CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 02, 2024 – 7:30 PM

For the full detail of this evening's Council Meeting, please visit www.watchreadingohio.com.

CALL TO ORDER
President Mr. Mattscheck called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Mr. Mattscheck led those in attendance in a prayer and then the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL
Council Members Present: Mr. Powell, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Boehner, Mrs. Kroeger, Mr. Thamann & Mrs. Eadicicco.
Motion to excuse Mr. Bronner made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger. Motion carried by voice vote.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:
Mayor Bo Bemmes, Treasurer Brenda Owens, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Albrinck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None to Approve.

PUBLIC HEARING
President of Council, Kevin Mattscheck begin the 1st the Public Hearing for the 2025 Budget at 7:31 p.m.
No one in the audience had any comments.
President of Council, Kevin Mattscheck closed the Public Hearing at 7:31 p.m.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION:

Mary Zander (317 Walnut)

(1) July 12 and August 9, the Cincinnati Reuse & Recycle Center will be at the Reading Farmer's Market.

(2) "Playful Wonderings Camp" in Loveland. They have scheduled sessions of different groups within Loveland. Mary thinks something like this would be something beneficial to Reading.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes:

MSD's contractor has completed the storm sewer work and is now completing their punch list items and paving is tentatively schedule for week of July 15 or 22

Maple Drive Pre-Con held today- Adleta Construction will tentatively begin work August 26. Residents will be notified with door hangers a week prior to work beginning. Work will begin at dead end for water main and move towards Columbia. Water main, paving, and spot curb and apron where necessary. If all goes well, project will be done end of October/Early November

Bids were opened for Landy Lane and Koehler Avenue. Will have ordinance to award contract once all is reviewed by engineers

Work installing Piers along sidewalk on Hunt Road is progressing well. We are Hopeful closure is less time than planned, but for now road closed until mid August as posted

Thank you to the American Legion, volunteers, and RC Pyrotechnics for a wonderful 4th of July Celebration

2025 Budget prepared for County - General fund expenditures show an 2.1% increase in 2025 with a 2.6% increase budgeted for revenue. These are budgeted amounts which are reevaluated and looked at in much finer detail prior to permanent appropriations for 2025 being passed by council in the 1st quarter 2025.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross: *(No Report, Absent)*

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson: *(No Report, Absent)*

TREASURER: Brenda Owens

City of Reading
2024 June Income Tax Receipt Summary
With Prior Years Comparison

Individual Residents Income Taxes

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	$107,429	$79,333	$97,988	$140,011	42.9%
February	$45,896	$37,035	$62,179	$73,859	18.8%
March	$127,056	$131,391	$121,019	$127,546	5.4%
April	$221,576	$457,756	$441,112	$479,159	8.6%
May	$223,455	$102,421	$73,112	$73,028	-0.1%
June	$134,637	$107,043	$117,960	$80,804	-31.5%
July	$82,544	$28,939	$35,819		
August	$39,361	$36,571	$34,271		
September	$89,782	$78,608	$86,325		
October	$56,061	$63,966	$52,893		
November	$14,763	$64,047	$25,276		
December	$86,298	$46,897	$49,879		
Yearly Totals	**$1,228,857**	**$1,234,007**	**$1,197,833**	**$974,407**	
YTD Progress	**$725,412**	**$807,936**	**$795,410**	**$974,407**	**22.5%**

Payroll Withholding Income Taxes

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	$717,952	$689,143	$699,906	$721,376	3.1%
February	$462,760	$441,735	$483,701	$495,911	2.5%
March	$413,361	$434,394	$477,447	$561,572	17.6%
April	$801,135	$752,396	$701,491	$733,139	4.5%
May	$490,963	$534,911	$480,917	$502,943	4.6%
June	$484,864	$470,151	$475,836	$585,100	23.0%
July	$507,334	$501,087	$671,451		
August	$566,411	$591,928	$459,951		
September	$411,837	$464,052	$491,289		
October	$549,184	$606,041	$580,966		
November	$545,750	$493,632	$482,419		
December	$432,363	$462,692	$469,943		
Yearly Totals	**$6,383,913**	**$6,442,162**	**$6,475,316**	**$3,600,041**	
YTD Progress	**$2,886,171**	**$2,852,578**	**$2,843,461**	**$3,600,041**	**26.6%**

Business Profits Income Taxes

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	$11,981	$48,907	$21,712	$72,579	234.3%
February	$58,854	$24,719	$17,868	$30,745	72.1%
March	$23,641	$210,097	$100,630	$58,593	-41.8%
April	$137,747	$274,272	$231,557	$162,557	-29.8%
May	$60,812	$42,806	$13,048	$26,006	99.3%
June	$87,483	$399,300	$136,640	$143,130	4.7%
July	$43,735	$15,804	$32,265		
August	$38,207	$22,399	$38,469		
September	$85,263	$337,399	$118,498		
October	$42,542	$22,564	$18,497		
November	$22,412	$15,798	$76,898		
December	$87,159	$48,456	$53,959		
Yearly Totals	**$699,835**	**$1,462,520**	**$860,041**	**$493,610**	
YTD Progress	**$293,034**	**$600,800**	**$384,814**	**$493,610**	**28.3%**

