

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
MARCH 1, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

President Mr. Daum called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mr. Daum led those in attendance in a prayer and then the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mr. Powell, Mr. Bronner, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Boehner, Mr. Thamann, Mrs. Kroeger & Mrs. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Safety Service Director Patrick Ross, Law Director Dave Stevenson, Treasurer Brenda Owens, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve February 15 (Legislative) Council Minutes made by Mr. Boehner, Seconded by Mr. Bronner. Motion carried by a voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION:

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Daum,

Great talking to you today about the gas aggregation program. As I stated on the call, we are asking the council to give the city manager authorization to approve a contract term and price under \$.57/ccf for the Reading Aggregation Program. This is necessary to secure the price for the program as the selected vendor will not hold the price for very long. No supplier in the state of Ohio would hold a price long enough for the council to have the necessary readings. We are in a volatile market and they would stand to lose a great deal if the market went the wrong way. That is the urgency. Additionally, energy RFPs have vastly different rules in Ohio because of that volatility.

I would be asking you to waive the reading at any time of the year because the suppliers will not hold a price that long. If we were discussing this last November I would be making the same request. Reading is also part of a larger group that Energy Alliances is trying to put together so the residents get that benefit of a big buy.

That market has not been favorable the last 6-8 months and we can strike now for a more favorable price than just a few months ago.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need anything further.

Thanks,

Dan Deters, Consultant, Energy Alliances Inc.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes: *(No Report, Absent)*

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross

- Thurnridge Drive Update: Water main, tie-in work should be completed this week. Concrete crew will begin within next 1-2 weeks. Letter hand delivered to every home explaining temporary changes in area to minimize impact while allowing Adleta to work as safe & efficient as possible. Little over 3 more months of work up there
- Had meetings with council chairs of: Finance, Service, Utilities, Buildings, & Grounds, and Laws & Contracts
- Completed and submitted 2021 RRI Recycling report. Diversion rate should greatly increase for 2022 with every household having ability for curbside collection.

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- Working on grant for Safe Routes to School for new sidewalk and safer cross walk at Columbia and Orchard.
Thank you, Mr. Thamann, for assisting with this.
- Working on draft of 2022 appropriations to present at next finance committee meeting and preparing financial information about future capital borrowing for potential projects and or equipment
- Ongoing work on upgrading City's networking and phone system
- PD partaking in Overtime OVI enforcement. Grant for the entire county and it covers all costs for us to partake.
As available, officers work 6PM – 6AM and we are reimbursed for our costs.
- Working on vacation of roadway at south end of Third St. This will be presented to council in near future.
- Gas Aggregation Authorization -2022
- MSD Storm Sewer Update and Information
- Health Insurance Update and Information
- Hiring for Lifeguards for pool and Parks employees. Fill out application at city hall.
- 3/19 American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Monte Carlo
- 4/2 SPPA Texas Hold-EM NCAA Final 4 watch party
- 4/23 Clean Up Reading Day - Meet at Koenig at 10 to formally partake
- RLYF/Cheerleading 3/5 Lockland 10-1, 3/12 10-1 Reading Schools

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson (*No Report*)

TREASURER: Brenda Owens

**City of Reading
February 2022 Income Tax Receipt Summary
With Prior Years Comparison**

Individual Residents Income Taxes

	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 21 to 22
January	\$96,093	\$110,812	\$107,429	\$79,333	-26.2%
February	\$68,356	\$67,807	\$45,896	\$37,035	-19.3%
March	\$117,226	\$89,577	\$127,056		
April	\$415,198	\$109,428	\$221,576		
May	\$77,836	\$48,987	\$223,455		
June	\$115,093	\$99,289	\$134,637		
July	\$53,556	\$337,009	\$82,544		
August	\$70,483	\$71,990	\$39,361		
September	\$102,017	\$106,778	\$89,782		
October	\$38,131	\$93,081	\$56,061		
November	\$54,158	\$76,487	\$14,763		
December	\$58,151	\$96,708	\$86,298		
Yearly Totals	\$1,266,298	\$1,307,953	\$1,228,857	\$116,368	
YTD Progress	\$164,449	\$178,619	\$153,325	\$116,368	-24.1%

