



**Ravenna City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday January 10, 2022, at 7:00 pm**

The Regular Council Meeting was held in person and was live streamed via YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8J02IMIpFU>

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. January 10, 2022, 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, Amy Michael, Paul Moskun, Christina West, Matt Harper, Rob Kairis, Cheryl Wood, and Tim Calfee.

Also in attendance: Mayor Frank Seman; Law Director, Frank Cimino; Acting Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Council Clerk; Chelsea Gregor, Amy Adams, Maria Hydell, Larry Silenius, and Diane Smith

President Pro Tem: A motion was made by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Harper to nominate Amy Michael as President Pro Tem – **Mr. Kairis, Mr. Harper, Ms. Wood, Mr. Moskun, Ms. West, Mr. Calfee- Ayes, Ms. Michael- Abstain**

Committee Assignments: Mr. Kluge stated that everyone should have received their committee assignments and asked if there were any questions There were no changes.

Appointment of Charter Review Commission Members: Mr. Kluge stated that everyone received the applications for the Charter Review Commission and stated that Council will need a motion to appoint the members. Council has received 9 applications out of the total of 15 member seats and will be accepting more applications for consideration.

- Motion to appoint the following individuals to the Charter Review Commission: Gail Jones-Nemeth; Michael Bogo; Sharon Spencer; Carmen Laudato; Mark E. Smith; Dirk Remley; Steven Farhat; Deena M. Tannert; Antoinette Austin- by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. Michael- **All Ayes**

Approval of the Minutes:

- Motion to approve the November 22, 2021, Special Council meeting minutes and the December 6, 2021 Regular Council meeting minutes by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Communications- None

Delegations from the Public- None

Report of Officials: Council received the Report of Officials. Ms. West inquired about the new fire truck and Acting Chief Chapple stated that it is a week out.

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

Report of Committees: Committee meetings start @ 5:30 PM 1/18/2022

Utilities: Mr. Moskun stated that there is nothing for the committee meeting.

Information Systems (IS): Ms. West stated that a meeting is to be determined.

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Planning: Mr. Kairis stated that there are a couple items for consideration 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 January 24, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

Public Health & Safety: Ms. Michael stated that there is an item on the agenda, and there will be a committee meeting.

Streets & Sidewalks: Mr. Harper stated that there were three items for consideration and there will probably be a committee meeting.

Personnel: Mr. Calfee stated that there are no plans for a committee meeting.

Community & Economic Development: Ms. Wood stated that there are several items on the agenda and a committee meeting is to be determined.

Cemetery: Mr. Moskun stated that they approved the continuance of the hospitalization insurance for cemetery employees and that there were no increases for 2022. The board will be voting on pay increases at the next meeting.

Mr. Harper stated that they did have a conversation regarding a joint meeting with Ravenna Township. Mr. Gibson was amenable to the meeting but wanted it to be held in a larger venue because of covid numbers, adding that the high school was a suggested location. The day of Committee of the Whole was a suggested day. The meeting would be to discuss the cemetery budget and the cemetery mediation.

Parks & Recreation: Mr. Calfee stated that there were several winter programs and activities in December that were quite successful. The Selfie Studio had a number of photo booths for people to take Christmas selfies, along with a lot of props to use. There was also a Christmas cookie camp where kids could come in and make Christmas cookies. The HVAC system installation has just been finished at the RAC.

First Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-001 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH OPTUMHEALTH CARE SOLUTIONS, LLC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The ordinance would be to accept the eligibility age for services from 65 years old to 18 years old. The change will allow members 18 years and older to receive a free RAC membership.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-001 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-001 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-002 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, ACCORDING TO LAW, FOR THE PAVING OF SOUTH CHESTNUT STREET AND RIDDLE AVENUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Harper stated that the project is able to be done because of a grant that was received by Mr. Finney. It is an 80/20 split and the city's portion is approximately \$128,000.00. Chestnut St. will be paved from Main St. to Lake St., and Riddle Ave. will be paved from Meridian St. to Liberty St.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-002 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-002 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 2022-003 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ACCEPTING REQUIREMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH FEDERAL FUNDING FOR RESURFACING S. CHESTNUT ST. AND RIDDLE AVE., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is agreeing to the terms from the State on how to spend the money for the resurfacing project.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-003 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-003 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-004 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, ACCORDING TO LAW, FOR THE 2022 PAVING PROGRAM, TO INCLUDE ASPHALT, CONCRETE STREETS, CRACK SEALING, SIDEWALKS AND STRIPING, PURSUANT TO SPECIFICATIONS NOW ON FILE IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is for the annual paving program and the total budget is just over \$1 million dollars for the 2022 summer projects.

Mr. Calfee stated that it is a wonderful thing that the city was able to pass a levy to put the paving program into effect and that the results of the paving over the last few years have been phenomenal. He wanted to thank the citizens for supporting the levy and the money to do so.

Mr. Kluge stated that the city will be paving 8.43 lane miles and in 2021 they paved just over 12 miles. The city has been able to pave 8 plus miles of road since 2019 which is over 50% of the lane miles within the city, adding that they have done a great job.

Ms. Michael added for clarification that the city does not pave Rt. 59/Main St.

Mayor Seman stated that Mr. Finney is always looking into grand money for paving projects and he is doing a great job.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-004 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Mr. Calfee- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-004 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-005 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTION, INC. (QCI), TO PROVIDE INSPECTION SERVICES FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR THE YEAR 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that the item is a backup contract in case the City needs to call in any inspectors or help on projects. It is the same contract as the year prior.

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 Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-005 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-005 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-006 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 1062.03- DECLARATION OF COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL AS A PUBLIC UTILITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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Mr. Kairis stated that there was a discrepancy noticed in the codified ordinances when reviewing the new recycling contract. A section of the code incorrectly pointed to 1060.15 Collection Rates instead of 1062.11 Collection of Recyclable Materials.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. Michael- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-006 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-006 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-007 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE \$15,000.00 FOR MAIN STREET RAVENNA FOR THE CITY'S ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that Council had approved a \$5,000 donation for 3 years to Main Street Ravenna. With the 3-year commitment ending, Main Street Ravenna addressed Council and requested a contribution of \$15,000 which is more in line with the national average for Main Street program contributions from municipalities. Main Street Ravenna provided information on how they have contributed to the community and how they are a productive asset to the community, which included their involvement in the Downtown District Plan and the grant that they received for Riddle Block 9. The committee agreed to move forward with \$15,000 for one year and to revisit the amount at the end of 2022.

Ms. Wood stated that she was not opposed to the contribution but felt that it was a large increase from \$5,000. She said that there are other non-profit organizations and items going on in the city that also require funds and that she would like to see the city being more frugal with funds.

Ms. Michael stated that moving forward the city can look at the budget and decide how much money they want to contribute to non-profit organizations.

Ms. Wood expressed concerns on how the money would be spent and Ms. West stated that Main Street Ravenna has to spend the money based on the objectives of the organization guidelines.

Mr. Kluge stated that he appreciated the back-and-forth conversation but that the ordinance is on the table as a \$15,000 contribution, adding that Ms. Michaels recommendation would be an interesting conversation to have in the future.

Mr. Kairis reiterated that the contribution is only for one year and then it will be revisited.

Mayor Seman stated that there were a lot of people that put time and energy into Main Street Ravenna and that they need the money now more than ever.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-007 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Mr. Calfee- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-007 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-008 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, PART 8 – BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE; TITLE TWO – BUSINESS REGULATION; CHAPTER 812 – CANVASSERS AND SOLICITORS; SECTION 812.14- EXCLUSIONS, CHAPTER 840- PEDDLERS SECTION 840.01- PEDDLER DEFINED AND SECTION 840.15- EXCLUSIONS AND REPEALING CHAPTER 858- TEMPORARY STORES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that there are three sections of the code that deal with similar items but that all three codes require people to go to the Mayor's office to fill out an application to get a badge and permit to conduct business in the city. The change would include exceptions for charitable organizations to conduct business without approval. The Temporary Stores section will be repealed since it is equivalent to the Peddlers section of the code.

