



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2021, at 7:00pm**

The public meeting was held in person and live streamed via YouTube. A video recording of the meeting can be found at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2BxA_10iKE

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Council President, Andrew Kluge.

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

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Seman; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Acting Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, John McFarland, and Brian Hare

The first item on the agenda was to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from November 22, 2021.

- Motion to approve the November 22, 2021, Committee of the Whole minutes by Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

The second item was an ordinance to approve the agreement with Optum Health for their policy change of eligibility.

Ms. Michael stated that there has been a change in age eligibility from 60 years old to 18 years old. The new agreement is to accept that change in policy in order to provide services.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The third item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to apply for bids for South Chestnut St. and Riddle Ave. paving.

Mr. Harper stated that the ordinance is the first part of the project which is allowing the Mayor to apply for bids for the project.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The fourth item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with ODOT for resurfacing.

Mr. Harper stated that the ordinance is the second part of the project to get South Chestnut St. and Riddle Ave. paved in 2022. There is a grant through ODOT and the estimated cost for the city is \$128,000.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

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The fifth item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids for the Annual Paving Program.

Mr. Harper stated that the item was discussed at committee, and everyone has a copy of the paving map with a list of the road areas being resurfaced.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The sixth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Quality Control Inspection, Inc.

The ordinance is an annual contract with \$25,000 allotted for services and inspections as needed.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The seventh item was an ordinance to amend Section 1062.03 to correctly reference Section 1062.11.

Mr. Kairis stated that it was noticed that a section of the codified ordinance was incorrectly referenced to solid waste instead of recycling rates. The ordinance is to correct the reference.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The eighth item was an ordinance to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the annual contribution to Main Street Ravenna.

Mr. Kairis stated that for the last 3 years the City has been contributing \$5,000 to Main Street Ravenna. At the previous committee meeting Brian Hare and Amy Adams addressed Council and provided a list of accomplishments for the year. Council discussed the item and decided to push the request for funding forward at \$15,000 for one year and then re-assess the contribution amount again next year.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The ninth item was an ordinance amending changes to the codified ordinance Chapters 812, 840 and 858.

Mr. Kairis stated that he presented some changes to the codified ordinance chapters of Peddlers, Solicitors and Canvassers, and Temporary Stores. The changes would include getting rid of Temporary Stores and bundling it in with Peddlers and adding an allowance for charitable organizations to the other two codified ordinance sections.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The tenth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the State of Ohio for the management of the RLF funds.

Mayor Seman stated that the item is a housekeeping item that is a non-negotiable contract from the State of Ohio.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

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The eleventh item was an ordinance to approve a 100%, 15-year tax abatement.

Mayor Seman stated that the tax abatement is part of a new project that is going to be built on Ray Harner's property. He said that the school board agreed to waive the 45 days and allow the 15-year tax abatement at 100%. It is part of a package and the City has done similar with other businesses in town. The income tax generated would be approximately \$165,000 per year.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The twelfth item was an ordinance to renew the contract for Dennis West as the Economic Development Director.

Mayor Seman stated that the item is for a personal services contract for one year and will be the same terms as the previous two years. The original agreement was for 3-years and so there will need to be discussions towards the end of the year regarding the Economic Development Director position. Mayor Seman stated that Mr. West has been a good addition to the economic development for the city and he has been making progress and working hard. There is an MOU between Ravenna Township and the City that will need to be signed in addition to renewing Mr. West's contract. Mayor Seman stated that the financial contribution to Mr. West's salary is shared between the City, Ravenna Township and donations from private donors.

Mayor Seman stated that there is also a MOU that will need to be signed for the continuing demolition of 645 Chestnut St. which states that both parties agree to the extension of the project contract. He said that the City has already invested \$70,000 into the building, which included \$20,000 to board up the property and \$50,000 to clean up the left-over contents inside the building prior to the demolition. The City is eager to see the completion of the project.

Mr. Kairis addressed the attached paperwork for the demolition MOU and questioned the items that were stricken out on the list. Mr. Finney addressed one item and stated that some of the items have already been accomplished. Mr. West will have to be reached for full clarification on the paperwork.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The thirteenth item was an ordinance approving the 2022 payroll ordinance update.

Mr. Huff stated that it is an annual ordinance and that there were some changes from the year prior which included different positions and a 1% rate increase from 2021.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The fourteenth item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Medical Mutual for 2022 hospitalization coverage.

Mr. Huff stated that it is an annual ordinance and that there has been no change in coverage but that there is a slight increase in the amount that the employees are going to pay in the upcoming year. The overall cost to the City and the employees in going to be six percent which is the current market rate.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

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The fifteenth item was an ordinance approving the 2022 temporary budget.

Mr. Huff stated that there are no changes to the temporary budget which was approved by Council in July 2021. Any additional updates will be done in February and then approved in March.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The sixteenth item was an ordinance accepting the distribution of income taxes collected in 2022.

Mr. Huff stated that they are proposing a few changes by adding money to the parks operating fund and the 553 Capital Improvement Fund. The changes will be discussed by the Budget Commission. Mr. Huff stated that the changes can always be changed back, if need be, adding that 0.02% is going to Parks and 0.03% is going to the Capital Improvement Fund.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

The seventeenth item was an ordinance adjusting the 2021 estimated revenues and appropriations.

Mr. Huff stated that the item is an annual ordinance that is required for audit compliance purposes, adding that it checks the estimates of revenue and expenditures, and makes sure they are correct.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.
- Motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. Michael- **All Ayes**

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President