

Ravenna City Council Utilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 16th, 2020

The Utilities Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:13 P.M. by Chairperson, Paul Moskun

Council present were: Amy Michael, Rob Kairis, Paul Moskun, Tim Calfee and Matt Harper

Also attending the meeting were: Mayor Frank Seman; Finance Director, Kimble Cecora; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Fire Chief, Geoffrey Cleveland; Finance Director-elect, Brian Huff; Clerk of Council, Kathy Hann; Maple Grove Superintendent Mark Gabriel; Tessa Gabriel, Record Courier, Diane Smith; Larry Silenius of 123 North Walnut Street, Ravenna, Ohio

Mr. Moskun called the meeting to order and asked Ms. Dubinsky to explain the Electric Aggregation Program. Ms. Dubinsky explained that it was regarding the City's residential Electric Aggregation Program. It is authorizing the Mayor to enter into a third renewal agreement with Energy Harbor, which was formally First Energy Solutions, to supply electricity under the aggregation program to City residents for the period March 2021 through March 2024 for a fixed price of 4.89 cents per kilowatt. The bulk pricing is good through March 25th, 2020.

Mr. Moskun asked if there were any comments pertaining to the price. There was no comment and Mr. Moskun moved on to the second topic which is the Lawrence St. waterline.

Mr. Finney explained that the Lawrence St. waterline project is authorizing the Mayor to advertise for the Lawrence St. waterline which is an OPWC project. Mr. Moskun asked if anyone had any concerns pertaining to the project. Ms. Hann asked if Mr. Finney could explain what the project entails. Mr. Finney said that the project is replacing the waterline on Lawrence St. with new hydrants and service connections. He said that City Council approved the application last year and engineering was given approval to begin the design which has been submitted and they are at the point of now advertising. There are currently 4-5 non-working fire hydrants on Lawrence St. that would be replaced.

Mr. Moskun asked if there is a Management Update. Mayor Seman stated that they have spent a lot of time talking about how the City is going to handle the water and wastewater plants, along with the Service Department, in the event that any of the staff would need to be quarantined. There is currently one staff member that has been instructed to stay at home after it was found out that a member of his family was exposed at their job in the Cleveland area. Prior to instruction for him to stay at home, he had already been off work with an addition of a personal day. Mayor Seman did not have any additional information regarding the employee's family member. He did think the action was appropriate to instruct the employee to stay home and said that the City will have to do the same with any additional employees that have similar circumstances. He also stated that the EPA sent out some information to the plants giving telephone numbers and addresses of where there are banks of people that are able to come in to fill positions in the water and wastewater plants if necessary.

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The Mayor and Tim Contant, who is the City's Safety Compliance Officer and works part time at the wastewater plant, spoke to the Wastewater Superintendent Billy Bregant who said that the wastewater plant could be run by one person as a worst case scenario for an indefinite amount of time. Another concern is with the Safety Department which will be directly exposed, which could result in a whole ambulance load of Paramedics that may end up having to be quarantined if they became exposed in their efforts. The Mayor's nephew, who is a Fireman in Columbus, said that they have shut down two Firehouses in Columbus, and that there are currently 12 people on ventilators. His warning to the Mayor and his family was to stay at home and don't go anywhere. The Mayor was unsure how to take the information that he has seen and has been given and is taking it with a grain of salt. He said that the City may have some hard decisions to make and meetings need to be kept minimal while still doing what needs to be done. There may be changes to some of the meetings, and cancelations are huge now. The Fireman's Reverse Raffle has been canceled, and purchased tickets will be refunded. Things will be different for the City but the Mayor said we will have to stay calm and persevere.

Ms. Michael said that the City has a place that can act as a quarantine area if a group of the Cities Paramedics or Police Officers end up being exposed to the virus and needed to be quarantined and cannot go home to their family. Family Community Services offered the basement part of their building which has showers, a weight room, washers and dryers and a kitchen. The basement would be sealed off from everyone else in the building.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Paul Moskun, Chairperson
Utilities Committee**