

**City of Reading City Council
Regular Meeting
December 7, 2015**

Council President Waltman called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz.

All present pledged to the flag.

The Committee of the Whole meeting included an executive session to discuss litigation.

ATTENDANCE

Council President Waltman

Councilor Daubert, District 1

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz, District 2

Councilor Sterner, District 3

Councilor Marmarou, District 4

Councilor Reed, District 5

Councilor Slifko, District 6

City Auditor D. Cituk

Solicitor C. Younger

City Clerk L. Kelleher

Managing Director Snyder

Mayor Spencer

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Council commendation to Public Works Foreman Luke Schultz and recognition certificates to Reading-Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center students and Mr. Steve Weber for the creation of the bench made from the 2014 Christmas tree

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Waltman stated that no citizens are registered to address Council this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA & MINUTES

Council President Waltman called Council's attention to the minutes of the November 23rd meeting and to the agenda for this meeting, including the legislation listed under the Consent Agenda heading.

Councilor Sterner moved, seconded by Councilor Marmarou, to approve the agenda

including the legislation listed under the Consent Agenda heading, as amended, and the minutes as listed. The motion was approved unanimously.

Consent Agenda

A. Resolution 103-2015 – authorizing the transfer of \$3,161,000.00 from Metro Bank to Wells Fargo Bank to increase the interest earnings for the Sewer Fund and reducing the number of bank account reconciliations

B. Resolution 104-2015 – promoting Fire Marshal Larry Moyer Jr to 2nd Deputy Fire Chief

C. Resolution 105-2015 – requesting a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant of \$969,298.14 from PennDOT for the Joint Skyline Drive Improvement project and designating two officials from Lower Alsace to facilitate and assist in obtaining the grant

D. Resolution 106-2015 – promoting Lt. Jeremy Searfoss to Fire Marshal

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The mayor distributed his report in writing at the start of the meeting and stated that he is open to questions. There were no questions.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Auditor did not submit a report to Council at this meeting.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

A. Bill No. 74 - 2015 – creating a Land Bank Board in accordance with the provisions of Act 153, enacted by the PA General Assembly on October 24, 2012, to return vacant property to productive status using a unified, predictable, and transparent process, thereby revitalizing neighborhoods and strengthening the City's tax base. ***Introduced at the 11-9-15 regular meeting; Advertised 11-16-15; Tabled at the November 23 regular meeting***

Councilor Slifko moved, seconded by Councilor Daubert, to table Bill No. 74-2015.

Bill No. 74-2015 was tabled by the following vote:

Yeas: Daubert, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Reed, Slifko, Sterner, Waltman,
President - 7

Nays: – None - 0

B. Bill No. 75 -2015 – approving the 5th addendum to the water system lease with RAWA
Introduced at the November 9 regular meeting; Tabled at the November 23 regular meeting

Councilor Reed moved, seconded by Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz, to table Bill No. 75-2015.

Bill No. 75-2015 was tabled by the following vote:

Yeas: Daubert, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Reed, Slifko, Sterner, Waltman,
President - 7

Nays: – None - 0

C. Bill No. 76 -2015 – approving the amendment to the lease agreement with the Parking Authority *Introduced at the November 9 regular meeting; Tabled at the November 23 regular meeting*

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Daubert, to withdraw Bill No. 76-2015.

Bill No. 76-2015 was withdrawn by the following vote:

Yeas: Daubert, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Reed, Slifko, Sterner, Waltman,
President - 7

Nays: – None - 0

D. Bill No. 83-2015 - designating 0.1% of the earned income and net profits tax imposed on City of Reading residents and on non-residents of the City of Reading for the calendar year 2016 for capital improvements *Introduced at the November 23 regular meeting*

Councilor Marmarou moved, seconded by Councilor Reed, to enact Bill No. 83-2015.

Bill No. 83-2015 was enacted by the following vote:

Yeas: Daubert, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Reed, Slifko, Sterner, Waltman,
President - 7

Nays: – None - 0

E. Bill No. 84-2015 - authorizing the transfer of \$30,000 from the 2015 General Fund Contingency to the 2015 Abatement Account in the Property Maintenance Division *Introduced at the November 23 regular meeting*

Councilor Slifko moved, seconded by Councilor Daubert, to enact Bill No. 84-2015.

Bill No. 84-2015 was enacted by the following vote:

**Yeas: Daubert, Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Reed, Slifko, Sterner, Waltman,
President - 7
Nays: – None - 0**

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ORDINANCES

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz read the following ordinances into the record:

A. Ordinance – authorizing an appropriations transfer within the Department of Public Works, Division of Utilities in the amount of \$30,000.00 for budget year 2015

B. Ordinance - authorizing a loan and the transfer of funds from the general fund to the Department of Community Development in the amount of \$500,000

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions requiring Council consideration at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilor Reed stated that she issued a commendation regarding the 100th anniversary of Christ Lutheran Church yesterday. She noted the many ways the church continues to serve the Reading community.

Councilor Slifko announced the tree lighting ceremony planned at the I LEAD Charter School on Thursday, December 10th. He also noted the upcoming Holiday House Tour in Centre Park. Brunch will be served from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm and the tour will run from 1 pm until 6 pm.

Councilor Daubert thanked the Public Works and Fire Departments for their rapid response to complaints about Sulphur odors this past Sunday.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked the City's first responders when a car struck the front of a home in her East Reading neighborhood. She expressed gratitude that a gas meter was not at the front façade of this property.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked Public Works Foreman Luke Schultz for the contributions he made toward decorating the downtown this holiday season and his tireless work to create the bench and doghouse.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz announced the Lunch with Santa events scheduled for December 19th and 20th at the Pagoda. Details are available on the Pagoda website. She thanked the Reading Eagle for the articles in the Sunday newspaper about the East Reading community.

Councilor Marmarou announced the CHCC holiday party scheduled for Sunday, December 13th at 6 pm at Nativity Lutheran Church.

Councilor Sterner reminded everyone to visit the holiday light display at Hillside Playground organized by Tim Profit, the RHS Jr. ROTC and others.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz moved, seconded by Councilor Marmarou, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher CMC, City Clerk