

**READING CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, June 23, 2026
City Hall Council Chambers**

MAYOR PENNEY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:30 P.M. AND LED THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

ROLL CALL: George, Crank, Gary, Matz, and Penney present. Also present, Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer; Melani Matthews, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Cemetery Administrator; Mark Hodshire, RPD Chief; Rob Cooley, RPD Sgt
Guests: Chris Clabaugh, Chuck Hartshorn, Steve Nemeth, Nick and Pam Pfeiffer, Carl and Linda McLain, Andy Britton, KariJo Rinard, Rob Thorp, Rakisha Champion, Cortney and Aaron Osburn, Adrien Miller, Simon Clabaugh, Andy and Megan Gollnick, Kelly Albright

Matz moved, Gary seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried (5-0).

CONSENT AGENDA

Matz moved, Gary seconded to approve the Consent agenda as presented, which includes the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 9, 2026. Motion carried (5-0).

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL – None

2026-2027 Budget Hearing

Mayor Penney closed the meeting and opened the Budget Hearing at 6:32 PM. Citizens had questions regarding the rates for the water and sewer services, expenditures regarding employee compensation, and how the funds are appropriated. There were concerns regarding various areas of the City where possible repairs are needed. Two people voiced concerns about the utility rates being raised. A comment suggesting no raises for anyone except the police department. There was a question regarding what the current account balances are. Balances were shared with guests that were from the April Balance Sheet that had been given to City Council for the July 9, 2026, meeting and approval to file. There was a comment regarding the hiring of a water/sewer operator and suggestions for regarding hiring an operator. Discussion regarding various storm drains which don't appear to be draining properly and some concerns within the MELS project regarding drainage and potential street degradation due to no curbs or gutters. With no further comments or questions, Crank moved, Matz seconded to close the budget hearing. Motion carried (5-0). Budget hearing closed at 7:03 PM.

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- Chris Clabaugh formally requested that Council not increase utility rates or taxes.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS

A. Traffic Control Order 2026-01 – No Stopping, Standing, or Parking on East and Lynn Streets

- No updates at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 2026-08 Approval of the 2025-2026 Budget Amendments

- Crank moved, Gary seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-08 approving the FY 2025/2026 Budget Amendments as presented.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas – George, Crank, Gary, Matz, and Penney; Nays – None; Motion Carried (5-0).

B. Resolution 2026-09 2026-2027 budget Resolution & Ad Valorem Millage Levy

- Matz moved, Crank seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-09 approving the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Activity Budget, appropriation of funds, and approving the 2026 Property Tax Millage.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas – Crank, Gary, Matz, and Penney; Nays – George; Motion Carried (4-1).

The Millage rate that was approved is a slight decrease over the previous year's millage rate of 12.2454, and the new millage rate will be 12.1768.

C. Resolution 2026-10 Capital Improvement Plan

- Matz moved, Gary seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-10 approving the 2027-2031 Capital Improvements Plan as recommended by the Planning Commission.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas – Crank, Gary, Matz, and Penney; Nays – George; Motion Carried (4-1).

D. 2026-2027 Water/Sewer/Refuse Rates

- George moved, Matz seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-11 establishing the Water, Sewer, and Refuse Rate Schedules for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, effective July 1, 2026.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas – none; Nays, George, Crank, Gary, Matz, and Penney. Motion defeated (5-0).

E. Resolution 2026-12 2026-2027 Cemetery Rates Resolution*

- George moved, Gary seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-12 approving the Cemetery Rate Schedule as presented.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas – George, Crank, and Penney; Nays – Gary and Matz. Motion carried (3-2).

F. Resolution 2026-13 Appointment and Rescission of FOIA coordinator*

- Matz moved, Gary seconded to appoint the Chief Deputy Clerk/Treasurer as the FOIA coordinator for the City of Reading and rescind the prior appointment of the City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas – George, Crank, Gary, Matz, and Penney; Nays – None; Motion Carried (5-0).

G. Next Meeting – Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 6:30 PM

These resolutions will be renumbered to 2026-11 and 2026-12 respectively, due to the original resolution numbered 2026-11 being defeated

SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- Chris Clabaugh confirmed the millage rates and budget were approved.
- Chuck Hartshorn reminded the council of their responsibility of representing the people.

Crank moved, Gary seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried (5-0).

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melani Matthews, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Cemetery Clerical Adm