



Ravenna City Council
Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2022

The public meeting was held in person in City Council Chambers.

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

Also in attendance: Mayor Frank Seman; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Amy Adams, Arasin Hughes, John McFarland and Mike Bogo

The Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairperson, Cheryl Wood.

The first item was the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA).

Mr. Kluge explained that Council received a revised copy of the DORA application and said that the days and times are up for consideration, adding that suggested days are currently Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and events as approved. Mr. Kairis questioned who would approve DORA events and it was stated that the Mayor currently approves events but Council approves DORA's. Mr. Calfee stated that he would just like to see the DORA active on Friday and Saturday's and said that the original plan was to have it for events only. Ms. Wood stated she would like to go large to reduce restrictions later on if things change. Council discussed that most DORA communities have them 7 days a week, and Mr. Kairis stated that Council has the authority to stop a DORA at any time.

Mr. Kairis stated that an item for consideration is the ingress and egress of events within the DORA and stated that they cannot be obstructed. He also addressed liquor permits for events within the DORA, such as Art on Main.

Council consented on 12pm-11pm for the designated time and discussed adding Sunday. Currently only the Cimmaron has a license to serve liquor on Sundays, but the West Main Street Winery is working on getting a Sunday permit. Mr. Harper stated that he would like to see the DORA open on Thursdays as well and stated that people have different days off. Mr. Finney suggested having the DORA 7 days a week. Mr. Harper stated that he thinks that if the DORA is available 7 days a week it will only be popular during events. Mr. Kairis stated that he believes it will help bring in more events and that it will become an economic benefit to the downtown area. Council discussed the option of having the DORA 7 days a week and stated that Council could always change the days if necessary in the future.

- The item was for discussion

The second item was approval of the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) minutes.

Ms. Wood stated that the item is the annual Tax Incentive Review Council meeting minutes and that the Theater 7 minutes had been added separately via email by Dennis West. Mr. Finney

stated that Menards is not moving forward with building at this time and will need to re-apply and get re-approved for variances once they decide to start building.

- The item was moved forward

The third item was approval of the LG Chem Enterprise Zone Agreement.

Mayor Seman stated that the original LG Chem Enterprise Zone Agreement had undergone 256 changes after lawyers reviewed the agreement after its original approval. The agreement has already been worked out with the school district and will go to the County for approval on April 28th. Some building specs and payroll for the company have been adjusted. Mayor Seman will take the ordinance and agreement to Brad Ehrhart at the Portage Development Board once Council approves them at the Special Council meeting.

- The item was moved forward

The fourth item was to change the funding of the high school property purchase from the Capital Improvement Fund to the CDBG RLF Fund.

Ms. Wood stated that the item is to amend a previous ordinance to appropriate funds to purchase property owned by the Port Authority. The City would like to change the funding from the Capital Improvement Fund to the CDBG RLF Fund.

- The item was moved forward

Management Update

Mayor Seman stated that there is interest in the old Oak Rubber property on Chestnut St. where the building is currently being demolished. Once the property is cleared away from the demolition debris the City will need to get ownership of the property. Currently the Land Bank owns it and there is a \$70,000 lean and \$100,000 in back taxes on the property.

There is a business interested in the old Italian-American Club which is currently out of use. Mayor Seman stated that the Economic Development intern is doing very well while Mr. West is out of the office.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:32 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Cheryl Wood, Chairperson
Community & Economic Development**