

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 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, Mrs. Kroeger & Mrs. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Law Director Dave Stevenson, Treasurer Brenda Owens & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve June 21 (Legislative Whole) Council Minutes made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Boehner. Motion carried by a voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

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

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross: *(Absent, Report Given By Clerk of Council, Carla Kacher)*

- I have a Duke customer insights committee meeting tonight I committed to take part in.

The budget should be a first reading only and I will go over in more detail at the meeting on the 19th for the Public Hearing.

To that note, please make sure we will have at least 6 members at that meeting for suspension of third reading. If not please let me know after tonight so I can get an extension if need be for the budget submitted to Hamilton County. Also there was a typo in budget on page 3, line for “revenue over/under) expenditures. It should be \$59,735.00. I corrected this on the official copy for the Clerk of Council.

Any questions, let me know.

Also Mr. Boehner, the school signs for no parking on Siebenthaler are being worked on and will be installed before school starts.

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson

Offered his sympathies to the family of Bill Ward who recently passed away.

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

TREASURER: Brenda Owens

**City of Reading
June 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	\$131,391	3.4%
April	\$415,198	\$109,428	\$221,576	\$457,756	106.6%
May	\$77,836	\$48,987	\$223,455	\$102,421	-54.2%
June	\$115,093	\$99,289	\$134,637	\$107,043	-20.5%
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	\$914,979	
YTD Progress	\$889,802	\$525,899	\$860,049	\$914,979	6.4%

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	\$434,394	5.1%
April	\$718,041	\$590,089	\$801,135	\$752,396	-6.1%
May	\$464,702	\$453,000	\$490,963	\$534,911	9.0%
June	\$463,205	\$441,487	\$484,864	\$470,151	-3.0%
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	\$5,799,831	\$5,683,214	\$6,383,913	\$3,322,729	
YTD Progress	\$3,023,676	\$2,974,782	\$3,371,035	\$3,322,729	-1.4%

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	\$210,097	788.7%
April	\$146,628	\$26,014	\$137,747	\$274,272	99.1%
May	\$22,169	\$21,905	\$60,812	\$42,806	-29.6%
June	\$87,523	\$39,477	\$87,483	\$399,300	356.4%
July	\$7,829	\$95,430	\$43,735		
August	\$50,022	\$80,398	\$38,207		
September	\$61,612	\$77,959	\$85,263		
October	\$16,216	\$12,831	\$42,542		
November	\$13,642	\$17,874	\$22,412		
December	\$63,553	\$26,952	\$87,159		
Yearly Totals	\$565,565	\$537,579	\$699,835	\$1,000,100	
YTD Progress	\$352,691	\$296,135	\$380,517	\$1,000,100	162.8%

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	\$775,881	37.6%
April	\$1,279,867	\$725,531	\$1,160,458	\$1,484,424	27.9%
May	\$564,707	\$523,892	\$773,230	\$680,137	-12.3%
June	\$665,820	\$580,253	\$706,984	\$976,494	38.1%
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	\$5,237,807	
YTD Progress	\$4,266,169	\$3,706,816	\$4,611,601	\$5,237,807	13.6%

Total Refunds	2019 =	\$135,343	2020 =	\$132,162	2021 =	\$115,450	2022 YTD Refunds =	\$124,379
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Brenda A. Owens- City Treasurer 07/01/2022

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith: *(Absent, Report Given By Clerk of Council, Carla Kacher)*

- Today all Council Members should have received the June 2022 Financial Reports. We are halfway through the year and our GAAP statement for 2021 is completed and waiting for the Auditor of State to approve it. Our Audit is due later this money for years 2020 and 2021. I will keep you updated as this gets turned in to the state.

