

**READING PARKING AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of Reading Parking Authority  
Board Meeting – September 17, 2025**

1) Meeting Called to Order

The Reading Parking Authority’s regular board meeting was called to order on September 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. by Kerry Burford, Secretary/Assistant Treasurer. It was held at the Reading Parking Authority, 430 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Reading, PA 19602, pursuant to notice published and posted according to law.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Moment of Silence

4) Roll Call

The following individuals were present for the meeting:

*RPA Board Members:* Nelson Espinal, Chairman; Kerry Burford, Secretary/Assistant Treasurer and Dr. Rodney S. Ridley, Sr.

*Others Present:* Rafael Batista, Executive Director; Josue Vega, Finance Director; John Brown, Director of Human Resources; Nellie Martir, Operations Manager; Jesse Metheny, Finance Operations Manager; Janice Nieves, Communications Specialist; Vanessa Ortiz, Head of Supervisors; and Mahlon J. Boyer, Esquire, General Solicitor.

5) Public Comment

Diane Accumpora said that she has contacted the Authority and the City’s Department of Public Works regarding line painting at Gregg Avenue. She said that the current spaces should be parallel not angled and that the size of the spaces should be reduced. There would be more available parking spaces for residents as a result. She also said that there are numerous uninspected vehicles parked on the street. Ms. Martir said that she would look into this matter further and respond to Ms. Accumpora. Ms. Martir confirmed that line striping for parking spaces is based on City required measurements. The current painting cycle is over due to the pending cooler weather.

Harriet Patterson-Key said that she works as a crossing guard at 4<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut near Southwest Middle School. She said that there is double-parking that happens on both sides of Chestnut Street which causes traffic to back up. Children have difficulty crossing the street. She said that the Reading Police Department should be present to help. She also said that some vehicles will not stop despite her raised stop sign. Mr. Batista said that the Authority could contact Sgt. Menges of the Reading Police Department to see what help the Police can provide.

James Battle said that he also works as a crossing guard. He said that vehicles ignore red lights and proceed through them. He also said that a police presence is necessary to help the situation.

Caroline Green said that she received a parking violation even though she used a kiosk to pay for parking. Ms. Ortiz said that she would review the matter and then contact Ms. Green.

6) Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – August 27, 2025

There was no discussion regarding the August 27, 2025 board meeting minutes. No action was taken.

7) General Solicitor

a) First Amendment to Amended Cooperation Agreement

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that this matter would be deferred to the Authority's October board meeting. No action was taken.

b) Amendment to Lease – 213 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that this matter would be deferred to the Authority's October board meeting. No action was taken.

8) Executive Director Report

Mr. Batista said that the Amnesty Program restarted on September 2, 2025. It will continue through November 30, 2025. The Program had been utilized 278 times as of the date of the Board Meeting.

Mr. Batista said that all backlogged appeals are scheduled for completion by the first week of October. All hearings will follow a 72-hour process timeline once the backlog is cleared.

The Authority is working on 3 separate CPR parking lots: 210 Maple Street, 905 Green Street and 213 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street. The Authority is planning to have all 3 lots open for residential parking use in 2026.

9) Director of Finance Report

a) Financial Statements – August 2025

The Authority's August Financial Statements were presented to the Board prior to the meeting. Mr. Vega said that the Authority's auditor is in the final stages of completing the audit of the Authority's 2024 financial statements.

b) Approval of Accounts Payable

Mr. Burford made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$835,461.61. Second by Dr. Ridley. The motion passed unanimously.

10) Director of Human Resources Report

Mr. Brown submitted a report to the Board prior to the meeting.

11) Operations & Departmental Report

Ms. Martir submitted a report to the Board prior to the meeting.

12) Board Member Reports

None.

13) Old Business

None.

14) New Business

Dr. Ridley said that the Authority and the City had recently met to discuss amendments the City is making to its zoning ordinances. There will be a presentation of these amendments to the City Planning Commission. The Authority can attend the City Planning Commission and provide input if it chooses to.

15) Next Board Meeting

The next regular board meeting will be held on October 15, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Reading Parking Authority, 430 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Reading, PA 19602.

16) Adjourn

There being no further business of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m. An executive session to discuss pending litigation was announced with no return to public session.