

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 5, 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, Mr. Thamann & Mrs. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve October 15, 2024 (Legislative) and October 29, 2024 (Special) Council Meeting Minutes made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco. Motion carried by voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION:

(1) **Brian Justice (1431 Bonnell):** Requested that Council reword Ordinance 452-13 to better define a “truck.” Also looking for leniency to park his truck in front of his home. Motion made by Mr. Bronner, seconded by Mr. Boehner to place this matter into Shelly Kroeger’s Safety Committee. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

(2) **Bob Ashbrock (221 Walnut Street):**

- Suggest that Council review meeting minutes when current ordinance was adopted and review video tape from that meeting.
- Raised concerns regarding the recent traffic change at Reading and Benson. Suggests a traffic study.

(3) **Anthony Kulhanek (1171 Becky Court):** Feral Cats that have taken residence on Becky Court. 18 feral cats living on the street. Resident at 1163 Alwil has been providing food for stray feral cats for years. The smell of cat feces and the cat droppings left in their yard is deterring his children from playing in the yard. This is unhealthy and he’s reached out to the Health Department (Andy) who is more than happy to step in. Would like Council to address this issue or they will be going to the media.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- August 2024 Mayor’s Court Monthly Disbursement Report

~ 174 Bench warrants Issued, 544 Cases Heard & \$29,353.00 Collected

- September 2024 Mayor’s Court Monthly Disbursement Report

~ 128 Bench warrants Issued, 540 Cases Heard & \$27,999.00 Collected

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 – 7:30 PM**

GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

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

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross

Our Reading Fire Departments Annual Turkey disposal will be on November 22 and 23 starting at 7 pm each night at the VYO Haffey fieldhouse. Proceeds from this raffle supplement operational expenses, training and fire prevention/safety education programs.

The annual City tree lighting and Crib dedication as well as our Holiday walk will be held on December 7 from 6pm till 9pm with Benson Street being closed from 5pm till 10pm

The house that we as a city purchased on Pike Street across the street from City Hall will be torn down soon and turned into a City parking lot.

We will begin closing the restrooms in our parks this week.

Leaf pick up by our Public Works department has begun. Please do not put the leaves on our streets keep leaves between the sidewalk and curb

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

Our Safety and Services Director Patrick Ross and our Fire Chief Todd Owens met with reps from the Council on Aging to discuss community wellness programs. We are hoping that they will host some senior citizen programs in our community in the not to distant future. More details to come.

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 has been allocated for this project.

Major improvements, approximately \$1.3 million dollars including \$650,000 in Grant dollars, have begun on Maple Drive. A new 8 inch in diameter water main, replacing an old 3 inch in diameter pipe, along with curb repairs, new aprons, one or two speed humps and new paving are all a part of this project.

We had a preconstruction meeting for the Koehler Avenue and Landy Lane road reconstruction projects that 50% of the total costs will be paid for using SORTA grant dollars. The contractor is hoping to complete the projects this year, but they may not be done until 2025

Please sign up for emergency alerts and warnings from Hamilton County Alert and Smart 911 at AlertHC.org
Please contact me anytime with any questions, comments, complaints or concerns at rbemmes@readingohio.org or 513-509-8619.

The tree removal (being handled through “Rooted in Community”) on Reading Road – trees are being replaced – it just takes time!

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

CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 – 7:30 PM

TREASURER: Brenda Owens

City of Reading
2024 October 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	\$77,164	-10.6%
October	\$56,061	\$63,966	\$52,893	\$47,668	-9.9%
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	\$1,191,087	
YTD Progress	\$1,127,797	\$1,123,063	\$1,122,618	\$1,191,087	6.1%

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	\$546,441	11.2%
October	\$549,184	\$606,041	\$580,966	\$575,534	-0.9%
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	\$5,831,537	
YTD Progress	\$5,405,800	\$5,485,837	\$5,522,954	\$5,831,537	5.6%

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	\$108,430	-8.5%
October	\$42,542	\$22,564	\$18,497	\$16,253	-12.1%
November	\$22,412	\$15,798	\$76,898		
December	\$87,159	\$48,456	\$53,959		
Yearly Totals	\$699,835	\$1,462,520	\$860,101	\$745,494	
YTD Progress	\$590,264	\$1,398,266	\$729,244	\$745,494	2.2%

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	\$732,034	5.2%
October	\$647,787	\$692,571	\$652,357	\$639,455	-2.0%
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	\$7,768,117	
YTD Progress	\$7,123,861	\$8,007,167	\$7,374,816	\$7,768,117	5.3%

Total Refunds	2021	\$115,450	2022	\$169,800	2023	\$666,149	2024 YTD Refunds =	\$93,702
----------------------	-------------	------------------	-------------	------------------	-------------	------------------	---------------------------	-----------------

Brenda A. Owens- City Treasurer 11/04/2024

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith: (No Report)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner

We will be voting tonight to allocate funds for two street improvement projects.

