



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
May 23, 2022, at 6:00pm**

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

**The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:00 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; Finance Director, Brian Huff; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Derek Kreider, John McFarland, Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil.

**The first item on the agenda was to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from April 18, 2022.**

- Motion to approve the April 18, 2022, Committee of the Whole minutes by Ms. Michael, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

**The second item was an ordinance to appropriate \$10,000 to the Police Department K-9 Fund.**

Ms. Michael stated that the Police Department still owes \$5,357.93 in medical bills from Mako. The remainder of the appropriation will be put into the K-9 fund for other K-9 needs.

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

**The third item was an ordinance to appropriate \$6,000 to the Fire Department vehicle maintenance line.**

Ms. Michael stated that the money will be used for repairs to the ambulance suspension.

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

**The fourth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with United Earthworks, LLC.**

Mr. Harper stated that the item is to allow the Mayor to sign for the contract to begin work on Rayann Parkway.

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

**The fifth item was an ordinance to appropriate funds for the construction of Rayann Parkway.**

Mr. Harper stated that the item is to appropriate funds for the infrastructure at Rayann Parkway which includes water, wastewater and fire hydrants. A Special Council meeting will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> to pass the ordinances for items four and five.

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

**The sixth item was an ordinance to appropriate \$4,200 for additional trash pick-up with the DORA.**

Mr. Moskun stated that the item is for additional trash pick-up within the DORA from July to December. He stated that there has been reports of trash overflow and an extra pick-up has been overdue, adding that Republic will be notified.

Mr. Calfee stated that the item is to take care of additional trash within the DORA.

Mr. Kluge stated that there are 64 trash cans within the DORA.

Mr. Kairis stated that there will be more foot traffic due to the DORA and it is part of the sanitation plan.

Mr. Kluge stated that the DORA permit holders will provide two additional trash receptacles outside their businesses as part of the sanitation plan.

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

**The seventh item was an ordinance to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$68,467.00 for a WWTP utility truck.**

Mr. Moskun stated that the Wastewater Treatment Department would like to purchase a new utility truck with a stainless-steel bed and a BOSS snowplow attachment. The truck is currently in stock and can be available for purchase by mid-June, adding that the wait for a new truck is 8-12 months. The department has money available and the truck that would be replaced will be given to the Parks and Recreation Department for their use at no cost.

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

**The eighth item was an ordinance to accept a donation of bleachers from the Trumbull County correction Facility.**

Mr. Kairis stated that the donated bleachers have an estimated cost of \$450 and will be used at Ballfield #1 at Havre's Woods Park.

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

**The ninth item was an ordinance to accept a donation of a park bench from the Lions Club for Chestnut Hills Park.**

Mr. Kairis stated that the donated park bench will be dedicated to the Ravens Pack and will be installed in May with a ribbon cutting in June.

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

**The tenth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to solicit Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Design Review Consultant.**

Mr. Kairis stated that the item has been discussed for the past year and a half. The RFQ has been inspired by Kent's RFQ and it has been confirmed by the Law Director to move forward with the current one proposed for Ravenna. Mr. Kairis stated that item is prepared to be voted on in June. Mr. Calfee addressed that the agenda stated, "Request for Quotes" and it was acknowledged that it should state "Request for Qualifications".

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- Motion to amend item number 10 to read” An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to solicit Requests for Qualifications” by Ms. West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Wood - **All Ayes**
- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.

### **The eleventh item was a discussion regarding garbage can placement.**

Mr. Kairis stated that he did research to see what other cities have in their codified ordinances and there is nothing about placement of garbage cans on private property, adding that he is hesitant to change anything.

Ms. Michael stated that she is seeing more people with garbage cans in front of their houses.

Ms. West stated that the issue can be seen as a nuisance and Ms. Wood stated that she is more concerned with trash.

Mayor Seman stated that some people may be elderly who place their garbage cans close to their homes for easy access.

Mr. Moskun stated that the new Property Maintenance Officer is trying to enforce ordinances that have not been being enforced.

Council discussed the difference between trash overflow and trash can placement, adding that different properties afford different locations to be able to house empty trash cans.

Mr. Calfee stated that the item will be put on pause and reviewed next month.

Council acknowledged that since residents do not have a single hauler it is difficult to know what days their trash pick up is and it is a difficult thing to enforce.

- The item was for discussion only.

### **The twelfth item was an ordinance to appropriate \$294,000 to Fund 219.**

Mr. Huff stated that the item will be appropriating additional funds that the City will need to put into the RLF-UDAG Fund. Mayor Seman stated that the fund was expended, and Ray Harner paid off his RLF loan so that the City could pay for the Rayann Parkway project.

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

### **The thirteenth item was a resolution/ordinance recognizing Juneteenth as a Federal holiday.**

Mr. Calfee addressed the item of the City recognizing Juneteenth as a City holiday.

Mayor Seman stated that a Juneteenth celebration is being planned on Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> in the downtown area.

There was concern over negotiations with the unions and Mr. Huff stated that additional payouts would need to be made to the Police and Fire Departments, and the Water and Wastewater Departments since they run 24 hours a day. The City would consider closing City Hall as a soft cost since employees would be given the day off without addition to their regular compensation.

Mr. Kairis stated that the state has recognized Juneteenth as a holiday and stated concern if the City did not observe it, adding that there could be a MOU for this year for the Safety Forces.

Juneteenth falls on a Sunday and so the observed holiday would be on Monday June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Kluge stated that he feels comfortable moving forward with recognizing the holiday and Mr. Moskun stated that it is an important holiday in history.

Mr. Kairis supports adding Juneteenth to the list of City holidays.

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Council acknowledged that additional negotiations would need to be made with the unions for the holiday once an MOU expires.

- Motion to add Juneteenth as a paid holiday for the City by Ms. Wood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Harper  
- **All Ayes**
- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation to make Juneteenth a permanent paid holiday for City employees by a roll call vote.

Mr. Calfee made mention and introduced a new reporter from the Record Courier, Derek Kreider, to Council.

- Motion to adjourn at 6:49 pm by Ms. Wood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

**There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk of Council**

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**Council President**