



Ravenna City Council
Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2026

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

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

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Captain, Dustin Svab; Service Director, Tim Contant; Finance Director, Tami Lorence; Interim Council Clerk, Cindy Kaderle; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Barbara Niemiller, Cynthia Miller, Peter Martin, Mike Bogo, Carlee Krause, Trisha Krause

The Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. by Chairperson, Amy Michael.

The first item was a contract with the Village of Mantua for Dispatch Services.

Ms. Michael introduced a discussion regarding a proposed dispatch services agreement with the Village of Mantua.

Captain Svab presented information on behalf of Chief Smallfield and explained that while Mantua Village would like to transition services as soon as possible, the process requires significant preparation, including equipment transfers, radio system integration, licensing, software compatibility, law enforcement database access, recordkeeping requirements, and addressing GIS mapping and telephone system needs. The proposed agreement would run from June 30, 2026, through December 31, 2029, with services anticipated to begin January 1, 2027. However, if Ravenna is able to begin providing dispatch services earlier, Mantua Village would pay Ravenna \$3,968.83 per month.

Captain Svab noted that Ravenna is committed to assisting Mantua Village but must ensure all systems and procedures are properly in place before the transition occurs. He estimated that October or November could be possible if everything progresses smoothly, though September was unlikely.

Committee members discussed the costs associated with the transition.

Captain Svab explained that most expenses related to equipment, software, and implementation would be the responsibility of Mantua Village, though individual costs would be reviewed as needed. He also confirmed that Ravenna has the capacity to handle the additional dispatch workload and that the agreement would bring the department to its desired level of service without significant additional growth.

Ms. Michael noted that the agreement includes language protecting Ravenna from liability for injuries or damages caused by Mantua Village. She expressed support for moving the agreement forward, stating that Ravenna would be able to provide quality dispatch services and that the partnership would be a good fit.

The committee discussed whether the emergency clause should remain in the legislation. After discussion, members agreed to keep the emergency clause in place to allow services to begin sooner if all requirements are met.

- The item was moved forward.

Management Update

Mayor Seman asked about a recent newspaper article regarding the dispatch discussion. Captain Svab explained that the article covered older information and that the issue had already been addressed.

Ms. Michael provided an additional update regarding ongoing public health and safety concerns related to property issues, landlords, and squatters. She stated that recent situations have highlighted challenges with current processes and laws, particularly when dealing with individuals occupying properties without authorization. Ms. Michael noted that some issues may require legislative changes at the state level rather than local action. She reported that city staff, police, and outside agencies have been working together to address problem properties, including one property that was recently cleaned up and another situation involving squatters that is moving through the eviction process. Ms. Michael expressed concern about neighborhood impacts, particularly on the west side of the city, and emphasized the need for continued coordination, possible ordinance reviews, and future discussions with administration and outside agencies to develop a stronger plan of action.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

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