

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 5, 2021 - 7:30PM**

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Nesbitt led all in the Our Father and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Other Officials Present: President of Council Cris Nesbitt, Law Director Dave Stevenson, Treasurer Mel Gertz, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) Letter from Don Lykins to Chief of Reading Police Edens:

Chief Edens,

I want to commend Officer **Christopher Bundren** for his swift actions early this morning 12/29/2020 around 12:15AM.

He was proactive and stopped a highly suspicious male subject walking in front of my house at 8415 Reading Road, who was carrying a tool bucket and other miscellaneous items. As it turned out, the suspect was my maintenance man, Gary Reed, who was working on one of my properties that late at night.

This stop was 4 hrs after officer Bundren took lengthy reports from me of various thefts and break-ins which occurred over the last 4 months and have gone unreported until now.

Officer Bundren was proactive in this stop as I complained to him about all the felonies and misdemeanors occurring around this area this year in/around the 8400 block of Reading Road., and asked him to please do more to curb the rise in crime. I emphasized how all of these thefts occur under the cloak of darkness. He clearly understood my pain and reacted swiftly.

Officer Bundren was clearly following the mantra “**See something, Say Something**”.

Please instill this attitude and approach in the entire force and give Officer Bundren a letter of accommodation and a reward if possible. This type of policing is required if we aren’t to repeat the 10 felonies which occurred in 2020 in the 8400 blocks of Reading Road -- again in 2021.

(2) Letter from Bolser residents requesting that Council continue with enforcing the school to move the utilities underground as the original PDD stated when the new school project began.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to enter into Executive Session for purpose of discussing with the City Lawyer, Joe Braun, the poles issue with the School. Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote. Council entered into Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. Motion made by Mr. Gertz, seconded by Mr. Powell to come back to regular session from Executive Session at 8:26 p.m. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE (Tony Gertz)

Thinks we need to be very careful about our revenue sources for 2021.
Supports all 4 of the ordinances on the floor this evening.

UTILITIES, LANDS, AND BUILDINGS (Don Lindeman)

2020 Year End Newsletter from Rumpke:

Farewell to 2020 (Doesn't that feel good to say)

We are closing another year, and I think we are all ready to put this one behind us. This year has been a challenge, but our team has remained committed to our promise to keep your communities clean and green.

For most, when it comes to essential workers, the waste and recycling industry isn't always top of mind. Well it is for me.

Every day, thousands of Rumpke team members come to work before the sun rises - all in the name of essential services. They're on the streets picking up trash from homes. They're switching out compactor boxes from hospitals. They're emptying front load containers from daycares and senior living centers. They're firing up dozers at our landfills, fixing equipment, helping customers and sorting recyclables at our recycling facilities. They're doing everything it takes to care for our communities.

And this year, we were thrown several curve balls. We saw an increase in trash and recycling at the curb, when stay at home orders were in place in the spring. We are once again seeing spikes in material placed curbside, on top of the anticipated increase for the holidays. We will remain diligent in our efforts to provide, friendly reliable service, and make you aware if situations occur that prevent us from achieving this goal.

We take great pride in keeping your home healthy, so you can stay healthy at home. Merry Christmas! May 2021 bring much hope and happiness.

- William J. Rumpke Jr., President & CEO

Recycle More in 2021

Rumpke is very excited to announce that residents and businesses can recycle even more plastics.

Soon residents and businesses will be able to recycle plastic tubs in Rumpke's recycling program. So, yogurt eaters rejoice! Bring on the butter tubs and toss in those fruit cups! All of these items will soon find new life through Rumpke's enhanced recycling program.

Like with our other acceptable items, Rumpke has secured long-term contracts with stable, regional end users for this material, and with a grant from The Recycling Partnership, we will soon install new machinery at some of our recycling facilities to better sort the material.

Rumpke will launch the new program in January. Throughout the next few months our team will begin providing you with materials to help educate customers about the change.

We look forward to working with you as we continue to make all communities serviced by Rumpke a little cleaner and greener!

Christmas Tree Disposal

While many of us have just decked the halls, others may already be wondering how to properly dispose of real or artificial trees after the holiday is over. Our creative team has put together handouts you can share with your residents.

ZONING, PLANNING, AND ENVIRONMENT (Dave Powell)

I have noticed an increase in the amount of litter recently especially. It is so easy to hold onto waste until you arrive at your destination and properly dispose of it there but I guess some people find that too difficult. Please everyone do your part to keep our city clean.

LAWS AND CONTRACTS (Katie Eadicco)

Congratulations to Amy Thamann on being appointed to the school board. I think she's going to be a great addition to the board, and I look forward to working with her going forward.

