



Ravenna City Council
Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2023

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

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

Also attending the meeting: Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, Lou Dudek, Carmen Laudato, Dirk Remley, Arasin Hughes, Todd Peetz

The Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Chairperson, Cheryl Wood.

The first item was the Comprehensive Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Todd Peetz, the Director of Portage County Regional Planning Commission, addressed Council to answer any questions regarding the MOU. He stated that the prosecutor's office and the City's Law Director have approved the MOU between the City and the Portage County Regional Planning Commission to provide a Comprehensive Plan for the City of Ravenna. Mr. Peetz stated that the initial cost had been lowered and that membership hours will be utilized first and then the City will be charged. He informed Council that they now have 3 planners and 4 interns who will be working on the project and that he hopes to get City Council and administration involved in the process. Mr. Peetz explained that the plan will be interactive on the City's website and that oral histories can be included in the project. He said that he is excited about the project and that it could help with community planning, zoning, and marketing of the city. Ms. Michael expressed her concern for certain businesses locating downtown and Mr. Peetz stated that they can talk about it and focus on what they would like to see downtown instead, adding that the City can implement a moratorium while deciding what businesses should be downtown.

Answering Mr. Kluges' question, Mr. Peetz confirmed that the interactive plan would be similar to Brimfield's Comprehensive Plan. He stated that he would like to create a steering committee to help with the plan and that he can submit a list of recommended people and organizations to be involved.

Mr. Calfee addressed the City's leftover Regional Planning hours and Mr. Peetz stated that he would look into how many hours the City has available to use for the project.

- The item was forwarded.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Cheryl Wood, Chairperson
Community & Economic Development