

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
MAY 19, 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:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – None.

COMMUNICATIONS – None.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Anthony Gertz

- His Committee is still looking into which funds we could use if necessary in relation to the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Don Lindeman

- Spoke to Bennett Kottler regarding the Bench project and the project has been delayed again. Latest delay seems to be with the dirt disposal site in relation to some asbestos in the dirt from shingles that had been previously dumped there. They are working on finding a new dump site. Mr. Powell suggested donating the dirt to the round-about project at the end of Montgomery and Ronald Regan Highway. There is also a company around Remington that accepts fill but is unsure of what they charge.

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- Made a couple of contacts regarding the Door Store newspaper flyers that have been delivered to residents driveways and rain and such then carry them to the sewers. Since then he has noticed less since his contact.

LAWS AND CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco

- I contacted Patrick after Mr. Powell's comments from our last meeting regarding the Door Stores that are left on sidewalks. Patrick sent the question on to Mr. Stevenson.

I did look through the Code of Ordinances and I could not find anything directly relating to Door Stores, newspapers, etcetera and how they are distributed.

What I did find is some information in section 1426.10 regarding EXTERIOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE. In section B-6 it states that the Exterior Property Maintenance Official is responsible for administering anti-littering programs and efforts to keep sidewalks and right-of-way free of litter and debris.

I also found some information in section 1070.01 regarding trash and recyclable materials. Basically, it looks like it's the homeowners' responsibility to dispose of the Door Stores if they are thrown onto your property. If folks notice them left on sidewalks and streets, they should contact the city's Property Maintenance Officer.

However, I could have missed an ordinance regarding the distribution of newspapers. I did several searches using a lot of different key words and could not find a specific ordinance.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY: Randy Fischesser

I would like to extend my sincere sympathy to the family of one of our own, John Bogucki, who passed away unexpectedly on May 11th. John worked in our service department and was recently promoted to manage the water department. Being a small city, all of our departments work side by side on a regular basis and share a common camaraderie so his passing touches not only his fellow service personnel, but all of our employees and I would like to offer my condolences to all of them too.

As we are meeting tonight, the Mill Creek continues to rise. I know that there are a lot of families having to deal with flooding during this crisis. If you believe that you have had a backup through your sanitary sewer system, you must call the MSD Sanitary Sewer Backup program within 24 hours of discovery. Their number is 352-4900. Also, the City Public Works garage will be open tomorrow through Friday from 9AM - 12PM each day for residents to bring any water damaged items from your homes. I'm sure Dennis will have more on this in his report.

I have two ordinances on the agenda this evening. Both are for necessary equipment for the Fire Department and have been planned, anticipated and discussed earlier in both the Safety Committee and this Council.

The first is for the purchase of mobile data communications, cellular networking and wireless router equipment to replace existing, obsolete 800MHz mobile data equipment. Existing 800Mhz equipment will be converted from data to voice radio equipment for installation in mobile units for voice communication purposes. Total costs will not exceed \$8,500 and will be taken from the Fire/EMS Capital Improvement Fund.

The second ordinance is for a Pro Respirator Fit Tester. This is used to assure proper user fit of self-contained breather apparatus (SCBA) face pieces and air purifying respirator (APR) masks utilized when responding to incidents with dangerous atmospheres which pose respiratory risks to response personnel. Cost will not exceed \$11,000 and will be made from the Fire/EMS Capital Improvement Fund.

I realize this is not the best time for major purchases; but both purchases are needed equipment to keep our department safe and operational.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable Memorial Day. Unfortunately, there will be no parade, formal services or festival this year; but that still doesn't stop us from taking time out of the day to remember all those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom.

SERVICE: Dennis Albrinck

- Mill Creek is higher than we've seen in years past. Just this morning he went to his sister's house to help with a flooded basement. The sump-pump that MSD recently installed was draining the water but there was just too much water. She called MSD, they came out, drained a little and then they left. Hopefully by now more water has drained.

RECREATION: Tom Lynd

- Due to the current COVID-19 restriction, still no date on opening the pool. Still need to work out things to meet state guidelines but Reading is omitted to opening the pool this year.

NEW BUSINESS - NONE

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes

- No Report (Absent)

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross

- Condolences to family of John Bogucki. Passed away suddenly last Monday. John was hired in 2015. Was quickly promoted after completing his water license. Last December, John was given a job promotion to the head of the water utility department. John will be greatly missed by the entire Reading community, especially John's wife Jennifer and their four children: Kyla Marie, Mckinley Ann, Brinleigh Nicole and Stella Elizabeth

State of Ohio and Ohio Department of Health have given guidelines for opening of several businesses and services. One area given approval were for public pools. Mandatory and recommended guidelines have been issued and we are discussing these and will be discussing further with Hamilton County Dep't of Health as to whether we will be able to open and be in compliance with the guidelines. We will do our best to communicate any decisions

Bennett Kottler has been working with a property owner in Village of Lockland who has great need for dirt fill. There are few hurdles this property owner has run into, so he's working with two other businesses and property owners to move the dirt for bench project to. I reached out via Center for Local Government if any other local governments had a need.

MSD Easement check should be cut either this or next Friday.

American Legion has notified the City they will not be holding their festival and fireworks.

As businesses and restaurants begin opening, please support our local businesses and do so in a safe manner.

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson

- Sent a link to all Councilmen for the Sewer Backup Response Program.
- Mayors Court is now open. Few kinks to work out. June and July Mayor's Courts will be held at Haffey Field House due to directives to socially distance.

TREASURER: Mel Gertz

- May Financial Update: \$461,146.00 (\$38,500 short from last year's numbers at this time).
- Have made contact with a couple of Financial sources where we can obtain a line of credit if we need it.

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith

- No Report (Absent)

READING OF RESOLUTIONS – None.

READING OF ORDINANCES

(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE RESPIRATORY FIT TEST EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-19

(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE MOBILE DATA COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-20

(3) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$950.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PAY INTEREST ON THE DUMP TRUCK ACQUISITION BOND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Mr. Lynd, seconded by Mr. Albrinck to suspend the second and third reading. Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Albrinck to adopt the ordinance. Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-21

(4) AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF \$100,000.00 FROM THE STADIUM FUND (#240.245.580000) TO THE GENERAL FUND (#101.000.442.013) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Mr. Gertz, seconded by Mr. Fischesser to suspend the second and third reading. Motion failed by a 4-3 roll call vote (Mr. Powell, Mr. Gertz, Mr. Lindeman and Mr. Fischesser voting "Yes" and Mr. Lynd, Mr. Albrinck and Mrs. Eadicicco voting "No.")

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Gertz – (1) Requested Mr. Fischesser contact Dwight Daum regarding traffic concerns. (2) Mr. Knizner retirement in June. Need to explore hiring additional people in the Service Department. (3) Would like to see Council meetings resume in Council Chambers.

Mr. Lindeman – Memorial Day parade, VYO Festival cancelled. Please considering donating to the VYO.

Mr. Albrinck – Service Department does have a mechanic in mind for hire but agrees another Service Employee should be hired.

Mr. Lynd - Blood Drive May 21 at Reading High School – Call Hoxworth to schedule appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:59 pm.

X Carla Kacher

CARLA KACHER

Clerk of Council

X Cris Nesbitt

CRIS NESBITT

President of Council