As a reminder I have an MBA class on Tuesdays from 6-10pm if you need anything please email me or call me.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner

- At our June 28th meeting we went over the proposed 2023 budget and recommended it be sent to council for approval. There will be a public budget hearing on July 19th at our regularly scheduled Legislative Council meeting. We will be asking council for final approval on an emergency basis after this second reading to meet the Budget Commission deadline for submittal of July 21st. We need at least 6 council members at that meeting. If anyone can't make it, please let us know tonight. We can apply for an extension if needed.

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Mark Bishop

- Committee Report

Utilities, Lands & Buildings
Meeting Date: June 28, 2022
Time: 6:30 – 7:30

Topic: Trees in the ROW (Right-Of-Way)

Council Attendees:
Mark Bishop, Chair
Andy Bronner, Committee Member
Dave Powell, Committee Member
Bob Boehner

Meeting was well attended by approximately 10 Reading residents. Most expressed interest in helping to formulate a solution regarding planting of trees in the ROWs while protecting the City's infrastructure and minimizing the financial and safety impact on future residents.

The committee discussed: The concept of proper trees for a given space, the many benefits of trees, the potential damage caused by trees, responsibility for the purchase, planting and ongoing care of the trees and the property owner's obligation and ultimately the City's obligation under existing law to charge property owners for maintenance, removal and damage when necessary or if the property owner fails to comply. There was agreement that trees are welcome and necessary to the community's well-being.

More research will be done to arrive at a solution. Preliminary discussion leaned toward identifying appropriate tree species for the ROWs, permitting and enforcement.

Several helpful documents were provided to the committee by residents which will be reviewed and discussed at a future meeting. The date of the next meeting has not been established.

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- I had originally intended to have an ordinance on the floor this evening to restrict parking on one side of Dottie Court during School hour. However, after speaking to a couple of residents and being provided with a letter and petition signed by the majority of the residences on the street, I am conflicted.

As their representative on Council I feel I should always do what I can to follow the will of my constituents. On the other hand on issues that are matters of Public Safety I also have to keep their best interests in mind regardless of what public opinion is.

The majority of residences on the street have signed a petition asking the President of Mt. Notre Dame to give notice to the students to only park a single vehicle centered in front of each residence. This is only an ask and is not enforceable.

My opinion would be to give this a try but if the parking problems persist be prepared to post the appropriate signage to restrict parking on one side of the street during school hours.

I would like to hear opinions from the other members of Council how best to proceed on the matter.

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco

On Thursday, June 30, I met with Nick Diederich, the Reading Bridal District president, to discuss where the DORA committee is with its progress.

CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM

The DORA committee, along with the Chamber of Commerce, is currently sending letters to the liquor license holders that will be included in the DORA district. This is a letter that the license holders will sign off on with their approval. The committee is also getting a list of all properties within DORA and getting parcel and zoning maps of the area, as well as safety and sanitation plans from the police and public works departments.

Once the committee has all the letters, maps, plans, and information together, they will send an application to council. Within 45 days after the application is filed, council will publish the notice of the application in a newspaper (the notice will also be on the city's website and Facebook page). Council will review the application to make sure it states that it's on file in the office of the clerk and is available for inspection by the public during regular business hours. Council will also indicate in the notice the date and time of any public hearing it will hold regarding the application.

Not earlier than 30 but not later than 60 days after the initial publication of the notice, council must approve or disapprove the application in an ordinance or resolution by majority vote and give public notice of the vote. If approved, council will send notice to the Division and the Department of Public Safety, Investigative Unit that the DORA was created, including a description of the area that constitutes the DORA.

A reminder that the DORA times are every day from noon until 10:00 PM. And the DORA will go from the Benson Street bridge to Reading Road and along Reading Road from Mechanic Street to Southern Avenue. Council has the authority to change the times and area as needed by a majority vote, should the DORA ordinance be approved.

Unfortunately, Nick could not make tonight's meeting but said that if anyone has any questions, I can put together a list for him and he will answer them for us.

I would like to schedule a Laws and Contracts committee meeting to discuss the progress of the DORA committee and to go over the legislative part and work on the wording for the ordinance. Of course, this wording can be amended as needed and will be finalized when we get the application from the DORA committee.

