**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – July 26, 2021**

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

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

CM Lochtefeld made a motion to amend the minutes of the July 12, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Ordinance with corrections in the last name of Mr. Draiss and spelling of Shawn Billger under Audience Communications and motion of 6-0 in Old Business, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Baltzell made a motion to approve the amended minutes, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mayor Hazel reported Lake Festival this past weekend was a huge success. Dunkin Donuts has been approved through the Planning Commission to be built in front of Menards on Havemann Road. Crown Equipment has been working on getting their sidewalks in along Havemann Road. The City is working with ODOT to get sidewalks in front of Buds along US 127. The water plant improvements are moving ahead. The construction of the restrooms at the park should start in August. The remainder of the playground equipment is in and will be installed soon. Water Plant Assistant Superintendent Todd Hone is going to the City of Piqua as their water plant manager. Keith Huber, Barry Hone and Bub Goodwin will be retiring in the next few weeks. The City wishes them all the best.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

Joe Bay, Morton Street stated he has a question on tax abatement. The City told him he was denied abatement on a new rental home because the school is not taking any. The school informed him that is not the case. Director Hitchcock explained the City no longer does residential tax abatement because it was not part of the Ordinance. The school brought it to the City’s attention a few years ago that the City was not following code. No residential housing gets tax abatements. Mr. Bay asked if there is anything planned for improvements to Morton Street. Director Hitchcock stated the street re-pavements will be evaluated next year for improvements. President King stated Morton Street falls under infrastructure improvement. This will be a rebuild, and it unknown when it will be on the schedule for improvements.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First Reading)

35-21-O: An Ordinance accepting a donation from the Celina Moose Lodge #1473 for the Celina Fire Department for iPad Pro 11 pads and appropriating funds. CM Sovinski asked if the iPads are needed soon. Auditor Strawn stated the Fire Chief has money available in one of his funds and has ordered the IPads. CM Fleck made a motion to pass the Ordinance to second reading, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

36-21-O: An Ordinance authorizing the City of Celina to enter into a Contractual Agreement with the Celina City Schools for the purpose of a School Resource Officer. CM Sovinski asked who came up with the Agreement form. Chief Wale responded it is a modified copy from the City of St. Marys. CM Lochtefeld asked what other schools in the area have a school resource officer. Chief Wale replied St. Marys does, and area villages have an officer in the schools. CM Scott made a motion to pass the Ordinance to second reading, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

11-21-R: A Resolution accepting a donation form Princess Sue Hess to the Celina Police Department. CM Scott stated his appreciation of the many donations to the Celina Police Department from Princess Sue Hess. CM Scott made a motion to pass the Resolution to second reading. seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS:** (Third Reading):

33-21-O: An Ordinance establishing rates for electric energy sales and consumption within the Celina Electric Utility System and declaring an emergency. CM Sovinski stated he received a question from a resident asking if generation behind their meter will be charged to them. Mayor Hazel replied, they will not pay for their own generation. CM Sovinski made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Auditor Strawn reviewed the month ending June 20, 2021 general fund monthly summary report.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

CM Fleck stated he has had several favorable comments from people coming into town for the festival.

CM Sovinski suggested the City look at being as aggressive as possible in doing street work, even if we need to borrow money. The low interest rates vs. the increase in construction costs would allow the City to get more done for less. Mayor Hazel responded the funding mechanism is a key element. The additional income tax is up for renewal in 2022. If the half percent does not go forward, the City will not have the funds to make repayments.

CM Scott stated the amount of repairs that has been completed as a result of the additional tax income is an indication that the money has been used wisely. There are some streets that need to be done that have not been yet.

CM Fleck asked how far it is to the top of the hill before we do not have several terrible streets. Director Hitchcock stated there are quite a few streets that still need waterline replacement. The City refocused on resurfacing because of the water plant improvements. It is still years away before we get over the “hump”.

A Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was scheduled for August 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm for updates on parks improvements.

The Community of the Whole committee meeting will be held August 9, 2021 immediately following the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for discussion of abortion clinics and medical marijuana dispensaries zoning.

Council President King adjourned the meeting at 7:41 pm.

Submitted by Joan S. Wurster, Clerk of Council