**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – September 11, 2017**

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

CM Sovinski made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

CM Sovinski made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 28, 2017 Regular Council Meeting, with the addition of adding Representative to Faber’s title under Communications, seconded by CM Lejeune. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

CM Fleck reported the Committee of the Whole met August 28, 2017 for discussion of the HB49 Municipal Income Tax changes. Tax Administrator Cheri Gerlach was available at the committee meeting to give a synopsis of the changes and answered Council Member questions. They also had a discussion of the golf cart Ordinance and access to local restaurants.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

An Ordinance was presented by Mayor Hazel as a result of the recent hurricane. The City has the ability to send a crew to provide assistance with the electric restoration. The City has a current mutual aid agreement with AMP, but it only gives the authorization to provide mutual aid to other AMP communities. This legislation would allow an agreement with APPA to participate in assistance. After the Hurricane Harvey in Texas, and now half of the state of Florida is without power due to Hurricane Irma, additional electrical crews are needed for assistance. With only five council members present at this meeting, no legislation can be suspended at tonight’s meeting. A Special Council meeting will be scheduled.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

Lisa Heistan, 302 Summit Street, reported things are progressing with Team Mutt Hutt. A fundraiser will be held at the American Legion on October 7th. They have received wonderful support from the community, but are asking for more support. Ms. Heistan explained stray dogs in Celina are currently housed in a small shed. Nolan Liggett is in the process of completing his Eagle Scout project, and is working with them to make a nice place to hold the stray dogs.

Nolan Liggett, Boy Scouts Troop 69 explained the development in the structure and funding estimates need approved by the Boy Scout Counsel. CM Sovinski asked if the structure will be a fixed building or have the capability to be moved. Nolan responded it will be a 10’ x 21’ building on pallets that will be movable.

Dawn Daugherty, 607 Maple Street, distributed a donation request form. She asked if a decision has been made for the location of the facility. Chief Wale stated the options are still being discussed for the location. Director Hitchcock reported it will be located either at the solar field off of Meyer Road or at the Heffner property off of Fairground Road.

John Irmscher, 1901 Knapke Court, distributed paperwork to the Council members and requested the project to go to committee for discussion. He stated the City Planning Commission approved golf carts crossing the streets in the Eaglebrooke Subdivision. He has concerns throughout town of travelers following the speed limits. He stated the August 14th minutes stated that he had concerns of the tax abatement. He clarified his concern is for retail and commercial, but he is in favor of industrial tax abatement. The Sperling Report shows our crime rate low and industries “way out of whack”. A committee meeting will be set up to address these issues.

CM Sovinski made a motion to amend the Agenda to add Ordinance 20-17-O to New Business after 19-17-O, seconded by CM LeJeune. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First Reading)

19-17-O: An Ordinance accepting donations from the Celina Eagles to the Celina Fire Department for the Fire Prevention Program to purchase smoke detectors and appropriating funds, and declaring an emergency. CM LeJeune thanked the Eagles Lodge for their generosity. Director Hitchcock stated he will bring the program guidelines to the next meeting. CM Sovinski asked if the emergency is needed. Mayor Hazel stated he understands the Eagles Lodge has a deadline for their donation, making the emergency clause necessary. CM LeJeune made a motion to pass the Ordinance to second reading, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

20-17-O: An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with American Public Power Association (“APPA”) for the purpose of Emergency Assistance in restoring power in areas affected by man-made and/or natural disasters, such as hurricanes, fires, flooding, tornadoes, etc. and declaring an emergency. CM Scott asked if this mutual aid agreement will need to be revisited again. Mayor Hazel responded no, this is perpetual. CM Sovinski asked if a crew will be directed to go or will go only on a volunteer basis. Mayor Hazel replied it is volunteer only. They also need to have a special CDL to drive the bucket truck out of Ohio. The City has one employee who has this licensure, and has volunteered to go. There are a little over three million people in Florida without power. This would be a two week cycle of staying in the area for assistance. CM Fleck stated the need for assistance will be a long ongoing process. CM Sovinski made a motion to pass the Ordinance to second reading, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

13-17-R: A Resolution accepting the Local Government Fund amount and rate as determined by the Mercer County Budget Commission, and declaring an emergency. Auditor Strawn reported this is due to the County on October 1st. The Council can do three readings. The percentage on the local government funds remain the same, but the estimate that the City will receive has decreased about $7,500. CM Sovinski asked if the local government is derived from the state sales tax program. Mayor Hazel reported it came out post-depression to help get cities back in line. CM LeJeune asked the Auditor how these funds are appropriated and what they are used for. Auditor Strawn replied the funds are part of the General Fund. The County sets the rate, which is non-negotiable. CM LeJeune made a motion to pass the Resolution to second reading, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

14-17-R: A Resolution accepting the amounts and rates for the City of Celina as determined by the Mercer County Budget Commission, authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor, and declaring an emergency. CM Scott asked what the City’s inside millage is. CM Sovinski stated the County’s property tax limit is 10, and anything above that has to be approved by the public. CM Fleck made a motion to pass the Resolution to second reading, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

15-17-R: A Resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Celina to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program(s) and to execute contracts as required, and declaring an emergency. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Resolution to second reading, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS (Third Reading):**

12-17-R: A Resolution authorizing and directing the City to Levy Assessments for: delinquent utility bills, delinquent lawn mowing bills, delinquent junk/rubbish removal bills, and delinquent unsafe structure removal and/or repair bills, and declaring an emergency. CM Scott sated he has received comments in public, and asked if Administration has received any correspondence from anyone who knows they are on the list. Mayor Hazel replied no. CM LeJeune made a motion to pass the Resolution, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0 Aye.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mayor Hazel stated WCSM and Rob Kraner is having a drop off at Wright State Lake Campus and Celina Moving and Storage for donations for the hurricane relief. Donated items need to be dropped off by September 22nd. The Grand Lake Marathon will be held September 23rd. The full and half marathon will end in Celina, along with a 5-K. This race is a Boston qualifier. It is good for our community and highlights what Celina has to offer.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

A Special Council Meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm September 18, with a Utility Committee meeting to be held immediately following.

CM Fleck stated a resident brought to his attention a concern of a tree rotting in the grass area between the sidewalk and the street. Director Hitchcock reported trees in this area are the City’s responsibility. CM Fleck stated he had another resident whose neighbor has a tree overhanging his driveway impeding access to his drive and garage. This is a civil matter because it is on private property, and it was suggested the resident talk to neighbor.

A Committee of the Whole meeting was scheduled for September 25th at 6:00 pm.

Council Pro-Tem Scott adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Submitted by Joan S. Wurster, Clerk of Council