

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION
MAY 05, 2026 – 7:30 PM**

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President of Council, Kevin 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, Mr. Thamann, Mrs. Kroeger, & Mrs. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Bo Bemmes, Treasurer Brenda Owens, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Bronner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the March 17, 2026, and the April 21, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes made by Mrs. Eadicicco, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger. Motion carried by voice vote.

AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION:

(1) Robin Knight (2125 Bolser)

Robin Knight of Bolster Drive addressed council with questions regarding an ongoing situation at the police station. She expressed concern about allegations involving a city employee and questioned why the individual remained actively employed during the investigation. She compared the situation to professional standards in education, where individuals accused of serious misconduct are typically removed from active duty pending investigation.

Council responded that the matter falls under the administration and that the investigation is ongoing and being handled outside the city, limiting what officials can publicly discuss. It was confirmed that the employee remains active with the city. When asked whether administrative leave had been considered, officials reiterated that they could not comment further because of the ongoing investigation.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

GUEST SPEAKERS: Dwight Daum (Invited by Bob Boehner)

Discussion of Council Rules Regarding the General Public's Ability to Communicate with Council

Source: <https://www.readingohio.org/documents/Rules-and-Regulations-Governing-Council-2026-Final.pdf>

This presentation answers recent questions regarding how to communicate with City Council according to the Rules of Council as published on the City's website. A typed link in the header provides direct access to the April, 2026 version of the Rules. This version of the rules was adopted at the April 21, 2026 meeting, and future changes to these rules are likely. However, to my knowledge, existing or proposed Rules of Council have never been read during any open council meeting.

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Many people are simply unaware that these rules exist, what they say, or how to find them.

Rules Page and Paragraph	Rule	Effect
3, D	The Clerk shall, for the benefit of the audience, provide an agenda of the business to be considered by Council at each regular meeting. Copies of said agenda are to be placed inside the doors to Council Chambers. Items to be added to the agenda, such as resolutions, ordinances, executive sessions, and guest speakers shall be communicated to the Clerk of Council by a Council Member or Administration.	The public does not know what will be on the agenda in advance of the meeting.
4, 3	It is respectfully requested that the Clerk of Council be made aware of any Guest Speakers invited to Council no later than 5:00 PM on the Monday before the scheduled meeting. Please ask the Speaker to email their presentation to the Clerk of Council's email address for an accurate addition to the Minutes.	It is preferred that guest speakers be invited by a member of Council. Guest speakers are requested to email to the Clerk their entire presentation. 5 pm on the Monday immediately prior to the Guest Speaker's appearance is the cutoff for notification of the Clerk for inclusion on the Agenda.
4, 4	Should a Council Member instruct residents of the City of Reading to send Communications , it is respectfully requested to have them email the communications no later than 5:00 PM on the Monday before the scheduled meeting.	The preferred format for Communications to Council is email to the Clerk of Council, no later than 5pm on the Monday prior to the scheduled meeting.
6, E a 9, S a	A Guest Speaker is invited to speak and/or present to Council by a current City of Reading Council Member or by the current City of Reading Administration. The Council Member or City Administration shall inform the Clerk of Council of invited Guest Speakers 48 hours, if possible , prior to the scheduled meeting so that they may be added to the agenda. Guest Speakers giving an audio/visual presentation should inform the Council Member or Administration 48 hours, if possible, prior so arrangements can be made for the audio/visual equipment required for said presentation. Guest Speakers' presentations shall be sent to the Clerk of Council for distribution to Council Members for review. The video recording provider will receive a forwarded copy of the presentation to be added to the televised meeting	Guest speakers must be invited by a current council member or by current administration. The Clerk must be notified at least 48 hours ahead of time, <u>if possible</u> . Guest speakers presentations <u>must</u> be sent to the Clerk, so council can review it in advance.
7, F 1 9, T 6	It is requested that those wishing to speak shall sign up prior to the commencement of the meeting with the Clerk of Council. They shall give their name	Members of the public wishing to speak during Audience Participation must sign up with the Clerk of Council.

