

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, May 14, 2007**

A regular meeting of City Council was held on the above date for the transaction of general business.

Vaughn D. Spencer, President of Council, called the meeting to order at 7: 15p.m.

The invocation was given by Reverend Nicholas Camacho of Emanuel United Methodist Church.

All present pledged to the flag.

**ATTENDANCE**

Council President Spencer  
Councilor Fuhs, District 1  
Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz, District 2  
Councilor Sterner, District 3  
Councilor Marmarou, District 4  
Councilor Baez, District 5  
Councilor Waltman, District 6

Mayor T. McMahan  
City Solicitor C. Younger  
Deputy City Clerk C. Kanezo  
City Auditor D. Cituk  
Public Works Director C. Jones

**PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Council Commendation:**

Recognizing Anti Gun violence initiatives, accepted by Kathy Long.

Recognizing Historic Preservation month, accepted by Amy Johnson, City of Reading Historic Architecture Preservation Specialist.

## **Mayoral Proclamations:**

Recognizing Public Works Week, accepted by Charles Jones, City of Reading Public Works Director.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Council President Spencer announced that four citizens were registered to address Council; three on agenda matters and one on non-agenda matters. He inquired if Council objected to suspending the public speaking rules to allow all to address Council during the agenda comment portion of the agenda. No one objected; therefore, the public speaking rules were suspended.

**Fred Schaeff**, of the United Labor Council, urged Council to adopt a proposed resolution, which would call upon the United States Congress to support the Employee Free Choice Act. Mr. Schaeff stated the act would provide the tools of upward mobility to millions of Americans and particularly benefit the residents of Pennsylvania. Mr. Schaeff explained the Employee Free Choice Act would penalize employers who interfere with union organization. The adoption of the resolution by Council would enable Reading to join other municipalities across the state that have similarly adopted like resolutions.

**Cecelia Zuber**, of Douglass Street, expressed the belief that City Council and the Administration tend to be dismissive of the citizens of Reading. Ms. Zuber felt this attitude is attributable to misplaced feelings of anger and resentment, over the electoral defeat of the proposed municipal trash program. Ms. Zuber stated the proposed amendments to the Solid Waste Ordinance are nothing but a slap in the face to the independent trash haulers and City voters, both of whom overwhelmingly rejected the concept of municipal trash. Ms. Zuber advised Council and the Administration to work with the citizenry, not against it.

**Dr. Thomas Noller**, of Penn Street, discussed the large number of Medicaid recipient residing in the greater Reading area. According to Dr. Noller many Medicaid recipients are unaware of the tremendous waste and fraud occurring within the system. Dr. Noller asked City Council to consider holding investigations into the fraudulent activity of HMO providers and Medicaid administrators.

**Michael Schorn**, of Palm Street, began by describing the many years he and his family have resided in north east Reading and the many positive experiences the Schorn family has had, particularly with Albright College. Mr. Schorn noted recent events taking place at off campus houses, rented by Albright students are tarnishing the reputation of a venerable institution. Mr. Schorn discussed the need for reconciliation and offered to mediate the ongoing dispute. Mr. Schorn also criticized many in the real estate investment community for failing to contribute and at times exacerbating the current situation.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Council President Spencer called Council's attention to the agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the April 23, 2007 regular meeting of Council. He stated that with the approval of the agenda Council will also be approving the legislation under the consent agenda heading. Councilor Fuhs requested the resolution endorsing the Employee Free Choice Act be removed for discussion, Council President Spencer asked to remove the resolution approving the RACP grant application.

