



**Ravenna City Council
Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes
December 11, 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, Matt Harper

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, Judy Watkins, Julie Piccone Beach, Tonya Jefferson

The Personnel Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:25 P.M. by Chairperson, Tim Calfee

The first item was to discuss the appointed Finance Director position qualifications.

Mr. Calfee stated that he was unable to get with the HR Director and referred to the suggestions that the committee had previously discussed. He explained that the changes will be amended in the ordinance and then ready to pass after the Committee of the Whole meeting.

- The item was moved forward.

The second item was to discuss payroll ordinance change proposals.

Mr. Calfee stated that he would like to withdraw the item from the agenda. The item was removed from the agenda, and it was not discussed.

The third item was to discuss increasing staffing levels in the Fire Department.

Mayor Seman stated that a lot has been discussed and that the Fire Department could use additional support with 3 additional firefighters.

Mr. Calfee stated that the cost of 3 additional firefighters would be approximately \$300,000 and that it would increase staffing levels by 1 person per shift.

Chief Chapple stated that there was \$365,000 in FEMA grants and that only a handful of Ohio fire departments received funds for additional personnel.

Mr. Kairis asked why EMS patients cannot be dropped off and that the firefighters have to stay until the patient is admitted.

Chief Chapple explained that it would be considered “abandonment” and that firefighters need to stay until the hospital has admitted the patient into patient care.

Mr. Calfee explained that there are currently 6 personnel per shift, 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, and 4 firefighters. He stated that adding 3 more personnel would be a 17% increase.

Chief Chapple stated that an additional firefighter would help offset overtime with call offs. Mr. Calfee noted that there was approximately \$92,000 in overtime. He said that the item would be to amend Section II (b) of the payroll ordinance to 15 firefighters from the current 12.

- The item was moved forward.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Tim Calfee, Chairperson
Personnel Committee**