

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FEBRUARY 25, 2020 – 7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Nesbitt led those in attendance in the Our Father and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mr. Powell, Mr. Gertz, Mr. Albrinck & Mrs. Eadicicco. Motion made by President of Council Cris Nesbitt to excuse Mr. Lynd, Mr. Lindeman and Mr. Fischesser. Motion carried by voice vote. Mr. Lynd and Mr. Fischesser did arrive shortly after.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Bob Ashbrock (221 Walnut Street) - In response to the presentation of the MSD representatives gave last week: Mr. Ashbrock is convinced that the alternate route is viable. Believes there is no reason why they can't take it down the North property line. Urges Council to not proceed with granting the easements tonight. Mr. Gertz added that the proposed route will prohibit future development at Haffey Fieldhouse by the line cutting directly down the parking lot and agrees with Mr. Ashbrock that the route should be taken down the North Property line. President of Council Cris Nesbitt asked that Mr. Powell discuss these concerns with Mr. Ross and report back to Council. Mrs. Eadicicco asked why the pipe couldn't be run along the Southside of the Fieldhouse. Mr. Powell's best guess is because the space is pretty tight there.

READING OF RESOLUTIONS – None.

READING OF ORDINANCES

**(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE TERMINATION
OF EASEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mr. Powell to suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Lynd to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE # 2020-12

**(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE EASEMENTS ON
BEHALF OF THE CITY OF READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Gertz to table this ordinance to allow further discussion/clarification between Mr. Powell and Mr. Ross. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Treasurer Mel Gertz reported our February update of \$603,237.25 collected so far this month. We are running \$80,000 of where we were last February with 3 business days left. Mr. Gertz also reported that he had brought in absentee applications for the upcoming Ohio Primary election. These would need to be filled out and sent into the Board of Elections by noon on Saturday before the election. An absentee ballots will be sent to you and you will either need to send it back to the Board of Elections (Absentee ballots can be accepted up until end of business day ON election day) or there is a drop box that the ballots can be dropped off in if that is more convenient. You can stop into the Board of Elections at any time to vote.

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Lynd to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Motion carried by 6-0 roll call vote. Executive Session began at 8:02 pm. Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mr. Albrinck to return from Executive Session at 8:15 pm. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Powell asked how much we paid for the report on the drainage analysis that was distributed to the Council Members. Auditor Ms. Smith reported invoices totaling \$2,600, \$1,560 and \$1,046 ranging in date from 2018 – 2020. Descriptions on the invoices: drainage analysis and report outlined in contract and blueprints. Mr. Powell feels the amount of money spent on the drainage analysis was too much. Mr. Gertz agreed. Mr. Powell asked if anybody knew if the issues have persisted. Mr. Fischesser responded that we don't know for certain but we haven't had anyone visit Council to bring forth any further complaints.

Mr. Gertz – asked if anyone knew anything about the bench project (project's goal is to reduce Mill Creek flooding and residential insurance). It was clarified that Mr. Lindeman reported last week that the bench project is to start Fall of 2020. Mr. Fischesser responded that it was explained that the contractor had other projects that needed to be completed first.

Mr. Gertz asked Mr. Powell if he knows if we are charging the correct amount for fees within the building department. Mr. Powell has not spoken to Mr. Ross yet about that.

President of Council Cris Nesbitt asked that everyone review the list of prioritized projects that was made last year and asked for anyone to chime in in regard to suggested changes or what projects may need to be delegated to specific committees. Would like to revisit this topic next month.

X



CARLA KACHER
CLERK OF COUNCIL

X



CRISTOPHER NESBITT
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL