



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2023, 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, Andrew Kluge.

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

Also in attendance: Mayor Frank Seman; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Jim Wade, Ryann Cline, John Sferra

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

The first item on the agenda was to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from November 20, 2023

- Motion to approve the November 20, 2023, Committee of the Whole minutes by Mr. Kairis, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

The second item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept the Ohio Fire Marshal's Grant.

Ms. Michael stated that the item is to apply for a grant for four sets of turnout gear and that there is no match required.

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

The third item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for the Ohio IRA Funding Grant.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is for a grant for the tree inventory that occurs every 7 years and that the grant is currently being written.

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

The fourth item was an ordinance appropriating \$15,000 to document and record aerial easements.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is for the remainder of the street widening on Main St.

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

The fifth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an electric aggregation agreement.

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Mr. Moskun stated that the item was discussed by the Service Director and that the rate changes daily. He would like to get it passed as soon as possible to lock in the best rate.

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

The sixth item was an ordinance amending Ordinance 2023-024 to extend the temporary moratorium.

Mr. Kairis stated that a one-year moratorium was passed in February of 2023 and that Council would like to extend the moratorium until the comprehensive plan is complete.

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

The seventh item was an ordinance approving a \$20,000 donation to the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Kairis stated that Council landed on the amount of \$20,000 to donate to Main Street Ravenna and that they have decided to give the same amount to the Chamber of Commerce. He added that both organizations have a fee that the City pays for and that they will not be taken into consideration since they are close to the same cost.

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

The eighth item was an ordinance authorizing the appropriation of ARPA funds.

Mr. Kairis stated that there is an approximate total of \$595,000 in ARPA funds remaining that need to be encumbered. He stated that he has compiled a list of different department requests and that he has some updates. Mr. Kairis explained that he updated the fish restocking fee from \$2,000 to \$5,000, he found that the City does not need to purchase the suggested Resistograph and that a new squad cot in the sum of \$50,000 has been requested.

Mr. Moskun stated that the current cot is worn out and the release mechanism does not always work properly.

It was explained that there are two squads on order, but their arrival is significantly delayed.

Ms. Michael stated that the fire department considered trading in the squad but that they were not offered a good price and are considering using it as a backup squad.

Mayor Seman stated that the cot helps to eliminate the pressure of lifting patients.

Mr. Kairis stated that the City can cut back on some ARPA fund requests, including the beautification fund, to make funds available for the purchase.

Mr. Moskun stated that the cot does not always work, and he does not want to see people get hurt.

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

The ninth item was an ordinance amending the payroll ordinance to increase the number of fire fighters.

Mr. Calfee explained that the item would be to increase the number of fire fighters from 12 to 15 and that each shift would then be staffed with 5 fire fighters, 1 captain and 1 lieutenant.

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

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The tenth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a MOU with Ravenna Township.

Ms. Wood stated that the MOU would be to partner with the Township for Dennis West. Mayor Seman stated that some figures were incorrect on the MOU that the Township had signed and that the numbers were corrected. He stated that the Township will meet again next week to pass the amended MOU.

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

The eleventh item was an ordinance adjusting the 2023 estimated revenues and appropriations.

Mr. Huff stated that it is a standard item to stay in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code. He explained that they removed \$2,892,500 out of the appropriations and they moved \$1,959,000 out of the revenue adjustments. Mr. Huff stated that it was mainly due to the water tank revenue that the City will receive next year.

- All Council present responded in favor to move the item forward for legislation.
- Motion to adjourn at 6:21 pm by Ms. Michael, 2nd Ms. West- **All Ayes**

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Council President