

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 04, 2024 – 7:30 PM**

For the full detail of this evening's Council Meeting, please visit www.watchreadingohio.com.

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mr. Mattscheck 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.

Motion to excuse Mrs. Eadicicco and Mr. Thamann made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Boehner.

Motion carried by voice vote.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Bo Bemmes, Treasurer Brenda Owens & Clerk of Council Carla Albrinck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve May 21, 2024 (Legislative) Council Minutes made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried by a voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS:

- April 2024 Mayor's Court Monthly Disbursement Report

~ 114 Bench warrants Issued, 308 Cases Heard & \$13,526.00 Collected

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

MAYOR: Robert "Bo" Bemmes:

Please avoid leaving valuable items in your vehicle. Please lock your vehicles and take valuable items with you or if you have a trunk store items there.

Please get to know your neighbors and look out for them and call 911 immediately if you see any suspicious or illegal activity.

The VYO Memorial weekend festival was again a great success. Thanks to everyone who attended and volunteered.

Our 115th Memorial Day Parade and the Memorial program at the Cemetery were awesome events again. Thanks to our incredible American Legion who worked so hard to plan these events.

Our American Legions festival will be held on June 28, 29 and 30 at Koenig Park with our fireworks going off at 10pm on June 30.

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Hunt Road will be closing soon between Fuhrman and Waxwing. The latest info from the contractor is that the road will close entirely starting the week of June 17 and will reopen (by contract) August 16.

We were chosen along with 7 other communities in our State to receive State funding to complete a study and make improvements on State routes to improve safety. Patrick Ross and I are working with ODOT to identify and complete improvements on Reading road between Galbraith and North Street. \$2 million dollars have been allocated for this project.

No left turn signs from Hunt road onto Columbia Ave will go up soon.

Traffic patterns going west bound on Columbia Ave at Reading Road will change when the Columbia Ave paving project is completed. The right-hand lane will be right turn only with the left lane being straight or left turn. Traffic going eastbound will remain the same.

We have been told by MSD that the MSD storm sewer/paving project on Reading Road will be finally completed soon.

The bid openings for the Landy Lane and Koehler Avenue projects (50% of which will be paid for through grant dollars) will be on June 27.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross: (No Report, Absent)

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson: (No Report, Absent)

TREASURER: Brenda Owens

City of Reading
2024 May Income Tax Receipt Summary
With Prior Years Comparison

Individual Residents Income Taxes

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	\$107,429	\$79,333	\$97,988	\$140,011	42.9%
February	\$45,896	\$37,035	\$62,179	\$73,859	18.8%
March	\$127,056	\$131,391	\$121,019	\$127,546	5.4%
April	\$221,576	\$457,756	\$441,112	\$479,159	8.6%
May	\$223,455	\$102,421	\$73,112	\$73,028	-0.1%
June	\$134,637	\$107,043	\$117,960		
July	\$82,544	\$28,939	\$35,819		
August	\$39,361	\$36,571	\$34,271		
September	\$89,782	\$78,608	\$86,325		
October	\$56,061	\$63,966	\$52,893		
November	\$14,763	\$64,047	\$25,276		
December	\$86,298	\$46,897	\$49,879		
Yearly Totals	\$1,228,857	\$1,234,007	\$1,197,833	\$893,603	
YTD Progress	\$725,412	\$807,936	\$795,410	\$893,603	12.3%

Business Profits Income Taxes

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	\$11,981	\$48,907	\$21,712	\$72,579	234.3%
February	\$58,854	\$24,719	\$17,868	\$30,745	72.1%
March	\$23,641	\$210,097	\$100,630	\$58,593	-41.8%
April	\$137,747	\$274,272	\$231,557	\$162,557	-29.8%
May	\$60,812	\$42,806	\$13,048	\$26,006	99.3%
June	\$87,483	\$399,300	\$136,640		
July	\$43,735	\$15,804	\$32,265		
August	\$38,207	\$22,399	\$38,469		
September	\$85,263	\$337,399	\$118,498		
October	\$42,542	\$22,564	\$18,497		
November	\$22,412	\$15,798	\$76,898		
December	\$87,159	\$48,456	\$53,959		
Yearly Totals	\$699,835	\$1,462,520	\$860,041	\$350,480	
YTD Progress	\$293,034	\$600,800	\$384,814	\$350,480	-8.9%

Total Refunds 2021 \$115,450 2022 \$169,800 2023 \$666,149 2024 YTD Refunds = \$85,514

Payroll Withholding Income Taxes

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	\$717,952	\$689,143	\$699,906	\$721,376	3.1%
February	\$462,760	\$441,735	\$483,701	\$495,911	2.5%
March	\$413,361	\$434,394	\$477,447	\$561,572	17.6%
April	\$801,135	\$752,396	\$701,491	\$733,139	4.5%
May	\$490,963	\$534,911	\$480,917	\$502,943	4.6%
June	\$484,864	\$470,151	\$475,836		
July	\$507,334	\$501,087	\$671,451		
August	\$566,411	\$591,928	\$459,951		
September	\$411,837	\$464,052	\$491,289		
October	\$549,184	\$606,041	\$580,966		
November	\$545,750	\$493,632	\$482,419		
December	\$432,363	\$462,692	\$469,943		
Yearly Totals	\$6,383,913	\$6,442,162	\$6,475,316	\$3,014,941	
YTD Progress	\$2,886,171	\$2,852,578	\$2,843,461	\$3,014,941	6.0%

