**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – October 14, 2024**

President King called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:01 pm. Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Fleck, Gray, Sanford, and Wolfe were present. CM Clausen was absent. Also present were Mayor Hazel, Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Auditor Shinn, and Law Director Moore.

CM Baltzell made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

CM Gray made a motion to amend the minutes, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Wolfe made a motion to pass the minutes, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0-1 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Kara Smith who is the County EMS Director who oversees the day-to-day operation of Celina, Rockford, and Coldwater EMS spoke about the EMS levy on the ballot for the November election which is a 1% millage which would cost homeowners $35 per one hundred thousand of their assessed property taxes. Kara noted that would provide an estimated 1.18 million dollars to the County which they would use to pay on call volunteers at Rockford and Coldwater as well as additional staffing for Celina and the County. Kara noted that the County EMS employees would respond with chase vehicles within their territory which has proven helpful. Kara noted the additional calls that they have had in the last 10 years while the staffing has remained mostly unchanged. President King asked what would happen if this does not pass and Kara noted people are going to have to wait for ambulances if there are too many calls at one time. CM Fleck noted that all the nursing homes in the area boost the number of EMS calls especially in the flu and cold seasons. CM Wolfe asked about the chase vehicles and Kara confirmed the chase vehicles would be stationed remotely in Celina and would help Celina but not take away any runs from them.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First Reading)

**61-24-O:** An Ordinance amending Ordinance 69-01-O to change the zoning classification of the properties owned by Sharkey Holdings LLC (457 Grand Lake Road) from R-O Residential/Office District to M-1 Manufacturing District. Mayor Hazel spoke about how this does not create an island and would fit the surrounding businesses. CM Fleck noted this business would grow and be a great fit. CM Baltzell made a motion to pass to a second reading, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Second Reading):

None.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Third Reading):

**58-24-O:** An Ordinance amending Ordinance 69-01-O to change the zoning classification of a portion of property owned by JES Enterprises of Celina (1800 Industrial Drive) from M-2 Light Manufacturing District to B-3 Community Shopping District. CM Gray spoke about the zoning Ordinance and if it was considered primary and Mayor Hazel confirmed it would be conditional. CM Buxton made a motion to table the Ordinance, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 3-2-1 Aye. Michael Johnston asked why it was being tabled so Mercy Health could fully understand and CM Wolfe noted it was the restrictions on the lot which is why he voted to table it. CM Buxton spoke about an email he received showing some verbiage he thought should be looked into further. Michael noted the verbiage was only applicable to the land they are buying and not any other land for any other company having to follow their restrictions. CM Gray asked if they could be provided the full document and Michael confirmed he would be able to send the entire PSA. Michael noted as a religious non-profit they provide restrictions that he believes are good for the City of Celina meaning the property they own cannot be used for tobacco sales, dance clubs, etc. Michael noted he believes that clause is being misrepresented in the 11th hour and what caused the table. Michael asked about the process of un tabling an item and President King noted that it is Councils decision but he does not see why it would take more than two weeks to get the answers they are looking for. CM Wolfe noted once they get the information, he would be comfortable bringing it back at Council.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mayor Hazel noted that civil service will meet and certify a list toward the beginning of November for more firefighters and spoke about how Cade Schoenleben has a start date of October 28for the Celina Fire Department and we are very happy to have him on board.

Mayor Hazel spoke about the bathroom being built at Bryson Park and how it should be finished by the end of the year.

Mayor Hazel spoke about the Mill Street project and the Public Works building being bid out soon.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

CM Buxton asked about the raw water readings on the administrative report and asked if the high number was a misprint and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted this time of year the water quality varies with the sample and temperatures.

CM Buxton asked if the Westview Park restrooms would be out for bid shortly and Mayor Hazel noted he thinks that will be in 2025 and CM Buxton noted he believes that Westview Park really needs the new restroom. Mayor Hazel noted that they are trying to put a new restroom facility as well as a new playground out in Westview Park.

CM Buxton asked about the kayak launch near the basketball courts at Bryson Park and asked about handicap accessible entry points and asked if they could look at a different entry point closer to the handicap parking spaces and Mayor Hazel noted they will look into it.

CM Sanford welcomed Cade to the Fire Department and asked about the streetlights going toward the schools where kids are walking and making sure they have a well-lit path to get to their school and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that if there are any specific areas on concern to let them know and they will look into it but as far as administration knows the light path is pretty well lit.

CM Sanford noted some of the recent FBI warnings about hackers and Mayor Hazel confirmed that we have closed systems and should be okay.

CM Sanford encouraged people to vote early.

CM Gray thanked administration for putting in the sidewalk off ramps and addressing those issues.

CM Fleck asked if the City would have any liability issues with the kayak offramp and Law Director Moore noted he does not see it as a major source of concern.

CM Wolfe spoke about the hurricanes and if AMP requested any aide from us and Mayor Hazel noted AMP did put a call out for any communities willing to go but noted how Governor DeSantis pointed out they were ready for the hurricanes and how the Carolinas had some accessibility concerns right now as well as the travel concerns and he is unaware of anyone wanting to go at the moment. CM Wolfe asked if there were any volunteers and Mayor noted not that he is aware of and CM Wolfe noted we have received mutual aid over the years and should help when being called upon and he spoke to some lineman who volunteered but were told they could not go.

President King adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Submitted by Michael F. Didonato, Clerk of Council