**ORDINANCE 56-24-O**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE POSITION AND AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR AND FIRE CHIEF TO ENTER INTO AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE(S), FUNDING FIREFIGHTER ACADEMY AND RELATED TRAINING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the Celina Fire Department has experienced a loss of Certified Firefighters over the last 18 months that has impacted services to our community as a result of retirements, transfers, and compensatory issues without qualified applicants to fulfill those positions; and

WHEREAS, the Celina Administration, Fire Chief, and local I.A.F.F. representatives have developed an employment plan to attract, train, and retain entry level personnel as Firefighter Trainee with a specific job description; and

WHEREAS, the Firefighter Trainee position has been created for Firefighter academy student(s) with a “Firefighter Employment Agreement”, in a form substantially similar to Exhibit “A” heretofore attached, to allow qualified applicants to become Fire Department employees while attending a qualified Firefighter Academy that results in becoming a Certified Firefighter for the City of Celina; and

WHEREAS, a qualified Firefighter Academy tuition is required at time of classes at a cost of up to Two Thousand Dollars ($2,000) from the Fire Department Fire Training and Travel Fund (110.220.5411) and the Fire Department desires to hire and sponsor one or more academy students on behalf of the Celina Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Celina, County of Mercer, State of Ohio.

SECTION ONE

THAT, the Council of the City of Celina does hereby approve the position of Firefighter Trainee.

SECTION TWO

THAT, the Fire Chief and Safety Service Director be and are hereby authorized on behalf of the City to enter into a Fire Department Employment Agreement with a qualified Firefighter Academy student and to pay training costs and related school tuition.

SECTION THREE

THAT, this Ordinance shall be declared an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare and for further reason of maintaining minimum manning and immediately filling critical positions. NOW, therefore, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor at the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_\_day of , 2024

Jason D. King, President of Council

ATTEST:

Michael F. Didonato, Clerk of Council

APPROVED , 2024

Jeffrey S. Hazel, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

George Erik. Moore, Esq., City Law Director