**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – September 12, 2022**

President King called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:02 pm. Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Lochtefeld, Scott, and Sovinski answered roll call. Also present were Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Mayor Hazel, Auditor Shinn, and Law Director Moore.

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

CM Buxton made note of a scrivener’s error in the minutes. CM Scott made a motion to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0-1 Aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

President King summarized the Public Hearing that took place on August 22, 2022.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

President King asked if the Council had any questions about the liquor transfer that they received in their packets and no one had any questions.

Mayor Hazel spoke about how there was a ribbon cutting for the Rush Sports Complex so it is officially open and how they have many tournaments already scheduled for this year. Mayor Hazel noted that other people and shops will be involved and how there will be a pro shop inside the complex as well as another work out area, a shoe shop, and golf bar with simulators which is a great re use of the facility.

Mayor Hazel spoke about how paving will start taking place in Celina one week from now weather permitting on Fulton Street and how Johnson Avenue is getting closer to be paved as well and we should see a lot of paving done before the next council meeting.

CM Scott asked if there was any reason why the paper has not been to the last couple of council meetings and Mayor Hazel noted that they are going through some turnover at the paper but he still gets a call on council nights to brief them on what was discussed. President King also noted that sometimes they watch it live through the Facebook feed.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (First 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. Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted this is our annual Ordinance we do with ODOT so they can do our bridge inspections and noted it is similar to years prior. CM Scott asked if this was necessary to have suspended and Mayor Hazel noted if he would like for it to be read three times, they are able to do that. CM Clausen asked if they have ever found any issues with our bridges and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted they have found some scouring on the main bridge over the hot watering hole but has only been minor stuff that they have found. CM Buxton asked if they have ever done an underwater inspection and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that they will always do what they deem necessary but is not sure if they have ever done an inspection like that. CM Fleck wanted to confirm that they have been doing our bridge inspections since 2019 and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed that was accurate. CM Scott asked to confirm that they inspect all of our bridges and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed that was correct. CM Scott made a motion to pass to a second reading, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**38-22-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the City’s participation in the American Municipal Power, Inc. (“AMP”) “on behalf of” Financing Program and the execution of a Loan Agreement and Promissory Note in connection therewith; authorizing the City’s participation in the Ohio Treasurer of State’s Ohio Market Access Program and authoring the preparation and filing of an application for that program and the execution and delivery of a Standby Note Purchase Agreement in connection therewith, and other necessary and appropriate documents, and declaring an emergency. CM Scott made a motion for the Ordinance to be read by title only, seconded by CM Fleck and confirmed with a voice acclimation. Mayor Hazel noted they have talked about this legislation before and now this will be the actual authorization to apply for the loan and receive the better rates. Mayor Hazel noted that there is an AMP conference in Columbus September 26th-28th and he will attend that and not be present at the next council meeting to discuss this so it needs to be suspended and passed tonight. CM Sovinski wanted to confirm that they are using AMP’s larger financial base to get a better rate and Mayor Hazel confirmed that is correct and they are going through the state. CM Sovinski noted how we are spreading that cost with users over the next 20 years. CM Clausen noted that since we only read the title, we never got to hear exactly how much this was going to cost the City and President King confirmed it was two million and eighty thousand dollars. CM Clausen noted that this is a great program and will help keep that rates down for all of the current users and help get things done for our electric department. CM Sovinski made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Scott made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**39-22-O:** An Ordinance appropriating funds and amending various categories within Ordinance 56-21-O as the Seventh Supplement to the 2022 Annual Appropriations, and declaring an emergency. Auditor Shinn noted we have to appropriate more funds because of all the price increases that we have had to deal with and we also did not budget enough for advertising. CM Sovinski asked why are we going over budget for advertising and Auditor Shinn noted that the price for advertising varies from year to year and we have had to advertise for more positions this year. CM Sovinski asked what material for the water plant came in at an increased price and it was confirmed that all of the prices increased. CM Sovinski noted that we should not be using as much carbon as we use to and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that we are not but we had to regenerate one of the tanks and are seeing increases from 10-30% for everything. CM Clausen was also curios about the four thousand and Auditor Shinn confirmed it was all the work we do with the Daily Standard and the postings we have to submit. CM Clausen asked if these supplies will get us through the rest of the year and Safety Service Director noted that is his understanding. CM Sovinski asked if we are going to increase the advertising budget for next year and Auditor Shinn confirmed they would. CM Scott asked if they have been using the new system for a year and Mayor Hazel said it has almost been a year and that when the new system went up, they had to do a lot of adjusting with the chemicals. CM Scott noted that we will not know the saving until about a full year and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted he will ask the department head for a list showing how much chemicals they are using with the new system. CM Fleck made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**40-22-O:** An Ordinance accepting additional donations made in memory of Darrell Willrath to the Celina Fire Department to purchase a lithium battery fire blanket, appropriating funds, and declaring an emergency. Mayor Hazel noted how with all of the electric vehicles it is very important to have this as a tool for our fire department because during a fire they can place this over the battery to prevent an explosion. CM Clausen wanted to thank everyone for the donations that they have generously given to the City and asked if this would be read three time and Mayor Hazel noted how thankful they are to everyone who donated and would like for it to be read three times but is concerned about the price going up in the next two months. CM Clausen made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Fleck made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**12-22-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. Mayor Hazel noted this is on a yearly basis and varies a little bit but the rate is pretty standard. CM Scott asked if this needed to be passed tonight and it was confirmed that it needs to be passed by October 1st, 2022. CM Scott made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Sovinski. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Clausen made a motion to pass the Resolution, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**13-22-R:** A Resolution accepting the local government fund amount and rate as determined by the Mercer Country budget commission, and declaring an emergency. CM Scott noted in simplest terms we will receive 48.57% out of the 100% which is the highest amongst the splits. CM Sovinski asked if we know how much we have gotten from the local government the last couples of years or if we have kept track of the amounts since it has gone down before and asked if it has ever gone back up after it went down and Mayor Hazel confirmed that it dropped 50% over a two-year period and has not been increased since. CM Lochtefeld asked if the percentage share went strictly off of population and Mayor Hazel noted that is the exact amount, we receive based off of a couple factors but he will get the exact reasoning for the council. CM Scott made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Resolution, seconded by CM Lochtefeld. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Second Reading):

