



**Ravenna City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday February 6, 2023, at 6:00 pm**

The Regular Council Meeting was held in person in Council Chambers.

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. February 6, 2023, 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, Paul Moskun, Rob Kairis, Christina West, Cheryl Wood, and Tim Calfee.

Also in attendance: Mayor Frank Seman; Law Director, Frank Cimino; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Service Director; Kay Dubinsky; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Council Clerk; Chelsea Gregor, Amy Young, Jason Young, Jason Kentner, Peggy DiPaola, Jane Moser, William Barber, David Dix, Marcia Grair, Eric Courtney, Arasin Hughes, Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, and Diane Smith

- Motion to approve to excuse Ms. Michael and Mr. Harper by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Approval of the Minutes:

- Motion to approve the January 3, 2022, Regular Council meeting minutes by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Communications- Council received a financial disclosure reminder from the Ohio Ethics Commission.

Delegations from the Public- Gail Pavliga addressed Council to introduce herself as the newly elected 72nd District State House Representative. She explained that it is her job to meet with people and the community. Rep. Pavliga stated that she is the new chair of behavioral health and addiction, and works closely with organizations and policies on mental health and addiction. She is hoping that the State can help with the funding of projects that will help in jails, hospitals and shelters. Rep. Pavliga shared that the new crisis hotline, #988, is able to address 80% of issues by counselors who are on hand to help people in need. She also explained that she is on the Finance Committee and hopes to work in conjunction for the betterment of the community. Rep. Pavliga shared that she is in Columbus three days a week and spends the remainder of the week being involved in the community which she serves.

Reed Memorial Library Executive Director, Amy Young, addressed Council to speak about a proposed landscape renovation in front of the library. She stated that the concept is to make the area in front of the library safer for pedestrians and to allow increased usage for library patrons and community members. Ms. Young stated that the library has over 100,000 card holders and that the library is a crown jewel of the city with it being the first impression that visitors see as they come into downtown from the east. She shared a slide show of what the proposed renovation would look like and explained the statistics of the 10 parking spaces in front of the library which she said are underutilized with it only being occupied 1.3% of the time. Ms. Young stated that the library wants to help entice young families to move to Ravenna and is hoping that their proposed landscape renovations will help to spark economic growth by helping draw visitors to the library and downtown. She said that there are plans to renovate the back side of the library but that they would like to begin on the front since it is the focal point of downtown and that Main St. is planning to be paved within the next year. Ms. Young clarified that the entirety of the project would be funded and constructed by the library and thanked Council for allowing her to explain the project in more depth.

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Report of Officials:

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

Report of Committees: Committee meetings start at 6:00 PM 2/13/2022

Utilities: Mr. Moskun stated that there will be nothing.

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

Planning: Mr. Kairis stated that there are four items on the agenda, and there will be a meeting.

Committee of the Whole: Mr. Kluge stated that the next Committee of the Whole meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

Public Health & Safety: A meeting is to be determined.

Streets & Sidewalks: A meeting is to be determined.

Personnel: Mr. Calfee stated that there will be a committee meeting.

Community & Economic Development: Ms. Wood stated that there will be a meeting.

Cemetery: Mr. Moskun stated that the Chevy dump truck blew a rod and the cost is estimated to be \$5,700 with a request not to exceed \$6,200, adding that Chevy's have had a history of this problem.

Mr. Kluge stated that Mr. Harper sent an email with some financial figures regarding the union cemetery budget split. He said that the City's portion of the cemetery budget is 54% at \$203,000 and the Township's portion is 46% at \$173,000. He said that the paving of the main drive will be approximately \$25,000 and the cost to fix the fountains is \$10,000.

Mr. Moskun stated that there have been complaints and that paving the main drive is a priority.

Parks & Recreation: Mr. Calfee stated that there have been ceiling light improvements at the Tower Lodge and that there has been increased usage since its renovation. He explained that the archery program is maxed out at 37 kids with a waiting list of 5 people. Mr. Calfee stated that the annual Marlene Watt 5K walk/ run will take place on March 11th and that he encourages Council to support it in some way.

First Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-010 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT INDIVIDUAL GRANT THROUGH THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE FOR FIVE (5) SETS OF TURNOUT GEAR, AND ACCEPTING THE GRANT IF AWARDED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

There was no new information, and the grant requires no matching funds.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-010 by Mr. Kairis, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-010 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-011 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR THE 2023 FEMA ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Chief Chapple confirmed that the grant would go towards the purchase of two cots and two cot loading systems. There is a 5% match needed which will cost approximately \$7,000.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-011 by Ms. West, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

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Ordinance 2023-011 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-012 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR A FIRE/EMS GRANT THROUGH FIREHOUSE SUBS FOR THE PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS FIRE/EMS EQUIPMENT IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Chief Chapple stated that there was no grant match required.
There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-012 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-012 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-013 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE RAVENNA FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE SUM OF \$1,000.00 FROM JULIE PICCONE BEACH & JERRY BEACH, RECORDING ESTIMATED REVENUES IN THE SUM OF \$1,000.00 AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$1,000.00, IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kluge thanked Julie Piccone Beach and her late husband for the generous donation.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-013 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-013 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-014 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO DEDICATE RAYANN PARKWAY AS AN OFFICIAL CITY ROADWAY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Finney stated that there will be a ribbon cutting when the weather gets warm and said that the roadway is 95% complete, adding that the grass still needs to grow for it to be finished.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Mr. Harper- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-014 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-014 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-015 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE YEAR LICENSE WITH PEGASUS SOFTWARE FOR ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-015 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-015 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-016 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PURSUE AN AERIAL EASEMENT ALONG A PORTION OF WEST MAIN STREET TO ALLOW THE RELOCATION OF ELECTRICAL POLES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-016 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

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Ordinance 2023-016 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-017 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR THE STEP OUTSIDE GRANT IN THE SUM OF \$500.00 THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND TO ACCEPT THE GRANT IF AWARDED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that the funds will be used for an archery event to help pay for additional archery targets, adding that there is no match required.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-017 by Mr. Calfee, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-017 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-018 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 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that it is a housekeeping item to provide inspections as needed. He said that the cost has increased to \$68 per hour and \$102 per hour for overtime.

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. 2023-018 by Mr. Calfee, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-018 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-019 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, OHIO, PART FOURTEEN – BUILDING AND HOUSING CODE; TITLE EIGHT – HOUSING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE; CHAPTER 1462 – SMOKE DETECTION AND ALARM DEVICES.

Mr. Kairis stated that the item is to add CO2 detectors to rental unit inspections and that the language needs to be ironed out at the next committee meeting.

There being no further comments or questions.

Ordinance 2023-019 was left on for second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-020 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, OHIO, PART FOURTEEN – BUILDING AND HOUSING CODE; TITLE EIGHT – HOUSING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE; CHAPTER 1478 – BASIC EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES; BY ADDING SECTION 1478.10 – CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS.

Mr. Kairis stated that the language needs to be addressed just like the previous ordinance and it will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.

There being no further comments or questions.

Ordinance 2023-020 was left on for second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-021 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-009 BY AMENDING EXHIBIT "A" SECTION III – SERVICE DEPARTMENT, SUBSECTION (a) BY INCREASING THE INSPECTION RATE TO \$35 FOR POSITIONS 9, 10 AND 11, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Calfee stated that the item is to raise the inspection rate from \$30 to \$35, and it covers a number of inspections that the City carries out.

Mr. Finney clarified that the item is specific to building code inspectors.

There being no further comments or questions.

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- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-021 by Mr. Kairis, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-022 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE JOB CREATION PAYROLL TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF RAVENNA AND LG CHEM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Wood stated that the ordinance and the following one go hand in hand. She explained that it was an incentive for LG Chem to come to Ravenna and that it will provide a tax credit for income taxes for five years.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-022 by Mr. Calfee, 2nd Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-022 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-023 AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING THE MAYOR'S SIGNATURE ON THE JOB CREATION PAYROLL TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT WITH LG CHEM AS REQUIRED BY OHIO REVISED CODE 718.15, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Wood stated that the item is ratifying the Mayors signature on the previous tax credit agreement ordinance and that it is required by the Ohio Revised Code (ORC).

