

**CITY OF READING, OHIO  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION  
JUNE 16, 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**

Don Lykins  
[dlykins@cinci.rr.com](mailto:dlykins@cinci.rr.com)  
513-305-4737

I am Don Lykins and reside at 8415 Reading Road. I own multiple properties around reading, making my first investment in 1991, so I am committed to making Reading better as I have a significant investment.

I love the Reading Police but feel over the last 6 to 12 months, things have changed.

Questions:

1. How are we measure the effectiveness of our Reading Police Department?
2. Can you please provide regular, crime statistics on our beloved Reading Police. I would like to know how effective they are at solving certain crimes, such as thefts, burglaries? and would like to see regular, monthly reports these items and more, such as:
  - a. # of thefts reported per week
  - b. # of thefts where someone is actually charged per week
  - c. # of thefts reported where someone is actually convicted
  - d. # of incident reports taken per week
  - e. # of crimes reported and solved per week
  - f. etc....
3. I'm worried the police are not investigating misdemeanor crimes, such as theft, prostitution, etc..
  - a. I have had multiple thefts over the last 2 years, but can't seem to make any traction on getting police to do more than take a report. Nothing is investigated, nothing is solved. It's a challenge to get traction non anything leading to a resolution.
  - b. I've been a victim and have witnessed many crimes in recent years, but can't get the police to move toward investigating them. Once I was solicited for prostitution in Reading, but couldn't get our Police to investigate.
4. If the police are understaffed, we need to address this soon as maybe they need more detectives.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE: Anthony Gertz**

- Reason for amendment to the ordinance concerning the transfer of funds from stadium to general fund.
- Quick review of estimated reduction of 10% in property taxes.

- Second request for information from the Safety Service Director concerning monies transferred to the FEMA Fund which should be in a separate fund concerning grants.

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mr. Gertz to amend Mr. Gertz's transfer ordinance on the agenda this evening.  
Motion carried by voice vote.

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

- Confirmed with Patrick that the Bench project will begin first week in July.
- Suggested folks sign up for recycling.

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

- No Report.

**LAWS AND CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco**

I spoke to Mrs. Wernery and Mrs. Bemmes with the school board and they will be discussing the stadium contract during their board meeting tomorrow at 5:30 PM.

I also had the chance to meet Jason Enix, the new superintendent of Reading Schools.

I'm presenting an ordinance tonight to move forward with the contract for field usage. It looks like there will be a football and soccer season. I added the emergency clause on the ordinance because practices are due to start soon and the contract will go into effect July 1.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY: Randy Fischesser**

Over the past week, I have had several conversations with Chief Edens in response to complaints I received from a resident landlord, Mr. Lykins, regarding the department's handling of certain cases.

Several issues raised were unfounded and others are being addressed or followed up on by the department. Since some of these I will be getting updates as they progress. Without getting too detailed in this public forum, I will attempt to address some of the concerns raised in his letter.

Chief Snow (and I assume Chief Edens now) give administration statistics as to the number and type of calls on a monthly basis. The department also had been putting out an annual report with additional statistical information in it. However, if you recall, the company responsible for electronic record keeping had a major crash and had not been backing up the data. The result was loss of over a year's worth of data. Since then, we have gone to a new company this year and over the course of time, have also been able to recover most of the lost data. This, plus the unexpected change in Chiefs caused the annual report for last year to be missed.

It should be noted that once the case goes to trial, the report is closed. The department does not have the resources or time to track down every case to see the outcome of the trial.

As for the notion of nothing being investigated or followed up, I read some of the issues and the police response/report.

Mr. Lykins seems to think that every complaint should be sent to the prosecutor and doesn't like the fact that the police can make a determination of whether there is enough evidence to take to court.

**SERVICE: Dennis Albrinck**

- No Report

**RECREATION: Tom Lynd**

- Pool opens Monday! Pool Sign-ups are Saturday 10-noon. No guests this year. You must be a member to get in pool.
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks were cancelled.

**NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

**REPORTS OF OFFICIALS**

**MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes**

- No Report (Absent)

**SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross**

City Hall will open to public beginning June 29. Hours through July 31 will be 10AM -3PM, Due to Mayor's Court, on July 14 & 28, Offices will be closed at 1PM. Customers will be limited to 1 in tax and 1 in water/bldg./general offices at a time. Customers will be directed to enter from Pike Street side and exit via the Police Side of the building. Customers who require elevator, may exit Pike Street Side. Markings will be placed to ensure distancing is met. We encourage customers to still mail or drop off in drop box payments or tax filings/documents. Restrooms will be closed to public.

