

**City of Reading City Council
Special Meeting
July 18, 2022**

Council President Cepeda-Freytiz called the special meeting to order at 5:04 pm and announced that the purpose of this meeting is to consider the appointment of Redevelopment Authority Board members.

ATTENDANCE

Council President Cepeda-Freytiz
Councilor Daubert, District 1
Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz, District 2
Councilor Ventura, District 3
Councilor Butler, District 4
Councilor Reed, District 5
City Clerk L. Kelleher
Council Solicitor M. Gombar
City Solicitor F. Lachat
Mayor E. Moran
Acting Managing Director F. Denbowski

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Cepeda-Freytiz opened the floor for public comment. No one pre-registered and no member of the public stepped forward when the Council President inquired if anyone present wished to make a statement. The public comment period was closed.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council President Cepeda-Freytiz called Council's attention to the agenda for this meeting, and she inquired if anyone objected to the legislation listed. No one objected.

The agenda for this meeting was approved by acclimation.

RESOLUTION

The Council Solicitor explained that the Reading Redevelopment Authority (RRA) is a board of five (5) members. As there is only currently only one (1) member remaining, Council needs to consider making 2-3 appointments to establish a quorum and allow RRA business to proceed. He stated that interviews were conducted over two (2) separate evenings based on the applicants' availability. Each applicant was scored based on their responses to questions from Council members. He stated that tonight Council can make nominations from the floor.

Councilor Daubert inquired if the body of Council preferred making two (2) or three (3) appointments, noting that two members of Council were unavailable for the second round of interviews and the body of Council did not have any deliberations about the appointments.

Council President Cepeda-Freytiz suggested that Council appoint two (2) members tonight and delay the third appointment until next Monday's regular meeting, which will allow Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz and herself time to complete and submit a scoring sheet for the remaining applicants. Both Councilors stated that they watched the recording of the interviews.

Councilor Daubert agreed with the appointment of two (2) individuals tonight and to allow further consideration at the July 25th COW.

Following a discussion, Councilor Reed noted that City Council is not being exclusionary to the other applicants, but allowing the Councilors who were unavailable for the second round of interviews on July 11th time to complete and submit their scoresheets so their input is also considered by the group prior to any additional appointments. *Note: all six (6) Councilors attended the first round on July 5th when Mr. McMahon and Mr. Miller were interviewed.*

Councilor Daubert moved, seconded by Councilor Reed, to adopt Resolution 114-2022 to appoint Thomas McMahon to a term expiring December 31, 2022 and John Hill, Jr. to a term expiring December 31, 2023.

The mayor stated that he recently heard that former mayor McMahon is currently out of town and that he may not be available for the upcoming meeting, which creates a quorum problem for this board.

The City Clerk noted that this board usually holds hybrid meetings so virtual attendance is available.

Councilor Reed and the City Clerk noted that Mr. McMahon is connected virtually to this Special Meeting.

Council President Cepeda-Freytiz welcomed Mr. McMahon and inquired if he is available either in-person or virtually for the upcoming meeting. Mr. McMahon stated that he is available for the meeting.

Resolution 114-2022 making the two appointments as stated above was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas – Butler, Cepeda-Freytiz, Daubert, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Reed, Ventura - 6

Nays: None 0

Councilor Reed moved, seconded by Councilor Daubert, to adjourn the special meeting of Council.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher CMC, City Clerk