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Rules Page and Paragraph	Rule	Effect
7, F 1 a 9 T 6 a	Those wishing to speak before Council will be called in order of those who signed up with the Clerk of Council. The President of Council shall read the following before any requested Audience Participation:	Audience members will be called on in the order that they signed up to speak.
7, F 2 10, T 7	This is a meeting of the Council of the City of Reading made public for conducting the business of Council and is not to be considered a community forum. For those who wish to address Council, please approach the podium, and state your name. At this time, you will be allotted 5 minutes to speak. When you are finished speaking, please return to your seat and Council Members may comment or answer questions, if needed.”	Audience members have a 5-minute speaking limit. There will be no Q & A between Council and the audience member.
7, F 3 10, T 8	Each person shall state his/her name.	Standard introduction
7, F 4 10, T 9	Each person shall limit his/her business to five minutes .	Reiteration of the 5-minute speaking limit
7, F 5 10, T 10	Each person shall return to his/her seat in the audience after addressing Council.	Standard post-speaking action
7, F 5 a 10, T 10 a	If at any moment after Audience Participation a member of the audience has a question, the President of Council shall, on a majority vote of Council, ask the person(s) to approach the podium and ask their question. Once the question is asked, the audience member shall return to their seat.	This is an interesting addition to procedure that appears to allow the audience to ask questions throughout the remainder of the council meeting. As the rules do not state the method of signaling the desire to ask a question, presumably the normal raising of a hand should suffice. This will require the President of Council to monitor the audience for such questions.

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Rules Page and Paragraph	Rule	Effect
7, G 1 10, U 4	Communications that are received by the Clerk of Council shall not be read during Council meetings unless it pertains to official business upon which Council is required to be informed or take action. Any and all communications, whether read during Council meetings or not, shall be distributed to members of Council and the Administration.	A member of the public can send a communication to Council, but if its topic is not otherwise on the agenda, it will not be addressed at the meeting. People working 2nd shift and have no representative to speak for them during Audience Participation will not be heard . It is impossible to know by 5pm on Monday before the meeting what will be on the agenda, since the agenda itself is not published until just before the meeting begins, and even then, it is only available on paper inside the doors of the Council Chambers.
7, G 2 10, U 5	Communications shall contain sufficient and credible information to identify the author including the sender's true name, and at least one of the following: an email address, mailing address, telephone number, or other similar credible information to allow author's identity to be verified. Screen names or usernames do not constitute credible identifying information.	Many communications to council have been left unread, even though the subjects are of a serious nature and ought to be addressed by Council. Anonymous letters and emails will be ignored, even if the subject matter is on the Agenda.
8, G 3 10, U 6	Anonymous communications shall not be read at Council meetings. Communications appearing to be "bulk" in nature, such as form letters and mass mailings or mass emails, and/or spam in nature, shall not be read at Council meetings.	Reiteration of rule regarding anonymity
11, Special Meetings	The order of business for Special Meetings for (Special Session) conducting the business of Council will be prepared and distributed at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting with an appropriate order of business and shall only pertain to the subject matter for which the special meeting was called.	There is no Audience Participation portion, unless Council votes to modify the Agenda.

Council members' email addresses are formatted first initial + last name @readingohio.org all lower case. For example, if Montgomery Burns were a council member, his email address would be mburns@readingohio.org. If you want to send a letter via US Mail, write to: Clerk of Council, 1000 Market Street, Reading, Ohio 45215.

Purpose of the Presentation:

Guest speaker Dwight Dahm addressed council to explain the city council rules to residents watching online or attending meetings. He stated that many members of the public are unaware of the council procedures governing public participation, guest speakers, communications, and agendas.

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Mr. Dahm focused specifically on the rules related to public participation and guest speakers rather than the entirety of the council rules document.

He referenced the council rules approved on April 21, 2026, noting that updated rules had finally been published after a lengthy delay.

Discussion of Agenda Procedures:

Mr. Dahm reviewed council rules requiring agendas to be available for the public at meetings and explained that additions such as resolutions, ordinances, executive sessions, and guest speakers must be communicated to the clerk of council.

He observed that the public often does not know what will appear on the agenda until shortly before meetings begin.

Rules for Guest Speakers:

Mr. Dahm explained that guest speakers must be invited by either a council member or the city administration. The clerk of council should be notified at least 48 hours in advance if possible, and presentations should be submitted ahead of time for council review and inclusion in meeting records.

Council clarified that while 48 hours is preferred, 24 hours' notice is effectively the minimum requirement for approval as a guest speaker.

