



**Ravenna City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday October 4, 2021, at 7:00 pm**

The Regular Council Meeting was held via Zoom and was live streamed via YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-kR0_BxJTPQ

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. October 4, 2021, by Council President, Andrew Kluge

Moment of Meditation & Silence

President Kluge called a moment of meditation and silence.

Pledge to Flag

President Kluge then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The following Council Members were present: Council President Andrew Kluge, Paul Moskun, Christina West, Matt Harper, Cheryl Wood, and Rob Karis

- Motion to excuse Ms. Michael and Mr. Calfee by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Also in attendance were Mayor Frank Seman; Law Director, Frank Cimino; Acting Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky, Council Clerk; Chelsea Gregor, Greg & Eve Francis, Mark Hairston, Larry Silenius and Diane Smith

Approval of the Minutes:

- Motion to approve the September 7, 2021, Regular Council meeting minutes by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Communications- None

Delegations from the Public- None

Report of Officials: Council received the Report of Officials.

Mr. Harper asked Acting Fire Chief Chapple if he knew what was causing the delay with the new fire engine.

Chief Chapple stated that the rear axle was on back order, and he is hoping that the part comes in by the beginning of November.

- Motion to approve the Report of Officials by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**

Report of Committees: Committee meetings start @ 5:30 PM 10/12/2021

Utilities: Mr. Moskun stated that there is nothing on the agenda.

Information Systems (IS): Ms. West stated that there was nothing on the agenda and nothing that she is aware of for next week.

Planning: Mr. Kairis stated that there was one item on the agenda for that evening and there will be a committee meeting.

Committee of the Whole: Mr. Kluge stated that the next Committee of the Whole meeting is Monday October 18, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

Public Health & Safety: A meeting is to be determined.

Streets & Sidewalks: Mr. Harper stated that there is one item for consideration and there will be a committee meeting.

Personnel: A meeting is to be determined.

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Community & Economic Development: Ms. Wood stated that a meeting is to be determined.

Cemetery: Mr. Moskun stated that Mr. Gabriel will be contacting a surveyor to survey the back area of the cemetery to see how far away the property line is from the railroad tracks. He will also be talking to Davey Tree about planting 25 trees in the cemetery.

Mr. Harper stated that the budget is doing okay and that revenues are above pace and expenditures are down.

Parks & Recreation: Mr. Calfee was not in attendance but gave Mr. Kluge a few updates to share.

Rock the Lot sold out on September 20th.

The Parks and Rec. Dept. was not awarded the grant for the bikes at Chestnut Hill Park.

Archery is completely sold out.

There will be a collaboration with Raven Packs on October 23rd.

Ms. Watkins wanted to thank the Ravenna Police Dept. There have been some issues with vandalism at the parks and the police dept. has been able to identify some of the individuals involved. Mayor Seman stated that there was a Tik Tok challenge to film yourself destroying public property.

Mayor Seman stated that trick-or-treat will be held on Saturday October 30th. The Parks and Rec. Dept. will be collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce to do a drive-through at the City Park like they did the year prior. Participants must register ahead of time, and door-to-door trick-or-treating will be from 3pm to 5pm the same day.

First Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-081 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE 2020 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT IN THE SUM OF \$46,980.00 WITH A 5% MATCH, FROM FEMA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The item had been discussed and it was the first time in 17 years that the grant has been awarded to the Ravenna Fire Dept. Mr. Kluge congratulated everyone who helped in getting the grant. Mayor Seman stated that the HR Director, Ms. Richkowski participated with the grant.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-081 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2021-081 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-082 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT CHESTNUT COMMERCE CENTER FROM RAY AND ANN HARNER FOR THE PURPOSE OF A PROPOSED ROADWAY, AS SHOWN IN EXHIBIT A, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-082 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2021-082 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-083 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, ACCORDING TO LAW, FOR CHEMICALS REQUIRED FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022, PURSUANT TO SPECIFICATIONS NOW ON FILE IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Moskun stated that the chemicals are a requirement for the treatment of water and wastewater and are required by the EPA.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-083 by Ms. West, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

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Ordinance 2021-083 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-084 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR THE OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that the grant is for a combination soccer golf/frisbee golf course at Chestnut Hills Park. The budget is approximately \$4,400 and the grant would pay for \$2,500 of the cost. There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-084 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2021-084 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-085 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL PROVIDED BY LOVE INSURANCE AGENCY, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND MARKED EXHIBIT "A" FOR THE RENEWAL OF INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Huff stated that the item was discussed in committee. He stated that the City ended up with its normal property coverage at the cost of \$103,990.00 for the year. There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-085 by Ms. West, 2nd Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2021-085 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-086 AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING THE 2021 ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS AS DETAILED IN SCHEDULE "A", AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Huff stated that it is an annual housekeeping item that is done approximately this time every year. He said that the only big item was the ARPA Funds and there was a large reduction of the revenues and anticipated expenses, adding that the state reallocated a lot of the funds that were previously meant for the small cities and gave them to the townships. The city bumped up income tax receipts to reflect where the city was at to date.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-086 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2021-086 was adopted.

