



**Ravenna City Council
Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting Minutes
February 8th, 2021**

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=x6DReUKpaIA>

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; Acting Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; and Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor

The Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:36 P.M. by Chairperson, Matt Harper.

The first discussion item was to enter into a contract for the 2021 Paving Program.

Mr. Finney stated that bids for the paving program contract will open tomorrow at 11:00am. The bids will be reviewed, and the Board of Control will meet, adding that by Monday night there will be a contractor and a price to go along with the Board of Controls recommendation. The proposed ordinance would be to authorize the Mayor to enter a contract with the best, low bidder as determined from the Board of Control.

Mr. Calfee inquired as to who composes the Board of Control and Mr. Finney stated that it is composed of the Mayor, Service Director and the Finance Director.

- The item was moved forward

The second discussion item was Traffic Calming.

Mr. Harper stated that the discussion was to consider traffic calming to City roadways such as speed humps or paint markings.

Mr. Finney stated that the Engineering Dept. conducted a speed study utilizing the Police Dept. speed trailer. He stated that they watched the speed on Highland going east for three half-hour increments. The average speed was 28-29 miles per hour. Mr. Finney suggested a better speed representation would be to use a radar gun that can inconspicuously record speeds, adding that AMATS (Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study) has radar guns available that can be set up for three-day, five-day and seven-day periods, which he believes would be more conducive to what is taking place. The fastest speed Mr. Finney documented was 40 miles per hour.

Council discussed issues of speeding on long stretches of road and that distracted driving may be more of an issue than speeding.

Mr. Finney ran through options for making motorists aware of speed limits and stated that extra stops signs are not an option because they are not warranted.

Mr. Harper addressed pedestrian crossing signage and had witnessed pedestrians crossing but cars were not yielding, adding that he is not sure if signage will make a difference for motorists.

Mr. Finney suggested street narrowing as an option, which includes having wider tree lawns or tree islands. Ms. West suggested a bike lane as a possibility.

Mr. Kairis stated his concern and his desire to investigate ways to ensure motorists and pedestrians are safe, which included studies and data to find out what is effective.

Mr. Harper stated to move forward with the AMATS survey and Mr. Finney responded that he would set that up.

- The item was for discussion only

Management Update

Mayor Seman stated that when he was on Council they did a speed study on Lafayette St. between Clinton and Freedom St. but only caught two people going over the speed limit. He thinks the speed study is a good thing and acknowledged that Lafayette St. is different from the traffic on Highland Ave.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:01 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Matt Harper, Chairperson
Streets & Sidewalks Committee**