The discussion emphasized that guest speakers are intended to be formally invited participants rather than spontaneous presenters.

Audience Participation Rules:

Mr. Dahm reviewed procedures for audience participation, including the requirement that individuals wishing to speak sign up with the clerk of council before the meeting whenever possible. Speakers are called in the order they signed up.

He also reviewed the standard statement read before audience participation begins, including the five-minute speaking limit and expectations for speakers to return to their seats after addressing council.

A newer rule was discussed that allows audience members to ask questions later in the meeting if a council member motions for them to return to the podium and a majority of council approves.

Council leadership clarified that this process requires a formal motion and vote rather than informal audience interaction throughout the meeting.

Communications to Council:

Mr. Dahm explained the rules governing written communications submitted to council. Communications are distributed to council members and administration, but they are not always read publicly during meetings unless they relate to official business requiring council action or awareness.

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He noted concerns that residents may not know whether topics they care about will appear on agendas before submission deadlines. Some council members responded that communications concerning neighborhood issues or matters requiring committee review can still be acted upon even if not formally listed on the agenda.

Council also explained the rationale behind rules prohibiting anonymous or spam-style communications from being read publicly. These rules were adopted years earlier after council experienced problems with spam and unverifiable submissions.

Discussion of Special Meetings:

Mr. Dahm reviewed procedures for special meetings, noting that agendas for special sessions must be distributed at least 24 hours in advance when possible and should pertain only to the stated subject matter.

He referenced a previous special meeting concerning a road project where public participation had been limited.

Council Response and Clarification

Council member Mrs. Eadicicco thanked Mr. Dahm and emphasized that the rules are internal procedural guidelines rather than laws or ordinances. She explained that the rules are regularly reviewed and updated to reflect operational changes and compliance with Ohio Revised Code requirements.

She discussed the history of updating the rules after the COVID-19 pandemic and noted that the council rules committee reviews them each term to determine whether revisions are necessary.

Mrs. Eadicicco also clarified that Ohio law does not require agendas to be publicly posted by a certain deadline. She described the agenda as a “living document” that can change before or during meetings depending on circumstances such as guest cancellations or motions to amend.

She praised the clerk of council for managing agenda preparation and revisions while working full time.

Additional discussion followed regarding balancing flexibility with fairness, especially concerning deadlines for guest speakers and public submissions.

Council member Mr. Bishop stated that compared with many other communities, Reading’s council rules are relatively flexible and provide significant opportunities for public participation.

Agenda Amendment and Public Comment

A motion was made to amend the agenda to allow Mr. Cornelius Henderson to speak. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Mr. Cornelius Henderson addressed the council and introduced himself as a representative of Agape Love Ministries, located in the Crossroads condominiums area at 8050 Reading Road. He explained that the church is the only standalone building in that area and has been actively involved in community outreach efforts. These efforts include food pantry services, food giveaways, and partnerships with the fire department on various community initiatives.

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Mr. Henderson shared that the church adopted a fifth-grade class at Reading Elementary approximately a year ago and hopes to continue similar outreach efforts. He emphasized that the church is committed to being a positive presence in the community and intends to remain actively involved in local affairs.

He noted that the church purchased its building during the pandemic from another congregation and recently acquired adjacent land that was reportedly once the site of a movie theater. The church hopes to develop the property in a way that benefits the community.

Council members welcomed Mr. Henderson and expressed appreciation for the church’s mission and community programs, including tutoring, computer access for children, and daycare services. Mr. Henderson concluded by reiterating the church’s desire to serve the community and remain engaged with city leadership and residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco, to enter into Executive Session, for purpose of “to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing by division (G)(1) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code.” Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Council entered Executive Session at 8:01 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger, to come out of Executive Session at 8:24 p.m. and enter back into Regular Session. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

GUEST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL REPORTS:

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

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR: Patrick Ross:

Mr. Ross introduced a new resident communication platform called TextMyGov. He explained that the system is an extension of the city’s current code and zoning permit software and is intended to improve communication between the city and residents through text messaging.

The system will initially include two categories of notifications:

- **General Alerts:** Notifications about issues such as water main breaks, road closures, and snow emergencies.
- **City Events:** Notifications regarding city-sponsored events and activities.

A future expansion called “citizen engagement” will allow residents to interact directly with city services through text messaging.