**Councilor Marmarou moved, seconded by Councilor Baez, to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2007 regular meeting of Council and the agenda including the legislation listed under the consent agenda heading. The motion was approved unanimously.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Resolution-** upgrading street lights in front of 126 Plum Street, 1451 Centre Avenue and 1619 Centre Avenue. **(Traffic Engineering)**

**Resolution-** directing Met-Ed Energy to upgrade a company owned street light fixture, from a 175 watt mercury vapor to a 100 watt high pressure sodium vapor, located in front of 729 Miltmore Street. **(Traffic Engineering)**

**Resolution-** directing Met-Ed Energy to upgrade a company owned street light fixture, from a 250 watt mercury vapor to a 150 watt high pressure sodium vapor, located at the intersection of Front and Spring Streets. **(Traffic Engineering)**

**Resolution-** authorizing the abandonment of a City owned waterline which services Carpenter Technology. **(Solicitor)**

**Award of Contract-** Shannon Chemical Corp., P.O. Box 376, Malvern, PA 19355, who is the low bidder, at a price of \$2.57/gallon for approximately 20,000 gallons of Sodium Phosphate. **(Purchasing)**

**Award of Contract-** to Delta Chemical Corp., 2601 Cannery Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21226-1595, who is the low bidder, at a price of \$231.93/dry ton for approximately 1,500 dry tons of Aluminum Sulfate. **(Purchasing)**

**Award of Contract-** to Talucci Contractors, 1423 Gallagherville Road, Downingtown, PA 19335, who is the lowest responsible bidder, at a bid price of \$214,000.00, for the resurfacing of Schlegel Pool. **(Purchasing)**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Mayor Tom McMahon read the report distributed to Council at the meeting. The report distributed to Council covered the following topics:

- Continued crime trend decrease;
- Community efforts to restore the K-9 corps;
- incidences of vehicle theft has decreased compared to the same period of time in 2006;
- A vin etching program is scheduled for the upcoming weekend at GPU stadium;
- Recognized Building Safety Week;
- Described graffiti removal efforts;
- Welcome Sun Rich Foods Inc. to the City of Reading and complemented Community Development staff for their hard work;
- Announced the groundbreaking ceremony for the new IMAX Theater.

Councilor Fuhs questioned why South 5<sup>th</sup> Street was not added to the permanent street sweeping program. Councilor Fuhs explained that a major corridor such as South 5<sup>th</sup> should be clean and presentable at all times. Councilor Fuhs offered to discuss methods of adding South 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the permanent program at another time.

Mr. Jones discussed the expanded street sweeping program, noting that for the next week or two residents will not be ticketed should their vehicles remain on the street. The grace period is intended to familiarize neighborhood residents with the expansion and allow them to find alternate parking locations. Mr. Jones offered to discuss the criteria used in selecting streets for the program with Mr. Fuhs at another time. Mr.

Jones did mention that multiple criteria are taken into consideration when adding new streets to the program.

Councilor Waltman offered congratulations to the Community Development team for the recent success locating Sun Rich Foods Inc. to Reading. Councilor Waltman applauded the efforts of true community servants.

Councilor Baez repeated requests for the painting of a handicap parking curb line in the 200 block of West Douglass Street. Councilor Baez also asked how long would it take for the repair of street lights lining the Schuylkill Avenue bridge.

Mr. Jones assured Councilor Baez that the curb would be promptly painted. As for the lighting along Schuylkill Avenue, the City must wait until Met Ed has the time to make the repairs.

Council President Spencer asked how many “walk to work” jobs would be created as result of the opening of Sun Rich Foods Inc. and the new IMAX Theater and also what a starting employee could expect to earn. Council President Spencer was interested if the jobs would be community supporting.

Mayor McMahan suggested Sun Rich Foods Inc. will bring over 100 new jobs to the community, with salaries beginning in the \$10.00 per hour range. Mayor McMahan admitted wages paid at the movie theater would be lower; however, these jobs would likely be filled by younger people. Mayor McMahan was confident that jobs created as a result of development along Buttonwood Gateway would be community sustaining jobs.

Council President Spencer asked for an explanation of the Greater Berks Development Funds role in the Sun Rich project.

Mayor McMahan stated Greater Berks was instrumental in assisting with acquiring the property.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz applauded the success the anti-graffiti initiative is having throughout the City.

