

Ravenna Council discusses how salaries were set

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Estill County Tribune

Members of the Ravenna city council met in regular session on October 13, 2014. The council began by voting to hire Rodney Davis to handle the title searches and other legal work pertaining to the home renovations in Ravenna. Only one member was not in favor of hiring Davis and that was William Van Cleve.

Bryan Kirby from CEDA informed the council that Davis was the only one to respond about the position and he felt like Davis was a very good choice considering the amount of experience he has in this type of work and that Davis also had very reasonable rates.

Kirby also instructed the council that they will have to hire a surveyor for the properties that have been selected for the renovations. He said

that a few of the homes are located in the flood plain and that the new homes will have to be built one foot above flood stage once the surveys have been completed.

William Van Cleve stated that after looking through the ordinance books that he had not found an ordinance in regards to the mayor and council's pay each month. He said that the city should have had an ordinance written up and turned in by the first Monday in May.

"We need one and it's against the law not to have one," stated Van Cleve.

Mayor Estine Tipton said that she had been reviewing ordinances as well and the only thing she could find was in former council member Joan Richardson's book. Tipton said that in October 2011, Charles Crowe, who was mayor at the time gave himself a raise and also

raised the council's pay to \$100 per month.

Former mayor Beverly Thompson explained to the council that while she was in office several years ago each council member made \$25 per month and her salary was \$300 per month. She advised the council to contact the Kentucky League of Cities and ask an attorney for help. She said that they would be able to provide the council with an ordinance exactly the way it should be written.

Tipton added that the council's pay remained the same after she took office and that she had lowered her own pay because the city was in such financial trouble at that time.

"I've said all along that \$100 a month was too much money for one hour a month," stated Louis Officer.

Officer reminded the

council that he had broached that subject during a meeting several months ago and no one was willing to take less pay.

Van Cleve also confronted the council about the city employee's pay and said that it should also be in an ordinance.

He questioned Mayor Tipton about the pay of city Clerk Susan Lay. Tipton replied that Lay is on salary and that although on paper she is only required to work 23 hours per week, that Lay often works much more than that a week.

Councilwoman Amy Crowe told Van Cleve that he should have taken responsibility and initiated something on the ordinances himself instead of bringing up the subject and then putting all of it on the council.

The council agreed to meet in groups of three to

work on the ordinances regarding salaries of the council and city employee's and would have something ready by the next meeting in November.

Van Cleve again brought up the subject of the Municipal Road Fund. He said that the fund had been severely misused and that very little of the designated money had been used for sidewalks, street repairs, and street lights in the past five years. He added that according to the law, the money could be used for no other purpose other than maintenance.

Mayor Tipton said that the city had borrowed \$4,000 last month to pay insurance liabilities from the road fund but the money had already been put back. She added that in speaking with the city clerk of Irvine that she thought it was okay to do that because the city of Irvine also borrows money

from their road fund.

Van Cleve said that he had spoken with a lawyer from the Kentucky League of Cities and was told that the money could not be used for anything other than road maintenance.

Tipton said that she would call herself on Tuesday and find out for certain what the rules on borrowing from the road fund are.

The council agreed to set trick or treat for the same night as the city of Irvine. Children 12 and under will be able to trick or treat from 6-8 on Thursday October 30th in the city of Ravenna.

On November 8th, a ceremony will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Park for Veteran's Day. At that time World War II Veteran Claude Jones will receive medals for his service and dedication. The public is invited to attend the ceremony.

IPD arrests passenger John Doe along with driver on Friday night

A male and female were both arrested after a traffic stop by IPD at Shell Mart on Friday night.

Officer Karl Rifembark and Captain Adrian McKinney initiated a traffic stop on a 1999 blue Dodge driven by Melissa K. Drake, 44, of Sparks Street, Irvine.

Officer Rifembark said that he discovered that Drake's operators license had been suspended for DUI. She was charged with driving on DUI suspended operators license.

An active bench warrant from Estill District Court

was also served on Drake.

In August of this year, a charge of drug paraphernalia was merged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence, of which Drake was found guilty.

The bench warrant was issued saying Drake had violated the conditions of her release by testing positive for drugs in August.

Drake's passenger was at first unidentified, and IPD called him John Doe.

He was later identified as Jeffery S. "Bodena" Rose, still no age and address given.

Officer Rifembark first charged Rose with drug paraphernalia.

He said that Rose was arrested on other charges, and he found a straw in the man's right pocket. Capt. McKinney found a needle and spoon that Rose had dropped onto the sidewalk at the jail.

Rose was also charged with giving a false name or information and alcohol intoxication.

Officer Rifembark said that during the traffic stop, Rose kept giving police wrong social security num-

bers. He said the numbers would come back to different people or were not in existence.