Clarification on Emergency Alerts

Assistant Chief Ryan Andron clarified that TextMyGov is not intended to replace the Hamilton County emergency alert system used for critical life safety incidents. In emergencies such as hazardous material incidents

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or major disasters, the city will continue to rely on Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency communications and the federal emergency alert system.

Residents were encouraged to continue signing up for Alert HC notifications for severe weather and other emergency alerts.

How the TextMyGov System Works

Nick Berner explained that the city would begin sending initial opt-in text messages to residents the following day at approximately 1:00 PM using phone numbers already available in the city's database. These initial messages will enroll recipients in general citywide alerts only.

Residents who do not wish to receive alerts can opt out by replying "STOP." They may opt back in at any time.

Residents who do not receive the initial message can manually subscribe by texting "Reading" to 91896 for general alerts. To receive notifications about city-sponsored events, residents can text "Reading Events" to the same number.

The city also plans to:

- Post informational flyers throughout city buildings
- Share information through social media
- Add a sign-up widget to the city website
- Provide assistance through City Hall for residents needing help enrolling

Examples of future notifications include:

- Water main breaks
- Road closures
- Snow emergencies
- Public safety advisories
- Fireworks announcements
- Pool openings
- Holiday events
- Monthly event calendars

City officials also discussed plans to eventually narrow notification areas geographically so only affected neighborhoods receive certain alerts.

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Future Citizen Engagement Features

Officials described future plans for interactive features that would allow residents to communicate directly with city departments through text messaging.

Potential features include:

- Reporting code enforcement concerns
- Reporting streetlight outages
- Accessing permit information
- Scheduling city services
- Making payments online
- Receiving direct links to city resources

Officials emphasized that the system is intended to improve access to information, reduce unnecessary phone calls, and make city services more convenient for residents.

Council Discussion on Water Main Breaks

Council members discussed recurring water main break issues, particularly during winter weather. Concerns were raised about the burden placed on police and fire personnel responding to overnight water main breaks before public works crews can be contacted.

Officials explained that while emergency services still play an important role in identifying and responding to water main breaks, the future citizen engagement system may allow residents to directly report issues through keyword-based text messages that can automatically notify the appropriate public works personnel.

Council members emphasized the importance of improving response coordination and communication, especially during severe winter conditions and large water main failures that impact streets and neighborhoods.

Public Notification System Discussion

Council members discussed the city's notification software and whether it could support geo-fencing to contact only residents within a designated area. Officials explained that the current system relies on address-based notifications rather than the physical location of a resident's phone. The city already has addresses in its database, but staff are still working on a process to collect addresses from residents who opt in separately so those users can also receive targeted notifications.

A question was raised about whether push notifications could be sent based on a user's phone location through location services. Officials clarified that the city's system does not currently operate that way and instead uses registered addresses. However, emergency alerts tied to shelters-in-place or evacuation notices can be issued through Hamilton County Emergency Management using the federal emergency alert system, which can notify phones physically located within a geo-fenced area. Officials compared the system to AMBER Alerts, noting that many residents already have similar emergency notifications enabled on their phones.

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Council members expressed enthusiasm about the communication improvements, emphasizing that better communication has been an ongoing goal. The new notification system was described as a valuable companion to planned website upgrades and a tool that could reduce reliance on the city website for urgent updates.

The logo for TextMyGov is a green speech bubble with a black outline, containing the text "TextMyGov" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The speech bubble is positioned in the upper left quadrant of a black rectangular background.

TextMyGov

Randy Cook – Code & Zoning Official
Ryan Androne – Assistant Fire Chief
Nick Berter – Assistant Safety Service Director

- Extension of our Code Enforcement & Permitting Software
- Communication through text alerts for residents to receive important information
- Initially utilizing the City's current database of phone numbers
- Alerts will be separated into two categories:
 - General Information
 - City Sponsored Events
- Citizen engagement feature coming soon
- Will NOT replace alerts from Hamilton Co for critical, life safety emergencies

INITIAL OPT-IN

5/6/2026 @ 1PM

- Initial opt-in will automatically sign you up for City Wide General Notifications (READING)
 - ▢ Utilizing the City's current database of phone numbers
 - ▢ Reply with "STOP" if you would like to be opted out of notifications
- If you would like to receive notifications regarding City Sponsored Events you will then need to text "READING EVENTS" to 91896

ALTERNATIVE OPT-IN

- If you do not receive the initial opt-in to “READING”, please text “READING” to 91896
- If you would like to receive notifications regarding City Sponsored Events you will then need to text “READING EVENTS” to 91896
- Even if you initially opt out of receiving alerts you can also opt back in by completing the above
- There will be postings around city buildings, social media communications, and a widget attached to our website to sign up

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TextMyGov Announcement

The City of Reading is thrilled to introduce TextMyGov, a convenient and smart text messaging service! This service will enable residents to effortlessly receive important notifications.

