



**Ravenna City Council
Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm**

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

The Public Hearing can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_hqgeqCITo

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Council President, Rob Kairis

Roll Call

The following Council Members were present: Council President Rob Kairis, Amy Michael, Tim Calfee, Cheryl Wood, Christina West, Paul Moskun and Matt Harper.

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Fire Chief Chapple, Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Finance Director, Tami Lorence; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, Cynthia Miller, Suzanne Moskun, Sheryl Kirtley, Richard Doak, Tammy Doak, Carolyn Chambers, Joseph Bica Sr.

The Ravenna City Council conducted a Public Hearing regarding proposed Ordinance No. 2024-091.

Ordinance No. 2024-091 was read by the Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-091 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, TITLE EIGHT - PARKING; CHAPTER 452 - PARKING GENERALLY; SECTION 452.21 - PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED PARKING AREAS; SUBSECTION (A) BY PROHIBITING PARKING ON BOTH SIDES OF PARK AVENUE, AT ALL TIMES.

Mr. Kairis read a public comment by Sandy Scott and Steven Everly.

“I’m in favor of banning parking on both sides of the street. I originally said I would be ok with one side but now as I’m coming out of the house, I see someone parked halfway on my lawn that’s parked on the street, so I support the ban on no parking on the street.”- Sandy Scott

“Good evening I live at 1035 Park Ave, I share a driveway with my neighbors, and we all have 3 cars each at both households. I park one can on the road, and it allows everyone to use the driveway without moving vehicles around. I all so have a different schedule than my mom that lives here to. Parking on the road is a necessity.”- Stephen Everly

Mr. Kairis opened the floor for public comments.

Carolyn Chambers addressed Council to explain the issues that she’s been having and how garbage trucks have struggled with having to back down the street instead of being able to drive all the way down. She said that there is enough room in the driveway for everyone to park there instead of out on the street which causes blockages and issues.

Suzanne Moskun addressed Council to explain the street parking issues that stem from a resident who parks in the same spot for days without moving their car and said that the street is not wide enough to effectively accommodate vehicles driving down the street. She requested for Council to make the street no parking on both sides.

Richard Doak addressed Council to explain that he has a hard time pulling in his driveway when there is a car parked in the road next to his driveway. He noted that it is 25 feet from the center of the road and said that not a lot of people park on the street.

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Mr. Kairis noted that if residents are having a party, they are able to notify the police department to make them aware as a courtesy so that they don't get a ticket.

Ms. Chambers stated that there are children on the street who play in the road and in driveways. She explained that it is a danger for them to cross the road if there is a vehicle parked on it which creates an obstructed view that could endanger the children at play.

Cody Oros addressed Council to explain that he was barely able to drive down his street because two residents had parked across the street from each other creating a narrow corridor to drive through. He also said that he has planted plants in his yard in order to deter other residents or visitors from parking in front of his house and causing damage to his front lawn.

Cynthia Miller addressed Council to express her concern for the lack of sidewalks that exist on Park Ave. She said that she lives on Main St. and that the lack of sidewalks on Park Ave. creates a danger for people who have to walk on the street in order to walk down it. She encouraged Council to ban parking on both sides of Park Ave.

Sheryl Kirley addressed Council to express her concern as a property owner on Park Ave. that lives in Kent. She said that it is a narrow road with not enough room to park on it but inquired about additional parking spaces that guests would be able to park at, such as the church or food places near by, if parking were to be banned.

Mr. Finney explained the procedure for authorizing permits for tree lawn parking and options for widening driveways. He added that permits are authorized if a driveway is unable to be widened and said that they must be renewed each year.

Ms. Moskun stated that many of the neighbors share a driveway so widening them would not work.

Mr. Finney stated that he would suggest driveways to be widened in front of the house, not in the back or side.

Mr. Kairis asked about the process of receiving a permit to park on the tree lawn and Mr. Finney stated that the permit goes on the authorized vehicle.

Ms. Moskun expressed her concern for children who may be crossing in front of a car and a driver that may not see them until it's too late.

Mr. Harper asked if there were any other cars that park on the street and he was told just one person usually.

Ms. Michael explained the history of limited car space in certain neighbors due to one car households when the houses were built.

Mr. Doak asked why the tree lawn permit costs \$25.

Mr. Finney explained the rules of the permit, which includes administrative costs to file, and told Council that the permits are difficult to enforce.

Mr. Kairis stated that the third reading of ordinances will be on October 7th,2024.

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Tammy Doak addressed Council to share that her visiting nurses were given multiple warnings for parking on the tree lawn due to not having a permit and said that they should not need a permit to do so.

Mr. Kairis stated that currently guests are able to park on the street instead of the gravel tree lawn, which would avoid any further warnings.

Ms. West addressed the audience stating City Council cannot ban something just because of one person and said that they would have to consider parking on one side of the street and how a decision would impact the neighborhood moving forward.

Joe Bica Sr. addressed Council to share that he did not realize his tenant had been creating such a bad issue for the neighborhood or else he would have spoken with him. He said that parking would still be an issue if it was permitted on one side of the street and noted that there is plenty of room to park in the driveway at his property or on the tree lawn.

The ordinance will be up for a vote at the October 7th, 2024 Regular Council meeting.

- Motion to adjourn at 6:38 pm by Ms. Wood, 2nd by Mr. Moskun- **All Ayes**

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

President of Council