He stated that Rose was given multiple opportunities to give police the right information and was also told that giving false information was an arrestable offense.

Rifembark said during the investigation, he learned that Rose has given false information on past arrests.

He said the Rose had a strong odor of alcoholic beverages and slurred speech. Rose was also charged with alcohol intoxication.

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Dwight Arvin said he bought his farm on Kirkland in 1963 from Jewell Ridge Coal Co. He said the coal company wanted to access barges on the Kentucky River, but it apparently did not work out. Arvin had never gotten a city tax bill on the property until this year.

Joe Crawford addressed the council about new ventures proposed for Estill Development Alliance.

He stated the Estill Chamber of Commerce will pair up with Lily Mountain Nature Preserve on October 31 and November 1 for a scary fund raiser.

Bryant said that 35 cars participated in the car show on Saturday night. He added that was good because of the rain, and the group raised \$350 for Toys for Tots.

The council granted two privilege license requests. Dustin Arvin will be locating Arvin's Heating and Cooling at 131 Main Street.

B&W Enterprises was given a license for a sports bar to be located at 214 Main Street, the former location of the Railroad Cafe. This business has applied for a license to serve alcohol.

An ordinance on the city's pay scale was tabled because the city attorney had to leave the meeting early. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Nelle Williams asked about city audits. She was told the auditors were still four years behind.

The council discussed the vote on merging Irvine with Ravenna during the upcoming November election.

Police Beats

Timothy Little of Waco reported that his truck was broken into while it was parked overnight at Riddle Clem Road on October 2.

Sheriff Gary Freeman is conducting the investigation.

Tools valued at \$770.79 were reportedly taken. The sheriff said the perpetrator gained to the truck by breaking out a window on the driver side.

The truck belonging to Little Heating and Little Air. Anyone with information is asked to call the sheriff at 723-2323.

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A woman was arrested on Estill Avenue on Friday evening for being intoxicated, her third time within 12 months.

Officer Karl Rifembark said he was called to 117 Estill Avenue in reference to a family altercation.

Upon arrival, he stated that Sharon Robertson, 50, of Richmond was highly intoxicated.

He said she did not live at the address but was arguing with a relative who lived there.

He discovered that Robertson was recently released from jail on the conditions that she did not consume any alcohol.

Robertson was charged with alcohol intoxication, third or greater offense within 12 months and contempt of court.

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An Irvine man was arrested for driving under the influence of drugs after an alert was issued for police to be looking for a blue 1999 Chevy.

Officer John Sturniolo pulled over a vehicle fitting the description at 103 River Drive on Wednesday night.

He said he had observed the vehicle driving east on Richmond Road and River Drive, and it was swerving.

The citation states that Phillip Cox, 39, of N. Hudson in Irvine failed field sobriety tests, and he refused a blood draw at the hospital.

Cox told the officer that he had taken prescription pain medicine on that date.

Sturniolo said the prescription was filled with 90 tablets on October 1 with directions for Cox to take three times a day. The officer said eight days later that 55 of the 90 painkillers had been removed from the bottle.

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A West Irvine teen was arrested by IPD Officer Karl Rifembark on a warrant for fourth degree assault.

The warrant was obtained by Deputy Russell Morris following an altercation on August 27, 2014.

The arrested teen was identified as Devin Coffey, 18, of Glory Street.

The warrant says that Coffey caused physical injury to Jacob Lewis by punching and kicking Lewis several times in the face and head.

Morris said the assault resulted in Lewis having seven staples in his head, along with swelling and bruising to his head and face.



Eva Watson holds up a tablecloth that she is crocheting in the pineapple pattern during Old Time Days. She expects it will take most of the winter to finish.



H.M. Arthur, right, dished up a bowl of soup beans for Jerry Rose during Old Time Days. The historical society cooked the beans all night and accepted donations during Old Time Days.

Estill woman charged with leaving scene of accident

An Estill woman was charged with driving under the influence as well as leaving the scene of an accident on Sunday afternoon.

A report by Deputy Randy Farthing says that Misty Dehart of Dry Branch Road, Irvine pulled into a drive at 1360 Rice Station Road on Sunday afternoon. He added that Dehart was having an altercation with someone.

The deputy stated that when Dehart attempted to leave, her vehicle struck a Dodge van belonging to

Baker's Pool Supply.

According to Farthing, Dehart left the scene and was located at 1120 Rice Station Road.

He said the front of her vehicle, a 2002 Ford Taurus, was damaged. The business van had damage to its rear.

Farthing said that Dehart's pupils were constricted and her eyes were glassy. He added that she had slurred speech and was unsteady on her feet. She refused a blood draw at the local hospital.



Glenn Richardson demonstrated the use of a draw knife at Old Time Days on Saturday. This is an annual event and it is free to the public.