The City of Reading will officially launch the new text messaging system to the public on **May 6, 2026**. Residents may receive a text message from **91896** from the City of Reading initiating the service. You can choose to opt-out at any time by texting **STOP**.

If you don't receive the initial message, you can choose to opt-in by texting one or both of the following keywords to the number **91896**. You can also look for the widget on our webpage (www.readingohio.org) to help with signing up.

READING (General Alerts)- Watermain breaks, road closures, pool signups, snow emergencies, etc.
READING EVENTS (Events)- Fireworks, Easter Egg hunt, pool opening, etc.

After sending the initial keyword, you will be asked to reply "YES" to confirm opt-in. You can choose to opt-out at any time by texting **STOP**.

The City of Reading's use of this technology is another example of how our community enhances resident services by implementing 21st-century solutions. We're excited about this new way of communicating with residents and look forward to sharing important city notifications. Other governmental entities across the country are utilizing this system with great success. Stay informed, stay ahead.

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT-Coming Soon! Included with this option you will be able to access information and report issues via text messaging

Sincerely,

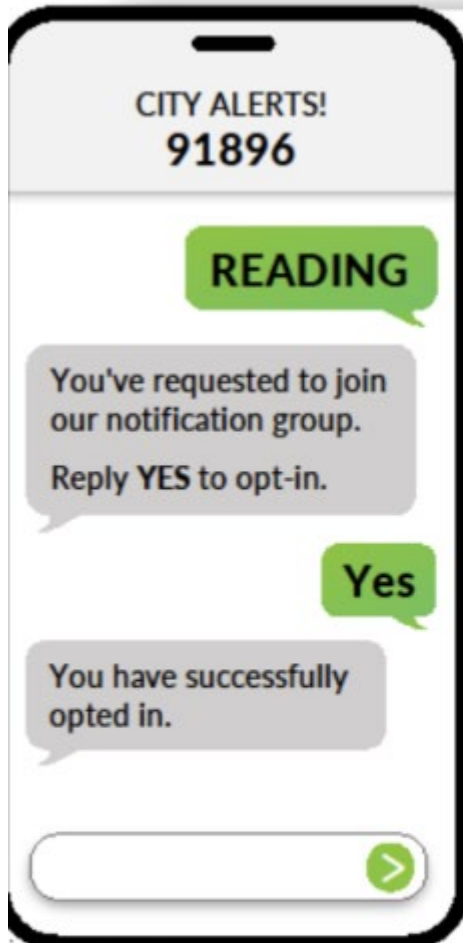
Robert "Bo" Bemmes
Mayor

View terms and privacy policy info at textmygov.com/opt-in-terms-conditions
Msg & Data rates apply. Please visit: <https://textmygov.com/>

City of Reading OH Text Alerts!

Get city updates sent directly to your phone via text message.

TextMyGov



Sign up to receive city text message notifications!

Get Started,

opt-in to any of the following notification groups:

- For City-wide General Notifications,
text **"READING"** to **91896**
- For Event Notifications,
text **"READING EVENTS"** to **91896**

What to Expect:

- After the initial keyword is sent, you will receive a confirmation message asking you to reply **YES** to verify opt-in.
- You may receive multiple text messages a month with a notification for the general notifications for things such as water main breaks and construction updates.
- You can text **STOP** at any time to remove yourself from ALL notification groups.

View terms and privacy policy info at: textmygov.com/opt-in-terms-conditions

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

TREASURER: Brenda Owens:

- April was a good month, and we are still working on getting tax returns processed! As far as the numbers, overall, we are still trending in the right direction. Net profits were better this month but do continue to still be low.