Business Profits Income Taxes

	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 21 to 22
January	\$14,888	\$22,258	\$11,981	\$48,907	308.2%
February	\$37,357	\$18,896	\$58,854	\$24,719	-58.0%
March	\$44,127	\$77,585	\$23,641		
April	\$146,628	\$26,014	\$137,747		
May	\$22,169	\$21,905	\$60,812		
June	\$87,523	\$39,477	\$87,483		
July	\$7,829	\$95,430	\$43,735		
August	\$50,022	\$80,398	\$38,207		
September	\$61,612	\$77,959	\$85,263		
October	\$16,216	\$32,831	\$42,542		
November	\$13,642	\$17,874	\$22,412		
December	\$63,553	\$26,952	\$87,159		
Yearly Totals	\$565,565	\$537,579	\$699,835	\$73,625	
YTD Progress	\$52,244	\$41,154	\$70,835	\$73,625	3.9%

Total Refunds 2019 = \$135,343 2020 = \$132,162 2021 = \$115,450 2022 YTD Refunds = \$4,473

Payroll Withholding Income Taxes

	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 21 to 22
January	\$555,799	\$539,671	\$717,952	\$689,143	-4.0%
February	\$418,114	\$530,926	\$462,760	\$441,735	-4.5%
March	\$403,816	\$419,609	\$413,361		
April	\$718,041	\$590,089	\$801,135		
May	\$464,702	\$453,000	\$490,963		
June	\$463,205	\$441,487	\$484,864		
July	\$474,774	\$433,643	\$507,334		
August	\$410,495	\$519,886	\$566,411		
September	\$519,714	\$392,475	\$411,837		
October	\$457,049	\$449,639	\$549,184		
November	\$454,636	\$483,331	\$545,750		
December	\$458,688	\$429,457	\$432,363		
Yearly Totals	\$5,799,031	\$5,683,214	\$6,383,913	\$1,130,878	
YTD Progress	\$973,913	\$1,070,597	\$1,180,711	\$1,130,878	-4.2%

Total Income Taxes Collected

	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 21 to 22
January	\$666,780	\$672,741	\$837,361	\$817,383	-2.4%
February	\$523,826	\$617,629	\$567,510	\$503,488	-11.3%
March	\$565,169	\$586,771	\$564,058		
April	\$1,279,867	\$725,531	\$1,160,458		
May	\$564,707	\$523,892	\$775,230		
June	\$665,820	\$580,253	\$706,984		
July	\$536,158	\$866,082	\$633,613		
August	\$531,000	\$672,274	\$643,978		
September	\$683,343	\$577,213	\$586,882		
October	\$511,396	\$575,551	\$647,787		
November	\$522,436	\$577,693	\$582,925		
December	\$580,392	\$553,117	\$605,819		
Yearly Totals	\$7,630,893	\$7,528,746	\$8,312,605	\$1,320,871	
YTD Progress	\$1,190,606	\$1,290,370	\$1,404,871	\$1,320,871	-6.0%

Brenda A. Owens- City Treasurer 03/01/2022

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AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith: *(No Report)*

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner

- Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 3rd at 6:00 p.m to go over appropriations for this year.
Linda Fitzgerald is going to talk about the JEDD at the old Carousel property. The meeting is open to the public and will be held in the caucus room. If we need more space we can move to council chambers.

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Mark Bishop: *(No Report)*

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- I've been reviewing the city's zoning map & code. This is for the potential DORA that'll be discussed in the coming weeks.
- I am trying to get Jerry Newfarmer rescheduled to give a presentation on an Organizational review for the City.
There have been scheduling conflicts.

