

## **City of Hazleton Government Study Commission Meeting Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Time 4:30 PM

Location: City Hall, Conference Room A, Hazleton

### **Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order at 4:33 PM by Allison Keegan, Chairperson.

### **Roll Call**

Allison Keegan, Chairperson - Present

Rossanna Gabriel, Vice Chairperson – Absent from roll call but arrives at 4:39 PM during approval of bills.

Philip Bonafair - Present

Thomas Bruno – Present

Jeffrey Cusat - Present

Joseph Yannuzzi - Present

Joseph Zeller III – Present

Hazleton City Solicitor Sean Logsdon

PEL Consultants Gerald Cross, Senior Research Fellow; Patty Moorhead, Director of Financial and Data Analytics; Fred Reddig, Consultant

Recording Secretary Christine Galuska

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited and moment of silence was observed.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of July 15, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion made by Joe Yannuzzi, seconded by Jeff Cusat. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Invoices**

Motion made by Joe Yannuzzi, seconded by Jeff Cusat. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

Representatives from the Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL) provided materials and discussed.

- An overview of the Commission's purpose and duties
- Bylaws and standing rules
- A work plan and schedule
- Information on the Optional Third-Class City Plan B for elected officials
- A recommendation was made to form sub-committees composed of board members for the purpose of conducting interviews with officials from comparable cities with a Home Rule Charter. The objective is to gather insights into the strengths and weaknesses of those governments.

The study is scheduled to be completed within nine months, with a recommendation provided at the end of that period. Voters will then decide whether to adopt a new form of government. If a charter is proposed the Commission will have an additional nine months to draft it.

### **Public Comments**

David Dominguez asked whether new offices, such as a Board of Police, could be created if there is a change in government, and whether interviews using a set list of questions can be conducted with other government officials by individuals who are not board members. The questions were answered by Joe Yannuzzi and PEL representatives.

### **Member Comments**

Rossanna Gabriel asked if the wording in the sample bylaws distributed could be changed to read "Government Study Commission". Allison Keegan responded to the question.

### **New Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 5:44 PM by Joseph Yannuzzi, seconded by Tom Bruno. The motion carries.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Government Study Commission will take place on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 4:30 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Hazleton City Hall.