**City of Reading
April 2026 Income Tax Receipt Summary
With Prior Years Comparison**

Individual Residents Income Taxes

	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change 25 to 26
January	\$97,988	\$140,011	\$107,314	\$77,445	-27.8%
February	\$62,179	\$73,859	\$63,674	\$76,725	20.5%
March	\$120,959	\$127,546	\$133,559	\$175,888	31.7%
April	\$441,112	\$479,159	\$501,122	\$480,695	-4.1%
May	\$73,112	\$73,028	\$45,617		
June	\$117,960	\$80,804	\$103,558		
July	\$35,819	\$29,749	\$18,836		
August	\$34,271	\$62,099	\$39,350		
September	\$86,325	\$77,164	\$71,634		
October	\$52,893	\$47,668	\$84,036		
November	\$25,276	\$66,383	\$74,229		
December	\$49,879	\$130,517	\$45,375		
Yearly Totals	\$1,197,773	\$1,387,987	\$1,288,304	\$810,753	
YTD Progress	\$722,237	\$820,575	\$805,669	\$810,753	0.6%

Payroll Withholding Income Taxes

	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change 25 to 26
January	\$699,906	\$721,376	\$667,033	\$662,030	-0.8%
February	\$483,701	\$495,911	\$565,608	\$582,773	3.0%
March	\$477,447	\$561,572	\$561,705	\$532,355	-5.2%
April	\$701,491	\$733,139	\$732,277	\$730,171	-0.3%
May	\$480,917	\$502,943	\$546,264		
June	\$475,836	\$585,100	\$645,009		
July	\$671,451	\$561,747	\$578,310		
August	\$459,951	\$547,775	\$544,493		
September	\$491,289	\$546,441	\$541,657		
October	\$580,966	\$575,534	\$584,812		
November	\$482,419	\$539,195	\$661,935		
December	\$469,943	\$605,426	\$518,050		
Yearly Totals	\$6,475,316	\$6,976,158	\$7,147,153	\$2,507,329	
YTD Progress	\$2,362,545	\$2,511,998	\$2,526,623	\$2,507,329	-0.8%

Business Profits Income Taxes

	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change 25 to 26
January	\$21,712	\$72,579	\$95,461	\$21,302	-77.7%
February	\$17,868	\$30,745	\$56,538	\$23,752	-58.0%
March	\$100,690	\$58,593	\$58,013	\$36,568	-37.0%
April	\$231,557	\$162,557	\$222,222	\$238,651	7.4%
May	\$13,048	\$26,006	\$29,170		
June	\$136,640	\$143,130	\$148,898		
July	\$32,265	\$70,851	\$59,569		
August	\$38,469	\$56,349	\$14,598		
September	\$118,498	\$108,430	\$158,586		
October	\$18,497	\$16,253	\$50,267		
November	\$76,898	\$57,636	\$2,299		
December	\$53,959	\$45,256	\$52,632		
Yearly Totals	\$860,101	\$848,385	\$948,252	\$320,273	
YTD Progress	\$371,826	\$324,474	\$432,234	\$320,273	-25.9%

Total Income Taxes Collected

	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change 25 to 26
January	\$819,606	\$933,966	\$869,808	\$760,777	-12.5%
February	\$563,747	\$600,514	\$685,820	\$683,250	-0.4%
March	\$699,095	\$747,711	\$753,278	\$744,811	-1.1%
April	\$1,374,159	\$1,374,855	\$1,455,621	\$1,449,518	-0.4%
May	\$567,077	\$601,977	\$621,052		
June	\$730,436	\$809,034	\$897,460		
July	\$739,534	\$662,347	\$656,715		
August	\$532,692	\$666,223	\$598,441		
September	\$696,112	\$732,034	\$771,877		
October	\$652,357	\$639,455	\$719,115		
November	\$584,593	\$663,214	\$738,463		
December	\$573,781	\$781,199	\$616,057		
Yearly Totals	\$8,533,190	\$9,212,530	\$9,383,706	\$3,638,355	
YTD Progress	\$3,456,608	\$3,657,047	\$3,764,527	\$3,638,355	-3.4%

Total Refunds	2023	2024	2025	2026
	\$666,149	\$104,275	\$128,186	\$84,010

Brenda A. Owens- Treasurer 05/01/26

A letter from the Tax office to the Residents of Reading:
To the residents of Reading,

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As 2025 Tax Season comes to a close, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all taxpayers for your kindness, patience and timely filings. We truly appreciate the respectful interactions and kind feedback many of you shared with us. Your understanding and support help us carry out our responsibilities more effectively and serve the community with greater care. We remain committed to providing accurate, transparent, and helpful service throughout the year.

