



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 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, 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; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Tim Contant; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Brenda Varner

- 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 December 18, 2023

- Motion to approve the December 18, 2023, Committee of the Whole minutes by Mr. Harper, 2nd by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

The second item was an ordinance to accept a \$1,000.00 donation from Swagelok for the Fire Department.

Chief Chapple stated that the item is straightforward and that it is an annual gift to the Police and Fire Departments.

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

The third item was an ordinance to accept a \$1,000 donation from Swagelok for the Police Department.

Chief Wallis stated that the donation information is the same as the Fire Departments.

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

The fourth item was an ordinance to accept a \$250.00 donation from the Elks Lodge for the Police Department.

Chief Wallis stated that it is a donation from the Elks Lodge and that the money will be used for community engagement.

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

The fifth item was an ordinance to accept a \$10,425 body-worn cameral grant for the Police Department.

There were no additional comments to add.

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

The sixth item was an ordinance to enter into a contract with Montrose Ford for new police cruisers.

Chief Wallis stated that the item is straightforward and that the vehicles were part of the vehicle order from last year.

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

The seventh item was an ordinance amending codified ordinance Chapter 1044.02.

Mr. Harper stated that the item was submitted so that the chapter can be amended to be in compliance with Ohio EPA regulations.

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

The eighth item was an ordinance amending codified ordinance Chapters 1052.08 and 1052.09.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is the same as the previous item and it will be updating the chapters to the current guidelines.

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

The ninth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the 2024 annual paving program.

Mr. Harper stated that everyone had received the paving map and noted that the biggest project will be the paving of Rt. 59/Main St.

Mr. Kluge inquired about the number of lane miles to be paved in 2024, and Mr. Finney stated that he would have to get the numbers for him.

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

The tenth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the 2024 annual striping program.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is for the annual striping of street markings and crosswalks to keep them visible.

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

The eleventh item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with GPD Group.

Mr. Harper stated the item is to allow for a traffic study at Main St. and King St. to see if a traffic signal is warranted. He said that the company will provide different options, including a pedestrian crossing if the study finds the traffic signal unwarranted.

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

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The twelfth item was an ordinance appropriating \$38,496.67 for the purchase of salt and plow equipment.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is to outfit the new truck that was purchased for the Street Department.

Mr. Moskun asked what size plow they would be purchasing.

Mr. Harper stated that he was unsure but that the truck is a 550.

Mr. Moskun estimated that it would be a 10-foot plow.

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

The thirteenth item was an ordinance appropriating \$64,000 and approving water meter purchases up to \$100,000.

Mr. Moskun stated that new commercial and industrial water meters are needed to replace the old water meters that are close to their end of life. He said that the meter sizes will be 3", 4", and 6" inches.

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

The fourteenth item was an ordinance authorizing the increase of water and sewer rates according to COLA and CPI recommendations.

Mr. Moskun explained that there are different rates for the water and sewer rates and that the cost will increase according to Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) recommendations. He stated that if the COLA and CPI go negative, then the cost stays the same.

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

The fifteenth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for the Connecting Communities Planning Grant.

Mr. Kairis stated that Ms. Watkins was interested in applying and that the City applied for the grant in 2016 but did not receive it. He explained that the grant is to do a feasibility study to connect the Hike and Bike Trail to downtown Ravenna, adding that no match is required.

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

The sixteenth item was an ordinance to enter into a contract with T. Manfrass & Associates and appropriating \$10,000.

Mr. Kairis stated that the city complex plans were discussed and a revised scope of work is requested for a new Ravenna Athletic Club (RAC) facility.

Mr. Moskun asked what would become of the existing RAC building.

Mr. Kairis stated that he was unsure and that it would be decided down the road.

Mr. Finney stated that he would like a few Council members to go over the new city plans.

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

The seventeenth item was an ordinance to enter into a contract for Osborn Park and appropriating \$10,000.

Mr. Kairis stated that the Parks Board met and selected GPD Group to perform a conceptual plan

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for the new park.

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

Chief Wallis explained that the Police Department had ordered vehicles the year prior from Montrose Ford. He stated that they are all exactly the same vehicle, but 1 vehicle is slightly different which explains the cost difference between the 3 vehicles.

Mayor Seman explained that the Ravenna School District is putting a levy on the ballot again and requested a resolution of endorsement to support the school district.

- 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