**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – September 26, 2022**

President King called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:00 pm. Council Members Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Lochtefeld, Scott, and CM Sovinski answered roll call. CM Baltzell was absent. Also present were Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Mayor Hazel, Auditor Shinn, and Law Director Moore.

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

CM Clausen made a motion to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

CM Clausen made a scriveners note to the Committee of the Whole minutes. CM Scott summarized the Committee of the Whole that took place on September 12, 2022.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mayor Hazel spoke about the pavement being completed on Johnson Avenue and the side streets adjacent to them will be open up sometime this week. Mayor Hazel spoke about how Fulton Street has had the service coat put on it as well and how the weather has helped us progress well with these projects. Mayor Hazel spoke about how in Bryson Park District the old Lions Club Shelter has been taken down and the replacement should be coming at the end of the month and should start early within the next week. Mayor Hazel reminded everyone that this will be the last part of the million-dollar grant that the City has been using and that it will be close if it will be put up within the deadline that was previously stated. Mayor Hazel also noted that more commercial companies have been putting up sidewalks and the City is very pleased with that.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First Reading)

**41-22-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to advertise and receive bids for the North Ash Street Reconstruction Project, North Walnut Street Reconstruction Project, East Fayette Street Reconstruction Project, Southwest Quadrant Waterline Replacement, and declaring an emergency. CM Scott asked if the City is anticipating any more significant price increases with these projects and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that they are only asking for the authorization to bid it and not appropriate the money yet until after we get some bids that they can then bring back to council and confirm where to appropriate the money from. Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that it is hard to say what the bids will come in at because another project we bid out came in a fair amount under our estimates because they were already in town doing another project and that is the reason they did not put a dollar amount in. CM Sovinski noted that the wording of the Ordinance does not discuss that we are making it an emergency to try to save money as prices keep increasing and Mayor Hazel agreed and noted that it should mention a better explanation of why it is being presented with an emergency. CM Sovinski made a motion to amend the Ordinance, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Scott made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**42-22-O:** An Ordinance accepting a donation from the Celina 2022 Mid-Summer Classic Baseball and Softball Tournament to the Celina Recreation Department to be used to purchase three 7’x7’ Sock Net Screens, appropriating funds, and declaring an emergency. CM Clausen asked if these nets would be kept at Eastview or Westview and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted as of right now, they are scheduled to be at the three rec diamonds at Westview Park and can be used by the public and will help prevent damage to the balls or the fence since hitting practice can be done with these nets instead. CM Fleck asked if this needed to be an emergency and Mayor Hazel noted that is up to the council. CM Scott asked why this is an Ordinance and Mayor Hazel explained that when we get funds that are specified for a certain action they will go directly to those accounts. CM Scott made a motion to pass to a second reading, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**14-22-R:** A Resolution accepting donations from Princess Sue Hess to the Celina Police Department and the Celina Fire Department and declaring an emergency. CM Fleck thanked Princess Sue Hess for her donation to the City and wanted to confirm that she wanted this to be an emergency and not be read three times and Mayor Hazel confirmed that is accurate. CM Fleck made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Resolution, seconded by CM Lochtefeld. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Second Reading):

**37-22-O:** An Ordinance allowing the Safety-Service Director to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for Bridge Inspection Program Services, and declaring an emergency. CM Sovinski made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Third Reading):

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mayor Hazel spoke about our gas aggregation plan and how our previous provider filed for bankruptcy and most all customers went to Dominion Energy by default but all citizens are able to switch to any provider if they would prefer but also noted that in 2003 the City voted to do a gas aggregation plan where AMP goes and gets the best bids for the City and also noted that they have received one offer that was very pricey but are hoping to receive more offers as prices for natural gas dip a little bit. CM Scott asked if he would let the public know when they know something from AMP and Mayor Hazel noted they would let the City know immediately and noted that they want to get a good and fair contract that is more than a year in length locking in a good rate while also noting that before fracking the prices were even higher and we were happy to lock that in. CM Lochtefeld asked what the process would look like if AMP were to hear something by Friday would it need to be approved by Council and Mayor Hazel noted that the Safety Service Director is authorized to enter into a contract if he deems it a good price. CM Sovinski noted that AMP is out aggregator and asked if we had to contact them to try to find another price or if they contacted us and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that they contacted us early in the summer but he called them recently because he had not heard from them in a couple of months and they noted that Celina was what they were currently working on. CM Sovinski noted that it would have been nice to receive a letter from AMP letting us know what their game plan was to help the City and Mayor Hazel agreed that they should update their clients which are the citizens of this City and he will mention it to them.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

CM Buxton was asked how long someone can have a garage sale and Safety Service Director Hitchcock stated that he would have to look and see if we have anything specific about it and Mayor Hazel noted that it can also depend if it is an at home business because then it is a zoning violation.

CM Scott asked about the last brush and limb pick up of the year and noted that some citizens were asking if it could be pushed out another month and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that from his understanding it is like that because when they pushed it back one more month people would put their leaves and brush together and it was almost impossible for the team to sort it which is why it ends in October now but council can decide otherwise.

CM Clausen asked about a house on North Mill Street that seems to be concrete from the sidewalk all the way to the alley and asked if there is anything keeping a person from doing that and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that he will check but does not think there is anything keeping them from doing that but also noted that they need to keep their drainage on their own property. CM Sovinski asked about the runoff for situations like this and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that in the zoning code there is a minimum or maximum lot coverage areas which means you can only cover a certain percentage of your lot with a hard surface.

At 7:41 pm, CM Scott made a motion to enter into Executive Session for conferences with an attorney to consider the purchase or lease of property for public purposes, or for the sale of property competitive bidding, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

The meeting convened in Executive Session at 8:50 pm. Attendees of the Executive Session were President King; Council Members Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Lochtefeld, Scott, and Sovinski; Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Mayor Hazel, Auditor Shinn, Law Director Moore; and Council Clerk Didonato.

President King adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

Submitted by Michael F. Didonato, Clerk of Council