



**Ravenna City Council
Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
July 13th, 2020**

The public meeting was held via Zoom and live streamed via YouTube. A video recording of the meeting can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fLvZLQIdCs>

Council present via Zoom: Council President Andrew Kluge, Amy Michael, Rob Kairis, Paul Moskun, Cheryl Wood, Tim Calfee, Christina West, and Matt Harper.

Also attending the meeting via Zoom: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Law Director, Frank Cimino; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Assistant City Engineer, Patrick Jeffers; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky and Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor

Planning Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:20 P.M. by Chairperson, Rob Kairis

Mr. Kairis stated that the first item on the agenda was the One Nation Agreement for Umpire sourcing and scheduling.

The contract is for the Parks and Rec softball league and the contract was sent out to members for review. The amount paid at the end of each game to the umpire is \$30, \$15 from each team.

- The item was moved forward

The second item on the agenda was the approval to apply for a grant through Ohio North Youth Soccer.

It is a 50% grant match that the City would have to pay in order to receive the \$500. The total amount is \$1,000, which would go towards equipment and supplies.

- The item was moved forward

The third item on the agenda was a cemetery update.

Mr. Kairis stated that there has been a cemetery sub-committee formed to focus solely on the Maple Grove Cemetery union and the request from Ravenna Township to dissolve the City/Township cemetery union. The City must consent in order for the Township to receive their request to remove themselves from any further connection with Maple Grove Cemetery.

It was discussed whether to consider creating a special tax to help with cemetery costs, but no Council members were in favor at that time. After further discussion Mr. Kairis stated that there are currently three options, to consent to the request, to not consent, or to consider a cemetery property tax to help with cemetery costs.

There are issues in the cemetery that still need to be addressed which include the bridge repair, which is now on hold, and repairs to the chapel. The historical value and significance of the cemetery was discussed, which includes informative statues and epitaphs.

Ms. Michael stated that she was not in favor of letting the Township out of the union. Mr. Kluge stated the possibility of having a Townhall meeting so that Council can hear from the City and Township residents regarding the cemetery union, with the possibility of including the Historical Society to give historical points about the cemetery. Ms. Michael further elaborated on the cemetery importance with historical fieldtrips from the school, and the current standard of maintenance and care that it is held to.

Law Director Cimino stated that he would send a letter to the Township's lawyer to inform them that the Committee has met, and a joint meeting will be requested.

Mr. Kairis stated that the plan is to set up a meeting with the Township, like the City does annually to discuss the budget, but to instead discuss the contract and to see if there is an opportunity to have a Townhall meeting to invite the community. With social distancing still a factor, the way in which a Townhall meeting will be conducted will need further discussion, along with the types of questions and points that will be expressed.

- The item was for discussion only

Mayor Seman stated that the City needs to look at the zoning code, which needs some changes. He will be scheduling a meeting with Todd Peetz who has a land use plan that Council will need to look over and discuss.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Rob Kairis, Chairperson
Planning Committee