



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
June 17, 2024, at 6:00pm**

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

**The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Council President, Rob Kairis.**

**Council present:** Council President Rob Kairis, Rob Kairis, Tim Calfee, Christina West, Cheryl Wood, Matt Harper, Tyler Marovich.

**Also in attendance:** Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Tami Lorence; Finance Controller, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, Richard Miller, Cynthia Miller, Lou Dudek, Gerry Keyser

Motion to excuse Ms. Michael by Ms. West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

Mr. Kairis explained that there were some changes to the agenda. He clarified with Mr. Harper that item number five would not be pursued that evening, and that he would talk to the Mayor prior to creating a new ordinance.

Mr. Kairis stated that he would like to add the RLF agreement, which had just been received, and the 2025 tax budget to the agenda.

**The first item on the agenda was to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from May 20, 2024**

- Motion to approve the May 20, 2024, Committee of the Whole minutes by Ms. West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

**The second item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept the Ohio Ambulance program grant.**

Chief Chapple explained that the grant is split up into two financial parts. Out of the total \$51,500 grant, \$31,500 would be for retention and \$20,000 would be for cost recovery. Chief Chapple noted that there would be a pension pick up of \$7,560, out of the \$31,500 retention bonus, which would be offset by the remaining \$20,000.

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

**The third item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Hall Public Safety Upfitters.**

Ms. Lorence explained that there were 6 new police vehicles being outfitted, and that the money has already been appropriated for the upgrades. She stated that only the contract needs to be approved.

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

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### **The fourth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a two-year contract with Garland Company.**

Mr. Finney explained that due to the cost, the roof replacement project at the Service Department building will be split over two years. The item is to enter into a two-year contract with Garland Company to provide the replacement service.

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

### **The fifth item was an ordinance authorizing a contract with an attorney to review Locust Lane.**

- The item was taken off the agenda.

### **The sixth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to appropriate funds and enter into contracts for a new water tank.**

Mr. Moskun explained that the contract is with Caldwell and they are from Kentucky. The new tank will be 750,000 gallons and will be placed in the same location as the old tank. The bid opening was on Thursday and they had the lowest base bid.

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

### **The seventh item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Spruce and Jefferson water projects contract.**

Mr. Moskun explained that the project will be on Spruce Ave. from Maplewood to Diamond, and on Jefferson St. from Main to Spruce. He said that the waterlines, valves, and hydrants will be replaced, along with some sidewalk repairs.

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

### **The eighth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for a CDBG capital improvements grant.**

Mr. Moskun stated that the item is to apply for a grant for a storm project on Jones Ave. from the school to Oakwood St. He noted that the project would help with flooding issues.

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

### **The ninth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an aggregation agreement with Eastern Power and Gas.**

Mr. Moskun stated that the item is to enter into an agreement for the lowest gas price for anyone in the aggregation program. The current rate offered is \$3.85/Mcf for 24 months.

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

### **The tenth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an RLF agreement.**

Ms. Wood stated that the agreement finally arrived from the State of Ohio and that it is a housekeeping item that is signed every year to utilize RLF Funds.

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

**The eleventh item was an ordinance approving the 2025 tax budget.**

Ms. Lorence explained some of the changes in the budget which includes a spring cleanup, payroll increases, 553 capital projects, a 5-year projected plan, a reserve for the Fire Department, and electrical upgrades in the Water Treatment Plant. She noted that there will be similar revenues and that the debt payments will be coming off of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Kairis noted that the money has been appropriated for the spring clean up but that the City will have to find a company to do the hauling since Conrads has been bought out. He also addressed \$150,000 towards a new fire engine.

Chief Chapple explained the rising cost of fire engines and said that he would like to create a nest egg to save up for large purchase replacement vehicles. He noted that the back up engine is from 1994 and the ladder truck is from 2000, and that he would like to get the backup engine replaced.

Mr. Kairis asked if Chief Chapple could write down a replacement schedule for vehicles in the Fire Department for Council to review.

Mr. Calfee stated that a larger discussion should take place with a \$1 million dollar expenditure being proposed.

Mr. Kairis requested more information and data to support when it's time to replace an engine or ladder truck.

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

Mr. Kairis stated that there will be a Special Council meeting on Monday to host a workshop with members of staff and administration to run through discussion items which include the regular meeting agenda, delegations and public remarks, and a consent agenda. He said that the goal is to discuss how Council can make things more efficient and that a public meeting will be held to solicit comments on any proposed changes.

- Motion to adjourn at 6:22 pm by Ms. West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Marovich- **All Ayes**

**There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk of Council**

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**Council President**