

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 7, 2020 - 7:30PM**

CALL TO ORDER

President of Council Cris Nesbitt called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mr. Nesbitt led those in attendance in a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE

Ward 4 Councilman Dennis Albrinck gave the oath of office to recent elected President of Council Cris Nesbitt and Law Director Dave Stevenson.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mr. Powell, Mr. Lynd, Mr. Albrinck, Mr. Ashbrock, Mr. Lindeman, Mr. Fischesser & Ms. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Law Director Dave Stevenson, Treasurer Mel Gertz, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Duane (2113 Bolser) – congratulated Chuck McKinney for the clean-up and sale of the nearest property to the school site.

Justin Feldman (1415 Market) – (1) Comprehensive Plan not at the Reading Library. (2) Cutting trees down at Quiet Park.

COMMUNICATIONS – None.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Anthony Gertz

- Hopes to be more aggressive in the Finance Committee – will be calling for more committee meetings.
- Recently found out that an 18 member group is meeting about recreation and we're incurring the expense of the Envision Group.
- Compliments to the Auditor (Sabrina Smith) for no carry-overs that we have to pay for 2019.
- Presented the school with an updated stadium and parks contract last month and still waiting to hear back from the school. Mrs. Eadicicco will look into the contract and where we stand with the school.
- Would like to pursue a written contract for the curbs on Benson to be fixed.
- Happy to see that the hallway walls of City Hall have been painted.
- Will be keeping up on the Bench project in Ward 2. Currently a \$70,000/\$80,000 to move the dirt. President of Council Cris Nesbitt reminded Mr. Gertz that there will be a meeting in early January to further discuss the logistics on the Bench project.
- Would still like to have the Bolser Drive report from the Civil Engineer that was promised a year ago.

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Don Lindeman

- Water Meter Installations

As of January 6th, approximately 1300 new water meters were installed. That is about 1/3 of the total meters in Reading. At that time about 30 leaks had been reported of these 1300 meters. That is one out of every 43 installations.

NEC&O, who is doing the installations, is called back to address any leaks reported **on the day of installation**. The City Public Works Department follows up on all other calls. Of these 30 or so calls, there has only been a couple of leaks that needed attention after normal working hours that the City responded to. I understand that this is how the water leaks were taken care of during the last meter change 20 years ago.

NEC&O may not be billed for any time the Public Works department is called out to repair a leak caused by the installation of new water meters. Every leak will be handled on an individual basis. If you have any further questions please let me know and I will ask John Vance, City of Reading employee, to attend a committee meeting at his convenience in the near future and we can get the answers to your questions Overall the new install has gone very well.

Riesenberg Lane

I recently asked Mr. Ross for an update on the truck traffic on Riesenbergs Lane. Mr. Brooks, the building and zoning official, wrote a letter to the owner of the property at the end of Riesenbergs Lane, about the illegal use of the property by having a lot of dump trucks parked there. I understand there is still going to be some trucks but I think the volume will be less. I hope it is a lot less.

Patrick, do you have any more information about the Mill Creek Alliance removal of 12,000 cubic yards of soil/800 truckloads? I believe a meeting was scheduled for early January 2020 and excavation of the bank is expected to take place in late first quarter 2020. Is that still on schedule?

On November 27th, 2019 Mr. Ross reported that TEC completed its 1st round of traffic counts at the intersection of Benson & Columbia and will make recommendations to Matt Morgan of the City Public Works Department for programming the new lights.

TEC will be doing more counts now that school is back in session.

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- Raised the question regarding the Public Hearing for the Master Plan – is that something we need to formally adopt?
Answer: Yes. Dave will work on an ordinance to be presented in the near future for adoption.

LAWS AND CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco

- Just received all the stadium contract information from Dave Powell. She will be looking into that and following up with the school board. Will also look into updating the codified ordinances on the website.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY: Randy Fischesser

- Deputies directing traffic at MND. Our PD has no control or authority over the Sheriff's department. Was advised to have the Mayor to discuss the situation with MND. Mayor Bo Bemmes did so and now Judy said she would talk with the Sheriff's department.

SERVICE: Dennis Albrinck

- Called for a Service Committee Meeting on January, 28 at 6:30 p.m.
- New Truck (with the plow and spreader) is scheduled to be in tomorrow.
- Columbia and Benson – cameras installed for the control of the traffic lights.

RECREATION: Tom Lynd

- Accepting applications for the Reading Community Pool. Please come down to the Administration building during business hours to submit an application.
- Called for a Recreation Meeting on January, 21 at 6:30 pm to discuss fees for park rentals.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was offered or discussed.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes

- No Report (Absent)

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross

- No Report (Absent)

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson

- No Report

TREASURER: Mel Gertz

- Year End total: \$7,630,893.00 (3.7 % ahead of 2018)
- Businesses can file with the state and the state then reimburses the individual communities. Still working with those – it just takes some time. The state does take a small percentage.

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith

- Getting ready for the 2018 and 2019 Audit. Closing the books for 2019. Excited about all the great things happening in our community. UNO Mural Story picked up on Channel 9 thanks to Brian Collins and WeTHRIVE! Reading. WeTHRIVE! is gearing up for all the projects for 2020. Come join us for our first meeting Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at the Reading Library.

READING OF ORDINANCES

(1) An Ordinance Requiring the Establishment of Property Lines Prior to Issuance of Zoning, Building or Fence Permits for Permanent Private Improvements that Are Proposed to be Erected Proximate to Public Right of Ways (Third Reading)

Motion made by Mr. Gertz, seconded by Mr. Powell to adopt the ordinance. Motion failed by a 3-4 roll call vote (Mr. Gertz, Mr. Lynd & Mr. Lindeman voting "yes," and Mr. Powell, Mr. Albrinck, Mr. Fischesser & Mrs. Eadicicco voting "no.")

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Gertz – (1) Sidewalk on Reading Road that is going to be replaced. (2) Happy to see the new poles and traffic controls but disappointed that the project was bid in late March. (3) Mr. Gertz commented that he thinks it's ridiculous that we don't want to work with the school. Mr. Gertz recently met with a Duke representative and he gave a rough estimated cost for taking down the poles and undergrounding the utilities would be around \$20,000. It's not as if we completely ignored the school board and their requests. (4) Would like Council to pursue possibly having Mayor's Court at the American Legion.

Mr. Nesbitt - agreed with Mr. Gertz and plans to start discussions on Ordinance No. 2019-49 at the January 14th Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:35 pm.

X 
CARLA KACHER
Clerk of Council

X 
CRIS NESBITT
President of Council