

**READING CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, January 14, 2025
City Hall Council Chambers**

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

PLEDGE TO ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: George, Matz, Gary & Penney present. Also present, Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer and Sgt. Cooley

Guests: Todd Crank, Simon Clabaugh, Chris Clabaugh, Jim Clabaugh, Melani and Val Matthews, Steve Nemeth, and Mark Wiley

Jennifer Wertz arrived at 7:45 pm

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

-Matz moved, George seconded to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion Carried (4-0)

Agenda was amended to add a Mayor Pro-Tempore

CONSENT AGENDA

-George moved, Matz seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2024, as well as the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for November 2024, payment of operating bills for December 2024 in the amount of 81,448.78 as well as receive and file the TIFA/PC Packet for December 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, Gary, and Penney Absent-None

Nays- None. Motion Carried (4-0)

Communications with the Council

The following correspondence were shared with the City Council: Economic Development Partnership of Hillsdale County-Sponsorship Letter and Reading City Planning Commission Notice of Special Use Hearing for Vibe-January 27, 2025

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mark Wiley, County Commissioner shared updates from the County regarding hiring of an Emergency Management Director due to the position being vacated. Also, mentioned the procurement of the bond for the 800 MHz Radios & Equipment Project, and shared that they received a report on the completion of the Court House renovations and repairs.

Questions regarding whether there was a Vybe located in Quincy, as well as mentioned that Jim Clabaugh did not submit a letter of interest for Council Appointment due to health reasons.

OLD BUSINESS/ONGOING BUSINESS

MELS (Michigan/East/Lynn/Strong) Project Updates No updates currently.

Lease-Reading Community Schools -Softball Field

We are still waiting at the school to approve and sign the lease once that is done, I will make sure you receive a copy for your binder.

SRO-Reading Community Schools

SRO Position is vacant, as the individual who was hired to take the SRO Position, resigned from the position. The position has been re-posted, and we also posted a part-time or full-time officer position. We will see what applications we receive and go from there. We are hoping that we at least get some information from the school on whether they are going to be able to agree to the original 1480 hours requested of an SRO, or if they will only want limited hours for this position. This will help us determine the individual and position to hire. The postings are available on MCOLES (Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards) and the City's Website.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment to Council Vacancy & Waiver of 15-day Notice of Nomination

-Gary moved, Matz seconded to waive the 15-day Notice Requirement for the nomination to fill the current council vacancy.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, Matz, Gary, and Penney Absent-None
Nays- None. Motion Carried (4-0)

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to appoint Allen VanCamp to the current council vacancy.

First-ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- Matz and Penney; Nays- George and Gary (Motion Tied 2-2)
Second- ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- Matz and Penney; Nays- George and Gary (Motion Tied 2-2)
Third- ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- Penney; Nays- George, Matz and, Gary (Motion Failed 1-3)

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to appoint Steve Nemeth to the current council vacancy

First-ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- Matz and Penney; Nays- George and Gary (Motion Tied 2-2)
Second- ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- Penney; Nays- George, Matz, and Gary (Motion Failed 1-3)
George stated he was saving his vote for his friend.

-Penney moved, Matz seconded to appoint Todd Crank to the current council vacancy

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas-George, Matz, Gary, and Penney; Nays- None
(Motion Carried 4-0)

Request-Hutchinson FTS-Reduction Utility Bill September-December 2024

-Gary moved, Matz seconded to approve a discount to Hutchinson as requested.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- None; Nays-George, Matz, Gary, and Penney
(Motion Failed 0-4)

Compliance of PA 152 of 2011-Resolution 2025-01

-Gary moved, Matz seconded to adopt Resolution 2025-01 the annual exemption option as set forth in 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas-George, Matz, Gary, and Penney; Nays- None
Motion Carried 4-0

Adoption 2025 Meeting Schedule & Rules of Order

-Matz moved, Gary seconded to approve the 2025 Meeting Schedule as presented. (Motion Carried 4-0)

Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tempore

-George moved, Gary seconded to appoint Rebecca Matz as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas-George, Matz, Gary, and Penney; Nays- None
Motion Carried 4-0

Next Meeting February 11, 2025 -6:30 p.m.

SECOND CALL TO PUBLIC

It was mentioned again if there has been or will be anything done about the political sign shenanigans.

State Representative Jennifer Wortz was introduced and shared some of the items that the State House of Representatives are working on, one item of which is a bill to be voted on regarding the new Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA). Requested letters regarding this Act be sent to her office supporting the bill that would change the requirement to employers of 50 or more.

- Matz moved, Gary seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried (5-0)
Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer