

CITY OF REED CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
August 11, 2025

Mayor Meinert called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. in Council Chambers, 227 E. Lincoln Avenue, Reed City, Michigan.

Present Roger Meinert, Charles Lupo, Brad Nixon and Nate Bailey. James Anderlohr, Nicole Woodside and Trevor Guiles were absent. The City Attorney, Mike Figliomeni and City Manager, Rich Saladin, were also in attendance. Department Heads attending were, Rich Rehkopf, Kadee Kidd, Chris Lockhart, Jeff Stein, Amanda Grant and Curt Brackenrich. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag. There were citizens in the audience.

Agenda Motion by Lupo, seconded by Meinert, **CARRIED**, to approve the agenda as amended, adding Fire Department Apron Bids to New Business. Affirmed by voice vote.

Minutes Motion by Nixon, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to accept the minutes of the July 14, 2025, regular meeting as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to accept the minutes of the special Council meeting July 23, 2025. Affirmed by voice vote.

Bills Motion by Nixon, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to approve paying bills in the amount of \$2,120,943.47 as presented. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Lupo, Meinert, Nixon, and Bailey.

Reports Fire Chief Jeffrey Stein, Police Chief Christopher Lockhart, Rich Rehkopf, DPW, and Curt Brackenrich, WWTP, filed written reports. Kadee Kidd provided by email, Financial Reports including a Revenue/Expenditure Report as of July 31, 2025. Motion by Bailey, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to approve the Department Head reports as submitted. Affirmed by voice vote.

Audience Presentations

Sesquicentennial Celebration

Mayor Meinert and Charles Lupo, with the assistance of Brad Nixon presented Certificates of Appreciation to the many volunteers that made the weekend a success. Lupo submitted a letter to the public.

Memorandum of the Reed City Sesquicentennial

Council,

Over the course of the Sesquicentennial, we estimate that our celebration drew between 2,000 and 3,000 people to our community. Our committee and I have drafted this Memorandum to the council to



preserve our thoughts as volunteers and share the significant moments we experienced. This event took two years of careful planning and lots of time and dedication.

Thursday was a day with low expectations that turned out to be one of the best days of the entire celebration. The day began with the Kids' Jamboree at Rambadt Park, which drew in over 150 children and an estimated 300 parents. The kids were drawn like moths to a flame to the Touch-a-Truck event, with the ambulance from Osceola County being a particular favorite. A wonderful moment occurred when Dawn spoke with a four-year-old girl who was painting a rock for the first time in her life. The shared experience was a beautiful reminder of the new memories being created during the celebration. Children also enjoyed their goody bags and the bounce houses, and the bucket brigade was a huge hit. We would also like to extend a special thanks to Mark and Vicki Maples for their assistance with the events at the park.

Following the Jamboree, we moved on to the groundbreaking at the new pocket park. While this event was announced close to the celebration and did not receive as much attention, it was a significant historical moment to include in our historical celebration. The City and the CRC participated in moving the first bits of soil on what will become a new park and gathering space near our downtown.

Shortly after, the Pere Marquette and the Knights of Columbus hosted a dinner at the depot. The atmosphere of a small-town BBQ permeated the air as over 100 people gathered. The music provided by Mr. Rhody and the food by Deb were superb. In conjunction, we worked with the CRC, who organized a color run to end at the Depot at the same time the food was being served, making our depot the ultimate gathering spot. Over 300 people participated in the run, and the Reed City Fire Department did a great job spraying everyone down.

The day's festivities concluded with the burying of the Sesquicentennial Time Capsule at the Reed City Heritage Museum. This event was honored with a special dedication from Rep. Tom Kunse, signed by the governor. What an honor it was to be there, preserving that moment in time for our future generations. Over 60 people attended, and the youth who were there will be able to tell the story of the capsule that will be opened in 2075.

Friday was intended to be a main highlight with the Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Shows. The committee is sad to report that this event, to which we allocated significant resources—money, volunteers, advertising, and time—turned out to be a disappointment. Our contract promised six world champion lumberjacks, but we received only one who could perform, and the shows were less than advertised. We were sold on a performance that would include education and discussions of historical versus modern lumberjacking, but what we received was an amateur show. Ultimately, only 269 tickets were redeemed for the event. Of the \$30,000 budget for the show, we spent \$22,000. After requesting a partial refund and accounting for all the sponsors, the community incurred a net loss of \$2,300, a number made possible after a \$2,000 claw back by one of our volunteers. The committee believes we did everything in our power to make this a highlight event.

Meanwhile on Friday, a huge hit was the return of our Centennial Queen, Linda Vansickle. Along with the help of Nadine and her business Furbabies Pet Care, we set a new expectation for pageantry in our community, at least once every 50 years. It was a joy to have Linda back in her hometown. While Nadine's business lost money on the event, the committee would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for making this possible. Everyone who participated will keep this memory for as long as they shall live.

Saturday was a day filled with successful community-led events. As always, Russ Nehmers' Veteran Memorial Car Show was a huge success, complemented by a popular pancake breakfast from St. Paul Lutheran Church. There were at least 70 cars presented at the event and 62 vendors at the vendor show. The riddle relay race, hosted by Crossroads Recreation and Crossroad Reality, had 15 teams participate, and the "Battle for the Reed City Burger" was a fun and popular event, selling 113 tickets.

Though the weather could have been better, it fortunately did not rain on the Grand Parade. Over 1,000 spectators watched the parade, and the decision to turn the route in front of the museum instead of downtown did not turn people away. The atmosphere at the museum felt like a block party as each float went by. A special thank you to Kathy Yost, the museum director and parade chair, for making it all happen.

The day concluded with the Era's Ball, which brought in 250-300 people. The music selection was superb, a lot of merchandise was sold, and the lights were loved by all. The committee has heard a strong suggestion that the lights should become a permanent fixture in downtown Reed City.

The celebration concluded on Sunday with a community service hosted by Trinity Lutheran at the park, with over 150 people in attendance. A special thanks goes to the church for holding their service in the park, and to Chris Jane, who provided and performed music for the event. The Reed City Community Choir wrapped up the service with a wonderful melody of patriotic songs. I would also like to personally thank Bob Ebel and his family for taking their time on their day off to serve our community. They provided food that over 100 people enjoyed, and I cannot thank them enough for their support.

Volunteer and Contributor Acknowledgments

The success of this celebration was a direct result of the tireless efforts of our volunteers and the support of the wider community. We would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their invaluable contributions.

Certificate of Appreciation Award Recipients

- Donna Wheeler
- Patty James
- Gail Bailey
- Gary Bailey
- Nate Bailey
- Dawn Montague
- Duane Bittner
- Kathy Yost
- Sally Daling
- Nadine Serena
- Russ Nehmer
- Joanna Richey Cilwa
- Chris Cross
- Mary and Andy Willmet-Douglass

Organizations and Individuals Thanked for Assistance

- The Crossroads Recreation Connection
- The Reed City Fire Department
- Reed City Police
- Osceola County EMS
- Osceola County Sheriff's Department
- Reed City Department of Public Works
- City of Reed City Office Staff, Kristine, Kadee and Amanda!
- The Ebels Family
- Shine Lighting
- Pere Marquette Bistro and Catering
- Buckboard Bar and Grill
- Sunny's sports bar and grill
- Dairy Depot
- Reed City Brewing Company
- The Knights of Columbus
- Reed City VFW
- Crossroads Realty of Michigan
- Rick Hickman
- Fox Ford of Reed City
- Rep. Tom Kunse
- Reed City Sportsman Club
- The Reed City Wrestling team
- Coach Roger Steig
- All our parade participants and so many more!

In conclusion, the Sesquicentennial Committee would like to extend a sincere thank you to the City of Reed City, the City Council, and the Planning Commission for entrusting a group of volunteers with this event. We are grateful for your faith in our ability to make it a reality and create a lasting memory for our community.

Respectfully submitted as my last act as the Sesquicentennial Chair,

Charles L. Lupo

August 11th, 2025

Russ Nehmer

Russ provided a brief overview of the County Commission meeting. The C.O.A Tustin building has been sold, the County opted out of the county designated assessor at this last

meeting, and they approved participating in the Opioid Lawsuit Settlement with Alvogen, Amenal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun and Zydus.

New Business

Appointment of Voting Delegate And Alternate for the 2025 MML annual meeting September 7, 2025

Motion by Lupo, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to nominate Rich Saladin as the voting delegate, and Nate Bailey as an alternate to attend the 2025 MML Annual meeting on September 17, 2025. Affirmed by voice vote.

Consumers Energy Contract Changes

Motion by Lupo, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to Approve Contract Changes with Consumers Energy. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Lupo, Meinert, Nixon, and Bailey.

Authorize Payments Prior to Approval Policy

Motion by Lupo, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to approve Policy To Authorize Payments Prior To Approval. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Lupo, Meinert, Nixon, and Bailey.

2025 Fireworks Permit for Homecoming

Motion by Nixon, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to approve 2025 Permit for fireworks for homecoming. Affirmed by voice vote.

Bylaws for DDA

Motion by Nixon, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to approve the bylaws for DDA as presented. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Lupo, Meinert, Nixon, and Bailey.

Street Closure for RC Brewing

Motion by Nixon, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to approve the street closure for RC Brewing Oktoberfest, and to approve the variance for 5 years with a flexible date and approval from DPW and Chief of Police. Affirmed by voice vote.

Change Order #06- DWSRF FY24 Contract 855455-1 Gerber Construction

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to approve Change Order #06- DWSRF FY24 Contract 855455-1 Gerber Construction for a net decrease of (\$7,311.25). Roll call vote. Voting yes were Nixon, Lupo, Meinert, and Bailey.

Change Order #08- EGLE FY23 Contract 855450-3 Gerber Construction

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to approve Change Order #08- EGLE FY23 Contract 855450-3 Gerber Construction in the amount of \$7,390.00. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Nixon, Meinert, Baily, and Lupo.

Resolution 2025-16, Wage and Salary resolution

Motion by Lupo, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to approve Resolution 2025-16, Wage and Salary resolution. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Bailey, Lupo, Nixon, and Meinert.

15 yrs. Continuous Service	+\$0.50		
Training		Command Officer	
Fire Fighter 1 [FF1]	+\$0.75	Fire Chief	+ \$ 1. 50
Fire Fighter 2 [FF2]	+\$0.75	Assist. Chief	+\$1.00
		Captain/Lieutenant	+ \$. 75
		Medical First Responder! MFR]	+ \$1.50

All previous provisions inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution are hereby superseded.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Reed City Council on August 11, 2025.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Reed City, County of Osceola, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on August 11, 2025, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for said meeting.
Dated: August 11, 2025

Amanda Grant

Amanda Grant, City Clerk

2025-17 Write Off Delinquent Accounts

Motion by Nixon, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to approve 2025-17 Write Off Delinquent accounts.

2025-17 Resolution

Write Off Delinquent Accounts

The following receivables are recommended for write-off:

Delinquent w/s bill \$439.24
206 W Fifth Ave, John & Barbara Young
Bill is Ready To Serve Charges, Penalty & Interest
Property going to auction, unable to collect past debt on property.

Total Write Off: \$439.24

Date Motion Made 8-11-2025 and Passed by a vote of 4 to 0
Attested by Amanda Grant Date 8-11-2025
City Clerk

New WWTP Pickup Truck thru MIDeal

Motion by Nixon, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to purchase a New WWTP Pickup Truck thru MIDeal for \$37,982. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Meinert, Nixon, Bailey and Lupo.

Bids for bulk Ferric Chloride purchase

Motion by Nixon, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to seek sealed bids for bulk Ferric Chloride purchase. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Meinert, Nixon, Bailey and Lupo.

Resolution for Budget Amendments

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to approve Budget Amendments in the total of \$13,800. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Bailey, Lupo, Nixon, and Meinert.

RESOLUTION FOR BUDGET AMENDMENTS

DATE: August 11, 2025

Resolution by the City Council to Amend the 2025/2026 fund/department budgets as follows:

<u>FUND/ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PRESENT BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL TO DATE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED YEAR END</u>	<u>AMENDED BUDGET</u>	<u>INCREASE (DECREASE)</u>
<u>Fund #101 General Fund</u>					
<u>Expenditures (by Department)</u>					
Dept. 301 Police Department	572,700	53,005	580,800	580,800	8,100
Dept. 441 DPW	300,100	14,135	305,800	305,800	5,700
	-	-		-	-
					\$ 13,800
<u>Total Increase in Expenditures</u>					
<u>Revenues (by account)</u>					
Acct. 675.300 Contrib. From Private Sources	6,597	6,597	20,397	20,397	13,800
					\$ 13,800
<u>Total Increase in Revenues</u>					

Reason:

PD-Trans Canada grant of \$8,100 for Kenwood 800 Radio Program upgrades

DPW- Planting of Trees from Grants and
Donations \$5700

Date Motion made: August 11, 2025 and Passed by a vote of 4 to 0

ATTESTED BY Amanda Grant DATE August 11, 2025

Fire Department Apron Bids

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to approve the Concrete bid from Gerber Construction for \$69,829, which include the additional services to install 6 guage wire mesh and to install topsoil and grass seed at the edge of the new concrete. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Lupo, Meinert, Bailey, and Nixon.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Lupo, **CARRIED**, to approve the consent agendas as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.

City Managers Report

City Manager, Rich Saladin reported that 80% of water meter installation have occurred. The DDA has had two meetings and have approved the by-laws. The summer events have been a success and safe. The Rental Ordinance draft has not been completed yet.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Meinert had a conversation with the youth advisory council advisor to have them Spearhead some master plan ideas.

City Attorney's Report

Nothing to report other than what was discussed.

Council Member Comments

Nothing new to report.

Audience Comments

No Audience comments were received.

Adjournment

Meinert adjourned the meeting at 6:45 P.M.



Amanda Grant
City of Reed City Clerk