

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 03, 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. Bonner, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Boehner, Mrs. Kroeger, Mr. Thamann & Mrs. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Safety Service Director Patrick Ross, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Albrinck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve August 6, 2024 (Regular), and August 20, 2024 (Legislative) Council Minutes Meeting made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Boehner. Motion carried by voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

(1) Email from Roger Leist:

“To Todd Owens, City of Reading Fire Chief, Reading Mayor and Reading City Council:

Our deepest gratitude for the care Unit 1 provided for my Mother on August 18th, 2024. It was an Amberley Village run in the morning.

My mother is 96 and had fallen and split her head open and hurt her shoulder badly.

Without the fast response and terrific care provided, she would have lost a lot more blood than she did and they saved that from happening!! The outcome could have been much different. Especially being on blood thinners.

We are thankful for the paramedics and firefighters and Police in Reading, and major props for a job well done.

Warmest regards,

Roger Leist, Reading resident, 209 Eagleview Way”

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to mark the communication received and filed.

Motion carried by voice vote.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

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

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross:

- Another great year for the pool. Thank you Susan Slavey, the other managers and employees
- Maple Drive work scheduled to begin September 16
- Our Lady of Valley Festival Saturday and Sunday September 14-15
- Traffic changes coming to Reading & Columbia and Reading & Benson...contractor programming signal then will be striping will be completed
- Landy Lane and Koehler Ave. Pre-Construction meeting held last week. Potential to start and complete work in October, but more likely will be in Spring
- Fall in Love Bridal District next Thursday September 12 Benson Closed Reading to Wachendorf 5-10
- Based upon recommendations from Public Works Department- SCIP Roads being applied for will be Crestmont/East Crest and potentially part of West Crest depending on engineers estimate. Water main will be included. Other project will remainder of Gahl and Gorman
- Remaining part of Jefferson/Granite will be applied for next Round of SORTA funding
- Negotiations beginning with FOP Union who's contract expires at year end
- Gas Aggregation Opt Out Letters
- Council on Aging
- Community Reinvestment Area
- Public Works assisting fire department on their Training Site Center
- Working with ODOT on potential \$2million dollar traffic safety corridor
- Harvest Lane engineering on going

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to put the Community Reinvestment Area (a tax exemption program in Ohio that helps property owners who renovate or build new buildings. The program's goals are to encourage the development of new structures and revitalize existing housing stock) into Dave Powell's Zoning, Planning & Environment committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

LAW DIRECTOR: Dave Stevenson: *(No Report)*

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TREASURER: Brenda Owens

City of Reading
2024 August 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	\$120,959	\$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	\$80,804	-31.5%
July	\$82,544	\$28,939	\$35,819	\$29,749	-16.9%
August	\$39,361	\$36,571	\$34,271	\$62,099	81.2%
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	\$1,197,773	\$1,066,255	
YTD Progress	\$981,954	\$980,489	\$983,399	\$1,066,255	8.4%

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	\$585,100	23.0%
July	\$507,334	\$501,087	\$671,451	\$561,747	-16.3%
August	\$566,411	\$591,928	\$459,951	\$547,775	19.1%
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	\$4,709,562	
YTD Progress	\$4,444,779	\$4,415,744	\$4,450,699	\$4,709,562	5.8%

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	\$100,690	\$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	\$143,130	4.7%
July	\$43,735	\$15,804	\$32,265	\$70,851	119.6%
August	\$38,207	\$22,399	\$38,469	\$56,349	46.5%
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	\$860,101	\$620,811	
YTD Progress	\$462,459	\$1,038,303	\$592,248	\$620,811	4.8%

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	\$809,034	10.8%
July	\$633,613	\$545,830	\$739,534	\$662,347	-10.4%
August	\$643,978	\$650,899	\$532,692	\$666,223	25.1%
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	\$6,396,628	
YTD Progress	\$5,889,192	\$6,434,536	\$6,026,347	\$6,396,628	6.1%

Total Refunds	2021	\$115,450	2022	\$169,800	2023	\$666,149	2024 YTD Refunds =	\$86,429
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Brenda A. Owens- City Treasurer 09/03/2024

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith:

- The City of Reading received the Auditor of State award. This showcases the amazing work of everyone who works for the City.
- The Audit for 2022 and 2023 is posted on the City's website.
- The Taste of Reading was a great event. Lots of awesome vendors and great entertainment. Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Legion for all their hard work and everyone else who had a hand in helping.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner

I would like to give further explanation of two proposed ordinances on tonight's agenda.

The first is an ordinance to amend Ordinance # 2024-05 which allocated \$300,000 from the Covid Relief Fund to install new lighting and upgraded electric service at Koenig Park. The amendment would increase the allocation to not exceed \$350,000 to allow for potential project contingencies and also dictate that the expenditure be made from the Covid Relief

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Fund balance and the remainder to be paid from the Sewer Service Fee Fund due to the Covid Relief Fund have preexisting obligations.

The second is an ordinance to authorize transferring \$100,000 from the Municipal Road Fund 2275 to the Streets and Curb Fund 2230. These funds were awarded to the City for the repaving of Furhman Road. Payments have been made from the Streets and Curbs Fund and this Ordinance reimburses those funds from the Municipal Road Fund.

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

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

- Based on comments received at the last meeting regarding the proposed expansion of the Dora along Jefferson Avenue I spent some time looking into the matter.

- The area is in a residential district however the current uses of the properties along the route are either businesses or rental properties.

