



**Ravenna City Council
Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2023 at 6:00 pm**

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

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Council President, Andrew Kluge

Roll Call

The following Council Members were present: Council President Andrew Kluge, Amy Michael, Rob Kairis, Tim Calfee, Cheryl Wood, Christina West, Paul Moskun and Matt Harper.

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, Ralph Morehead, Sherri Kotouc, Lou Dudek, Arasin Hughes, Ron Knapp, John Sferra, Robert Wiggins, Dave McIntyre, Mike Bogo, Dennis West, Joe Bica

The Ravenna City Council conducted a Public Hearing regarding proposed Ordinance No. 2023-098.

Ordinance No. 2023-098 was read by the Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-098 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE AGREEMENT TO CREATE THE CITY OF RAVENNA-ROOTSTOWN TOWNSHIP JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kluge informed the audience that Council was there to listen to any comments they may have regarding the proposed Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) and invited them to speak. No audience members approached to speak.

Mayor Seman stated that the City has been working with the Rootstown Trustees for quite a while and that they have a large economic plan which will allow the township the ability to tax. He explained that the proposed JEDD will focus on a long-range plan for development along the Rt. 44 and Rt. 18 corridors. Mayor Seman stated that the JEDD is a good deal for the City and that the funds received will be split three ways, with the City of Ravenna receiving 10%, Rootstown Township receiving 40% and the JEDD board receiving 50%. He stated that he is excited for the new collaboration and that the City has been working with attorney Jeff Harris from Bricker and Eckler who are well versed in managing the legalities related to JEDDs. Mayor Seman noted that the purpose of the JEDD is to help development and create jobs, while also preserving the rural township atmosphere.

Ron Knapp, president of Sappwood Shores and a resident of Muzzy Lake, addressed Council to inquire about the inclusion of Muzzy Lake into the JEDD area and the reason why it was included.

Mayor Seman explained that the land was put in the JEDD area but it is not listed for development.

Rootstown Township Trustee, Dave McIntyre, addressed Mr. Knapp to explained that the parcel is being used as leverage for possible future funding opportunities and that there are no intentions to build around Muzzy Lake, especially since there are a lot of wetlands in the area.

There were no additional comments.

- Motion to adjourn at 6:16 pm by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Kairis- **All Ayes**

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

President of Council