Thank you for being a valued part of our community.

AUDITOR: Sabrina Smith: *(No Report)*

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Andy Bronner *(No Report)*

UTILITIES, LANDS & BUILDINGS: Mark Bishop

On April 21, we had a meeting of the Utilities, Lands and Buildings Committee.

A discussion was had regarding the City's website and the purchase of a lighted sign to announce events, etc. We compiled a list of changes and discussed making improvements first, and addressing graphics second. Mr. Ross later informed me that the City was implementing TextMyGov, which would cover several of the desired modifications. A full list of suggestions from the meeting is attached.

Secondly, we discussed the purchase of a lighted sign. This would be a TV style sign with wi-fi connection to upload graphics. Cost would likely be between \$5000-\$18000 including some sort of wall or posts to support it, electricity, etc. depending on whether it's a 1-sided or 2-sided sign. Possible locations were discussed, but obstacles that would block the sign were considered. More location consideration will have to be done.

ZONING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT: Dave Powell: *(No Report)*

LAWS & CONTRACTS: Katie Eadicicco

My committee is still working on looking into hiring a grant writer. I plan on scheduling a phone call or meeting with Patrick and/or Bo by the end of the month to get their thoughts. I'm also doing some research on what other cities similar to Reading do, and what the pay is, and how the position works.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Shelly Kroeger:

Police Department run count for April, 2026

Calls for service	1,197
Auto Accidents	29
Booking Original Charges	103
Total Criminal Charges	176

Citations Issued

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Hamilton County	11
Arlington Heights	20
Juvenile	0
Reading Mayor's	176
Total Citations	207

Fire Departments run count for April, 2026

EMS Responses	194
Fire Responses	49
Total Responses	243

Police Runs

W. Mechanic St, assault reported, investigation pending
Reading Rd. at Maple St. suspect arrested on open felony warrants
2nd St. Suspicious vehicle, driver had open felony warrants
W. Benson St theft of package
Ohio Ave. criminal damaging, broken car window
OVI
Reading Rd. Domestic Violence
Jefferson Ave. theft of auto, keys and firearm left in unsecured vehicle
4th St. firearm stolen from unsecured vehicle
Lake Shore Dr. report of stolen vehicle

SERVICE: Bob Boehner: *(No Report)*

RECREATION: Scott Thamann:

We will have more pool sign up opportunities on May 9, and May 16, from 10 a.m to noon inside Haffey Fieldhouse.

Friday, May 22 – Monday May 25, the VYO will host their Memorial Day Festival at Koenig Park, featuring food, drink, games, rides for the kids, a softball tournament and a 3 on 3 basketball tournament.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Bob Boehner –

Discussion on E-Bikes, E-Scooters, Golf Carts, and Quad Runners

Council discussed growing concerns about e-bikes, e-scooters, golf carts, and quad runners operating throughout the city. A motion was introduced directing the Public Health and Safety Committee to review current regulations and determine whether additional local ordinances may be needed.

Concerns included:

- Riders operating on sidewalks instead of streets
- Children riding at unsafe speeds

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- Failure to obey stop signs and traffic laws
- Lack of helmets and safety equipment
- Noise complaints involving mini bikes and quad runners
- Illegal operation of golf carts on public streets

Council members noted receiving multiple resident complaints about unsafe behavior and near collisions involving pedestrians. One council member shared concerns that it may only be a matter of time before a serious accident occurs if additional measures are not considered.

Officials acknowledged that similar problems are occurring in many communities and referenced recent public guidance issued by the police department regarding e-bike regulations.

Mr. Boehner made a motion to refer the matter to the Public Health and Safety Committee for further review, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco. Motion carried by voice vote

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

READING OF RESOLUTIONS:

**(1) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT
AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE METRO TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE FUND PROGRAM(S)
AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-15R

READING OF ORDINANCES: NONE

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Boehner moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kroeger seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

X _____
Carla Bronner
Clerk of Council

X _____
Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council