



**Ravenna City Council
Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2024**

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

Council present: Rob Kairis, Amy Michael, Tyler Marovich, Cheryl Wood, Tim Calfee, Christina West, Matt Harper

Also attending the meeting: Captain Jake Smallfield; Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Tami Lorence; Controller, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Bill Barber, Amy Young, Randy Parsons, Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Cynthia Miller, Diane Smith

Planning Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairperson, Rob Kairis

The first item was Old Forge Ditch.

Mr. Finney gave a summary of the Old Forge ditch property and explained that if the City wanted to get rid of the property it would have to auction it off or offer it to another government entity.

Mr. Kairis added that the item would have to be advertised for 5 weeks in a row and a 2/3 vote to pass would be needed to get rid of the property.

Mr. Finney stated that the wetlands are not buildable and that the tributary is not used as a water supply.

Ms. Michael suggested providing an easement and was not in favor of selling the property.

Mr. Calfee agreed and said that there can be a mutually agreed upon site for the easement.

Mr. Finney said that it is up to the owner to decide and define a description and emphasized that the City wants to control the waterway. He explained that an easement can be created which can transfer upon the sale and would run with the land.

Randy Parsons addressed Council to say that the City's property had been neglected for years and that it has caused harm to the farm, has killed a cow and that his father had fallen in the ditch.

Ms. Michael stated that it was his responsibility to relay that information to the City and noted that Mr. Parson's had only contacted the City about the property within the last year.

Mr. Kairis asked if Mr. Parson's would be interested in an easement.

Mr. Parson's stated that he would think about it and said that he struggles knowing someone could get hurt on the property.

Mr. Kairis stated that the City has no desire to sell the land but would entertain an easement and fixing up the property.

Mr. Parsons said that the property incurred undue damage that needs corrected and that it has turned into peat.

Mr. Kairis stated that an internal discussion would need to take place within the City.

Ms. Michael said that residents have told her that they don't want to see the City sell the land.

Ms. West said that the administration will have to talk behind the scenes and noted that safety is a priority.

Mr. Soudil stated that the City owns over 100 properties according to the auditor's website and noted that all the properties have been exposed to the elements throughout the years.

- The item was for discussion only.

The second item was the Safety and City Hall buildings.

Ms. West explained that she spoke to Ms. Watkins about the Parks and Recreation building and that there are two renderings that she will provide to Council.

Mr. Finney stated that he is waiting to hear how the safety buildings will be funded before moving forward.

Mr. Kairis stated that there is a committee being formed to plan out the funding.

- The item was for discussion only.

Management Update

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:19P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Christina West, Chairperson
Planning Committee**