**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – July 22, 2019**

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

CM Clausen made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by CM Scott. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

CM Larmore made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2019 regular Council Meeting as written, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mayor Hazel reported the Livingston Street Project should be completed mid to late August. The West Market Street Waterline Project is being prepared to bid. The new splash pad will be turned on this coming Sunday and the playground should be opened up soon upon completion. The Sharkey family will be there for the 1:00 pm opening. The concrete work on the rear steps at the amphitheater should be completed this week. CM Scott asked if there are any plans of protecting the splash pad during the Lake Festival. Director Hitchcock reported the area is fenced off.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First Reading)

None.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Second Reading):

45-19-R: A Resolution accepting a donation from the Celina Baseball Association to the City of Celina. CM Scott stated there were issues about items that needed to be finished in the facility. Director Hitchcock explained as the group raises money, the items will be completed. CM Larmore made a motion to pass the Ordinance to third reading, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mayor Hazel reported there was vandalism done to the amphitheater. The following night, there was a break-in at the pool and items stolen. Security in the parks is important. Director Hitchcock explained Nuwave gave the City an estimate for approximately thirty cameras at the Bryson Park District that would cost $85,000 to $90,000. This system would give the City a clear enough image to catch the people doing damage. Police Chief Wale stated lighting in the park is also needed. CM Clausen asked if temporary lighting needs to be installed. Director Hitchcock responded installation of temporary lighting is being looked at now. CM Scott stated a lot of money, time and effort has been invested into this park and he thinks the security needs to be done correctly as a deterrent and weapon to catch people in the act. CM Baltzell stated he agrees this needs to be a priority and quality is important. Director Hitchcock reported the City has had fifteen acts of vandalism since the last Council meeting, and asked if security at all the parks is desired. CM Baltzell stated he believes it is important to get security in all the parks. CM Larmore stated he has a camera system set up at his business and offered the City to expand on his system for temporary security. President King recommended fake cameras be put up at the pool with a sign that states the facility is under security. Director Hitchcock responded the kids put up their hoods and knock down the cameras.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

CM Scott reported he was approached by a resident of the Yorkshire Place Apartments asking if parking on Fenway Drive could be only on one side. The reasoning for the request was it might be difficult for an ambulance to get down through there. Mayor Hazel stated it is a narrow roadway. Director Hitchcock reported he can put signs up making parking only on one side.

CM Baltzell stated he had a few people asking about the car sales at the former Casey Jones Restaurant. Director Hitchcock stated tonight is the last night it will be there. Technically the property is zoned conditional for this type of use. But the City needed to confirm other car sales in the area were approved for conditional use before pursuing a violation. Chief Wale stated the group calls local business owners asking to set up sales on their property for a few weeks, then moves on to another place. They told him they would be closing at 5:00 pm today.

CM Clausen stated the Taste of Celina event was very nice. The downtown business owners have talked about the empty spaces in the downtown because the rent prices are too high. He asked if a penalty or fine could be applied to the building owner that does not try to fill their property. Mayor Hazel stated at one point this was talked about, but it was decided not to pursue. Legislation could be passed establishing fines to give the property owners an incentive to fill their storefront. CM Larmore stated the facades on the buildings need to look good. Perhaps the legislation could include facade improvements.

CM Buxton stated the sawhorses in front of the building on the corner of Main and Fayette Street are gone. When he has walked by the property in the past, he has put the barricades back in place because they have been set up against the building. Director Hitchcock stated they should be there. Law Director Moore stated if the City has knowledge that the barricades are moved, it is our responsibility to make every effort to move them back.

CM Buxton reported trucks that are turning are coming up over the curb at the northeast corner of Main and Wayne. He asked if something could be put there to protect the electric box and the light post. Mayor Hazel stated the City cannot put anything there that would cause damage.

Cm Buxton stated the Elm and Anthony Street resurfacing projects are complete and asked if they will sealed. Director Hitchcock responded the City will put a final seal on the roadway.

CM Buxton asked if the kids from St Marys who set up the lemonade stand received recognition. Mayor Hazel replied they were from Holy Rosary Church, and he presented them with a proclamation of thanks.

CM Scott stated if the City were to pursue fines for vacant buildings, his fear is the owner would put any tenant in the building to avoid a fine.

CM Larmore stated an unsafe building Ordinance is already in place, and maybe it needs to be amended outlining safety requirements for owners with unsafe buildings. CM Larmore further asked if there is anything toxic in the sludge ponds. Director Hitchcock responded the ponds have not been tested by the EPA. Currently the EPA has said the sludge ponds cannot be removed from the current site. Administration is evaluating an option of putting in tanks for the sludge.

CM Sovinski asked if the fading of the red crosswalks has been looked into. Director Hitchcock responded the paint installed only has a one to two year life span. Heavy traffic has caused the fading.

CM Clausen asked if commercial buildings that are deemed unsafe are addressed. He noted a specific location that he received a complaint about. Mayor Hazel responded this location is in the process of being resolved.

CM Sovinski asked if another downtown revitalization grant should be pursued. Director Hitchcock explained this grant has been changed to a Last Opportunity Grant awarding $250,000 for all projects combined. Administration is working with the County and two businesses for this grant.

Council President King adjourned the meeting at 8:04 pm.

Submitted by Joan S. Wurster, Clerk of Council