



**RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
December 23, 2024**

**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, Rob Kairis.**

**Council present:** Council President Rob Kairis, Tim Calfee, Christina West, Cheryl Wood, Matt Harper, Paul Moskun

**Also in attendance:** Mayor Frank Seman; Service Director, Tim Contant; Finance Director, Tami Lorence; Finance Controller, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Cliff Soudil, Larry Silenius, Ryann Cline

**The first item on the agenda was to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from November 18, 2024**

- Motion to approve the November 18, 2024, Committee of the Whole minutes by Mr. Marovich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. West- **All Ayes**

**The second item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the 2025 Annual Paving Program.**

Mr. Harper addressed the extensive list of streets and areas to be paved and stated that there is a \$1.5 million dollar budget for the program, and that sidewalks will be included.

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

**The third item was an ordinance accepting a donation in the sum of \$2,500 from the Ravenna United Fund.**

Ms. West stated that the \$2,500 donation will help with camera upgrades at Chestnut Hills Park.

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

**The fourth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Industrial Surface Sealer, LLC.**

Ms. West explained that both ARPA and Capital Improvement funds will be utilized to resurface areas in City Park.

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

**The fifth item was an ordinance approving a donation to the Ravenna area Chamber of Commerce.**

Ms. West stated that the Chamber of Commerce presented to Council and have requested a \$30,000 donation.

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

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**The sixth item was an ordinance authorizing the use of \$125,000 in Section 17 RLF funds for Serenity House.**

Ms. Wood explained that \$125,000 in Section 17 RLF funds are being requested to be used for the Serenity House project. She stated that Serenity House will be an initial resource center for those dealing with homelessness, mental illness and chemical dependence. Ms. Wood noted that Section 17 RLF funds no longer exist and that the funds will never be replenished.

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

**The seventh item was an ordinance authorizing the donation of \$35,000 annually for 10 years to Serenity House.**

Ms. Wood stated that \$35,000 is being requested annually for 10 years to help assist with daily operations.

Ms. Lorence stated that there can be an annual discussion around budgeting the funds and that Council can review appropriate language in the ordinance.

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

**The eighth item was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to sign an MOU with AFSCME Union.**

Ms. Lorence explained that two laborer positions are being re-established into the payroll ordinance and that the addition has already been approved by AFSCME Union.

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

**The ninth item was an ordinance approving adjustments to the Estimated revenues and appropriations.**

Ms. Lorence explained that the item is an annual housekeeping ordinance that is a state audit requirement.

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

**The tenth item was an ordinance approving the 2025 Temporary Budget.**

Ms. Lorence explained that the item is an annual housekeeping ordinance for the temporary budget that needs to be passed by January 1, 2025.

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

**The eleventh item was an ordinance accepting the distribution of income taxes collected in 2025.**

Ms. Lorence explained that the item is an annual housekeeping ordinance to set up the allocation of income taxes for 2025.

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

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**The twelfth item was an ordinance authorizing the execution of Then and Now Certificates.**

Ms. Lorence explained that the item is a housekeeping ordinance that the Finance Department has been needing on an as needed basis.

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

**The thirteenth item was a discussion regarding Invited City Officials.**

Mr. Kairis explained that the Clerk had provided a list of tentative department heads to be invited monthly and a list of department heads who have signed up.

Mr. Moskun asked why Parks and Recreation was speaking in November and it was stated that they will be speaking after a project completion.

Ms. West stated that she is okay with the list as presented.

Mr. Kairis stated to clarify that department heads will be addressing projects and things going on in their departments.

- The item was for discussion only.
- Motion to adjourn at 6:14 pm by Ms. West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Wood- **All Ayes**

**There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk of Council**

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**Council President**