

City of Reading

Plumbing Board Minutes

December 7, 2022

The meeting was held at the Wastewater Treatment Plant 899 Morgantown Road.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by President William Gernert.

Board members present at the meeting:

William Gernert

Barry Unger

Chip Fegely

Donald Snyder

Frank Foster

Chad Spohn

Also Present: Chief Plumbing Inspector Jay Montgomery

There were also four guests from the Reading Master Plumbers Assn.

Carlos Belilla, Larry Messina, Kyle Herbine and Chad Mauer.

Old Business:

The September 7, 2022 minutes were read, Donald Snyder made a motion to approve the minutes, it was seconded by Chip Fegely. Motion approved.

Jay Montgomery informed the board that the amendments to the code that the board submitted still were not accepted but the City of Reading's legal team is working on the process.

New business:

There were two new applicants for Master plumber.

David Hottenstein's application was approved, he will schedule testing at his earliest convenience.

Jobb Armao must fill out an application and get it approved. Mr. Armao passed the test on an earlier date, he must prove that he meets all of the other criteria before the board will approve a license.

The Board discussed that Brian Miller has not been in attendance for a year and believes this position should be filled by someone more committed to the betterment and protection of the City of Reading.

Jay Montgomery said he will share our concerns with Linda Kelleher.

The four guests from the Reading Master Plumbing Assn. voiced their concerns about the City of Reading lowering the criteria for the plumbing inspector from 10 years experience to 5 years of experience. They expressed to the board that in no way does this help protect the residents of the City of Reading. It takes a minimum of 6 years experience to meet the criteria to be able to take the Master's test. The City of Reading agenda memo From Jamal F. Abodalo, Community Development Director, prepared by Christopher W. Gelz dated November 14, 2022 submitted to City Council if approved, would make it possible for a plumber who has not reached the level of Master Plumber to be the Plumbing Inspector and nowhere in the memo does it state that he must be a Master Plumber. The board agreed with the guests and explained that the board will investigate this matter and thanked them for showing support for the plumbing community.

A Motion was made by Will Gernert to adjourn and it was seconded by Barry Unger.

Submitted by,
Chad Spohn,
Recording Secretary.