

**CITY OF READING, OHIO  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION  
APRIL 07, 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.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members Present: Mr. Powell, Mr. Gertz, Mr. Lynd, Mr. Albrinck, Mr. Lindeman, Mr. Fischesser & Mrs. Eadicicco.

**OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Treasurer Mel Gertz, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The following Meeting Minutes were Approved: *January 28 (Legislative Whole), February 4 (Regular), February 11 (Legislative), February 18 (Regular), February 25 (Legislative Whole), March 3 (Regular), March 10 (Legislative)*  
There were no Council Meetings on March 17<sup>th</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION – None.**

**COMMUNICATIONS – None.**

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE: Anthony Gertz**

- Is reviewing the Permanent Appropriations.
- FEMA Fund has money that goes in there from grants. Believes we need to set up a separate method. Would like to discuss this at the next Finance Committee Meeting.

**UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Don Lindeman**

- Bench Project: Moving dirt at the end of May.

**ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell**

- No Report. Condolences to the Biles family.

**LAWS AND CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco**

- Not really much to report as of right now. Obviously, with everything going on there has not been any contract negotiations between the city and the school regarding the stadium. However, Mr. Ross is working on breaking down the cost to maintain the stadium. This certainly isn't a top priority right now, but hopefully this quarantine will end soon and we will then have to resume work on the stadium contract. Hopefully, by the fall there will be a football season and life will be back to normal.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY: Randy Fischesser**

Talked with Patrick several times over the past couple of weeks. I would like to thank him for the very timely responses to my concerns - including follow up phone calls and emails.

- Information, including the ordinance, for the red traffic light on Miami Rd. in Madeira.
- Looking into the DOT grant that was forwarded from Katie. He is waiting to hear back from ODOT.
- Adjustments to police and fire appropriations to cover the new hires.
- A no left turn for trucks sign on eastbound Galbraith at the storage facility.
- Also touched base on the future of Reading dispatching. Mostly wanted to make sure he and the Safety committee were on the same page.

Acting Chief Lunsford has obtained a quote from Mobilcomm and ST Signs for prepping the cruisers. Mobilcomm is \$4500 per vehicle for changeover and installation. This includes any replacement equipment such as the cage and radio mounts. ST Signs is \$750 per vehicle for the graphics. Total for the three cruisers will be around \$15,750. Because of the current situation, I do not look for the cruisers to arrive much before late summer. My recommendation is to only have two cruisers done this year and to complete the third one the first quarter of 2021. In so doing, it will allow the 240 fund to rebuild its unencumbered numbers. I will prepare an ordinance once the cruisers arrive.

Fire Department crews will be out servicing and flowing hydrants during the month of April. If you notice that your water is discolored, please turn on cold water, preferably bathtubs or showers due to the larger volume, and let run for 5 minutes or until the water becomes clear.

As we head into tornado season, I want to remind our citizens that we are now utilizing Smart911 for our early warning system. You can sign up at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com). Once you register, you will be able to select what various weather conditions you would like to be notified of; including Covid-19 state daily updates. You can also find a link on the city's web page.

Since the Covid-19 virus is front and center, I will tell you that Reading is following Governor DeWine's orders. These include "Stay at Home", Social Distancing, and group limitation to six people. Our officers have been advised if they see a violation of State order for "social distancing". They will "request" that the subject(s) comply. If it is a business then a report will be forwarded to the Acting Chief for follow up. If it is an individual, they will be issued warning to comply. Further violations will result in a citation and as a last resort, arrest. If you think you are symptomatic, call your PCP. Do not call for the squad unless symptoms are severe. Our first responders are continuing to provide the excellent service we have come to expect. In so doing, they are putting themselves at a greater risk of being exposed to this virus. Because of the extreme close quarters that our PD and FD have to work, if just one member should contract the Corona virus its spread among the members could be devastating to the city. Once this pandemic has subsided if nothing else should come of this, it should be a wake-up call to every member sitting here on a true evaluation of our existing facilities and the need to bring these up to today's standard.

**SERVICE: Dennis Albrinck**

- All Public Works personnel are wiping, cleaning and sanitizing their vehicles, equipment & facilities each and every day and maintain their awareness about distancing. Working ½ crew on one week and ½ crew on the next week.
- Mulcher has been out picking up branches. A lot of people have been out working in their yards during this time and yards are really looking nice.
- Street sweepers have been out cleaning streets as well.

**RECREATION: Tom Lynd**

- In compliance with the Hamilton County Stay At Home Order, the Parks are open to walk but please keep a 6ft distance. Park bathrooms, drinking fountains, basketball courts are closed; you can be ticketed if you violate the order. Please comply.
- Will talk to Patrick Ross to see if we should still keep looking into replacing the mower and drinking fountains this at this point.

**NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

**REPORTS OF OFFICIALS**

**MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes**

- No Report (Absent)

**SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross**

- No Report (Absent)

**LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson**

- We will be filing an appeal in the pipeline case.

**TREASURER: Mel Gertz**

- March Financial Update: 1,877,141 (6.9 % ahead of 2019)
- Thinking ahead, we have reached out to the local banks to see what types of BAN (Bond Anticipation Notes) we could apply for if the emergency measure is needed. US Bank has responded that they will be able to accommodate a 3 million dollar bond.
- Reading taxes are officially due July 15 but are encouraging citizens to pay their taxes on time if they can. This will help keep the City running properly. Financial Disclosures are also due by July 15 for all elected officials.

**AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith**

- The Auditors are here M-TH of this week for the City Audit for 2018 and 2019.
- Several conversations have been had about cash flow. We are working to see what the month of April looks like. We have \$560,000 between the General Fund and City Earnings Tax Fund. This is with no income from April. As a reminder May will be a 3 pay period month.
- Talking with Auditor of State's Office and Treasurer of State's Office to make sure we aren't missing any funding, grants, etc.

**READING OF RESOLUTIONS:**

**(1) STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RESTORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND TO PRE-RECESSION LEVELS.**

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to suspend the second and third reading. Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Lindeman, seconded by Mr. Powell to adopt the resolution. Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-15R**

**READING OF ORDINANCES – None.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Ms. Smith** – (1) A Reading Family repaired a bench at Koenig Park with City Permission and it is currently getting 2100 likes on the WeTHRIVE! Reading page. (2) Brad Horn with Reading Feed Mill donated flowers in a lot of the City Flower Pots. This doesn't replace the Adopt a Pot Program but is an early planting. Bag Challenge for the Month of April. Fill up a trash bag on your walks. With Earth Day being in April this will help and give a fun family activity to do

**Mr. Gertz** – Wishes everyone a Happy Easter.

**Mr. Lindeman** - Stadium Fund currently has \$110,000 – can we use some of this for the lawn mower for the Parks Department. Mr. Gertz will look into it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:36 pm.

X



**CARLA KACHER**  
Clerk of Council

X



**CRIS NESBITT**  
President of Council