

## **STREETS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**February 11, 2019**

The February 11, 2019 meeting of the Ravenna City Streets & Sidewalks Committee was called to order at 6:22 P.M. by Chairman, Matt Harper. In attendance were Paul Moskun, Rob Kairis, Amy Michael, Bruce Ribelin, Scott Rainone, Andrew Kluge and Joe Bica. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Frank Seman; Finance Director, Kim Cecora; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Police Chief Jeff Wallis; Human Resources Director, Heather Richkowski and Larry Silenius of 123 North Walnut Street, Ravenna, Ohio.

Mr. Harper said the first item on the agenda is the Vine & Gill project.

Mr. Finney said he originally thought the Critical Infrastructure Grant would for \$300,000.00. It is actually for \$495,000.00. The project cost is between \$450,000.00 and \$500,000.00. These are engineer's estimate. The project cost should come down. He doesn't have a full commitment package from the State. \$495,300.00 is the actual grant. Regional Planning will take an administration fee from that which is \$30,000.00. Once the construction costs are bid, they still may have 100% grant funding. The request is to authorize the mayor to advertise for bids with the anticipation that the County will sign the documents and they can move forward.

Mr. Finney went on to explain that they've been doing the Critical Infrastructure Grant for approximately five years. The ask was always \$300,000.00. Then they'd lose the administration fee to either NDS or Regional Planning. This year Regional Planning asked for the whole thing or the State awarded the whole thing because they must not have had another application. The budget was \$350,000.00 from water; \$68,000.00 from Storm and \$78,00.00 for paving. If they don't use those monies from paving, that's like paving three more streets. If they pave a section of street, it's usually between \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 for about a half of a mile.

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

Mr. Harper said the next item is a legislation request from ODOT for Freedom Street.

Mr. Finney said that ODOT sent legislation for paving Freedom Street. The portion in the City Limits is \$169,820.00. They are asking for the money by March 22. He's asking for two things; authorize the mayor to sign the contract sent by ODOT and then to appropriate \$170,000.00. That was included in the budget for the paving for this year. No additional funds is needed. This is only 20% cost to the City. He's seen this with ODOT in the past. The cost to pave the same section of road that the City would pave is considerably higher. Why they pay more than the City, he has no idea. But 20% is still less than they would pay at 100%.

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

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Mr. Harper said the next item on the agenda is the leaf bag program.

Mayor Seman said the leaf bag program is not in the budget and they want to continue to by appropriating the funds to purchase those bags.

Mr. Cecora said rather than run a separate appropriation, he can put it into the permanent budget. The total would be approximately \$17,000.00.

Mr. Ribelin said that on education programs, they might let people know through the utility bills what they can put into the bags because he knows when the budget commission met, they talked about how people were putting garbage, cans, glass, etc., which is a nightmare for the City employees. If they can let people know on the bill, maybe it would be helpful.

Mr. Harper asked if Ms. Dubinsky has noticed that a lot of garbage and non-lawn debris are being put into the dumpster at the site or if it's being picked up at the curb.

Ms. Dubinsky said she hasn't heard of that kind of debris being taken out of the dumpster at the Oakwood facility. It's more curbside pickup. A couple employees at the transfer site have to go through once the bags are emptied and remove the garbage, debris, etc.

Mr. Harper said he knows it's extra work but the majority of the residents utilize it the right way and it is a good program and they do like it.

Mayor Seman said that Mr. Steiner said they have the same problem. Sometimes it might not be the same person who puts the bag on the street who puts that garbage into the bag.

Mr. Harper noted he agrees with Mr. Ribelin that putting it into the utility bill as to what should and should not be put into those bags would be a good thing to do.

There being no further questions or comments, it was decided by those present that the the cost of the leaf bags would be put onto the permanent budget.

Mr. Harper asked if there was a management update. Mayor Seman said that he and Mr. Finney spoke about perhaps there being an opportunity for the City to take ownership of the land behind where ODOT currently is located. Mr. Finney checked on the status. The EPA said that no further effort was required. ODOT had cleaned up that area to the point where it was acceptable. The feeling was that if the City could buy that for \$1.00, it's open ground and they should probably go ahead and do that.

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Mr. Finney said there are a few stipulations placed on the land. It must remain either commercial or industrial land, which is what it is zoned for now. He did ask what they were going to do with it once they moved out of Ravenna. They did not have an answer. They have the new dome in Rootstown so the City could also be recipients of a salt dome also. The City shares in the utilization of it but ODOT owns it. The City did pick up quite an investment with fuel tanks, scales, etc.

Ms. Dubinsky noted that Mr. Dowdy said when ODOT moves to a new facility, they get all new. There is a possibility ODOT could leave behind some equipment. But that is just all talk right now.

Mr. Moskun asked what the timeline is for ODOT to move into the new facility.

Ms. Dubinsky said it's her understanding it will be later this summer.

Mr. Finney said he asked when they would be moving. The person he spoke with said they are definitely interested and would let him know. They did say the City would have the first right to refuse. He just didn't want the neighbor to jump on it before the City got an opportunity.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 P.M.

**ATTEST:**

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Clerk of Council

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Matt Harper, Chairman  
Streets & Sidewalks Committee