertson, Business Administrator; Dave Rudolph, Acting Director of Public Works; Lettice Brown, MS4 Coordinator; and Assistant Solicitor Brett Flower.

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

I. Public Comment

Lester Abbott (Resident), addressed the Council regarding conditions on N. George St., specifically at the intersection of Philadelphia Street. He described driving south on N. George St. and finding the area treacherous due to snow and ice, especially with the concrete blocks placed in front of restaurants that caused his vehicle, and others, to encroach upon the northbound side of N. George St.. He said the blocks were intended to benefit restaurant patrons during the summer, but he expressed concern about the potential situation with a six-inch snowfall. He proposed a compromise: have the blocks removed from November through March and put them back from April through October or seek some other solution.

Don Hake (Resident) requested that the Council communicate to those in charge of or who directly communicate with the garbage collectors that they should ensure the lids are closed on trash cans after they are mechanically emptied and pushed back to the curb. He stated that leaving lids open exposes the contents to weather conditions like rain and snow, which can cause melting and subsequently become a breeding ground for mosquitoes, among other issues. Secondly, Mr. Hake followed up on his previous address to the Council regarding the 1967 Supreme Court ruling on mandatory property inspections. He stated that he did not see anything related to this huge issue on the current agenda and asked if it had gone to a committee or been discussed. He noted that mandatory property inspection is currently in violation of the Supreme Court ruling. Mr. Hake mentioned that he had a conversation with a member of the administration who asked, "Are you going to sue? Where's the lawsuit?". He requested an update on where the issue went and if it was discussed.

There being no further discussion, the public comment session adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

- II. Called Legislative Meeting to Order at 6:05 p.m.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. Moment of Silence was observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of [November 18, 2025](#) (legislative). 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, December 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on December 10th.
- 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: None

Final Passage of Bills/Resolutions: None

New Business - Introduction of Bills

1. Introduction of Bill No. 33 - A Bill
Amending the FY2025 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$24,535.44 - For the York County Opioid Settlement Funds Program)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Health)

Introduction of Bill No. 33, Session 2025, A Bill amending the FY2025 budget in the amount of \$24,535.44 for the York County Opioid Settlement Funds Program, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the December 16, 2025 meeting of Council.
2. Introduction of Bill No. 34 - A Bill
Amending Part 13 "Planning & Zoning Code". ([View](#)) (To clarify definitions of rooming/boarded houses)
Introduced by: Elizabeth Bupp
Originator: Solicitor's Office

Introduction of Bill No. 34, Session 2025, A Bill amending Part 13, Planning & Zoning Code, of the Codified Ordinances to clarify definitions of rooming/boarded houses, was introduced by Bupp, read by short title, and deferred to the January 5, 2026 meeting of Council.

New Business – Items for Consideration of Consent Agenda

3. Resolution No. 86 - A Resolution Authorizing the transfer of the York Cemetery. ([View](#)) (To Prospect Hill Cemetery)
Introduced by: Teresa Johnescu
Originator: Mayor/Solicitor's Office

Resolution No. 86, Session 2025, A Resolution authorizing the transfer of the York Cemetery to Prospect Hill Cemetery was introduced by Johnescu, read at length, and on motion of Johnescu, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 86 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington – 4; Nays – 0.

4. Resolution No. 87 - A Resolution Awarding a contract to Cintas Corporation. ([View](#)) (For uniform rental & cleaning services)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Public Works

Resolution No. 86, Session 2025, A Resolution awarding a contract to Cintas Corporation in the amount of \$245,468.00, was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 87 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Bupp asked the administration about the five-year term of the contract, noting it seemed long, and asked if the previous contract was also five years.

Acting Public Works Director Rudolph responded that the previous contract was five years with one-year extension provisions, and the current contract also includes one-year extensions. He noted that the contract went out to bid twice, and Cintas Corporation was the only bidder both times, meaning the length of the term (5 or 10 years) was irrelevant since they were the only company that bid.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 87 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington – 4; Nays – 0.

