

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 SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 6:00 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER: President Washington called the September 17, 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, Betsy Buckingham, Vice President, and Edquina Washington, President, with President Washington presiding.

Members of the Administration included: Kim Robertson, Business Administrator; Dave Rudolph, Interim Director of Public Works; Jada Richardson, Director of the Bureau of Housing Services; 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 p.m.
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. Moment of Silence was observed.
- VI. Action on previous meeting Minutes of September 3, 2024. ([View](#)) Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes and unanimously approved them as written.
- VII. Presentations, Awards and Announcements: None
- VIII. Meeting(s) Scheduled:
 - ▶ **Council Committee Meeting:** Scheduled for Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on September 18, 2024.
 - ▶ **Legislative Meeting:** The next legislative meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Agenda items are due by 12 noon on September 25, 2024.

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.)

Final Passage of Bills / Resolutions:

1. Final Passage of Bill No. 31, Ordinance No. 31 (Pending) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (In the amount of \$6,000.00 associated with a collaboration with the American Heart Association)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Business Administration (Finance) / Public Works (Recreation & Parks)

Bill No. 31, Ordinance No. 31, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 budget in the amount of \$6,000.00 associated with a collaboration with the American Heart Association, which was introduced by Dennis at the September 3rd meeting of Council, and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion made by Dennis, seconded by Washington, Bill No. 31, Ordinance No. 31, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington – 5; Nays – 0.

2. Final Passage of Bill No. 32, Ordinance No. 32 (Pending) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (In the amount of \$25,000.00 associated with a contribution from the York City Parks Conservancy for the Parks Master Plan)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Business Administration (Finance) / Public Works (Recreation & Parks)

Final Passage of Bill No. 32, Ordinance No. 31, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 budget in the amount of \$25,000.00 associated with a contribution from the York City Parks Conservancy for the Parks Master Plan, which was introduced by Dennis at the September 3rd meeting of Council, and read by short title, came up for final passage. On motion of Dennis, seconded by Buckingham, Bill No. 32 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Bupp asked who makes up the York City Parks Conservancy.

Director Dave Rudolph said businesses and volunteers for the downtown area. He said Tom Landis, City Parks Superintendent, serves as the city representative and Jim Gross, former Public Works Director, serves as the chair.

There being no further discussion, Bill No. 32, Ordinance No. 32, PASSED by the following vote: Yeas – Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington – 5; Nays – 0.

Introduction Passage of Bills

3. Introduction of Bill No. 33 (Deferred to the 10/1/24 agenda) - A Bill Amending the FY2024 Budget. ([View](#)) (\$51,500.00 Fund 32 High Risk to Fund 10 General)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development (BHS)

Introduction of Bill No. 33, Session 2024, A Bill amending the FY2024 budget in the amount of \$51,500.00 for Fund 32 High Risk to Fund 10 General, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and deferred to the October 1st meeting of Council.

New Business

4. Resolution No. 89 - A Resolution
Accepting the recommendations of HARB. ([View](#))
Introduced by: Elsbeth Bupp
Originator: HARB

Resolution No. 89, Session 2024, A Resolution accepting the recommendations of HARB in issuing certificates of appropriateness for work to be done at 149 S. Pershing Ave. , 402 E. Market St., 438-440 W. Market St. 4, and 51 S. Newberry St., was introduced by Bupp, read at length, and on motion of Bupp, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 89 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

5. Resolution No. 90 - A Resolution
Approving a reverse subdivision plan. ([View](#)) (To combine 2 lots into one at 707 & 709 S. Pine St.)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development (Planning)

Resolution No. 90, Session 2024, A Resolution approving a reverse subdivision plan submitted by Habitat for Humanity/ Gordon L. Brown & Associates, Inc-Jake Hebel to combine 2 lots into one at the properties 707 & 709 S. Pines St., was introduced by Washington, read at length, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 90 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Johnescu said she has been following this project and was at the Planning Commission meeting where there was no quorum. She asked the for an overview of the project.

Jake Hebel, Gordon Brown & Associates, said this involves two existing lots which was originally a 3-unit row home, and two units burned and are vacant and have been vacant for about 15 years. We want to combine the lots so we can make one single dwelling. He said their variances have been approved by the Zoning Hearing Board and all their conditions have been met.

Councilwoman Johnescu and members of Council thanked Habitat for Humanity for the work they have done in the city.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 90 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

6. Resolution No. 91 - A Resolution
Authorizing the filing of Category 4 Funds. ([View](#)) (For the Reid Menzer Skatepark ~\$500,000.00)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works (Parks/Recs)

Motion to read by short title. A motion was made by Washington, seconded Johnescu, to read Resolution No. 91 by short title. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 91, Session 2024, A Resolution authorizing the filing of Category 4 Funds for the Reid Menzer Skatepark in the amount of \$500,000.00, was introduced by Dennis, read by short title, and on motion of Dennis, seconded by Bupp, Resolution No. 91 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Johnescu said Category 4 are gaming funds from the casino and we are applying for a share of that funding. This will cover the 3rd phase of this project.

Director Rudolph said that is correct and this phase is to build structural additions such as rails and lighting.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 91 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

7. Resolution No. 92 - A Resolution Authoring an agreement with PennDot. ([View](#)) (Municipal Winter Maintenance Services - \$24,223.02)
Introduced by: Felicia Dennis
Originator: Public Works (Highway)

Resolution No. 92, Session 2024, A Resolution authoring a Municipal Winter Maintenance Services agreement with PennDot in the amount of \$24,223.02, was introduced by Dennis, read by at length, and on motion of Bupp, seconded Dennis, Resolution No. 92 came up for discussion.

Councilwoman Johnescu asked if the state is paying the city for maintaining the roads.

Director Rudolph said that is correct and we have about 10 state roads throughout the city.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 92 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

8. Resolution No. 93 - A Resolution Authorizing a budget transfer. ([View](#)) (\$186,710.40 for reallocation of prior years' funding to Permits)
Introduced by: Edquina Washington
Originator: Economic & Community Development (BHS)

Motion to read by short title. A motion was made by Washington, seconded by Dennis, to read Resolution No. 93 by short title. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 93, Session 2024, A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer in the amount of \$186,710.40 for reallocation of prior year's funding to permits, was introduced by Washington, read by short title, and on motion of Washington, seconded by Dennis, Resolution No. 93 came up for discussion.

Jada Richardson, Director of the Bureau of Housing Services, said this is a reallocation of CDBG funds for software for OpenGov for addressing blight.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 93 PASSED by the following vote: Yeas - Bupp, Johnescu, Dennis, Buckingham, Washington - 5; Nays - 0.

- XI. Requests for Future Meetings: None
- XII. Council Comment: None
- XIII. Administration Comment: None
- XIV. Adjournment: The next legislative meeting of Council is scheduled for October 1, 2024 at 6PM in Council Chambers. There being no further business, the September 17, 2024 meeting of Council adjourned at 6:19 PM.
- XV. Resumption of Public Comment Period (at the discretion of the presiding officer): None


Dianna L. Thompson, City Clerk


Edquina Washington, President of Council