- I further looked into the Dora districts in both Wyoming and Milford and compared it to their zoning maps. In Wyoming the majority of the adjoining properties appear to be zoned residential. In Milford a portion of the adjoining properties appear to be zoned residential.

- Given the current use of the adjoining properties and the lack of reported issues our current Dora has created I feel the underlying zoning of the adjoining properties in the proposed expansion area along Jefferson is not a problem.

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco (No Report)

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger

-Police Department run count for August 2024

• Calls for service	1250
• Auto Accidents	29
• Booking Original Charges	115
• Total Criminal Charges	179

Citations Issued

• Hamilton County	9
• Arlington Heights	20
• Juvenile	1
• Reading Mayor's	245

Total Citations 275

Fire Departments run count for August 2024

• EMS Responses	217
• Fire Responses	46

Total Responses 263

- For the month of August, there were several car break ins, drug arrests, OVI, theft and domestic abuse. There are also packages being stolen from porches. On **09/02/2024, Officers responded to Thermo Fisher Reading Rd., for a possible road rage incident with shots fired. With the description given by the security guard,**

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officers were able to find the vehicle on the FLOCK System. After a broadcast was put out, the suspect vehicle was located in West Chester. West Chester responded and located two suspects and the suspected vehicle. Detective Leininger responded in and served a search warrant on the apartment and the vehicle. The firearm was located during the search. Both suspects charged.

- Members attended the National Night Out event on August 6th
- Cardiac arrest scenario training conducted for the JCC lifeguards.
- Tabletop Emergency Operation Plan review conducted for SPPA on August 16th
- Members attended Amberley Village's Ice Cream Social.
- Sprayed down Reading Youth Football players.

SERVICE: Bob Boehner

Reading Public Works Council Report September 3,2024

City crews have been out patching potholes in the streets

City crews have been out collecting branches

The street sweeper has been out cleaning streets

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

City crews Mow trimmed the following streets Hunt Rd, Fuhrman Rd, Cavett Dr

City crews assisted the Fire Department with their Fire training center Project

City crews prepped and painted the poles at Vorhees and Observatory Parks at the pavilions

City crews repaired a catch basins on East Vorhees at Reading Rd, Eagleview Way, Hunt Rd at Thurnridge Dr, Breezy Vista

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City crews cleaned up Koenig Park after the Taste of Reading Festival

City crews have been out painting yellow curbs

City crews will be removing Handicap signs and street signage from area's that are not needed any longer where residence have moved

City crews have been trimming trees in the alleyways and grinding tree stumps on Sanborn Dr and Oldwick Dr

RECREATION: Scott Thamann

- The community pool is now closed for the season. The Farmers' Market will continue every Friday for the rest of September, 4-7 pm at the corner of Reading and Vine.
- On Thursday, Sept. 12, the Bridal District will be hosting their annual Fall in Love Wedding Show on Benson St. from 6:00 - 9:00 pm.
- Our Lady of the Valley will be hosting their annual Septemberfest the weekend of Sept. 14-15. We would love to see everyone there at some point.
- Looking ahead, we need to replace the diving boards at the pool. They are the original boards installed when the pool was installed. I will be researching vendors and prices in the coming weeks.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Boehner would like to rename the new "Reading City Exterior Property Maintenance Office Code Officer" to the "Reading Building Commissioner Code Officer." Once this has passed, Mr. Boehner asked that this gets passed onto Mr. Brooks. Katie Eadicicco is taking this back into her committee to investigate.

Mr. Boehner would like to put overloaded Dump trucks & Tractor Trailers going up and down Benson Street into .Would like to see signage along cross country to direct them to exit Galbraith Road/Reading Road.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS:

(1) A RESOLUTION EXPANDING THE DESIGNATED OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (DORA) FOR THE CITY OF READING AND ENACTING THE CURRENT DORA REGULATIONS IN THE EXPANDED AREAS. (Third Reading)

Motion made by Mr. Bronner, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-32R

(2) A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR HAMILTON COUNTY'S 2024 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FACADE GRANT APPLICATION.

Motion made by Mrs. Eadiccio, seconded by Mr. Bronner to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Bishop to adopt the resolution. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-33R

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER \$100,000 FROM THE MUNICIPAL ROAD FUND ACCOUNT (2275) TO THE STREETS AND THE CURB FUND (2230), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Bronner, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Boehner to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-34

(2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-05 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Note from Safety Service Director, Patrick Ross: This ordinance is to amend the Koenig lights ordinance from earlier in the year. When that passed, we had the confusion of the dump truck ordinance that had passed in 2023 which allocated \$210,000 for purchase so there will not be enough in the fund. It also increases the amount about 15% for the project which Musco/Atkins Stang will be doing. VYO has also agreed to pay \$50,000 towards the project.

Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Bronner to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Bishop to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-35

(3) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANTS WITH THE HAMILTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT.

Motion made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mr. Bishop to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion failed by a 5-2 roll call vote (Mr. Bronner, Mr. Bishop, Mrs. Kroeger, Mr. Thamann & Mrs. Eadicicco voting “Yes,” and Mr. Powell and Mr. Boehner voting “No”). Ordinance was declared a first reading only.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mr. Bishop - Residents should have received a flyer from the Hamilton County Public Health Lead Hazardous Reduction Program. Home built before 1978, mid-to-low income families, & household MUST include a child under 6 that lives or visits regularly or have a resident who is pregnant. Call 513-421-LEAD to find out if you qualify.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Bronner moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kroeger seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

X _____
Carla Albrinck
Clerk of Council

X _____
Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council