5. Resolution No. 88 - A Resolution Amending the Amended & Restated Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement. ([View](#)) (For implementation of the York County Regional Chesapeake Bay Pollution Reduction Plan to extend permit to 12/31/2030)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Public Works

Motion to read by short title. A motion was made by Washington, seconded by Buckingham, to read Resolution No. 88 by short title only. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 88, Session 2025, A Resolution amending the Amended & Restated Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for implementation of the York County Regional Chesapeake Bay Pollution Reduction Plan to extend the permit to 12/31/2030, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Buckingham, Resolution No. 88 came up for discussion.

Lettice Brown (MS4 Coordinator) explained that MS4 is a "fancy term for stormwater management," standing for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. This means the sanitary sewer system and stormwater system are entirely separate and should never mix. The intergovernmental agreement is for the county-administered Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan in cooperation with surrounding municipalities. An extension of the permit is necessary because the city is receiving new stormwater permits from the Department of

Environmental Protection (DEP), and the extension provides time to redo and amend the plan. The extension confirms the city's wish to continue participating.

Councilwoman Bupp asked what the permit allows. Ms. Brown explained the permit allows certain allowable discharges through DEP and grants the city power to enforce illicit discharges, ensure clean stormwater, and maintain best management practices. Councilwoman Bupp asked about a mapping system, to which Ms. Brown confirmed the city has one that is currently being updated to account for new inlets and storm pipes. Councilwoman Bupp praised the city's effort to enforce illicit dumping and asked if the city has sufficient power to do so. Ms. Brown confirmed they do, stating she can issue fines and initiate remedies via certified mail.

Ms. Brown clarified that fines are not issued frequently ("a couple a year maybe") as most instances are handled through education, which she prioritizes. The most frequent issues seen are a tie between leaving grass in the street when mowing (which she battles daily in the summer) and sanitary sewer backups (which are usually unintentional). It was noted that this resolution is part of a broader, 15+ year initiative to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, in which all states within the watershed participate, and the initiative is having great benefits.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 88 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - 0.

6. Resolution No. 89 - A Resolution Approving the 2026 stated meetings of Council. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: City Clerk

Resolution No. 89, Session 2025, A Resolution approving the 2026 stated meetings of Council was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Johnescu, Resolution No. 89 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Bupp expressed her continued interest in having some type of committee meeting over the summer. She proposed including a committee section in the legislative agenda during the three summer meetings, potentially scheduling a half hour or an hour for committee work followed by the legislative meeting. Bupp worried that skipping committee meetings over the summer means missing opportunities for full discussion of upcoming legislation.

City Clerk Thompson responded, explaining that not having a committee meeting does not prevent the Council from discussing legislation; it just means the discussion happens during the Council meeting. Committee meetings were designed for discussion prior to the legislative meeting, where the body would then only consider adoption or passage. Clerk Thompson also questioned the feasibility of setting a time limit, such as a half hour, on a committee meeting because it would be impossible to determine discussion times.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 89 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Buckingham, Washington - 4; Nays - 0.

XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None

XII. Council Comment

Councilwoman Bupp offered several comments: (1) She thanked Brian Goodin, resident, for hosting the Mars Park Flea Market on State Street over the summer, noting it was a nice initiative with good turnout; (2) She wished success to Corey Wolf, who recently opened The Woof Bar on E. Market St. in the Wireworks building, calling it a new addition to downtown; (3) She thanked people for continuing

to grow businesses downtown; and (4) She announced a new Facebook page called York Entertainment where events can be emailed or sent to be published for residents to see what is happening.

XIII. Administration Comment: None

XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of City Council is scheduled for December 16, 2025 at 6PM in City Council Chambers. There being no further business, the December 2, 2025 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

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



Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk



Edquina Washington, President of Council