

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – LEGISLATIVE SESSION
APRIL 15, 2025 – 7:30 PM**

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President of Council, 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:

Mayor Bo Bemmes & Clerk of Council Carla Albrinck

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve April 1, 2025 (Regular) Council Minutes Meeting made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried by voice vote.

GUEST SPEAKERS: NONE

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION:

COMMUNICATIONS:

(1) FEBRUARY 2025 Mayor's Court Monthly Disbursement Report

~ 145 Bench warrants Issued, 375 Cases Heard & \$27,911.00 Collected

MARCH 2025 Mayor's Court Monthly Disbursement Report

~ 157 Bench warrants Issued, 297 Cases Heard & \$25,311.00 Collected

(2) Ohio Division of Liquor Control

Letter from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control asking if the City of Reading requests a hearing on the advisability of issuing a Liquor permit for "Always A Bridesmaid Inc, DBA Carrie Karibo Bridal" (336 W Benson St., Reading, OH 45215).

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) *AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY & SERVICE DIRECTOR TO HIRE O'ROURKE WRECKING COMPANY TO DEMOLISH THE FORMER INCINERATOR BUILDING AND STACK 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 Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025-16

(2) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL FOP POLICE UNION, FOR A THREE YEAR CONTRACT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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 Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Bronner to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025-17

(3) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY & SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE VARIOUS ITEMS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mr. Bishop, 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 Mrs. Eadicicco to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025-18

(4) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2025-14 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, 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 2025-19

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Andy Bronner - Motion made by Mr. Bronner, seconded by Mr. Boehner, to put the matter of implementing a Vacant Building Registration ordinance into Katie Eadicicco's Laws and Contracts committee. Motion carried by a 7-0 voice vote.

Bob Boehner –

(1) Discussed amending Ordinance 2023-07 regarding the 2% fee on gross receipts of cable television franchisees' for the purpose of providing access for public and local access programming. Motion made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Bronner, to send this back to the Utilities, Lands & Building committee and come back with a revised, amended ordinance. Motion carried by voice vote.

(2) Would like to have ODOT come to Council to answer questions from the public regarding the recently proposed ODOT Reading Road changes. Mr. Bronner believes that request is a bit premature since the plans we received were preliminary. ODOT will be back, most likely in the Summer to address Council again. Mr. Boehner asked if we could get a picture the next time there is a major wreck on 75 that results in Reading Road backing up with the additional traffic.

Mark Bishop – Next Utilities, Lands & Building committee meeting will be on April 23 at 6:30 pm in the Caucus Room.

Bo Bemmes – Every day I, my administrative team, and each of our dedicated employees work very hard to provide the best possible City Services with the resources we are given. We do this by making sure, to the best of our abilities, that we maintain adequate staffing in each of our departments and providing them with the equipment and training that they need to do their jobs

while living within each department’s budget. Our constant goal is to protect life and property and through preparation and education prevent as many potential mishaps as is possible.

Through our District 2 Integrating Committee that distributes Ohio Public Works funding for infrastructure improvements we were awarded \$826,400 in grant dollars to improve all East Crest Drive (including water main improvements) all of Crestmont Drive and West Crest from Crestmont to Keith Drive. We were also awarded \$826,400 in interest free loan dollars to be able to complete the \$1,652,800 project.

I want to urge everyone to vote yes on State Issue 2 during the May 6 Primary Election. Passing this issue will allow for continued funding for the State Capital Improvement Program from which we have received dozens of 50% Grants to repave our residential streets, replace aging water mains, replace curbs and install new driveway aprons.

I want to thank our Reading Chamber of Commerce and our Reading Bridal district for all that they do to help keep the businesses that we have and their help in attracting new businesses to locate here.

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

Please sign up for emergency alerts and warnings from Hamilton County Alert and Smart 911 at AlertHC.org

Our Easter egg hunt is this Saturday April 19 at 10am at the VYO Haffey fieldhouse

Clean up Reading is on Saturday April 26. Please meet at 10am at Koenig Parks small shelter or at Saints Peter and Paul cemetery on Reading Road.

Please contact me anytime with any questions, comments, complaints or concerns at rbemmes@readingohio.org or 513-509-8619.

Kevin Mattscheck – Regarding the Police Department officer retention issue, suggests we talk to the Police Department to get to the root of the problem. Shelley Kroeger will take this into her committee and greater, deeper discussions will occur.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn came from Mr. Bronner, and was seconded by Mrs. Kroeger. Motion carried by voice vote. There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:11 pm.

X _____
Carla Albrinck
Clerk of Council

X _____
Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council