



**Ravenna City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday May 1, 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. May 1, 2023, by Council Pro Tem, Amy Michael

Moment of Meditation & Silence

Pro Tem Michael called a moment of meditation and silence.

Pledge to Flag

Police Chief Wallis then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The following Council Members were present: Council Pro Tem, Amy Michael, Matt Harper, 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; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Council Clerk; Chelsea Gregor, Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, John McFarland, Lou Dudek, Lucy Ribelin, Kali Roberts, Robert Fall

- Motion to excuse Mr. Kluge by Ms. Michael, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Approval of the Minutes:

- Motion to approve the April 3, 2023, Regular Council meeting and the April 17, 2023 and April 24, 2023 Special Council meeting minutes by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Communications- A settlement check from a class action lawsuit against Monsanto Company. Mr. Huff explained that the Law Director did verify that the \$17,414.03 check was legitimate and that the funds are planning to be utilized in the Park Fund.

Mayor Seman stated that there is a need to stop using Roundup and that it is problematic.

Delegations from the Public- Robert Fall addressed Council to discuss an issue he had on April 16th while working on his driveway on S. Meridian St. He explained that while walking back from the BMV where his vehicle was temporarily parked, he tripped on the sidewalk which resulted in him placing his hand on an adjacent fence where a dog bit his hand. Mr. Fall stated that his concern is more focused on the six large pit bull dogs and puppies that were there in a small front yard and said that there is no backyard. He said that he does not believe it is a large enough space for the number of animals and added that they have gotten loose and have chased people, or people avoid walking past the area. Mr. Fall explained that he had got a puncture wound from the bite and had gone to the hospital but that he is not upset about the dogs or the breed, more so the lack of proper space.

Ms. Michael gave her sympathies and asked if the police had been contacted regarding the incident.

Mr. Fall stated that he did not because he did not want anything to happen to the dog.

The Law Director suggested reaching out to the Dog Warden for help.

Mr. Finney stated that he had brought forth an ordinance limiting the number of dogs in 2012 and that Council did not move forward with it.

Ms. Michael stated that the City needs to investigate it and get more facts.

Mr. Fall stated that it is an issue for the Post Carrier and that he can bring in neighbors to back up his concerns. He stated that he wanted to get the ball rolling and inform Council of the issue.

Ms. Wood stated that it needs to be investigated and Mr. Finney stated that he may have the original ordinance to share with Mr. Kairis for the Planning Committee.

Lucy Ribelin addressed Council to introduce herself as the City's representative from the Portage County Combined Health District. She explained some back story on the district stating that they were limited as to what they could offer approximately 10 years ago and had to

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contract services. Ms. Ribelin stated that it was through a Kent State University study that it was determined that it would be most beneficial for the City of Ravenna to join the Portage County Health District, which then became the Portage County Combined General Health District that includes all of the townships, villages, and the Cities of Aurora and Streetsboro. She explained that they have moved to 999 Main St. and have purchased the building which now houses WIC services, adding that it is a wonderful service under the department umbrella. Ms. Ribelin stated that there are three additional departments that run services through the district which are environmental, health education and nursing. She informed Council that the nursing department provides immunizations and that they provided free Covid vaccines during the pandemic. The district also provides motorcycle training, bike safety, free helmets and provides overdose protection kits through Project DAWN.

Ms. Michael thanked Ms. Ribelin and stated she has a wealth of knowledge.

Report of Officials:

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

Report of Committees: Committee meetings start at 6:00 PM 5/15/2023

Utilities: Mr. Moskun stated that there is nothing for committee.

Information Systems: Ms. West stated that there will be a meeting.

Planning: Mr. Kairis stated that there are a couple of items and there will be a meeting.

Committee of the Whole: Mr. Kluge stated that the next Committee of the Whole meeting is Monday, May 22, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

Public Health & Safety: Ms. Michael stated there are a couple of items and there will probably be a meeting.

Streets & Sidewalks: Mr. Harper stated that there is one item on the agenda, and he is unsure about a meeting.

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

Community & Economic Development: Ms. Wood stated that there is one item, and there will be a few items for a meeting.

Cemetery: Mr. Moskun stated that the cemetery funds are in the black and they are waiting for a price to get the grinding and paving done.

Mr. Harper stated that a part-time employee did not return and that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done to get everything in order for Memorial Day.

Parks & Recreation: Mr. Calfee stated that the Easter Eggstravaganza was the biggest program ever with a total of 450 kids and 1,200 people at City Park with cars lined up down the block. He said it was very successful and wanted to thank all the many donators and contributors, including the volunteers, Police, Fire and Street Departments.

First Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-061 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION (BWC) GRANT IN THE SUM OF \$16,773.50, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Michael stated that the item has been discussed and it is to accept the grant 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 Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-061 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-061 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 2023-062 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION (BWC) GRANT IN THE SUM OF \$1,429.70, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Michael stated that the item had been discussed and that it is a grant award for the Fire Department.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-062 by Mr. Kairis, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-062 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-063 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE RAVENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE SUM OF \$200.00 FROM EDWARD C. SEIGERST, RECORDING ESTIMATED REVENUES IN THE SUM OF \$200.00 AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$200.00, IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Michael stated that the item is a generous donation from a resident.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-063 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-063 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-064 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE RAVENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE SUM OF \$100.00 FROM PORTAGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, RECORDING ESTIMATED REVENUES IN THE SUM OF \$100.00 AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$100.00, IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Michael stated that the item is accepting a donation and that there is no match.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. West, 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. 2023-064 by Ms. Wood, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-064 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-065 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, PART SIX – GENERAL OFFENSES CODE; CHAPTER 686 – NUISANCE ABATEMENT; SECTION 686.03 – DEFINITIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis explained that the Building Department inspectors want to add 8 additional items to the nuisance abatement section to be able to enforce more violations and fines. He stated that there are a total of 23 nuisance abatement reasons.

Ms. Michael referred to Mr. Roberts previous statement regarding dogs and wondered if that could be added to the nuisance abatement section.

Mr. Kairis stated that Council will have to do a separate ordinance on the issue first and then it could possibly be added to the nuisance abatement list.

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 Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-065 by Mr. Calfee, 2nd Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-065 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 2023-066 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, ACCORDING TO LAW, FOR THE RESURFACING OF THE POLICE GARAGE PARKING LOT AND FOR ASPHALT REPAIRS IN MAPLE GROVE CEMETERY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is to allow the Mayor to advertise for bids for the two items. There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. West, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-066 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-066 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-067 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF NEW MATTER IN THE UPDATED AND REVISED CODIFIED ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF SUCH NEW MATTER; REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kairis stated that it is a housekeeping item to approve the codified ordinance edits within the previous year. There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-067 by Mr. Calfee, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-067 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-068 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND MINUTES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR THE 2022 ENTERPRISE ZONE COMPLIANCE REPORTS, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A", AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Huff stated that the item was talked about in committee and explained that the CRA minutes were handled separately and already submitted.

Ms. Wood requested that the CRA minutes be included into a single report with the Tax Incentive Review Council report.

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. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-068 by Mr. Harper, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-068 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-069 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE ONEOHIO OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND NO. 240, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The Law Director stated that opioid settlement funds are being received and it is an obligation by the State to create a new fund.

Mr. Huff stated that the state auditors are requiring a separate fund be created so that the funds can be easily tracked and said that discussions on how the money will be spent need to take place.

Ms. Michael suggested from a previous conversation that some of the funds could be placed in the Police and Fire Department Funds.

Mayor Seman informed Council that the funds the City will be receiving is not a lot of money.

- Motion to waive three separate readings by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-069 by Ms. West, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-069 was adopted.

Second Reading of Ordinances: None

Third Reading of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-040 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN CONTRACT WITH C. T. CONSULTANTS, INC., FOR A WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ASSESSMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Michael explained that the City has not received a contract for the assessment yet and requested a motion to send the item back to the Utilities Committee.

There being no further comments or questions.

- Motion to adopt emergency clause by Ms. West, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

Ordinance 2023-040 was sent back to the Utilities Committee.

Old Business- None

New Business- None

President of Council Remarks- Not present.

Council Member Remarks

Ms. Michael- No Comment

Mr. Harper- No Comment

Mr. Kairis- No Comment

Mr. Moskun – No Comment

Mr. Calfee- Mr. Calfee stated that it is a special occasion since the current Pro Tem has never presided over a regular Council meeting and thanked Ms. Michael. He requested to understand the voting process of where it stated that a Pro Tem is unable to be a voting member when taking the place of the Council President.

Ms. West- Ms. West stated that she is excited for the city-wide clean-up that will begin on May 6th.

Ms. Wood- No Comment

Mayor's Remarks- Mayor Seman stated that the city clean-up for Wards 1 and 2 are quickly approaching.

He commented that Lucy Ribelin did a nice report and as a voting member of the Board of Health he is grateful that the Health Department chose the old Chemical Bank as their new home.

Mayor Seman stated that paving work is underway on Pratt St. and that preparation is being done for Main St.

The Memorial Day parade will be back this year with the help of the American Legion.

Mayor Seman stated the old Italian American Club is under new ownership and it is a goal to help facilitate the clean-up of the torn down building on S. Chestnut, adding that the City does not own the property but feels responsible to help since it's in Ravenna.

Mayor Seman stated that there have been a lot of fatalities from opioid use in Portage County and stated that he hopes that the City can find a way to put the opioid settlement funds to good use.

Cliff Soudil addressed Council to remind everyone to vote on May 2nd.

The Law Director made a request to go into executive session to talk about pending legal matters.

Mr. Kairis made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending legal issues.

- Motion to go into executive session at 7:04pm to discuss pending legal issues by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

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

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- Motion to come out of executive session at 7:14pm by Mr. Calfee, 2nd by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**
- Motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm by Ms. West, 2nd Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 5, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President