



- **Ravenna City Council
Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2026**

The public meeting was held in Ravenna City Council Chambers.

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

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Chief, Jake Smallfield; Service Director, Tim Contant; Finance Director, Tami Lorence; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, Barbara Niemiller, Cynthia Miller, Cheryl Wood, Rich Edmiston, L.A.K. Dank, B. Walebraufe

Utility Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M. by Council member, Carmen Laudato.

The first item was the 2026 Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements project.

Ms. Laudato chaired the meeting with Ms. Michael and Ms. West volunteering to sit on the committee.

Mr. Finney presented the 2026 Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements project, valued at approximately \$133,000. The project includes three locations: improvements to catch basins and storm pipe on North Scranton Street between Main Street and Mechanic Street; stabilization of the eroding ditch along North Freedom Street just north of Coe Road near the bike trail; and continuation of the Jones Avenue stormwater project.

Ms. Laudato and Ms. West supported moving the project forward, and the committee agreed.

- The item was moved forward.

Management

Mr. Finney updated the committee on the City's requirement to participate in 811 utility locating services. Although the City has historically marked utilities when directly notified, contractors and residents now submit requests through the statewide 811 system. Mr. Finney estimated Ravenna could receive fewer than 500 notifications annually, with an ancillary fee likely under \$1,000 per year. City staff would handle the notifications and coordinate with the Street Department and Utility Billing to locate and mark utilities.

Mr. Finney explained that many requests may not require City utility markings, such as backyard fence or garage projects. He also discussed potentially implementing roadway work permit fees so the City can better track projects and ensure appropriate utility locating procedures are followed. Mr. Finney planned to present a proposal at the next Utilities Committee meeting.

Ms. Laudato noted the importance of the 811 process, particularly in preventing potentially catastrophic utility strikes, referencing a recent incident near University Hospitals Portage Medical Center in which a sewer line was struck.

Mr. Finney agreed that the process was important.

Mr. Calfee asked about how notifications would be processed, and Mr. Finney explained that the City intended to handle them in-house.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 P.M.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

**Paul Moskun, Chairperson
Utility Committee**