And second, just a reminder that Reading schools will be going back full time beginning on January 19. The school board is working out the start and dismissal times and will get that information out soon. I encourage everyone to have patience due to increased traffic in the area and the number of students walking to and from school.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY (Randy Fischesser)

Police:

For the month of December, they had 1067 calls for service, 23 auto accidents, 194 total charges filed with 124 being original charges. Citation issued: 17 to Arlington Heights, 6 to Hamilton County Court, 0 to Juvenile Court, and 80 to Reading's Mayors Court for a total of 103 citations.

For Operations:

- One assault charge.
- Three Overdoses charged with disorderly conduct.
- One overdose at Circle K, also in possession of stolen property.
- Three DUI charges including one with children in the car.
- Two caught shoplifting at CVS. Also charged with drug possession.
- Investigated a burglary on Market St. Found to be false call. Complainant charged with inducing panic.
- Officers recovered a firearm left lying in the street.
- Two stolen vehicle reports. One vehicle found; but awaiting paperwork to enter vehicle.
- 12/28/2020, Officer Dan Flottemesch promoted to lieutenant.
- Lieutenants will be conducting another round of interviews for patrol officer hiring.

Fire:

For the month of December the fire department had 204 EMS Responses and 31 Fire Responses (10 all-call) for a total of 235 responses.

- Provided 1st dose of Moderna COVID19 vaccine to Reading, Amberley and Lockland fire departments.
- Initial doses also provided to Reading Police personnel.
- FF/P Brian Vaughn resigned after accepting a position with Amberley Village.
- FF/EMT Schneider resigned his part-time position.
- Two new part-time FF/EMTs began orientation.
- Lt. Fischesser responded to Adams County with Ham. Co. USAR for a building collapse.
- Diesel exhaust system installed at Station 83, purchased with AFG proceeds (\$47,431).
- Multiple units required exhaust system modification; covered with grant funds.
- Refrigerator and temperature monitoring system purchased for COVID-19 vaccine storage.

SERVICE (Dennis Albrinck)

Service Department hired Brent Huntsel as the newest Truck Driver for the Service Department.

Service Department still needs to hire a Mechanic.

Thanks for approving the purchase of the truck.

RECREATION (Tom Lynd)

We are starting to take applications for pool employees. People who are interested can come to City Hall and pick up an application and the sooner they get the application in the better. Reading did receive the Reds grant however we will not know how much money Reading was granted until we know how many teams the valley has for baseball. The amount this year is based on the number of teams we have because the money can only be used for uniforms and equipment.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

LAW DIRECTOR (Dave Stevenson)

No Report

TREASURER (Mel Gertz)

2020 Year End Income Taxes Collected: \$7,528,746.00 (-1.3% behind last year).

AUDITOR (Sabrina Smith)

Working on finishing up 2020 and beginning 2021.

READING OF ORDINANCES

(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO MAKE TRANSFERS NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000.00 FROM THE CITY EARNINGS TAX FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FROM JANUARY 1, 2021 – MARCH 31, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading.
Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Lynd, seconded by Mr. Lindeman to adopt the ordinance.
Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINACE NO. 2021-01

**(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO MAKE TRANSFERS NOT TO EXCEED
\$2,000,000.00 FROM THE CITY EARNINGS TAX FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FROM
APRIL 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINACE NO. 2021-02

**(3) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO MAKE TRANSFERS NOT TO EXCEED
\$2,000,000.00 FROM THE CITY EARNINGS TAX FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FROM
JULY 1, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 31, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINACE NO. 2021-03

**(4) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO MAKE TRANSFERS NOT TO EXCEED
\$2,000,000.00 FROM THE CITY EARNINGS TAX FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FROM
OCTOBER 1, 2021 – DECEMBER 31, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Motion made by Mr. Fischesser, seconded by Mr. Lindeman to suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading.
Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Lynd to adopt the ordinance.
Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINACE NO. 2021-04

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Fischesser - Extended his sympathies to the families of Jean Hildebrandt 12-18-20, Gloria Wormus 12-21-20,
Aaron Bemmes 12-23-20, Kathy Ellison 12-24-20, Pat DiLanardo 12-24-20, Ruth Singer 12-26-20, Mary Kohne 12-26-
20, John Haskamp 12-28-20, Harold Weisgerber 12-29-20 & Marge Trivett 12-30-20.

Mr. Lindeman - St Peter and Paul Academy accepts donations until the end of January that will be matched by an
anonymous donor. Please consider donating if you can.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

X 
CARLA KACHER
Clerk of Council

X 
CRIS NESBITT
President of Council