## **AUDITOR’S REPORT**

City Auditor Cituk read the report distributed to Council at the meeting covering the following topics:

- Quarterly unemployment compensation figures;
- Parking Authority financials;
- 2006 Audit Update;
- Payment of 2007 Cable Franchise Fees.

The members of Council thanked Mr. Cituk for his report.

## **ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE**

**Bill No. 21-** amending the City of Reading Capital Improvements Plan, by substituting new projects for deleted existing projects. **(Managing Director) Introduced at the 03/12/07 meeting of Council; tabled at the 03/26/07 meeting of Council; tabled pending further discussion at the 04/30/07 Committee of the Whole**

**Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Sterner, to adopt Bill 21-2007, which would amend the City of Reading Capital Improvements Plan.**

Councilor Fuhs inquired how the \$433,000.00 remaining in the CIP would be spent.

Mr. Churchill indicated this amount would cover design costs, minor improvements and landscaping at the Pagoda.

Councilor Fuhs listed several outstanding questions regarding the camera proposal:

1. Long Term Plan;
2. Funding options, both in the short and long term;
3. Proposed locations for future cameras.

In addition to these questions, Councilor Fuhs noted the recent reduction in crime touted by Mayor McMahon in his report suggests that the City no longer requires cameras. Councilor Fuhs stressed that the recent statistical reduction in criminal activity concretely negates the rationale behind the camera system, noting the recent reduction was achieved without the assistance of cameras.

Mr. Churchill provided further clarification with regard to camera funding. The new proposal would involve \$390,000.00 in CIP funding. Elm Street

funds, if secured, would be applied to bring phase two online ahead of schedule.

Councilor Waltman voiced support for the proposed system, believing cameras are a decent tool and will be put to good use by the Police Department. Councilor Waltman asked City Council to defer to the recommendations made by Chief Heim at recent committee meetings.

Council President Spencer expressed concern regarding the proposed Pagoda renovations. Council President Spencer asked to review the details of the proposed renovations before committing to providing funds. Council President Spencer also asked when the Administration was planning on bringing detailed plans before Council for approval.

Councilor Fuhs agreed with the points raised by Council President Spencer, specifically the Administrations willingness to push through major projects without bothering to review the pertinent details with the governing body.

Mayor McMahan explained how the Pagoda is the centerpiece of not only Reading, but Greater Reading, the entire Berks County area. Mayor McMahan continued, by stressing the deterioration that has occurred over the last few years the Pagoda has deteriorated. The City must assume a leadership role and make every effort to restore the Pagoda to a state of former glory in time for the 2008 anniversary celebrations. Mayor McMahan offered to hold a public meeting, at which time all of the proposals for the Pagoda could be discussed.

Councilor Waltman observed that action on the CIP has been pending for months, owing first to an important discussion on the merit of security cameras and now because of disagreements over funding for the Pagoda. Councilor Waltman agreed that additional discussion should be held concerning the Pagoda project. Councilor Waltman proposed amending the CIP to separate the two items, allowing Council to finally resolve the security camera issue.

Councilor Fuhs asked for a point of order. Noting how he had been advised that amending the CIP to separate out items was not permissible.

Mr. Kanezo and Mr. Younger noted the issue wasn't whether the amendment was legal, rather how to best present an amended ordinance. Mr. Kanezo noted that the proposals made by Councilor Waltman would need to be placed into ordinance form.

Councilor Waltman explained in the past Council has taken action on far more complicated financial issues and has never had problems making amendments prior to adoption.

Council President Spencer indicated the body of Council took issue with the last minute practice of amending ordinances without having had time to consider the matter.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz asked Council to consider the importance of the Pagoda and to consider how the City would look if its most evident symbol were allowed to crumble.

Councilor Sterner agreed to support the proposed CIP due the fact that the Pagoda is a major City symbol and the majority of residents support security cameras.

Mayor McMahon promised to present a detailed plan to Council and the citizens; however, funds would be required in order to prepare the plan.

Council President Spencer stated the present issue was whether Council would be able to support the project without having been provided with any detail, placing yet more faith in the Administration. Council President personally objected to providing support without having first been given details.

