

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 2, 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, & Mrs. Eadicicco.
Mr. Fischesser was excused by unanimous approval.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Law Director Mr. Dave Stevenson, Treasurer Mr. Mel Gertz, Auditor Ms. Sabrina Smith, Safety Service Director Patrick Ross & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION – None.

COMMUNICATIONS – During the week there were emails back and forth between Ms. Miller and Mr. Lafata and the grass cutting issues seems to be close to resolution.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Anthony Gertz

- Nothing in Depth.
- Deferred discussion on City Finances due to the Corona Virus to the Auditor and the Treasurer.
- Requested a second reading only on the Stadium Fund ordinance with comments from the Law Director on recent findings.
- Discussed in detail the current Bolser grass cutting issue and other grass maintenance at the site.

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Don Lindeman

- Discussed with Brent Cotler Bench Project Manager: Due to wet weather the moving dirt has moved to June 16th and last a few weeks.

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- No Report.

LAWS AND CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco

- No Report.
- Provided a discussion on Curfews and that the City of Cincinnati curfew does not affect Reading.
- Q: DL any further effort on the contract with the school?
- A: KE holding off for now due to Covid-19, start of school being in question and the football season also in question.
- C: AG would like this moved along since there does not seem to be a current contract with the school and that effect on the Stadium Fund Account.

SERVICE: Dennis Albrinck

- Full staffing of the Public Works Department for the last three weeks.
- Kevin Knizner retiring at the end of June and the sudden loss of John Bogucki will bring the staff total of 12.
- Need a Mechanic as a replacement. There is a list to help hire from.
- Looking to discuss with Safety Service Director.

RECREATION: Tom Lynd

- Reading Pool to open on Monday June 22nd. Signups to start next three Wednesday's, the 3rd, 10th and 17th between 6:00 and 8:00pm and on Saturday's 6th and 20th between 10:00 and 12:00 noon. No concessions (do not bring any glass) and no chairs provided. Pricing as per ordinance (\$100/family & \$80/individual).
- Park reservations for July are looking good unless there are more State Restrictions. May & June reservations are being refunded.

-

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

- Pool pass will allow for your immediate family (in your household) only.
- Working with Fire Chief Todd Owen on how and when City Hall will be opened to the public.
- Reminder that the City Income Tax is due on July 15th.
- Storm sewer repair on the end of Doran.
- Police Lieutenants test this Saturday due to the New Police Chief promotion and a new patrolman test for at least two open positions.
- Discussed with Fire Chief the arrangement of the Council Chambers should the whole of Council choose to move the meetings back into chambers in the future.
- Grant/0% Loan for 1 million (1/2 million each) is available for Thurnridge Drive including the water main but that SKIP program has been placed on Hold and Reading cannot move forward with awarding that contract.
- Grant from Duke Energy to pay for the restoration of the 100 year old anniversary of the WW1 Dough Boy Monument. That grant money was placed into the FEMA Fund and will be transferred back into the General Fund that paid for the restoration.
- Mr. Ross and Mr. Gertz agreed [:o)] on a new fund that should be established to receive grant funds and to not place them into the FEMA fund which causes confusion.

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson

- Discussion with Mr. Gertz on the transfer from the Stadium Fund to the General Fund and closing the fund out due to no current contract.
- Court will be on June 9th. Social Distancing has been working well at Haffey Fieldhouse.

TREASURER: Mel Gertz

- May Finance Update: \$523,892 received (7.8% behind 2019)
- Year to Date: \$3126564 received (15.2% behind 2019)
- Expectation is that with the 2019 taxes due on July 15 that by the end of July we could be in a much better position and not so far behind the 2019 totals.

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith

- Problems with Ms. Smith's phone connection into the meeting prevented a report.

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: - None.

READING OF ORDINANCES

(1) 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 (Second Reading)

Mr. Gertz had earlier in the meeting requested that this be a Second Reading only due to updates discussed with the Law Director. This request was honored by Council.

(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER \$9,750.00 FROM THE FEMA FUND (401) TO THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO COVER GRANT EXPENSES FROM 2019 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Ms. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Powell to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion passed by a 6-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Lynd, seconded by Ms. Eadicicco to adopt the ordinance. Motion passed by a 6-0 roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Gertz – Started that he was glad to have Mr. Ross present at the meeting this evening.

Mr. Gertz - Mr. Ross was asked about the Property Taxes and stated that Ms. Smith would be the best to answer and that would need to wait to a future phone direct phone call or meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:22 pm.

X Christopher Nesbitt

Cris Nesbitt
for Clerk of Council Carla Kacher

X Christopher Nesbitt

CRIS NESBITT

President of Council