Total Income Taxes Collected

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	$837,361	$817,383	$819,606	$933,966	14.0%
February	$567,510	$503,488	$563,747	$600,514	6.5%
March	$564,058	$775,881	$699,095	$747,711	7.0%
April	$1,160,458	$1,484,424	$1,374,159	$1,374,855	0.1%
May	$775,230	$680,137	$567,077	$601,977	6.2%
June	$706,984	$976,494	$730,436	$809,034	10.8%
July	$633,613	$545,830	$739,534		
August	$643,978	$650,899	$532,692		
September	$586,882	$880,060	$696,112		
October	$647,787	$692,571	$652,357		
November	$582,925	$573,477	$584,593		
December	$605,819	$558,046	$573,781		
Yearly Totals	**$8,312,605**	**$9,138,690**	**$8,533,190**	**$5,068,058**	
YTD Progress	**$3,904,617**	**$4,261,313**	**$4,023,685**	**$5,068,058**	**26.0%**

Total Refunds	**2021**	**$115,450**		**2022**	**$169,800**	
	2023	**$666,149**	**2024 YTD Refunds =**		**$86,429**	

Brenda A. Owens- City Treasurer 07/01/2024

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith:
The 2022 and 2023 audit has been filed with the State of Ohio Auditor's Office on June 28, 2024.

I am SO EXCITED to report that there are no material internal control or compliance issues.

This is a testament to our staff working hard to provide the best of services to our citizens.

These auditors look at all things financial and extend even further. Every employee has a financial component to their job here.

Once this report is certified by the state and posted on the Auditor of State's website I will pass along to the public. This process can take a few months.

Another update, there is a fraud training that needs to be completed by all employees within the City. If you are seasonal, part-time, elected, and/or appointed. By discussion with our Treasurer it is very brief. Making sure that a certificate is provided will be important. We have a 90 day window to get this completed for all current staff. Stay tuned for the process on doing this.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner *(No Report, Absent)*

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Mark Bishop
- Next Committee Meeting will be July 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers.

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell
- We have an ordinance on our agenda this evening to regulate Hookah Bars.
  I would like to thank everyone that provided input and I am asking for this to just be a first reading this evening.

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco *(No Report)*

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger
Police Department run count for June 2024

· Calls for service	1406
· Auto Accidents	26
· Booking Original Charges	127
· Total Criminal Charges	143

Citations Issued

· Hamilton County	3
· Arlington Heights	33
· Juvenile	3
· Reading Mayor's	226
Total Citations	**265**

Fire Departments run count for June, 2024

· EMS Responses	224
· Fire Responses	59
Total Responses	**283**

For the month of June, we had reports of theft from various stores and cars. Domestic violence, assault, overdose, criminal damaging, and OVI. As always, please stay vigilant and if you see something, please call the police at 911 for emergencies and 513-825-2280 for non-emergencies.

The fire department held their golf outing on June 15. They would like to thank everyone who participated for their support.

SERVICE: Bob Boehner

Reading Public Works Council Report July 2,2024

City crews have been out patching potholes in the streets

The mulcher has been out collecting branches.

The street sweeper has been out cleaning streets

City crews have been out cleaning catch basins throughout the City

City crews have been laying out and painting soccer fields throughout the City

City pool has been cleaned and up and running for the Summer

City crew did some maintenance on the Solenoid valve at the pump house

City crews repaired the steps at the old Health Bldg

City crews have sealed street cuts

City crews have Mo Trimmed Hunt Rd and East Benson St as well as cleaning the Alleyways between Leonard and Vine as well as Vine and Benson dead end

Repaired catch basin at 425 East Benson and repaired the curb

City crew have also cleaned the Fuhrman inlet and the bushes at Vorhees park near the fence line

City crews have been painting cross walks throughout the City

Public Works received chain saw safety instruction from a representative from Stihl equipment

RECREATION: Scott Thamann

First of all, I would like to extend a big 'thank you' to all who organized, worked, and attended the American Legion carnival over the weekend.

Secondly, our Farmers' Market continues this Friday, and every Friday through the summer, running from 4:00 - 7:00 pm, on the corner of Reading Rd and Vine St.

Lastly, the Reading Pool will be hosting a Ladies Brunch this Saturday, July 6, from 10:00 am - noon. The pool opens to the public at noon.

OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) AN ORDINACE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE TWO (2) POLICE VEHICLES THROUGH THE STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM AND EQUIP SAME. (Second Reading)

Ordinance was declared a 2nd reading only.

(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE A NEW WOOD CHIPPER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $90,000.00 TO BE PAID FROM THE 340 CAPITAL FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Second Reading)

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to suspend the rule that requires a third reading. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Boehner to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-20**

(3) AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 863 TO THE CITY OF READING'S CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REGULATE HOOKAH BARS.

Ordinance was declared a 1st reading only.

(4) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPOINT A FULL-TIME SWING CLERK, FOR THE CITY OF READING, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger to suspend the rule that requires a second & third reading. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 6-1 roll call vote (Mr. Boehner voting "no").

ORDINANCE ADOPTED **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-21**

(5) THE FOLLOWING BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY COUNCIL AND IS HEREBY SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION.

Ordinance was declared a 1st reading only.

(6) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE A TYMCO MODEL 600 STREET SWEEPER THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $380,000.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mr. Bishop to suspend the rule that requires a second & third reading. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Boehner to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-22**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:
Mr. Boehner moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kroeger seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

X_____ X_____

Carla Albrinck
Clerk of Council

Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council