



**Ravenna City Council  
Planning Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2024**

**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; Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Brian Huff; Assistant Finance Director, Tami Lorence; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Diane Smith

**Planning Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M. by Chairperson, Rob Kairis**

**The first item was a contract with Forever Lawn and appropriating \$172,000.**

Mr. Kairis stated that the project is one of the approved ARPA funded projects. He explained the project is to resurface Chestnut Hills Park and that the contract was from SourceWell so no bids are required. Mr. Kairis stated that items over \$25,000 still need to go to Council.

Mr. Huff stated that the funds were already appropriated with the previous ARPA appropriation ordinance.

- The item was moved forward.

**The second item was to amend codified ordinance Section 881 and to repeal Ord. 2023-124.**

Mr. Huff explained that it was discovered that the previous ordinance exhibit was inaccurate and that he worked with the Law Director and the Clerk to bring the ordinance in compliance with what RITA is requiring municipalities to adopt.

- The item was moved forward.

**The third item was Safety and City Hall buildings.**

Mr. Kairis stated that the item was placed on the agenda so that it is not forgotten and explained that the Parks and Recreation Department are included in the architectural scope of work to get a price tag on what a new facility would cost.

Ms. Michael asked about locations.

Mr. Finney stated that they need to establish a price tag for the building first and that they are looking at the footprint of the building.

Ms. Wood asked if the building would be free standing or attached to another municipal building.

Mr. Finney stated that it is finance dependent and that it needs to be discussed.

- The item was for discussion only.

**The fourth item was Recreational Marijuana.**

Mr. Kairis explained that the codified ordinance sections pertaining to medical marijuana could be replicated to address recreational marijuana. He said that law makers are still figuring out the laws and rules regarding recreational marijuana sales. Mr. Kairis asked in what zoning sections would the city like to make dispensaries permissible and how many would the city like to have.

Ms. West suggested limiting the number of dispensaries by distance.

Ms. Michael asked how many dispensaries are needed within the city.

Ms. West likened recreational marijuana to having cigarettes and beer available on every corner.

Mr. Kairis noted that dispensaries are regulated, and licenses have to be approved.

Ms. Michael said that she was curious as to why other communities are implementing moratoriums on recreational dispensaries.

Mr. Kairis stated that September is the earliest adult recreational marijuana sales are permissible.

Ms. Michael asked what the potential pros and cons of a moratorium would be.

Mr. Finney responded that recreational dispensaries are not permitted if they are not in the codified ordinances. He said that they could be considered conditional use in zones I-1, C-1 and C-2. Mr. Finney noted there are other facets to marijuana sales including growing, cultivation and processing that the City may have to address.

Mr. Kairis stated that they would just focus on the dispensaries for now.

Mayor Seman stated his concern of creating a plan and then having the State change the rules.

The item was kept on the agenda for future discussions.

- The item was for discussion only.

**Management Update**

**There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 P.M.**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk of Council**

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**Rob Kairis, Chairperson  
Planning Committee**