



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 2022, at 6:08pm**

The public meeting was held in person in Council Chambers.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:08 P.M. by Council President, Andrew Kluge.

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

Also in attendance: Mayor Frank Seman; Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Fire Captain, Ryan Hall; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, John McFarland, Doug Edwards, and Diane Smith

The Law Director stated that he would like to go into executive session to discuss the investigation of public employees.

Ms. West made a motion to go into executive session to discuss an investigation of public employees.

- Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:08 pm by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood - All Ayes

Council went into Executive Session to discuss an investigation of public employees.

- Motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:19 pm by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- All Ayes

The first item on the agenda was to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from November 21, 2022.

- Motion to approve the November 21, 2022, Committee of the Whole minutes by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. West- All Ayes

The second item was an ordinance to amend the City's codified ordinance Sections 1060.10 and 1062.07.

Ms. Michael stated that the recycling section is added and is referring to the ordinance amendment under 1060.10.

Mr. Calfee stated that he has concerns about how the ordinance will be interpreted and where receptacles are to be housed appropriately.

Mr. Finney explained the purpose of suggesting fencing as an option for residents to hide their receptacles.

Mr. Kairis stated that residential trash receptacles are generally in order, while Ms. Wood stated her concern that the ordinance would be punishing property owners that are not a nuisance.

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Ms. Michael explained that some residents do not keep their properties tidy regarding trash or receptacles, and said that the current ordinance, as is, was not considered enforceable.

Mr. Calfee clarified that he was not against the amendments but wanted to work with what the amendments are.

Mr. Kluge asked if Council was in favor of the edits and moving forward.

Mr. Kairis questioned the definition of a building line regarding the ordinance amendment and then stated that he was in favor of the amendments.

Mr. Calfee questioned the logistics of a corner property and what would be considered the building line.

Ms. Wood further inquired about how duplexes with various layouts would be designated.

Ms. Silenius asked if a corner lot has two building lines and Mr. Finney stated that it does.

Mr. Soudil explained the enforceable purpose of the ordinance and that it was meant for nuisances that stick out.

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

The third item was an ordinance to amend the City's codified ordinance Section 244.05.

Chief Chapple stated that he and Captain Hall discussed amending the ambulance billing rates and came up with a proposal that Life Force is on board with but that it is still low compared to the national average. He said that the cost of supplies has increased and explained to Council the various billing items and their cost increases.

Mr. Kairis suggested adding language for Medicare and Medicaid and having it explain the pay they provide towards services.

Mr. Huff explained that he checked with Life Force on the request and said that they did not advise the suggestion.

Mr. Calfee stated that he is okay with the increases and suggested it could be reviewed annually.

Ms. Wood suggested that the City think about implementing soft billing.

Mr. Kluge clarified the talking points and asked if everyone was okay with the language as it was written and that further discussion on the other items can continue for possible amendments at the next committee meeting.

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

The fourth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the 2023 Annual Paving Program.

Mr. Harper stated that there are two major projects going on and there is \$1.4 million going toward paving.

Mr. Finney stated that there will be approximately 14 lane miles paved in 2023. He clarified that Freedom St. will be re-bricked in three phases and that in the second phase 270 ft. will be done.

Mr. Finney explained that the fiscal year for ODOT begins mid-year and therefore the paving of Main St. will either be done in the fall of 2023 or spring of 2024.

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

The fifth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for S. Prospect and N. Chestnut paving.

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Mr. Harper stated that the paving of South Prospect St. and North Chestnut St. will go from the north and south city limits to Main St., adding that it will run the whole length of the streets.

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

The sixth item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to sign participatory legislature to pave Main St.

Mr. Harper stated that the legislature agreement is to agree to ODOT's terms and that the city will contribute 20% of the project.

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

The seventh item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to renew the TreeKeeper Program for a 3-year period.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is a 3-year renewal of the TreeKeeper Program at the current rate of \$6,250. He said that the program keeps track of all the City trees.

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

The eighth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Hammontree & Associates.

Mr. Finney explained that there is a sanitary lateral on North Chestnut to the GE buildings that is being utilized by two businesses. He said that the city does not allow two separate businesses to share a lateral and therefore it was decided that an easement will be procured and the City will maintain the lateral.

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

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The ninth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into Fire Department Dispatch contracts.

Ms. Michael stated that the item is to authorize the Mayor to sign the dispatch contract and said that there are no changes.

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

The tenth item was an ordinance approving the 2023 Payroll Ordinance Update.

Mr. Huff stated that it is a housekeeping item for non-union employees but since the union negotiations are not finalized, he has not changed the ordinance and that he will send out exhibit A tomorrow.

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

The eleventh item was an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Medical Mutual for 2023 hospitalization coverage.

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Mr. Huff stated that it is a housekeeping item and that they have the same plans as 2022. He said that they are introducing a wellness plan, called the Bravo Program, to help encourage healthy employees and reward participants who can in turn save on their premiums. Mr. Huff stated that there is a 4% increase on plans from 2022 and the premium deduction rate would depend on the plan employees had picked. He said they will eventually include a smoking program.

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

The twelfth item was an ordinance approving the 2023 Temporary Budget.

Mr. Huff stated that it is an annual housekeeping item that was passed in July. He said that there have been no changes and that the department heads will all meet in March to amend the budget for final passing shortly after.

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

The thirteenth item was an ordinance accepting the distribution of income taxes collected in 2023.

Mr. Huff stated that it is a housekeeping item and that there were a couple of changes that were made to the Parks and Capital funds, adding that he would like to keep it the same as 2022.

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

The fourteenth item was an ordinance adjusting the 2022 estimated revenues and appropriations.

Mr. Huff explained that the list of estimated revenues and appropriations is necessary to be in compliance with the auditors and said that he will have a list available for Council before the next meeting.

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

Mr. Kluge reminded Council that the next Council meeting is a Special Meeting on December 30, 2022 at 9:00am.

- Motion to adjourn at 7:04 pm by Ms. Michael, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President