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-023 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-023 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-024 AN ORDINANCE PLACING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM, NOT TO EXCEED ONE YEAR, ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS THROUGH THE PLANNING, ZONING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENTS FOR APPROVAL OF STORAGE UNITS, STORAGE FACILITIES, STORAGE PODS AND SELF STORAGE ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CITY OF RAVENNA, OH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Wood explained that it is a moratorium not to exceed one year which would not allow any building permits for storage units to be constructed. She stated that the year would allow the City to determine what the preferences are moving forward.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- Ms. Wood, Mr. Moskun, Mr. Calfee, Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**, Ms. West- **No**

Ordinance 2023-024 was kept on for second reading.

Second Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-001 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, PART TEN – STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE; TITLE SIX – OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES; CHAPTER 1060 – SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL; SECTION 1060.10 – MAINTENANCE OF CONTAINERS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Calfee stated that after discussing the item last month there was a question regarding the definition of what the front of a person's residence is and the language to describe it. He said that since Ms. Michael is not present, clarification cannot be given.

There being no further comments or questions.

Ordinance 2023-001 was left on for third reading.

Third Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-125 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA; ESTABLISHING A CLASSIFICATION PLAN; A SALARY SCHEDULE; BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023 IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXHIBIT “A” ATTACHED HERETO; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Kluge clarified that the payroll ordinance includes the 5% increase for non-union employees and that Council will address the union contracts at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Huff stated that the language that was discussed at the previous meeting was cleaned up and that Council has the final draft, adding that there has been no change to the pay schedule that was sent out in December. He explained that Chapter 260 of the codified ordinances will have to be addressed and that he has already met with the Law Director to come up with a plan. Mr. Huff stated the only other item would be the date in the title of the ordinance which makes reference to December 31, 2023 and suggested leaving it open ended to avoid a similar situation moving forward. Mr. Kluge read the amended title as “AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA; ESTABLISHING A CLASSIFICATION PLAN; A SALARY SCHEDULE; BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXHIBIT “A” ATTACHED HERETO; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- Motion to amend the title as Council President Kluge read it by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-125 by Ms. West, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2022-125 was adopted.

Old Business- Mr. Calfee explained that Reed Memorial Library addressed Council regarding the proposed library renovations in June of 2022 and that they recently brought forward a proposal to eliminate the 10 parking spaces in front of the building at the Streets & Sidewalks Committee which brought forth opinions on the matter. He stated that the committee meeting was not a full hearing of opinions on the proposal and that he believes Council needs a fuller airing of opinions for or against the request. Mr. Calfee stated that the committee was not in favor of moving the discussion forward but he believes that Council as a whole needs to discuss the item more fully.

Mr. Kairis stated that his impression on the front renovation was that the City would pay for the improvements and then the City would get reimbursed by the library.

Mr. Kluge stated that further discussion on the matter will be determined.

New Business- None

President of Council Remarks- Mr. Kluge thanked the library for presenting that evening. He mentioned that the City officially has a new street which is a celebration. Mr. Kluge stated that there will be discussion to possibly close Day St. as part of a railroad upgrade which is a big decision for Council to make and that he would like to hear feedback from residents in the area.

Council Member Remarks

Mr. Kairis- Mr. Kairis mentioned that several members of Council will be up for re-election and wished everyone luck.

Mr. Moskun – Mr. Moskun reiterated that all the residents in the Day St. area should have notice of the future discussion regarding the possible road closure and that he would like to hear their input.

Mr. Calfee- Mr. Calfee stated that Council has received new chairs in Council Chambers and that they are a great improvement over the 30-year-old ones that were replaced.

Ms. West- No Comment

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Ms. Wood- Ms. Wood gave a shout out to the police and fire first responders, and also to the Street Department and said they did a great job with plowing the roads.

Mayor's Remarks- Mayor Seman stated that the deadline for filing the financial disclosure statement is May 10th and that the Clerk has sent the reminder out to Council. He stated that David Joyce is opening an office at the Administration building next to the County Treasurer's office on Meridian St. He said that Representative Joyce is willing to help write letters of support for some of the grants that the City is applying for. Mayor Seman stated that Tom Riddle reached out with an idea to hang a historic picture that he had restored on the side of the building facing the new civic space next to Guido's, adding that the wall still needs to be restored and finished after the demolition of the adjacent building.

- Motion to go into executive session at 7:14pm to discuss pending litigation by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Council went into executive session with the Law Director to discuss pending litigation.

- Motion to come out of executive session at 7:50pm by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Calfee- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adjourn at 7:51 pm by Ms. Wood, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President