Councilors Sterner and Goodman-Hinnershitz noted the issue has been discussed at length, during the Committee of the Whole and the present meeting. Both asked that Council take action and finally resolve the issue.

Councilor Fuhs remarked on Council's responsibility to look out for the fiscal health of the City and how in the past two weeks the Administration has brought forward over one million dollars in proposed projects. Councilor Fuhs would not support additional projects when the City is failing to maintain basic services: street lighting, sweeping, etc.

**Bill 21-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Waltman, Sterner – 4.**

**Nay: Fuhs, Marmarou, Spencer President – 3.**

**Bill No. 24-** amending the City of Reading Codified Ordinances by adding a new part dealing with initiative and referendum. **(Council Staff**

**& City Solicitor) Introduced at the 03/12/07 meeting of Council; tabled at the 04/09/07 meeting of Council pending further discussion at the 04/30/07 Committee of the Whole.**

**Councilor Fuhs moved, seconded by Councilor Sterner, to adopt Bill 24-2007, which would add a new part to the Codified Ordinances dealing with initiative and referendum.**

Councilor Waltman stated he would not support the proposed ordinance, as he felt the provisions were too restrictive, impeding the access citizens have to their government. Councilor Waltman believed the proposed ordinance was emblematic of the comments made by Ms. Zuber earlier in the evening.

**Bill 24-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner – 5.**

**Nay: Waltman, Spencer President – 2.**

**Bill No. 23-** amending Chapter 20 Solid Waste, Section 2 Dumpster Placement, of the City of Reading Codified Ordinances. **(Solicitor) Introduced at the 03/12/07 meeting of Council; tabled at the 04/09/07 meeting of Council.**

**Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Fuhs, to adopt Bill 23-2007, which amends Chapter 20 Solid Waste, Section 2 Dumpster Place, of the City of Reading Codified Ordinances.**

Mr. Younger informed Council that the ordinance is making minor corrections to the existing ordinance by removing several inconsistencies. The ordinance would remain essentially unchanged.

**Bill 23-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None – 0.**

**Bill No. 30-** codifying the City of Reading Food Code. **(Solicitor)**

**Councilor Fuhs moved, seconded by Councilor Baez, to adopt Bill 30-2007, which would codify the City of Reading Good Code.**

Mr. Younger informed Council that the proposed ordinance would bring the existing Food Code in line with state standards.

**Bill 30-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None – 0.**

**Bill No. 32-** conveying the premises situate at 328 Mulberry Street to Our City Reading. **(Solicitor) Introduced at the 04/23/07 meeting of Council.**

**Councilor Waltman moved, seconded by Councilor Marmarou, to adopt Bill 32-2007, which would convey the premises situate at 328 Mulberry Street to Our City Reading.**

**Bill 32-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None – 0.**

**Bill No. 33-** amending the City of Reading Codified Ordinances by adding Part 16 Sidewalk Sales to Chapter 10 Health and Safety. **(Council Staff) Recommended by the Public Safety Committee; introduced at the 04/09/07 meeting of Council; tabled at the 04/23/07 meeting of Council.**

**Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Fuhs, to adopt Bill No. 33-2007, which would add Part 16 Sidewalk Sales to Chapter 10 Health and Safety of the City of Reading Codified Ordinances.**

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz asked Mr. Churchill to provide an explanation as to why the ordinance was proposed.

Mr. Churchill stated the ordinance would establish a process, for the application and review by Codes, of businesses wishing to host Sidewalk

Sales. The ordinance establishes permit fees, minimums for insurance coverage and other guidelines.

Council President Spencer objected to what he viewed as burdensome insurance regulations and inquired how the City chose such high minimums.

Mr. Churchill explained that the ordinance was developed after reviewing similar ordinances from other municipalities across the country. The specific insurance minimums were adjusted after consultation with the Harrisburg Solicitors Office.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked the Administration for investing time and energy into preparing the proposed ordinance. Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz believed the ordinance would contribute to an improved downtown.

