



CITY COUNCIL

Committee of the Whole

Monday, November 2, 2015

5:00 pm

Agenda

Although Council committee meetings are open to the public, public comment is not permitted at Council Committee of the Whole meetings. However, citizens are encouraged to attend and observe the meetings. Comment from citizens or professionals during the meeting may be solicited on agenda topics via invitation by the President of Council.

All electronic recording devices must be located behind the podium area in Council Chambers and located at the entry door in all other meeting rooms and offices, as per Bill No.27-2012.

I. Interview Steve Symons – appointment – Water Authority

Application Form below

Nom & Appts outtake below

II. Budget Review

Library, Fire, CD

III. Review Parking Lot

IV. Adjourn



CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor
FROM: Shelly Katzenmoyer, Deputy City Clerk
DATE: September 10, 2015
SUBJECT: Appointment Application

The Council office has received the attached BAC application from Steve Symons. Mr. Symons is applying for membership to the Reading Area Water Authority.

Please let the Council office know if you will endorse the appointment of this applicant.

Yes, I will endorse the appointment of this applicant for membership to RAWA!

Joseph D. Spencer

RECEIVED
SEP 30 2015

BY: mak





CITY OF READING
BOARDS AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS
APPLICATION FORM

Article X of the City of Reading Home Rule Charter encourages the participation of citizens in their government through the establishment of Boards, Authorities and Commissions to carry out City business. Broad citizen participation is encouraged in the recruitment of appointees and in making appointments.

No appointee of any board, authority, or commission shall hold any other elected public office or any compensated position for the City. No person may serve concurrently on more than one board, authority or commission. The Charter requires all appointees to be residents of the City of Reading. At the discretion of Council, persons not residing in the City may be appointed if they have a significant property holding or business interest in the City.

Name: Steven J Symons
Address: 8 Hidden Brook Way Sinking Spring PA 19608
Years living at this address: 10
Date of Birth: 1/21/67
Occupation: Plumber
Place of Employment & Address: GMI First - Partner
328 Buttonwood St
Reading PA 19606
Telephone: Day (484) 256-8266 Evening _____
E-mail: ssymons@gmifirst.com

RECEIVED
JUN 09 2015
BY: mak

If you need more space for any of the questions below, please use the back of this form.
If you have a current resume, please attach it to this completed application.

1. What Board, Authority or Commission are you interested in serving on? Why?

RAWA

2. In your opinion, what is the primary purpose of this board?

3. What skills, abilities or other characteristics do you have that will help the Board successfully achieve its purpose?

Master Plumber
City of Reading Plumbing Board
State Apprenticeship Program Instructor

4. Have you had any previous experience with this particular board? If yes, please describe.

No

5. Have you served in any other volunteer roles in the community? (e.g. youth organizations, church, etc.) Please list.

Muhlenberg youth sports
Reading Muhlenberg Vo-tech youth peer

6. Have you ever been employed by the City of Reading? If so, please list.

No

7. In a business relationship, have you ever provided goods or services for the City? If so, please describe?

No

8. Have you served previously on any other City of Reading Board, Authority, or Commission or in any other advisory capacity? If yes, please list the position and date(s) of service.

Plumbing Board City of Reading

9. Are you currently a registered voter? Yes No

10. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No

11. Do you own any properties or businesses in the City? If so, please list?

NO

12. Do you have any water/sewer bills, property taxes, codes violations, or fines which are delinquent for 6 months or longer? If so, please list and provide explanation.

NO

I verify that the statements made in this application are true and correct. I understand that any false statements herein are made subject to penalties of 18 PA.C.S. 4904, relating to unsworn falsification of authorities. I consent to and authorize, without reservation, the City of Reading to obtain information relating to my law enforcement record, convictions for other than Summary Offenses, my tax payment record (including all applicable taxes payable to the City of Reading), and my utility payment record. Convictions will not automatically disqualify the applicant. I authorize each applicable agency to which this form is presented to release any results, upon request of the City of Reading, as described above. Copies of this consent that show my signature are as valid as the original signed by me. This consent is valid until the termination of my application process or my affiliation with the City of Reading, whichever is later.

Steven J Symons
Printed Name

[Signature]
Signature

6/8/15
Date

Please return the completed form to the

**City Clerk's Office
Office 2-24
815 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601**



CITY COUNCIL

Nominations & Appointments Committee

**Monday, July 20, 2015
Meeting Report**

Attendance: D. Sterner, M. Goodman-Hinnershitz

Others Attending: B. Rivera, F. Denbowski

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz.

I. Interviews

Steven Symons (appointment - RAWA)

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned why Mr. Symons is interested in serving on this board. Mr. Symons stated that he currently sits on the Plumbing Board and has served there for the past five years. He stated that because he sits on the Plumbing Board, he has experience with how boards conduct business. He stated that he was a resident of the City for many years and expressed the belief that no one who has served on the RAWA Board has had a plumbing background. He believes that his skills as a plumber will be beneficial to the RAWA Board.

Mr. Sterner questioned if Mr. Symons encountered any situations while serving on the Plumbing Board involving the tampering of meters. Mr. Symons stated that he has not had any experience with that and he credited Mr. Montgomery, the City's Plumbing Inspector, for keeping those issues from getting to the Plumbing Board.

Mr. Symons stated that most of the business of the Plumbing Board consists of homeowners and tenants trying to do their own work without following the code and obtaining permits.

Mr. Symons stated that he has been involved in the plumbing trade for 35 years and was formerly a UGI supervisor when he retired with 20 years of service. He expressed the belief that he would be an asset to the RAWA Board.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned what Mr. Symons's understanding of RAWA is and how it operates. Mr. Symons stated that he understands RAWA to be their own entity, operating on their own.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that though they operate on their own, the water system is still owned by the City and must comply with the Authorities Act.

Mr. Sterner questioned if Mr. Symons had an opinion about the recent discussion regarding the billing issues at RAWA. Mr. Symons stated that he believes RAWA should focus on their line of expertise which is water; it is what RAWA does well.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned what Mr. Symons believes RAWA does exceptionally well. Mr. Symons stated that his dealings with RAWA have always been positive.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned what Mr. Symons believes RAWA could improve. Mr. Symons stated that it wouldn't be fair to answer that question not fully knowing all the pertinent information.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if Mr. Symons would be available to attend RAWA meetings. Mr. Symons responded that his commitments would not interfere with attending meetings as necessary.

Mr. Sterner and Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked Mr. Symons for his time and his interest in serving on the RAWA board.