



**Ravenna City Council**  
**Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**February 13, 2023**

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

Council present: Council President Andrew Kluge, Amy Michael, Rob Kairis, Paul Moskun, Cheryl Wood, Tim Calfee, Christina West

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Service Director, Kay Dubinsky; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Property Maintenance Officer, Don Rose; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, John McFarland

**The Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:23 P.M. by Chairperson, Amy Michael.**

**The first item was the purchase agreement for a 2025 ambulance.**

Ms. Michael stated that the item is for a second new ambulance.

Chief Chapple stated that the Fire Department signed a purchase agreement for a new ambulance a year ago but that they have not received it yet due to the unavailability of chassis'. He stated that he would like to start the process for ordering a second ambulance and said that the vehicle is two and a half years out. In response to Mr. Calfee's question, Chief Chapple explained that the two ambulances are from 2014 and 2016, adding that they are typically good for 7 years and that the current ambulance requesting to be replaced has approximately 70,000 miles.

Mr. Kairis stated that the quote is for \$302,117 and that he would like to pass it at a Special Council meeting.

Ms. Michael stated that ambulance calls have gone up and that she would like to move forward to lock in the state bid price through the same company that the other ambulance was purchased through.

- The item was moved forward.

**The second item was to accept the \$16,773.50 BWC grant award.**

Ms. Michael stated that the item is to accept the grant funds for the purchase of a Lucas device and two stair chairs.

Chief Chapple asked if in the future, an ordinance can be crafted to apply for and accept a grant due to the time sensitive nature of the money given and the need to utilize the funds.

- The item was moved forward.

**The third item was to accept the \$1,429.70 BWC grant award.**

Ms. Michael stated that the item is to accept the grant funds and that the City is thankful.

- The item was moved forward.

**The fourth item was to accept a \$100 donation for the Police K-9 Fund.**

Ms. Michael stated that the donation is from the Portage County Department of Adult Probation for the K-9 fund and there is no match required.

- The item was moved forward.

**The fifth item was to accept the \$200 donation for the Police Department.**

Ms. Michael stated that the item is to accept a \$200 donation from Edward Seigerst.

Chief Wallis stated that Mr. Seigerst's goal is to donate a total of \$800 in installments.

- The item was moved forward.

**The sixth item was authorization to sign the Striker maintenance agreement.**

Chief Chapple stated that the item is to have a maintenance agreement for the two new Lucas devices and two Lifepaks. He explained that the contract will be for 5 years but there will be a 15% discount and that the current and pre-existing contracts will expire on the same date so that the Fire Department will only have one maintenance contract moving forward. Chief Chapple stated that the cost of the new agreement will be \$3,864.

- The item was moved forward.

**The seventh item was authorization to purchase a new truck for the Fire Department.**

Chief Chapple stated that the Fire Department would like to purchase a new pickup truck and that their current one is 17 years old with approximately 42,000 miles. He explained that they found a new truck for \$56,000 and that they could have it by fall. Chief Chapple informed Council that the dealership stated that they could give a \$10,000 trade-in on their current truck which would help to offset the cost of outfitting the truck but said that the Service Department is interested in utilizing the truck for their usage.

Ms. Michael stated that the funds are available in the 553 Fund for the Service Department to pay for the truck and that it is more of a value to the City than to be traded in.

- The item was moved forward.

**The eighth item was additions to nuisance abatements.**

The City's Property Maintenance Officer, Don Rose addressed Council to speak on the subject of nuisance abatements.

Mr. Kairis explained what a nuisance abatement is and how fines can be attached to property taxes if they are not paid.

Ms. Michael explained examples of issues that Mr. Rose has been dealing with and why additions to nuisance abatements are necessary, especially when dealing with rental properties.

Mr. Rose cited unregistered vehicles in driveways as an example and explained that the promise of a fine creates action on the tenant or property owner to fix an issue.

Mr. Kairis stated that fines attached to taxes with nuisance abatements make things easier since they do not need to be taken to court.

Ms. Michael thanked Mr. Rose for all his hard work.

- The item was moved forward.

### **Management Update**

Ms. Michael expressed a huge thank you to the Water Department and dispatchers who dealt with the recent water issue of increased levels of manganese. She stated that the Utility Billing Department received approximately 300 calls and that the Water Department was working around the clock to ensure the water quality. Ms. Michael explained that the issue was in part due to the fluctuating temperatures affecting Lake Hodgson which changes the chemistry of the water with cold temperatures. She stated that Ravenna has good quality water and a dedicated staff.

Mayor Seman stated that the city's water is a real asset to Ravenna and that water is an issue in other parts of the country. He said that City staff did a good job and that expectations are high. Mayor Seman explained that the water issue took about a week to clean up and that the issue was caught quick enough, adding that he is grateful that the City has excellent crews.

**There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk of Council**

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**Amy Michael, Chairperson  
Public Health and Safety Committee**