Received the check from MSD for payment of easement related to their Storm project.

Sent 4 ordinances: 2 ordinance regarding payments due to retirement and pass away of employee. Payment for John Bogucki is being made directly to his widow. Each employee assigns a beneficiary form to pay any normal pay, sick, vacation, comp time owed to employee at time of death. Kevin Knizer retirement will be spread over 12 months. Ordinance to fix approximately 90' of creek eroding adjacent to sidewalk on Hunt b/w Fuhrman and Waxwing. Resolution regarding accepting provisions regarding Cares Act-required to pass to access and use funds for Coronavirus related expenses. Have already applied via state grant website for accessing funds regarding Cares Act - Amount has not been determined yet.

Will be proceeding with Computer Server project to replace server that serves administration and water department. Police Department is in need for replacement as well. Will be combining our projects to have one server for both. Should save the City 5-10K by combining

Playgrounds are reopen-please use social distancing while enjoying. Shelters are also available for rent. Will be asked to maintain social distancing during gatherings.

Motion made by Mr. Lynd, seconded by Mr. Fischesser to add the John Bogucki ordinance to the agenda this evening. Motion carried by voice vote.

**LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson**

- Mayors Court is scheduled for next week and then again on July 14. Case numbers have been light.

**TREASURER: Mel Gertz**

- June Financial Update: \$473,000.00 (\$56,000 short from last year's numbers at this time).
- July 15 is the new tax deadline. He is hopeful we'll make up the difference by then. 513-733-0300 tax department. The tax department will have its own computer server.

**AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith**

- 2 year Audit is still going on. We are very close to the end.
- Farmer's Market weekly at Vine and Reading Road from 4-7.
- Joining for a Regional Campaign with City of Wyoming to push all events for both communities.

**READING OF RESOLUTIONS****(1) A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THAT ALL FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE COUNTY CORONAVIRUS RELIEF DISTRIBUTION FUND PURSUANT TO S.B. 310 BE EXPENDED ONLY TO COVER COSTS OF THE SUBDIVISION CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5001 OF THE CARES ACT**

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

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED****RESOLUTION NO. 2020-23R****READING OF ORDINANCES****(1) AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF THE BALANCE REMAINING IN 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. Lindeman to adopt the ordinance. Motion failed by a 2-5 roll call vote (Mr. Gertz

**(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO COMPENSATE KEVIN KNIZNER FOR ACCRUED SICK, VACATION, AND COMP TIME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

**ORDINANCE ADOPTED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-24**

**(3) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO HIRE K.L. NEW CONSTRUCTION FOR THE EROSION REPAIR ON HUNT ROAD FOR \$18,124.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

**ORDINANCE ADOPTED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-25**

**(4) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO COMPENSATE JOHN BOGUCKI'S BENEFICIARY FOR ACCRUED VACATION AND COMP TIME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

**ORDINANCE ADOPTED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-26**

**(5) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS WITH RESPECT TO FIELD USAGE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion made by Mr. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Lynd to suspend the second and third reading. Motion passed by a 6-1 roll call vote (Mr. Powell, Mr. Lynd, Mr. Albrinck, Mr. Lindeman, Mr. Fischesser & Mrs. Eadicicco voting "Yes," and Mr. Gertz voting "No"). Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mr. Eadicicco to adopt the ordinance. Motion passed by a 6-1 roll call vote (Mr. Powell, Mr. Lynd, Mr. Albrinck, Mr. Lindeman, Mr. Fischesser & Mrs. Eadicicco voting "Yes," and Mr. Gertz voting "No").

**ORDINANCE ADOPTED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-27**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Ms. Smith** - Senior Citizens can call the Council on Aging for \$50 vouchers to use at the Farmer's Market. 513-721-1025

**Mr. Fischesser** - I received some complaints regarding a property on Second St. and other concerns with the Second street alley. I will be getting these concerns to Rick Martin and will likewise be following up on these issues also.

**Mr. Lindeman** - Any swimming pool over 24" in deep requires a permit.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:12 pm.

X Carla Kacher

**CARLA KACHER**  
Clerk of Council

X Cris Nesbitt

**CRIS NESBITT**  
President of Council