



Ravenna City Council
Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes
June 14, 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=fnbaCKYLEbk&t=2453s>

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; Finance Director, Brian Huff; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; Economic Development Director, Dennis West and Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor

The Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:49 P.M. by Chairperson, Cheryl Wood.

The item was further discussion of proposed Ordinance 2021-056 for the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) expansion.

Mr. West stated that a portion of the item was brought before Council asking for the expansion of the CRA mapping and approval of the expansion of the downtown theater to extend westward in order to encompass a portion of Sycamore St. He stated that there is a developer who is looking at purchasing a vacated industrial building and wants to redevelop it as a mixed-use project. He said that it has been decided to move forward with the expansion of the current CRA so that the City does not lose the developer interested in purchasing the building.

Mr. West stated that since the City has decided to move forward with the CRA expansion the developer has agreed to move forward with the purchase of the building, adding that they will most likely invest \$1.5 million into the building.

The City has been in talks with the lawyer from Bricker and Eckler, Jeff Harris, who is well versed with how CRA's are set up. Mr. West stated that the CRA that includes the movie theater will be called CRA No. 1. He stated that the request is to amend Ordinance 2016-088 and has forwarded an amended copy of the original ordinance, which will be call CRA No. 1 moving forward, and talked through some of the changes. Mr. West said that the City will be looking at creating a CRA No. 2 that will encompass the areas surrounding CRA No. 1 and the rest of the City of Ravenna.

Mr. West stated that the application for a CRA for Riddle Block 9 has been approved and has been sent to the school district for their board review. After that it will go to the Ohio Development Services Agency for their review and approval.

Mr. West stated that the Sycamore St. developer will create a wonderful change to that area which will include three different concepts including condos, commercial and retail with a concrete patio for seating.

- The item was moved forward

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Cheryl Wood, Chairperson
Community & Economic Development