The first project is for repaving Bolser drive between Thurnridge and Sanborn. We will be sharing this expense with the Reading School district. If passed, the Cities \$42,950 portion will be paid from the 2210 Street Maintenance Fund.

The second is the \$145,000 Incinerator Lane improvements project. If passed, this expense would be paid using equal funds from the 2210 Street Maintenance Fund and the 2230 Streets and Curbs Fund.

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

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 – 7:30 PM**

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell

Yesterday evening I attended a Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting in Amberley Village. A proposed development on the North site behind the residences at the end of Maple Drive was seeking several variances.

I spoke about the need for a properly landscaped buffer between the residences and proposed landscaping company.

I also expressed concerns of exterior lighting and also the amount of traffic they will be potentially adding to the already over capacity Fuhrman Columbia intersection. The site plan calls for 122 parking spaces.

The applicant, Integrity Green Landscaping, reported that they currently employ between 20-30 people at this time but are anticipating significant growth.

I also expressed concerns about the back-up alarm for their loader in the outdoor storage area would disturb the residents of Maple Drive.

The variance request for the landscape buffer was denied and the variances for building façade, outdoor storage, and fence height were approved.

I will continue to follow this as I become aware of future meetings.

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco (No Report)

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger

Police Department run count for October, 2024

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| • Calls for service | 1180 |
| • Auto Accidents | 26 |
| • Booking Original Charges | 104 |
| • Total Criminal Charges | 135 |

Citations Issued

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| • Hamilton County | 8 |
| • Arlington Heights | 41 |
| • Juvenile | 1 |
| • Reading Mayor's | 161 |

Total Citations	213
------------------------	------------

Fire Departments run count for October, 2024

- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| • EMS Responses | 215 |
| • Fire Responses | 58 |

Total Responses	273
------------------------	------------

For the month of October, the police department had runs for disorderly conduct, dog bit, criminal damaging, auto accidents, OVI and theft. November 7th, we will be picking up 2 new Tahoes for service.

Fire prevention education program provided for Sts. P&P Academy on October 8th

Fire extinguisher training provided for Aluchem on October 9th

Participated in the Reading High School homecoming parade on October 11th

Hosted Reading Fire Department retiree luncheon on October 15th

Attended the Srs. of Notre Dame Halloween event on October 16th

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 – 7:30 PM**

The on-duty crew attended the Reading Elementary School Halloween parade on October 31st
Members attended the JCC fall picnic on November 1st

SERVICE: Bob Boehner

Reading Public Works Council Report November 4, 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 and the football fields throughout the city

City crews assisted the Fire Department with their Fire training center

City crew repaired catch basin on East Galbraith Rd near Lakeshore Dr

City crew installed new heaters in the Fire Department bays and the City garage

City crew repaired a water main leak in front of Vonderhaar's at 15 West Pleasant St

City crew assisted with the removal of the trees on Reading Rd and is in the process of widening some trees boxes and marking some bad trip hazards on the sidewalk for replacement

City crews have been in the process of tearing down the house across from City Hall, so far the yard has been cleaned and all debris removed and we are waiting for Duke to disconnect the Electric and gas services to the building

City crews are installing new steel doors at the restroom by the pool and at the stadium

TWO NEW DUMP TRUCKS CAME IN ORDERED 20 MONTHS AGO.

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 – 7:30 PM**

RECREATION: Scott Thamann

The Fire Department will be hosting their annual Turkey Raffle at the Haffey Fieldhouse, on the evenings of Friday and Saturday, November 22nd and 23, beginning at 7:00pm. This is the biggest fundraiser for our excellent fire department, so we would love to see large crowds.

In December, our Holiday Walk with Christmas Tree Lighting and Crib Dedication will be on the evening of Saturday, December 7.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PAY READING COMMUNITY CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT \$42,950.00 AS PART OF A PAVING PROJECT OF BOLSER DRIVE BETWEEN BOLSER AND SANBORN DRIVE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion Ordinance was declared a first reading only.

(2) AN ORDINANCE AWARDING A CONTRACT TO JOHN R. JURGENSEN FOR THE INCINERATOR LANE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED FORTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$145,000.00) DOLLARS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-39

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Boehner moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kroeger seconded. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

X _____
Carla Albrinck
Clerk of Council

X _____
Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council