Total Income Taxes Collected

	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23 to 24
January	\$837,361	\$817,383	\$819,606	\$933,966	14.0%
February	\$567,510	\$503,488	\$563,747	\$600,514	6.5%
March	\$564,058	\$775,881	\$699,095	\$747,711	7.0%
April	\$1,160,458	\$1,484,424	\$1,374,159	\$1,374,855	0.1%
May	\$775,230	\$680,137	\$567,077	\$601,977	6.2%
June	\$706,984	\$976,494	\$730,436		
July	\$633,613	\$545,830	\$739,534		
August	\$643,978	\$650,899	\$532,692		
September	\$586,882	\$880,060	\$696,112		
October	\$647,787	\$692,571	\$652,357		
November	\$582,925	\$573,477	\$584,593		
December	\$605,819	\$558,046	\$573,781		
Yearly Totals	\$8,312,605	\$9,138,690	\$8,533,190	\$4,259,024	
YTD Progress	\$3,904,617	\$4,261,313	\$4,023,685	\$4,259,024	5.8%

Brenda A. Owens- City Treasurer 06/03/2024

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AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith: *(Absent, Report Given By Finance Chair, Andy Bronner)*

GAAP Statement for 2023 have been filed. This was completed in the end of May, right on the timeline. Plattenburg does this filing.

Audit for 2022 and 2023 is still going on. After Plattenburg completed the GAAP for 2023 then they do the next part of the extended audit. Auditors are in the office today, 6/4/24-6/6/24. All Departments in the City are part of this Audit. We are working diligently to get all requests completed.

Working with the Treasurer's Department on Reconciliations. We have January 2024 complete. We are close to finishing February 2024-Current. This is normal with a new computer system. Some computer errors are causing the lock-up. I am making an Excel Spreadsheet to make sure we match in the system and outside, using a basic bank to book style. Some of this is due to more training needed for this part of the system.

Trainings being scheduled for staff. Lots of staff are still getting trained on different items with our new computer system. As a reminder this system crosses the Auditor's Office, the Treasurer's Office, Payroll, and Administration as a whole. From there each department also has to access this system to turn in payable items with proper back-up.

If any Council Member completes a Sunshine Law Training or Public Records Training, you need to turn in your certificate or attendance record into me. All elected officials need to do at least one of these trainings during their term. Some appointed officials need to do this as part of their continued education.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner

Our next Finance Committee meeting will be held on June 18th at 6:30pm in the Council chambers.

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

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- Before the meeting I distributed a draft of an ordinance proposing to regulate Hookah bars. This is only a draft and am looking for input. I would like to see some discussion on this matter during miscellaneous business.

I continue to look into the proposed update of the Zoning code. I think we should update our zoning map as well. I will be looking into how to accomplish that and what the cost might be.

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco *(No Report, Absent)*

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger

Police Department run count for May, 2024

• Calls for service	1,314
• Auto Accidents	34
• Booking Original Charges	125
Total Criminal Charges	154

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Citations Issued

• Hamilton County	5
• Arlington Heights	23
• Juvenile	3
• Reading Mayor's	155
Total Citations	186

Fire Departments run count for May, 2024

• EMS Responses	230
• Fire Responses	45
Total Responses	275

For the month of May, there was a trailer stolen from Market St., several calls for domestic violence, several thefts from UDF, burglary on Pike St., packages stolen from Winchris and busted windows on vehicles. I do have a bit of good news to report, all new cruisers are in service and 3 of the 4 FLOCK cameras have been installed and the 4th should be installed in the coming weeks. As always, if you see something, say something. When in doubt, please call the police. They can be reached for emergencies by dialing 9-1-1 and non-emergencies by dialing 513-825-2280.

Congratulations to FF/P Jake Courtney for earning his Fire Safety Inspector Certification. The spring servicing of hydrants in all response areas has been completed. Reading Elementary 3rd graders visited the firehouse and city hall. That is always a fun visit for everyone. Member of the fire department attended a luncheon with the Srs. of Notre Dame and also provided CPR/AED training to the Notre Dame Health personnel and Reading high school health classes.

They also conducted CPR/AED and fire extinguisher training for Standard Textiles employees. A fire prevention/education presentation was provided for the students of Serendipity Early Learning Center. Members of the fire department, along with the police department participated in the Memorial Day Parade and cemetery remembrance.

SERVICE: Bob Boehner

Reading Public Works Council Report June 4, 2024

City crews have been out patching potholes in the streets

The mulcher has been out collecting branches.

The street sweeper has been out cleaning streets

City crews have been out cleaning catch basins throughout the City

City crews have been laying out and painting soccer fields throughout the City

City crew members Cole Baker and Caden Conner both passed their CDL training and Testing and are now certified and Professor Mark Elrod did excellent job working with both gentlemen to make this happen

City crews have been out painting crosswalks and the parade route for Memorial Day Parade

City crews cleaned up around all the mulching beds and planters in the business district

City pool has been cleaned and up and running for the Summer

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City crews cleaned out a storm drain on Waxwing Dr

City crews made siding repairs on the Carson St garage and the City pool

City crew did some maintenance on the Solenoid valve at the pump house

- Next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m.in Council Chambers to discuss paving Incinerator lane and purchasing a street sweeper.

RECREATION: **Scott Thamann** *(No Report, Absent)*

OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES: NONE

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mark Bishop – Tri-State Trails development leading the Mill Creek Triangle Trail effort. Link on the City website to learn more and take a survey.

Bob Boehner – Asked if there will be a sign going up on Hunt road telling people they cannot turn left onto Columbia.
Answer: Yes.

Dave Powell – Discussed why there is a need for an upcoming ordinance for regulating Hookah bars. We as a group need to decide where we would allow these in the City.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Boehner moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kroeger seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

X_____

Carla Albrinck
Clerk of Council

X_____

Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council