**REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – November 10, 2025**

Attendees: Council President King; Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Gray, Sanford, and Wolfe; Mayor Hazel; Safety Service Director Hitchcock; Law Director Moore; Police Chief Wale; Auditor Shinn

Start Time: Council President King called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 PM

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:**

* Council President King
* Council Members Present:
  + Baltzell
  + Buxton
  + Clausen
  + Fleck
  + Gray
  + Sanford
  + Wolfe

**2. Acceptance of Agenda:**

* Agenda Approval: CM Baltzell made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**3. Corrections and acceptance of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes:**

* Minutes Approval:
  + Previous Meeting: October 27, 2025
* Outcome: CM Gray made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**4. Committee Reports:**

* CM Clausen gave a summary of the Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting that took place on November 3, 2025 to discuss the 2026 budget.

**5. Communications:**

* President King congratulated the 3 councilmen who winning their respective elections- Jemery Uhlenhake, Chris Doseck, and Steve Schulte. They will be joining Council beginning January 1, 2026.
* CM Gray congratulated President King on his winning of re-election.
* Mayor Hazel thanked the Lions Club for putting on the annual Halloween parade at the amphitheater.

**6. Audience Communication:**

1. Jesse Francis, 710 Devonshire Drive, concerns about pedestrian safety**.**

* Following up from concerns he had 2 months ago about pedestrian safety. Didn’t expect any improvements but is interested in getting involved somehow and is wanting to know who to contact to have this conversation.
* SSD Hitchcock recommended to call Admin Office to get a time scheduled to discuss.

**7. New Business:**

1. **41-25-O:** An Ordinance to make appropriations for expenses and other expenditures of the City of Celina, State of Ohio, during the calendar year ending December 31, 2026, and to declare an emergency.

Discussion:

* CM Buxton made a motion to only read the title, section one, section totals/overall totals, section twenty-seven, and section twenty-eight, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with voice acclamation.
* CM Clausen explained Council has been meeting with each department supervisor in Personnel & Finance Committee meetings to go over expenditures needed for 2026 so the city can have a clean budget for next year.
* Outcome: CM Baltzell made a motion to pass to second reading, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

1. **42-25-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to advertise for bids and to enter into contracts for City Projects and Capital Equipment for fiscal year 2026.

Discussion:

* CM Clausen stated these are all the capital expenditures for all the departments that Council has been discussing with each department supervisor in Personnel & Finance Committee meetings.
* Outcome: CM Clausen made a motion to pass to second reading, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

1. **43-25-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to advertise for bids and to enter into contracts for certain materials, services, supplies and equipment needed during 2026.

Discussion:

* Mayor Hazel explained these 3 Ordinances are an annual process for the upcoming year’s budget that are discussed in Personnel & Finance Committee meetings with all department supervisors. These Ordinances are brought to Council in November and December for discussion and to be approved to go into effect starting January1st.
* Outcome: CM Baltzell made a motion to add an emergency clause, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Clausen made a motion to pass to second reading, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**8. Old Business (2nd Reading):**

1. **40-25-O:** An Ordinance establishing the annual salary of the Clerk of Council.

Discussion:

* + Outcome: CM Fleck made a motion to pass to third reading, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**9. Old Business (3rd Reading):**

1. **39-25-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Mercer County Commissioners during calendar year 2026 for Indigent Defense Services in Municipal Court.

Discussion:

* + Outcome: CM Clausen made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

**10. Administrative Reports:**

1. Mayor Hazel Discussed:

* The first snow this morning caused several minor accidents; schools canceled due to county road conditions. Residents reminded to drive cautiously.
* Mill Street: Shinn Brothers progressing well; aiming to finalize paving south side of Logan Street before winter; delays previously due to gas company utility work.
* Westview Park Restroom: Completion expected in 2 weeks; facility will be ready for next year.
* Swimming Pool Slide: New slide passed inspection; pool drained for the season; funded by Bryson Trust.
* Bryson Trust: Some items discussed in the 2026 budget may be funded by the Bryson Trust (waiting on approval from Bryson Trust Committee): playground equipment for Westview Park and other improvements.

**11. For the Good of the Order:**

1. CM Sanford asked about salt supply/prepared for increased snow? Mayor Hazel explained the city participates in county bulk purchase for winter readiness.
2. Personnel & Finance Committee meeting scheduled for November 17, 2025 at 5:00pm.

**12. Adjournment:**

* Time: 7:36 PM