

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
MARCH 21, 2023 – 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. Thamann & Mrs. Eadicicco.

Motion made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Bishop to excuse Mr. Boehner & Mrs. Kroeger.

Motion carried by voice vote.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Kacher.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to amend Mrs. Owens' date of her report in the March 7, 2023, Council Minutes made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried by a voice vote. Motion to approve the amended March 7 Council Minutes made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried by a voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION:

Shirley King (838 Maple Drive) – Reported to Council the inordinate amount of difficulty she's experiencing with consistent, weekly Rumpke Recycling pick-up on her street. As was suggested to her, she calls Rumpke when her recycling is missed, they tell her they'll send someone to pick it up and no one ever comes. Other issues she is experiencing is that when her recycling is picked up, on her scheduled day or when they have to send someone back out to her street, her recycling can is placed at someone else's house and a lot of her recycling is strewn all over the street due to not making it into the truck. She did point out that she's not experienced any issues with her Rumpke Garbage collection. She made mention that in addition to calling Rumpke, she has also reached out to both Patrick Ross and Debbie in the office, and they are incredibly helpful. She is frustrated and is asking assistance from Council. Utilities, Lands & Buildings Committee Chair, Mark Bishop will reach out to Rumpke to further discuss the issue.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:

Email from Don Lykins:

HELP!!!

It's out of control. And our Mayor nor Chief Edens nor Patrick Ross aren't doing a single thing to stop crime, violent crime. We need more police in Reading and especially more patrols at the South End near Reading and Galbraith. We feel abandoned.

Since Greyhound moved from downtown to Arlington Heights (by I75 & Galbraith), the number of homeless and mentally ill or troubled people has risen sharply in South Reading. I have spoken with many of them as they use my building steps at 8405 Reading Road when waiting for the Metro to head downtown.

A lady stands on the corner by BP station at Reading and Galbraith and starts throwing rocks at cars. Large rocks, landscape boulders at BP.

Luckily a good Samaritan stops her initially but once free she continues to throw large rocks at cars, smashing windshields of at least 4 vehicles, denting more.

He eventually throws her to the ground.

Also watch as his car rolls back across Galbraith, luckily avoiding hitting others, only to continue to subdue the woman.

Don't forget the rock throwing incident resulting in a shootout on 1January2023, which I reported to the City. It's getting worse. Please HELP!!!

You can see the videos of this incident from my security cameras and I have provided to the police and the city.

Don Lykins, 513-305-4737, dlykins@cinci.rr.com

Mr. Powell reported that Chief Edens did communicate to Council that the Lady who was throwing rocks on January 1, 2023 was arrested. Mr. Edens also said that he has been in communication with the City of Arlington Heights and that they too are not happy about Greyhound moving from downtown to Arlington Heights, and that they are seeking to have the certificate of occupancy revoked. Mr. Powell moved to have the communication marked as “received and filed,” seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried by voice vote.

GUEST SPEAKERS: NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES: NONE

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

(1) Scott Thamann – Communicated the information in the two flyers below:

READING HILLTOP BASKETBALL COURT RESTORATION PROJECT In Memory of Chad Richmond

Our family is on a mission to restore the community basketball court to a safe and fun place where everyone can benefit! It is fantastic to drive by and see people of all ages getting outside and exercising and having a great time.

We are happy to report that over \$35,000 was raised at our last fundraising event. That day, we brought awareness and resources for Military PTSD while honoring the amazing person and soldier Chad was. It was exciting to see so much community support for this project. During the 12-hour walkathon event we had Mayor Bemmes, School Board Members, Police Chief Eden, Members of City Council, The American Legion, parents, and students come to show their support. The Fraternal Order of Eagles donated \$5,000! A great turn out for a great cause!

We still need help though! The total expense for this project is \$125,000. The severely cracked foundation, rusty backboards and poles, broken fencing and benches will all need to be replaced. We have made a lot of progress in a short time, but we need your help.

May 6th we are hosting a Euchre and Cornhole Tournament! We anticipate 300+ people from around the tri-state area. Please consider promoting your business and supporting this great cause by sponsorship or a tax-deductible donation of any amount and or donated items for our raffle (gift cards, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, donated services). Any amount will help!

Event Sponsorship Levels:

GOLD-\$3,000

- Included in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Military PTSD awareness Speaker at your next safety meeting
- Business' Banner at Event (8'x4')
- Business name on back of t-shirts
- Business spoken acknowledgement at Event
- Business listed on our FB/IG/LI page
- 10 spots to play - 10 t-shirts

SILVER - \$1,000

- Business' Banner at Event (6'x3')
- Business name on back of t-shirt
- Business spoken acknowledgement at event
- Business listed on our FB/ IG/LI page
- 6 spots to play
- 6 t-shirts

BRONZE - \$500

- Business' Banner at Event (4'x2')
- Business name on back of t-shirt
- Business spoken acknowledgment at event
- Business listed on our FB/IG/LI pg
- 4 spots to play
- 4 t-shirts

Court Side Sponsorship

GOLD- \$10,000 (1 spots available)

- 3'x2' sign on fence
- Included in the Ribbon Cutting

SILVER-\$6,000 (2 spots available)

- 2'x1' sign on fence
- Included at the Ribbon Cutting

BRONZE- \$3,000 (3 spots available)

- 1'x8" sign on fence
- Included in the Ribbon Cutting

Check payable to "Hilltop Basketball Court Restoration Project"-- Mail to Regina Richmond- 1722 Sanborn Dr. Reading OH 45215 513-254-1730

Youtube: https://youtu.be/20B5emH_J0 check out our last video we made detailing the project and learn more about Chad!



Current

Future

-United We Stand" - Mission22.com - PTSD Help? Dial 988 - Text 838255 - Va.gov



(2) **Mark Bishop –**

(A) Expressed sympathy on behalf of Mr. Boehner (who was absent this evening) to the family of Chris Schoenberger, who passed away recently. He was the owner of Schoenberger Tile Co, a very good friend and a great person.

(B) Statistics from the first meeting recorded and televised via ESP Media:

March 7, 2023 Meeting:

Live:

52 unique viewers

120 impressions

YouTube Archived:

42 unique viewers

Audio Archived Listeners:

105

(3) Dave Powell:

Everyone should have received their letter in the mail about the electric aggregation at this point.

It was brought to my attention that there was a post on the Reading Community Forum Facebook group about the letter. A local business owner and others have made insinuations that we as council members receive a kickback from the program. That is a blatant falsehood.

There was another insinuation that the aggregation was passed by council in a closed-door session. This is blatantly false. The Electric aggregation in Reading was passed by the voters in the Primary Election held on May 6, 2014 and passed with 79.15% voting for and 20.85% voting against.

Energy Alliances negotiated on the citizens behalf with multiple suppliers and was able to lock in a rate of 6.81¢ per kWh with Dynegy starting with the June 2023 bill and continuing through the May 2025 bill.

Energy Alliances advised the City prior to the contract being signed that they anticipate Duke Energy's default generation rate will be around 9.5¢ per kWh starting with the June 2023 bill.

I encourage our citizens to do their homework prior opting out and to not believe everything they see on the community forum. If you have a question, please reach out to any of us sitting up here. That's what we're here for.

(4) Dwight Daum:

Mentioned that Chief Edens reached out to him after the last Council meeting and made clear that hunting is NOT allowed in the City of Reading.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn came from Mrs. Eadicicco and was seconded by Mr. Powell. Motion carried by voice vote. There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:47 pm.

X_____

Carla Kacher
Clerk of Council

X_____

Dwight Daum
President of Council