

**Village of Ravenna
2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
February 5th, 2019**

The Ravenna Village Council was called to order by President Steve Dohm at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. Members present: Steve Dohm, Bill Leszinske, Gordy Plescher, Eric Davis. Members absent: UE- Gary Marsman. Also: Clerk D. Hazen. DPW G. Nelson and M. Pierson of the Ravenna Independent.

Davis moved **Leszinske** supported to approve the Jan 7th Reg & Jan 15th Special meeting minutes as presented. Motion Carried 4/0

Plescher moved **Davis** supported to approve the February 5th agenda as presented. Motion carried 4/0

Plescher moved **Leszinske** supported to adopt **Ordinance # 149 an Ordinance to Continue the Village Planning Commission** Roll call – Plescher- yea, Davis- yea, Leszinske-yea, and Dohm yea. Motion carried 4/0

PC report by Dohm: **Dohm** moved **Davis** supported to appoint to the Planning Commission – Wes Dault 1/1/21, Craig Rinehart 1/1/20, Bill Leszinske 11/20/19 and Dave Ruble 1/1/20. Motion carried 3/0 with Leszinske abstaining. DDA and Brownfield appointment were tabled.

Clerk: Amendments for the 2018/2019 Budget. **Leszinske** moved **Plescher** supported to increase funds as presented. Motion carried 4/0

A letter was received from Thom Bolen of the Ravenna Soccer Club for use of the fields Conklin Park during the months of April thru June 2019. Approval was continued with the condition that they continue to coordinate with all other organizations approved to use Conklin Park and continue to pick up trash left by players and spectators after practices and events.

DPW G. Nelson: The DPW had been working on ice rink, maintenance and plowing. Brian Mann sanded and painted the new truck and did a nice job. The tailgate also needed a minor repair. Nelson also thanked Gordy Plescher for helping with repairs last week during the bad weather. Nelson recommended compensating Gordy for his time which is outside of his normal council responsibilities. A potential conflict-of-interest was acknowledged and Plescher excused himself from the discussion. The remaining members present discussed the supplier arrangement which needs to be clear to avoid actual or apparent impropriety. **Dohm** moved **Davis** supported to have Bill Leszinske (streets committee) finalize an agreement and report to the council at next month's meeting. Motion carried 2/0 with Leszinske abstaining. The south lift station will have split block exterior walls and steel roof like the water building. DPW hours will be 6am to 2:30pm. The DPW is seeking summer help and may place an ad by the end of the month. Nelson will be checking for a possible trade-in credit on an old mower towards a new bagger. With all the plowing done last week, Nelson recommends that the Village setup a truck fund because our trucks are continually breaking down and are difficult to find replacement parts for because of their age.

New Business: Water, sewer and garbage rates were discussed. For water, a base increase of \$4 per month was discussed. The water increase is necessary to cover cost increases experienced since the last increase in 2014. For sewer, an increase of \$2.50 each year for 4 years in a row was discussed. The sewer rate changes are necessary to cover the capital expenses associated with the north and south lift stations and cost increase since the last increase in 2015. For garbage, an increase of \$6 per month was discussed. The general fund currently covers the shortfall between garbage charges and costs. The money not spent on garbage will be applied to needed road improvements. The rate implementation timeline discussed is June. This topic will be resumed in March.

Discussion on establishing designated snowmobile routes was referred to the Planning Commission. The council reviewed and added to a list of prioritized potential focus areas to aid the Planning Commission in setting objectives for the year.

Davis moved **Leszinske** supported to approve the bills as presented. Motion Carried 4/0

Misc- Steve Dohm is organizing a Conklin Park Cleanup event on March 30th 1-3 during GVSU Community Outreach Week. Anyone is welcome to sign up at www.gvsu.edu/COW. Mike Pierson gathering information for a possible 4th of July fireworks – sponsored by The Chamber, The Ravenna Lions and The American Legion.

Newsletter- Water, sewer and garbage rates as well as water cross-connections will be topics in the April newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Dee Dee Hazen, Village Clerk