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco

- Laws and Contracts Committee Meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, March 8 at 6:30 PM here in Council Chambers.
During our committee meeting we will be discussing the proposed DORA for the Bridal District. DORA stands for "Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area." The Bridal District has been gathering information regarding this and passed it along to Mr. Ross and myself. I sent out the information I received to my committee members, so we have everything ready for our meeting. The Bridal District is still working on meeting with the Police Chief and other city officials but they're hoping to have this in place by summer. While there are some concerns, the benefits are attracting new businesses and more patrons to the area. All of this will be discussed during our committee meeting.
- Wednesday, March 23 at 6:00 pm at the Media Center at the school

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger

Police Department run count for February, 2022

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| • Calls for service | 1,101 |
| • Auto Accidents | 27 |
| • Booking Original Charges | 160 |
| • Total Criminal Charges | 221 |

Citations Issued

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| • Hamilton County | 11 |
| • Arlington Heights | 18 |
| • Juvenile | 5 |
| • Reading Mayor's | 228 |

Total Citations 228

Fire Departments run count for December 2021

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| • EMS Responses | 168 |
| • Fire Responses | 35 (12 all-call) |

Total Responses 203

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SERVICE: Bob Boehner

Reading Public Works Council Report March 1, 2022

City crew have been out patching potholes in the streets

The Mulcher has been out collecting branches.

Water main breaks have been repaired on Hunt & Fuhrman, Guise & Sanborn also at 856 East Columbia Ave and Maple & East Columbia Ave

City crews have been working on remodeling the restrooms at Koeing Park with a new face lift on the interior

City crew repaired the Fire hydrant at Reading & Galbraith

City crew replaced the storm door at the Millcreek Alliance building at Jefferson & Walnut

City crews have Exercise the water valves for the tie in on Fuhrman and Thurnridge Dr

City crews have been replacing signage throughout the city that has faded or been damaged

City crews went around the clock for the ice and snow event that started on the 3rd of February and the next snow event occurred on the 7th of February

City has approximately 600 tons of road salt left in the salt bin

Matt removed all the flags for the bridal district on West Benson St as they are planning a new design

City crews have been out cleaning catch basins

Letters were delivered to all residence on Thurnridge Dr in reference to the coming activities concerning the reconstruction of the roadway

RECREATION: Scott Thamann

- We are still accepting pool applications, for lifeguards and concession workers.
Applications can be found at City Hall

OTHER BUSINESS: None

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LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: None

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION AGREEMENT WITH A NATURAL GAS SUPPLIER RECOMMENDED BY ENERGY ALLIANCES INC., THE COMMUNITIES ENERGY AGGREGATION CONSULTANT FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.620 PER CCF FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED 12 MONTHS OR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.560 PER CCF FOR A FIXED TERM NOT TO EXCEED 24 MONTHS OR TIERED PRICING FOR EACH 12 MONTH PERIOD, OR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.540 PER CCF FOR A FIXED TERM NOT TO EXCEED 36 MONTHS OR TIERED PRICING FOR EACH 12 MONTH PERIOD, COMMENCING IN JUNE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mrs. Boehner, seconded by Mr. Bronner to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion carried by 6-0-1 roll call vote (Mr. Powell, Mr. Bronner, Mr. Boehner, Mr. Thamann, Mrs. Kroeger & Mrs. Eadicicco voting yes and Mr. Bishop recusing from the vote due to conflict of interest). Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mrs. Kroger to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by 6-0-1 roll call vote (Mr. Powell, Mr. Bronner, Mr. Boehner, Mr. Thamann, Mrs. Kroeger & Mrs. Eadicicco voting “yes” and Mr. Bishop recusing from the vote due to conflict of interest).

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2022-08

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mrs. Eadicicco announced the City/School’s Relations Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 23 at 6:00 pm at the Media Center at the school.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Boehner moved to adjourn. Mr Bronner seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

X _____
Carla Kacher
Clerk of Council

X _____
Dwight Daum
President of Council