**Bill 33-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman – 6.**

**Nay: Spencer President – 1.**

**Bill No. 34-** an Ordinance amending the City of Reading Codified Ordinances by adding Part 15 Sidewalk Cafes to Chapter 10 Health and Safety. **(Council Staff) Recommended by the Public Safety Committee, introduced at the 04/09/07 meeting of Council; tabled at the 04/23/07 meeting of Council.**

**Councilor Waltman moved, seconded by Councilor Fuhs, to table Bill 30-2007.**

**Bill 30-2007 was tabled by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None – 0.**

**Bill No. 35-** amending Chapter 6 Conduct, Part 1 Alcoholic Beverages by establishing rules and regulations for bottle clubs. **(Council Staff, Legislative Aide Committee, Chief of Police) Recommended by the Public Safety Committee**

**Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Baez, to adopt Bill 35-2007, which would establish rules and regulations for the operation of bottle clubs.**

Captain Schafer, of the Reading Police Department explained how the Legislative Aide Committee, Police Department and the City Clerk's Office worked to revise and improve the ordinance. Under the new ordinance bottle clubs would finally be regulated and certain inconsistencies of the previous ordinance would be removed. Captain Schafer endorsed the ordinance as in the form that was presented to Council.

Mr. Churchill commented that the ordinance was another example of how Administrative and Council staffs work together solving common problems.

Councilors Fuhs and Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked the Legislative Aide Committee for the time taken to review the proposed ordinance.

**Bill 35-2007 was adopted by the following vote:**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman – 6.**

**Nay: Spencer President – 1.**

## **INTRODUCTION OF NEW ORDINANCES**

Council President Spencer read the following Ordinances into the record:

**Ordinance-** authorizing the Mayor to renew the lease between the City of Reading and the Berks County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. The agreement shall be renewed for a period of 25 years.  
**(Council Staff)**

**Ordinance-** amending the Codified Ordinances of the City of Reading, Chapter 6, Section 6-122, by bringing the section into compliance with the Bottle Club Ordinance. **(Council Staff)**

**Ordinance-** increasing the salary of Charles D. Younger, City Solicitor to \$66,150.00, which reflects a 5% increase. **(Managing Director)**

**Ordinance-** amending the Codified Ordinances Chapter 11, Part 1, Section 11-102. Permit required; Application; Fees and Exemptions by changing the mailing date, submittal date and effective date of the Rental Occupancy Permit Applications for the 2007 Calendar Year. **(Solicitor/Council Staff)**

**Ordinance-** conveying, for \$1,000.00, a parcel known as the Chester Street Lot to Mr. John Weidner. **(Public Works Committee/Council Staff)**

**Ordinance-** authorized to execute the "Landowner-Grantee Agreement" between the City of Reading and the RiverPlace Development Corporation and/or the PA Department of Environmental Protection for the establishment and maintenance, etc. of solar-powered lighting along the Schuylkill River and Wyomissing Creek Trails. **(Public Works/Solicitor)**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 71-2007-** urging Congress to adopt the Employee Free Choice Act.

Councilor Fuhs stated he was not necessarily opposed to the content of the resolution; however, he would appreciate having time to review the substance of the act being considered by Congress.

Mr. Schaeff promised to provide copies of the act currently before the United States Senate.

Council President Spencer thanked Mr. Schaeff for his patience and promised that Council would consider adopting the proposed resolution at the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Baez, to table Resolution 71-2007.**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None.**

**Resolution 70-2007-** authorizing the Mayor to file an application for RACP funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the redevelopment of the Upland Center located at Alvernia College. **(Community Development)**

**Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Marmarou to adopt Resolution 70-2007, which would authorize the Mayor to file an application for RACP funds in the amount of \$500,000.00.**

Mr. Churchill explained the RACP program is a state program, which requires the local governments endorsement before funds can be released to the applicant. Alvernia's proposal involves the rehabilitation of certain off campus structures; the structures would be converted into classroom and office space.

Council President Spencer asked if the City would support the project financially.

