

**READING CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, May 14, 2024
City Hall Council Chambers**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR MATTHEWS AT 6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Matthews, George, Matz, VanCamp and Penney, Sgt. Cooley and Kimberly Blythe, Manager/Clerk/Treasurer all present.

Guest: Randy Blythe, HCSSC; Noris Shaba, Lydia Maio, Kala Stebleton, and Kari Jo Rinard

PLEDGE TO ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Matz moved, Penney seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 9, 2024, Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for March 2024, Fire Board Minutes February 2024, TIFA/Planning Commission Packet April 2024 and payment of operating bills for April 2024 in the amount of \$149,109.95.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- None. Motion Carried (5-0)

GUEST: Randy Blythe, Facilities Coordinator-Hillsdale County Senior Center shared packets with updated information regarding the Centers Programs, number served from our community and answered questions. Mr. Blythe also mentioned that the HCSSC will begin Bingo on the first Thursday of every month beginning on Thursday, June 6, 2024 and this is open to the public.

FIRST CALL TO PUBLIC:

Noris Shaba introduced himself and stated that he was present to see what the City Councils thoughts were regarding the review of the City's Marihuana Ordinance and the number of Marihuana Retail Establishments.

OLD BUSINESS/ONGOING BUSINESS

MELS Project (Michigan/East/Lynn/Strong Street)

Updates-MELS Project bid advertisements went out on April 3, 2024 bid opening was amended to Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 1:30 pm at City Hall, 113 S. Main Street, Reading, MI. The change in the bid deadline is due to an amendment to the specs and agreement with MEDC, allowing an extension of the project deadline to August 31, 2025, this was done in hopes to attract contractors and more competitive bids on the project.

Rules of Order- City Attorney shared some revisions to the draft regarding the disorderly conduct section, public participation, public comment procedures and public hearings. After review of the revisions, Council moved to adopt.

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to approve the Rules of Procedure dated May 14, 2024 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- None. Motion Carried (5-0)

Property Acquisition Updates- 113 N. Main Street- There was a hiccup while the title company was completing the title search for title insurance, as a twenty foot by 60 ft strip of land located in the middle of the property to be purchased, was recorded under a different name. We were able to secure a quit claim from them and the closing for the property will take place on Thursday, May 23, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of MMFLA-MRTMA Ordinance # Licenses

Ordinance #2019-02 adopted on May 14, 2019 in Section III, Part 2-it states that every five years the Council shall review the maximum number of each type of marihuana establishment allowed and determine whether this maximum number should be changed. After discussion regarding this, including that considering there are still empty storefronts and there have not been any issues with the number we currently have the following motion was made:

-Matz moved, VanCamp seconded to work on amendment to the Ordinance to increase the number of Marihuana Retailers from three to five.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- George. Motion Carried (4-1)

This information will be shared with the City Attorney to review and provide an amendment to the Ordinance to be adopted at either the June or July meeting.

Traffic Control Order 2024-01- East State Street-No Stopping/Standing/Parking Anytime

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to approve Resolution 2024-04 making TCO 2024-01 permanent traffic Control Order for no stopping/standing/parking anytime on East State Street, between Main Street and Strong Street.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- None. Motion Carried (5-0)

Bond Resolution 2024 Capital Imp Bonds (MELS Project)

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to approve resolution 2024-05 authorizing Bonds; Bond Terms to be issued in an aggregate amount of not to exceed Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand for the purpose of paying costs of the project on Michigan, East, Lynn and Strong Street(s).

Roll Call Vote Required

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- None. Motion Carried (5-0)

Approval for Renovations to the Concrete at Rotary Park

-Matz moved, VanCamp seconded to approve the quote from Santure Construction & Concrete for the replacement of a 45'x60' part of the Basketball Court at Rotary Park in the amount of \$16,200.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- None. Motion Carried (5-0)

Approval for Repairs of Retaining Wall and Pavers JB Garden

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to approve the quote from Santure Construction in the amount of \$16,900 for the replacement of the brick-pavers with concrete floor as well as the addition of a retaining block wall with cap on the south side and replacement of any the boards on the other three sides of the gardens.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,
Nays- None. Motion Carried (5-0)

Both of the projects were included in the 2023/2024 budget and CIP as part of many upgrades and renovations including Rotary Park, JB Gardens, Waterworks Park. JB Garden will also see new lights to replace the old ones as well as Waterworks Park and Rotary Park will both be getting new safety surfacing materials.

Set Budget Hearing for 2024/2025 Budget

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to set the 2024/2025 Budget hearing as part of the regular meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Motion carried (5-0)

The hearing will not only include the proposed budget, but also will include rate increase(s) for water, sewer, and refuse. Cemetery Rate Schedule, Cemetery Rules, Miscellaneous Charges, etc. The 2024 Tax Millage rate will also be discussed.as well as discussion of the CIP Plan for the Planning Commission review and Hearing.

2024-General Municipal Election

Council and guests were reminded that there will be a General Municipal election held on Tuesday, November 6, 2024, to elect one person to be Mayor and two people to the Office of Councilor. The term for Mayor would be from January 1, 2025 through January 1, 2027, and the two Councilor Terms would be January 1, 2025 through January 1, 2029. Petitions need to have at least fifteen signatures, but no more than 25 and need to be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at 4pm with the City Clerk/Treasurer. Petition Packets are available at City Hall and can be picked up during regular business hours.

Additional comments from City Council – City Council discussed a proposed lease that Reading Community Schools would like the City to approve and sign regarding the School leasing the Ball Field that is located at Magic Square. Council was shared the lease as proposed by the School Attorney with proposed revisions/amendments by the City Attorney. It was the consensus of the City Council that the draft as presented by the City Attorney looked fine. City Council did however want to note that they do not feel that a lease is necessary for this.

SECOND CALL TO PUBLIC:

No comments

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next meeting is set for June 11, 2024 at 6:30 pm City Hall Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer