**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – January 10, 2022**

President King called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:09 pm. Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Fleck, Lochtefeld, Scott and Sovinski answered roll call. CM Clausen was absent. Also present were Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Mayor Hazel, Auditor Shinn and Law Director Moore.

President King noted an executive session. Director Moore stated it will be for the purposes of considered purchasing property public purposes and/or sale of property at competitive bidding, and the second to hold a conference with an attorney of this body in disputes concerning this body in subject of eminent court action. CM Sovinski made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

CM Buxton made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 Regular Council Meeting as written, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

CM Baltzell made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2021 Regular Council Meeting as written, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Committee Minutes for December 20, 2021 to come next meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

President King stated that like every 2 years we elect a president pro-tem in the presents of my absents, it’s been Mr. Scott forever. To reiterate how we do this, in January 11, 2016 we had an understanding of council that this would be always offered first to the senior most member of council and if he or she refused then it would go to the second senior most member. CM Scott stated unless anyone else wants it I will accept it. President King asked if anyone wants it please raise your hands. CM Scott stated he just wanted to offer and that he will accept. Then asked what happens if you’re not here and neither am I? President King stated they will vote on that at that meeting. CM Lochtefeld stated it’s in the rules. CM Baltzell motioned to approve CM Scott to be pro-tem, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

CM Sovinski asked to go back up to communications to introduce out new Auditor. Mayor Hazel introduced our new Auditor for the City of Celina, Brooke Shinn. She was sworn in on Thursday and full time on the 21st.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First Reading)

**1-22-R:** A Resolution authorizing the sale by internet auction during calendar year 2022 of municipally owned personal property which is not needed for public use, or which is obsolete or unfit for the use for which is was acquired, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 721.15(D). CM Scott stated that it’s the same every year and motioned for read by title only and CM Sovinski seconded. Motioned passed by voice acclimation, 6-0 Aye. Mayor Hazel stated that it’s certainly an annual Ordinance and that you all have a hand out for Gov Deals for 2021 and if you look at that back page it goes through all department and going to sold out, $236,356 is what the city has brought in and the fee is $12,885.95, so it’s a very good deal for the city. It eliminates the need for us to have auctions locally and when we start looking at that with COVID elements, the right date. With Gov Deals, we have had multi state come in and buy so we’ve found it’s a very good deal for the city for those who have come and picked those items up. CM Sovinski stated it’s a great deal and motioned to pass to second reading and CM Fleck seconded. Motioned passed with roll call vote, 6-0 Aye.

**2-22-R:** A Resolution declaring the necessity of amending the duration of Celina Ordinance 55-10-O enacted January 1. 2011 providing for an additional half-percent (1/2%) supplemental income tax, which levying and collection began January 1, 2011 in addition to the one percent (1%) tax on income levied and collected as of December 31, 2010 which purpose was amended and duration extended by seven (7) years via Ordinance 61-15-O, which levying and collection began January 1, 2016 through and including December 31, 2022 in addition to the one percent (1%) tax on income levied and collected as of December 31, 2010 and submitting same to the electors of the City of Celina, Ohio, and declaring an emergency. President King asked if we need to make an amendment for the Ordinance. Director Moore stated he would like to for both of those so there is no question about our procedure. President King asked for motion before discussion. CM Sovinski made motion for amendment as stated by the Law Director. CM Buxton asked to go to discussion first to make sure there isn’t any other amendments to it. CM Sovinski stated this will be just for the amendment for the first Ordinance and any more we can make another amendment. CM Sovinski then made motion for amendment and CM Buxton seconded. Amendment passed with roll call vote, 6-0 Aye. CM Scott asked what sections will be changed. Director Moore stated it will be section 8 and 11 and will both read “An Amendment of the Duration.” There may also be one in the attachments that I have gave you. He then clarified he has written this out as crystal clear as possible but the initial ½% was passed for police and fire, and then when renewed in 2016 the duration was extended for 7 years, which now expires this year, and that is expanded to streets as well. That’s the amended purpose. This purpose is to extend this for police, fire, and streets for another 7 years, from 2023-2029. Mayor Hazel clarified that it is correct this is to only extend another 7 year and pointed out when we started collecting this in 2011 it was just 1% for police and fire, and when we went back to the voters in 2015 we included streets, sidewalks, alleys, so we could go both. At the time there were a couple cities who did a levy on police and fire equipment they got overloaded and couldn’t use the money appropriately, and this allowed for the streets to be included in here. We did not put a percentage because we wanted to make sure police and fire were number one to be taken care of and the streets were secondary but that is all this money has been used for. CM Buxton asked how many miles of streets do we still have to pave, ot completely redone? Mayor Hazel stated there is a combination and of this year, this being the last year, we will get 28 miles of streets redone in the City of Celina. We have 65 miles total, with a few here and there that have been designated within there. So with that 65, and we didn’t count Main Street or Buckeye St, that was pre 2011, and with that, we don’t have an exact number, but I believe we have about 20 miles to go. CM Scott stated but then you start all over again. Mayor Hazel stated that streets are a long term maintenance but when we reconstruct a street, we have a much longer time frame than 12-15 years because you are starting with a solid base on it. The streets on the miles that we are repaving do not include the concrete streets that we still have, so those will still need to be rebuilt due to what’s under them and that’s not easy to do. So that will take more to remove that concrete and build another infrastructure under that. We are replacing panels as they are needed but eventually they will need to be replaced as well. CM Buxton asked when we talked about this I thought we had talked about 10-year project? Mayor Hazel stated he only brought it in as a 7-year, some people talked about it and we debated it but we did not do that. CM Scott asked CM Buxton if he was talking recently? Like when we were talking about it a few weeks ago. Mayor Hazel stated the first time in 2015 we talked about 7 only to extend the time that was already there. I think someone asked about 10 but we looked at the voters should have the report card there so we just kept it 7. CM Buxton asked do we want to extend it to 10 with all the streets we still have to do. Mayor Hazel stated that will be up to Council. CM Buxton stated that with all we have to do still and then we will restart, I agree the voters should know how we are doing, but what does council think? CM Fleck stated it was discussed for a length of time and even brought up in discussion about doing it permanently, but it went back to the fact we need some accountability with the voters, and I don’t know how many times someone has come up to me about this street and that isn’t done, and a long time coming and the generosity of the voters, we would like to keep that going. CM Scott stated the permanent was CM Sovinski originally and was funding for projects. We have to sell this to the public and the public needs to know that the money generated for this will be used for what it’s meant to be used for and we have continued to do that so I don’t know what number would be the best way to go but it has to be something the public will be comfortable saying okay to and I appreciate administration keeping that route and I think we need to be very diligent on our approach. CM Sovinski asked if this gets passed it will be good through 2029, right up to 2030. If we do a 10-year maybe that would be a good time to do that. CM Baltzell stated he is in favor keeping it 7 years because with streets it’s going to have to be budgeted every year and moving forward and we just went through a period of time where the money wasn’t allotted for whatever reasons so we are still getting up to speed. Stated if we are good stewards with the money then the people will be willing to pass it with after 7 years. Director Moore stated he believes that was the only time that statement was used in section 8 and 11 of the Resolution but not in attachments A or B. Mayor Hazel stated with having to have this in by February 2, at the latest, for the May primary ballot, if passed to second reading it will have to be suspended to get to the Board of Elections. CM Scott stated procedure is different with promoting this instead of passing, but believes we do need a committee meeting to discuss how we sell this. Mayor Hazel agreed, we can have that outside of this. CM Sovinski agreed that we need to know how to present but not when it will be voted on. CM Buxton stated he believes he was the one to bring it back to 7-years to make sure the voters had a report. Mayor Hazel stated 10 will be fine but not permanent. CM Buxton stated he is fine with 7, we just have streets that need repaired. Mayor Hazel stated he thinks there is a point with bonding and streets being a long term investment, if you are buying a piece of fire equipment, for instant spending a little over 3 million since 2011 and that a big chunk, so those are the things you look at and ask do you have time to save up the money. That is the big key element. CM Sovinski motioned to suspend the 3 readings and seconded by CM Fleck. Suspension passed with roll call vote, 6-0 Aye. CM Fleck motioned for passage and CM Baltzell second. Resolution passed with roll call vote, 6-0 Aye.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mayor Hazel stated we are off to a good start, with our new Auditor and departments are going well with planning. We have a contract for 550 tons of salt and currently we have about 200 so we will have to purchase about 300. We are ready if we need to. We have our electric building that is ready, storage wise, we will work on getting things in there. We have several projects planned, the new electric building that is underway right now, we have the other streets we will be reconstructing, those are the items that are under design right now to go forward. We are really pleased with that as a City.

Director Hitchcock stated the lobby was closed to due to illness this week and hopefully our employees come back and the lobby will open back up this week.

Director Moore reminded members of their Ethics Disclosure forms were sent out from the Secretary of State that is due in April.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

None

CM Sovinski motioned to move to Executive Session for the purpose of first the purchase of property for public purposes and/or sale of property at competitive bidding and two, to hold a conference with an attorney for this body concerning disputes involving this body in subject of pending and/or eminent court actions and CM Baltzell. Motioned passed with roll call vote, 6-0 Aye at 7:49pm.

President King adjourned the meeting at 8:17pm

Submitted by Erin B. Heberlie, Clerk of Council