



**Ravenna City Council
Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2024**

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

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

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Frank Seman; Police Chief, Jeff Wallis, Fire Chief, Mark Chapple; Service Director, Tim Contant; Finance Director, Tami Lorence; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Controller, Brian Huff; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor; Mike Bogo, Cliff Soudil, Amy Young, Larry Silenius, Rich Bennett, Josh Paudel, John Plough, Chad Murdock

The Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:58 P.M. by Chairperson, Amy Michael.

The first item was a \$1,000 donation from Swagelok to the Police and Fire Departments. Ms. Michael stated that the item is an annual donation to the Police and Fire Departments and that there is no match required.

- The item was moved forward.

The second item was 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

Ms. Michael stated that the item is a grant through FEMA with a required 5% match. A total application amount is yet to be determined to state a match amount at that time.

- The item was moved forward.

The third item was 2025 Fire Department Equipment Grant.

Ms. Michael stated there is no match required for the grant and that it helps offset the cost of equipment.

- The item was moved forward.

The fourth item was ban on Camping on Public Property.

Ms. Michael stated that she has received phone calls in support of the ban and suggested considering adding residential and private property.

Mr. Kairis noted that the authorities may not be able to know who has permission from owners to camp on their property.

Ms. Michael explained the reason for wanting to ban public property camping due to a recent issue along the Hike and Bike Trail. She stated that the City of Aurora has language in their codified ordinances that addresses banning public property camping.

Chief Wallis addressed camping on private property and said that the City needs to be mindful and that the appropriate language should be spelled out in the ordinance.

Ms. Michael stated that Aurora's language is to the point and Council can tweak the language, adding that she would like to move the item forward. She said that exceptions can be made for the Parks and Recreation Director if needed, and the Police Department can use their discretion to inform people who may not be aware or who are traveling across the state via a designated trail.

Chief Wallis stated that he did not want to criminalize camping on public property and that he would like to work with people to provide housing or assistance. He said that some people do prefer living in a tent versus a home, so he would like something with teeth, but that he also does not want to arrest individuals because of the violation.

The item will be given to the Law Director to review and write up and ordinance.

- The item was moved forward.

The fifth item was Health Spas/Massage Parlors.

Ms. Michael stated that she has been getting ideas from other communities on license requirements and state accreditation.

Ms. Wood explained that 750 hours of education and a complete background check are required for a license and need to be displayed in the establishment.

Ms. Michael suggested different options to ensure honest service.

Mr. Finney stated that the state has guidelines and suggested creating definitions and verbiage to let the Planning commission vet out the businesses for approval.

Mr. Kairis stated that an ordinance will help detour people with dishonest intentions.

Chief Wallis said that Mr. Finney is okay with vetting the businesses and that the definitions need to be clear.

Mr. Finney said that he can do a shut down order through the Planning Commission and that he wants massage establishments conditionally permitted.

- The item was moved forward.

Management Update

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**