Second Reading of Ordinances: None

Third Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-062 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PORTAGE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, FOR THE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS WITHIN THE CITY OF RAVENNA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kluge asked Ms. Dubinsky if there was anything to add and she stated that everything had been discussed and covered for several months.

Mr. Kairis expressed that he was opposed to the item stating that he doesn't think Council has gotten much public opinion and that it is doubling the recycling rate charged. He said that he is not opposed to eventually making the fee adjustment but does not feel that it needs to happen that day, adding that other municipalities have not been asked to make the change. Mr. Kairis stated that although the item has been discussed for month, Council only received the agreement that day.

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Mr. Kluge stated that there have been some changes to the agreement. He said that July 1st has been moved to October 1st, but the rate of \$5.50 has changed the same, adding that it is to get the City through the end of the year. Mr. Kluge stated that other municipalities have already signed up at the \$5.50 rate and that by January 1st all the municipalities participating with the County will be at the same rate.

Mr. Kairis stated that the City should wait until January to sign up for the \$5.50 rate.

Ms. Wood expressed her concern that residents could lose recycling service by not signing the agreement.

In response to a statement Mr. Kairis asked how the City can sign an amendment to an agreement if it is not in a current contract.

The Law Director explained that the City had a 5-year contract in 2014 and stated there was confusion with wording when the contract was amended in 2018, adding that the City is not under a current contract with Portage County Solid Waste. He stated that in the meeting minutes it was a misconception that the amendment in 2018 was a 5-year contract, but there is nothing in writing to confirm that assumption.

Mr. Kairis and the Law Director debated the wording in the 2018 agreement and the current agreement that was presented, and stated that the City does not have a current contract to amend.

Ms. Wood stated that the item has been discussed and that she is listening to the Law Director, adding that she does not want to lose service for the residents.

Mr. Kairis reiterated that he did not want the City to sign the new rate agreement until January 2022 and debated the validity of the current agreement presented to Council with the wording "amendment" written on the bottom.

The Law Director stated that the agreement could be considered a new agreement.

Mr. Kluge stated that the rate that is presented is the best rate that the residents are going to receive now and in January, and that he wants to see the City move forward and not lose service for residents, adding that he would like to move forward with a vote.

Mr. Moskun stated that he has heard countless comments from residents that they are in favor of the service continuing and that they do not mind the increase.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-062 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **Ms. Wood, Mr. Moskun, Ms. West, Mr. Harper - Ayes, Mr. Kairis- No**

Ordinance 2021-062 was adopted.

Mr. Kairis wanted to make note that there was no vote on the emergency clause so the ordinance would not go into effect until 30 days.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-063 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, PART 10 – STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES; TITLE SIX – OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES; CHAPTER 1062 – COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS; SECTION 1062.11 – COLLECTION RATES; BY ADJUSTING THE MONTHLY RECYCLING COLLECTION RATE TO \$8.50, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Dubinsky stated that there should be a change to the ordinance under section 1062.11, to read effective October 1st, 2021 instead of July 1st, 2012.

- Motion to amend the date from July 1st to October 1st ordinance to October 1st by Ms. West, 2nd Ms. Wood- **Ms. West, Ms. Wood, Mr. Moskun, Mr. Harper- Ayes, Mr. Kairis- No**

There was brief discussion regarding voting for the emergency clause. It would need 5 votes in favor, there were only 5 voting Council members in attendance and Mr. Kairis was not in favor. There was no vote made for the emergency clause.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2021-063 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **Ms. Wood, Mr. Moskun, Ms. West, Mr. Harper- Ayes, Mr. Kairis- No**

Ordinance 2021-063 was adopted.

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Old Business- None

New Business- None

President of Council Remarks- No Comment

Council Member Remarks

Ms. Wood- No Comment

Ms. West- No Comment

Mr. Moskun- No Comment

Mr. Kairis- No Comment

Mr. Harper- No Comment

Mayor's Remarks-

Mayor Seman stated that it is the time of year for political signs. There is a 30-day ordinance stating that people cannot put political signs out more than 30 days prior to the election, but he referenced a court case and said that the City cannot uphold the ordinance. He said that he has been questioned about the size of certain signs as well.

Mayor Seman stated that he thinks that the zoning code needs to be looked at again and has found that some of it is archaic and are related to housing developments.

There are several places that the public can get the vaccine and the vaccine booster. Information is available at City Hall.

There has been a class action lawsuit filed over the Lordstown Plant regarding fraud and selling the stock. The company stated that the Mayor had requested the purchase of 20 electric vehicles. A representative of the company came to City Hall and Mayor Seman stated that he did not order 20 vehicles, nor does he have the power to do so, adding that permission from Council is needed. Mayor Seman stated that he did write a letter of support to get the plant re-opened and that is the only thing he told them. He said that the same issue happened in Cuyahoga Falls.

Mayor Seman stated that the Charter Review is on the front burner and 15 Charter Review Commission members need to be chosen. He stated that the Finance Director will be an appointed position and that preparation will need to be made. The Finance Director is appointed by the Mayor and therefore the Mayor will be responsible for the audits. Mayor Seman stated that the Clerk will be taking Charter Review Commission applications and that the Commission will be appointed by Council at the first Council meeting in January.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 P.M.

- Motion to adjourn by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 1, 2021, at 7:00 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President