



**Ravenna City Council**  
**Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 12, 2026**

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

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

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Chief, Jake Smallfield; Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer; Bob Finney; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Greg Francis, Eve Francis, Cynthia Miller, Barbara Niemiller, Carmen Laudato,

**The Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:50 P.M. by Chairperson, Amy Michael.**

**The first item was two \$1,000 donations from Swagelok for the Police and Fire Departments.**

Ms. Michael explained an annual donation from Swagelok totaling \$2,000, with \$1,000 designated for the Police Department and \$1,000 for the Fire Department. The donation required no match and was accepted with appreciation.

Mr. Marovich asked for clarification on fund placement, and Ms. Lorence explained that the funds flow through the general fund to the respective departments.

- The item was moved forward.

**The second item was a \$25 donation from Don L. Ashton for the Police Department.**

Ms. Michael stated that there was a \$25 donation to the Police Department from Don Ashton, noting that the Police Department is grateful for the donation.

- The item was moved forward.

**The third item was authorizing a second School Resource Officer.**

Ms. Michael introduced a contract for a second School Resource Officer.

Police Chief Smallfield explained that the contract mirrored the existing agreement, with updated dates, and that the position would be partially funded through a school grant. He noted that the assignment would initially place the new officer at the high school, with Officer Brown gaining experience under Officer Lincoln.

Ms. West asked about school assignments, and Mr. Marovich asked about educational outreach efforts, which Chief Smallfield confirmed would be coordinated through the assigned officers. The committee agreed to move the contract forward.

- The item was moved forward.

**The fourth item was adjusting ambulance billing rates.**

Ms. Michael explained that the proposal followed prior discussions with the Fire Chief and Finance Director intended to recover rising operational costs.

Chief Chapple detailed LifeForce’s recommendations and explained that the proposed increases were more modest than those recommended. He outlined changes to basic life support, advanced life support, non-transport charges, and mileage rates, emphasizing that Medicare and Medicaid clients—who make up the majority of users—would not be billed beyond what those programs allow. Chief Chapple noted that private insurance and self-pay accounts would be most affected and that billing for remaining balances had already recovered approximately \$25,000 in the current year.

Ms. Lorence supported the modest increases, noting the need for financial sustainability.

Mr. Moskun shared a resident’s reaction to non-transport billing, highlighting public misconceptions about ambulance costs.

- The item was moved forward.

Chief Chapple then raised a procedural question regarding the sale of an out-of-service ambulance. He explained that a prior bidding process yielded no bids and that a neighboring municipality had since submitted a purchase agreement for \$30,000.

Mr. Kairis questioned whether rebidding was required.

Ms. Lorence confirmed, based on guidance from the Law Director, that Council approval was needed due to the sale amount exceeding \$25,000. The committee agreed to move the item forward for Council consideration at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

- The item was not moved forward.

**Management Update**

Mayor Seman provided a brief update, noting ongoing discussions about reducing Fire Department call volume, particularly related to nursing home calls, and exploring alternative approaches to avoid unnecessary emergency responses.

**There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:07 P.M.**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk of Council**

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**Amy Michael, Chairperson  
Public Health and Safety Committee**