None.

**OLD BUSINESS** (Third Reading):

**31-22-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to enter into an agreement for Fire Protection with Hopewell Township. Mayor Hazel noted that our fire chief has recommended that we reduce this contract form a five-year to a one-year contract to help allow him more time to come up with a fairer agreement and that we have other contracts up next year which will help put them on the same timeline. CM Sovinski noted he thought that putting it on the same timeline as other contracts would help the City and Mayor Hazel agreed. President King noted that dates and verbiage that would change with the one-year agreement instead of the 5-year agreement. CM Sovinski made a motion for the adjustments to the Ordinance and the agreement, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-.0 Aye. CM Baltzell made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Safety Service Director Hitchcock pointed out in his report that the planning commission is going to be reviewing the school site over by Portland Street and if any of the council members would like to review them, they will have them the week before the next council meeting. President King asked if they can get an email when the plans are ready for review and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed he will do that. CM Sovinski asked if they thought a committee meeting should be held to review these plans and Mayor Hazel noted that all department heads have reviewed the plans but it is up to them if they would like to have a committee meeting for the plans. Safety Service Director Hitchcock stated they will notify everyone when the plans are ready for review and if they would like to have a committee meeting after they review the plans, they can do that.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

CM Baltzell made note of all the sidewalks that have been put around town and how they really appreciate the businesses that have stepped up to do their part to help the City.

CM Sovinski put out a reminder that the first week of October will be the last brush pick up for the year.

President King adjourned the meeting at 7:51 pm.

Submitted by Michael F. Didonato, Clerk of Council