Mr. Churchill assured Council that City funds would not be used. Council adoption of the proposed resolution would show that the City has no objections to the project.

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None.**

**Resolution 58-2007-** Reprogramming \$950,000.00 in CDBG funds for the purchase of two fire trucks. **(Community Development)**

**Councilor Waltman moved, seconded by Councilor Fuhs to adopt Resolution 58-2007, which would reprogram \$950,000.00 in CDBG funds for the purchase of two fire trucks.**

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None.**

**Resolution 59-2007-** to approve/deny a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a wrought iron security gate at the entrance way and wrought iron security bars on the front windows of 422 Penn Street. **(Council Staff)**

Councilor Waltman moved, seconded by Councilor Stern to adopt Resolution 59-2007, which would deny the issuance of a certificate of appropriateness for 422 Penn Street.

**Yea:** Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.

**Nay:** None.

**Resolution 60-2007-** authorizing the Reading Area Water Authority to incur indebtedness in the amount of \$25,000,000.00, for the expansion and improvement of the system. **(Water Authority)**

Councilor Waltman moved, seconded by Councilor Sterner, to adopt Resolution 60-2007, which authorizes the Reading Area Water Authority to incur indebtedness in the amount of \$25,000,000.00 for the expansion and improvement of the system.

**Yea:** Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.

**Nay:** None.

**Resolution 61-2007-** appointing Keith Singleton to the Minority Business Procurement Board. **(Administrative Oversight)**

**Resolution 62-2007-** appointing Michael Rivera to the Minority Business Procurement Board. **(Administrative Oversight)**

**Resolution 63-2007-** reappointing Eligio Colon Jr. to the Reading Area Housing Authority. **(Administrative Oversight)**

**Resolution 64-2007-** reappointing Earl Kegerise to the Plumbing Board of Examiners. **(Administrative Oversight)**

**Resolution 65-2007-** reappointing John Darlington to the Reading Area Parking Authority. **(Administrative Oversight)**

**Resolution 66-2007-** appointing Lee Olson to the Blighted Property Review Committee. **(Administrative Oversight)**

**The Administrative Oversight Committee moved to adopt Resolutions 61, 62,63,64,65 and 66, which would make appointments and reappointments to boards, authorities and commissions.**

Councilor Sterner thanked Councilor Fuhs for taking the initiative in pushing for the adoption of the Blighted Property Review Committee. Councilor Sterner noted that the appointment of Mr. Olson will allow the committee to begin meeting.

Mr. Kanezo informed Council that staff is organizing an orientation meeting, to be held as soon as possible. Mr. Kanezo explained the meeting would allow committee members and City officials to discuss the role the committee will play in future initiatives.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz commented on the tremendous diversity being brought to the boards, authorities and commissions and commended the efforts of Council to recruit citizen's representative of the community.

Councilor Marmarou thanked the men and women who graciously donate their time and seek nothing in return.

**Yea: Baez, Fuhs, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Sterner, Waltman, Spencer President – 7.**

**Nay: None.**

### **COUNCIL COMMENT**

Councilor Marmarou expressed the strong desire to finally settle disagreement with Albright College students. Councilor Marmarou stressed the situation in northeast Reading is deteriorating and many neighbors will be unable to cope if students continue to be disrespectful. Councilor Marmarou urged all parties involved to address the issue before students return to campus in the fall.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz expressed condolences at the passing of a member of Reading Connections. Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked the majority of Council for supporting the security camera initiative and the Pagoda renovations. Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz echoed the Mayors comments, when describing the importance of the Pagoda in Reading.

Councilor Sterner extended his thanks to the evenings honorees. Councilor Sterner also expressed the hope that Council would be able to put past differences aside and continue working positively together in the future.

Councilor Fuhs encouraged the citizens of Reading to take up their civic duty by voting in Tuesdays primary election.

**Councilor Waltman moved, seconded by Councilor Fuhs, to adjourn the regular meeting of Council.**

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Christopher G. Kanezo  
Deputy City Clerk