The August 12, 2019 Utilities Committee meeting was called to order by Paul Moskun at 5:32 P.M. Present were: Matt Harper, Rob Kairis, Andrew Kluge and Joe Bica. Also attending were Mayor Frank Seman; Finance Director, Kimble Cecora; Director of Public Service, Kay Dubinsky; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Fire Chief, Geoffrey Cleveland; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Larry Silenius of 123 North Walnut Street, Ravenna, Ohio; Clifford Soudil of 434 Woodland Street, Ravenna, Ohio; Deena Tannert of 784 East Main Street, Ravenna, Ohio; Tim Calfee of 910 Murray Avenue, Ravenna, Ohio; Christina West of 732 Eastland Avenue, Ravenna, Ohio and Kim Plough representing the Portage County Health District.

Mr. Moskun said the first item on the agenda is a request for a storm water campaign discussion.

Ms. Plough said she is in charge of the environmental education program at the Portage County Health District. She is taking billboard photos and is asking permission to spray paint in front of a storm water grate with commercial striping paint “dump no waste drains to lake”. Then they would take a photo and use it on a billboard. Where the billboard location will be hasn’t been determined yet. It is educational and if it goes well, they might draw more kids into the program and have them help paint, etc. As of now it will only be one spot.

Mr. Kluge asked if this is more like an awareness campaign.

Ms. Plough responded in the affirmative noting people know not to litter but if they start paying attention to the storm water drains, there is litter there all off of the time. They are hoping to bring more attention to the problem. This going to be done throughout the entire county.

Mr. Harper asked if they’ve encountered companies or people actually dumping waste into the storm water drains.

Ms. Plough said they haven’t encountered any companies but just in general what happens to litter when it rains. The rain picks up the litter and it all goes down to the storm water drains. They haven’t actually encountered anything but are looking to reduce the problem.

Mr. Finney said many of them are stamped on the castings.

Ms. Plough said people don’t realize it until they actually start looking at them.

Mr. Finney said the new castings being installed all have something similar stamped on them.

Mayor Seman asked if there is a location picked out.
Ms. Plough responded in the negative stating it will have to be somewhere low traffic if they are going to put kids in front of it.

Mr. Harper said he thinks it is a good idea.

Mr. Moskun said the second item on the agenda is the brick work that needs to be done at the raw water building. They have portions of three different walls. The mortar is cracking, separating and one wall in particular, if you’re up on a ladder, the brick actually moves a little bit and they have heaters that are mounted on the walls. One wall isn’t standing straight and has a lean to it because the walls aren’t being supported because they have deteriorated so much. These walls are original and the building is approximately 100 years old or older. When this is replaced, there will be 270 galvanized rods going through the brick and through the block to support this and actually hold it together from separating. There is a company called Americseal that’s the contractor. They have done work at the RAC in the past. Tim Stephens has already contacted the company to do the work. They will be able to start sometime next month. The request is to appropriate $25,000.00.

Mr. Finney said Americseal is the last company hired to do the work at the RAC building. Scott Morgan will be the lead and he is a local person and has been around a long time. He doesn’t know of any company that is better to perform historic restoration than Americseal. He is confident they will do a very good job.

There being no further questions or comments, it was decided by those present that the issue would be referred to the Committee of the Whole for further action.

Mr. Moskun said the next item on the agenda is the Hazen Avenue OPWC Project.

Mr. Finney said they were offered a gift from the regional OPWC contacted them. There was money left over and they asked if the City would want more loan money so they would like to take a $150,000.00 loan at zero percent vs. a $50,000.00 loan which was what authorized originally. They will need to modify the existing ordinance.

Mr. Cecora said that is 20 years interest free and they get $100,000.00 in the water fund.

There being no further questions or comments, it was decided by those present that the issue would be referred to the Committee of the Whole for further action.

There being no further items to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 5:43 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council  Paul Moskun, Chairman
Utilities Committee