Also, for our committee meeting, I would like to go over some property maintenance issues and revisit some older ordinances regarding property maintenance.

I'd like to schedule the meeting for Tuesday, July 12 at 6:00 PM here in council chambers if my committee members are available at that day and time.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger
Police Department run count for June, 2022

- Calls for service 1,328
- Auto Accidents 25
- Booking Original Charges 140
- Total Criminal Charges 178

Citations Issued

- Hamilton County 6
- Arlington Heights 23
- Juvenile 2
- Reading Mayor's 158

Total Citations 196

For the month of June, there were arrests for domestic violence, OVI, assault, and theft. A big problem lately is the theft of catalytic converters. Please be vigilant, and if you see something, say something. Also, it's becoming more and more of a problem with packages being taken off of porches. UDF is now an Amazon locker location. You order the same way and

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

have it sent to the lockers at UDF. Amazon then sends you the code for your locker. I know it isn't as convenient as having it delivered to your door, but it may save you the hassle of having your package stolen. Remember you need to call 911 as we only have a dispatcher during certain hours.

Fire Departments run count for June, 2022

- EMS Responses 168
- Fire Responses 72

Total Responses 240

SERVICE: Bob Boehner

Reading Public Works Council Report July 5, 2022

City crew have been out patching potholes in the streets

The Mulcher has been out collecting branches.

✓City crews came in early for painting of traffic lines and cross walks

✓City crews repaired catch basins at Market & Pleasant and Gorman and Gahl Terrace as well as the curbs

City crews replaced a toilet at Hilltop Park that damaged

City crews painted soccer fields

City crew repaired the Altitude valve at the reservoir

✓City crews were repairing roadways grinding asphalt and replacing at Landy Ln, Gorman Ln and West Crest Dr

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

- ✓City crews repaired a water main break at 124 West Vine St and repaired the roadway and another water main leak at Reading & Maple
- Service Dept repaired a door latch at the Police Dept
- ✓City crew cut a tree down at 1639 Krylon Dr that was rotten in the City ROW
- ✓City crew had to replace a water valve at the Swimming pool
- City crews trimmed the over grown vegetation on Hunt Rd heading toward Blue Ash
- City crew along with Rick Penter from Lux tree service removed a tree that fell onto the garage at 232 Bernard Ave

- Next Service Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m.

RECREATION: Scott Thamann

- Pool memberships as of July 5 are 342 memberships. At the end of last year, we had 279 memberships. We are still getting a few new memberships each week. The pool staff has been very busy every day since the pool opened. Some days we have had close to 300 swimmers at the pool at one time. Concession sales have been high as well. Our lifeguards, concession workers and managers have done an amazing job working at the pool so far this summer! We did have to close the pool one day last week due to a maintenance issue, however we were able to open the next day thanks to the service department & their hard work in making the necessary repairs. The pool was built in 1979; it may be time to start getting numbers to replace the pool. The parts are getting harder and harder to fix due the material they are made of and their age. There are new foundation issues that arise yearly too. At some time, there will be a point where we cannot make repairs anymore. At the end of last summer, a contractor did come by the pool and gave us a “rough verbal estimate” for a similar pool structure but eliminating the baby pool and adding a shallow walk-in pool entrance. The cost was \$2-3mil.

Both the Adult night and Ladies night at the pool were very successful and well attended.

The next Ladies Night is July 21, 6:30 – 9:30 & the cost of admission is “bring a side dish/snack to share”.

We are going to have a Ladies Brunch on Saturday, August 6, 10:00 a.m. – Noon “bring a side dish/snack to share.”

OTHER BUSINESS: (None)

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: None

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) THE FOLLOWING BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY COUNCIL AND IS HEREBY SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION

Ordinance was declared a first reading only.

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Boehner moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kroeger seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

X _____

Carla Kacher
Clerk of Council

X _____

Dwight Daum
President of Council