



Ravenna City Council
Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026

The public meeting was held in person in Council Chambers.

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

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Law Director, Frank Cimino; Police Chief, Jason Smallfield; Service Director, Tim Contant; City Engineer; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Barbara Niemiller, Joseph Osborne, Peter Martin, Brian Breiday

The Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by Matt Harper.

The only item was a purchase of a New Sewer Camera and Van for the Street Dept.

Mr. Harper stated there was only one item that evening, the purchase of a new sewer camera and van for the Street Department. He explained that the current camera system is aging, difficult to maintain, and hard to source parts for. The existing van, originally a water department meter van passed down to the Street Department, is also in poor condition and nearing the end of its useful life. Mr. Harper stated that the sewer camera is a vital piece of equipment used to inspect sewer and storm lines by lowering a motorized camera into drains to identify clogs and other issues. He noted that the equipment has previously helped Mr. Finney identify and correct problem areas following major storms. Although the cost is significant, Mr. Harper emphasized that the purchase is essential to maintaining clear and functional storm and sewer lines. Funding will come from Street Capital Improvement (CI), storm, and sewer accounts.

Ms. Lorence clarified that the van will be funded through a split of four different accounts, while the camera portion will be split between the sanitary and storm funds. She stated she would prepare an exhibit detailing the funding sources.

Mr. Moskun asked whether the existing van would be repurposed or disposed of.

Mr. Harper responded that the vehicle is likely at the end of its service life and may be scrapped, as it holds little remaining value. He added that the new van will come equipped with an inverter to operate the camera system, and no additional equipment purchases are anticipated.

Mr. Calfee acknowledged the high cost but explained that the purchase includes multiple components: a new van, updated camera system, motorized tractor to carry the camera through pipes, interchangeable wheels for varying pipe conditions, a computer to analyze footage, and data storage capabilities. He noted that the purchase replaces not only the van but several outdated components.

Mr. Harper further explained that the different wheel sizes and textures are necessary to navigate varying pipe conditions.

Mr. Marovich asked about the expected longevity and warranty of the equipment.

Mr. Finney responded that while no exact lifespan is guaranteed, there is no reason to believe the equipment would not last at least five years if properly supported.

Mr. Harper added that the new equipment supplier is based in the United States, which should improve parts availability compared to the previous overseas supplier. While no specific lifespan was guaranteed, he expressed confidence that the equipment would remain serviceable beyond the financing term.

- The item was moved forward.

Management Update

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Matt Harper, Chairperson
Streets & Sidewalks Committee**