Food vendors were addressed, and it was stated that the Health Department regulates them.

There being no further comments or questions.

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- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Mr. Calfee- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-008 by Mr. Calfee, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-008 was adopted.

Second Reading of Ordinances: None

Third Reading of Ordinances: None

Old Business- None

New Business- Ms. Michael stated that the SAFER grant has been talked about in the past and that the timeline to apply is coming up so Council will have to make a decision soon if they would like to move forward with applying.

Acting Chief Chapple stated that the Fire Department is in dire need of more firefighters and that Covid has put a strain on the department and has increased their workload. They currently do not have a secretary and have had to do all the paperwork themselves. Chief Chapple stated that they are at a very critical point and the department cannot run with the volume of numbers that they have and with the amount of firefighters that they have.

The SAFER grant would be to help cover the cost of three full-time fire fighters for three years. Council discussed the eventual cost of retaining the three new firefighters and that additional firefighters were suggested in a report from 12 years ago. It was stated that additional businesses are expanding in town and that more revenue is likely to be received by the City to compensate for the additional positions.

Mr. Kluge stated that there can be a longer conversation at the committee meeting to address issues of concern regarding the commitment of hiring three new firefighters.

President of Council Remarks- Mr. Kluge thanked the safety forces for everything they have done over the past year and in 2020.

He stated that he wanted to address Council meeting times at the next committee meeting. Reflecting, Mr. Kluge stated that 2020 was the year of the pandemic, 2021 was the year of listening and he said that he wants 2022 to be the year of action, adding that he is excited for the coming year.

Council Member Remarks

Mr. Harper- No Comment

Ms. Michael- No Comment

Mr. Kairis- Mr. Kairis thanked Mr. Kluge for his leadership as Council President and his creativity in hosting the last Council meeting of the year outdoors due to pandemic concerns. Mr. Kairis addressed Juneteenth and stated that he noticed that the City has a Council meeting on June 20th while some entities have that day off. He said that individual municipalities can choose whether to celebrate the holiday and suggested that the City consider making it an official holiday and adding it to the list of holidays in Section 260.03 so that full-time employees have off each year.

Mr. Moskun- Mr. Moskun commended the Fire and Police Departments and stated that many times both departments have been understaffed for different reasons and said that they are both extremely important and of what's needed to keep them going.

Mr. Calfee- No Comment

Ms. West- No Comment

Ms. Wood- No Comment

Mayor's Remarks- Mayor Seman stated that it is a stressful time but the City is doing what it can for the employees. There will be extended Covid pay for first responders as needed.

There are developments in the city that will probably start making an impact financially in the next 2-3 years that will help keep the City stable, which will also help balance out the addition of new firefighters.

Land has been purchased at Chestnut Commerce Center and a new road will be constructed. The funds for the new road construction will need to be paid for in full and then the City will be able to be partially reimbursed through grants. Mayor Seman stated that RLF funds that were used to

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help close the deal on the property will be able to be reimbursed, which will then be reallocated back out to the road construction.

The ceremony for honorary way to honor Gary and Trish Kraus took place in Council Chambers since it was too cold outside.

The Finance Department is trying to hire a third person, but they are having difficulties.

Mr. Kluge stated that there are two pending legal issues that need to be addressed and an executive session has been requested.

Ms. West made a motion to go into executive session to discuss two pending legal issues.

- Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:13 pm by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. Michael - **All Ayes**

Council went into Executive Session to discuss two pending legal issues.

- Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:56 pm by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

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

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 7, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President