

REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – February 26, 2024

Council President King called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:01 pm. Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Gray, and Wolfe were present. CM Sanford was absent. Also present were Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Law Director Moore and Auditor Shinn.

CM Gray made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

At 7:04 pm, CM Fleck made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employments, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

The meeting convened in Executive Session at 8:07 pm. Attendees of the Executive Session were President King; Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Gray, and Wolfe; Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Auditor Shinn, and Law Director Moore.

CM Gray and CM Clausen made a correction to the minutes. CM Wolfe made a motion to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CM Buxton spoke about the Parks & Recreation meeting that took place on February 12th, 2024 which discussed possible future parks projects, wants, and projected needs.

President King discussed the Committee of the Whole that took place on February 12th, 2024 to discuss the vacation of Holly Street.

COMMUNICATIONS:

President King spoke about and congratulated Jonathan Williams for winning citizen of the year for Celina.

CM Clausen also noted that the City of Celina was recognized as the best hometown in 2023 for Ohio in Ohio Magazine.

Fred Wiswell who reside at 1605 Bishop Ct Spoke about his love for the City of Celina and how he appreciates what Council does with their difficult positions. Fred spoke about the tabled tax abatement and also mentioned that this may not change who does or does not buy a house in the City and how it could negatively affect the schools because how difficult it is to pass levies. Fred also spoke about how expensive houses are now and buying a home will cost at least 200 thousand at the moment and if they can afford a house at that price, they can afford the property taxes.

President King noted that they are still looking into the tabled Ordinance and what is best for the City of Celina.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS: (First Reading)

18-24-O: An Ordinance approving the tentative agreement and authorizing the Mayor and the Safety-Service Director to enter into a contract with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. representing the Police Officers and declaring an emergency. CM Gray made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Clausen spoke about the surrounding markets and how that effected the wages and that Council spoke about what was in the package. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

19-24-O: An Ordinance approving the tentative agreement and authorizing the Mayor and Safety-Service Director to enter into a contract with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. representing the Dispatchers and declaring an emergency. CM Baltzell made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Wolf made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

20-24-O: An Ordinance authorizing the City Auditor to enter into agreements, including merchant services agreements and sub-merchant agreements, from time to time with entities such as banks and “Payment Facilitator” for the purpose of accepting electronic payments for youth recreational sports programs fees, and declaring an emergency. Auditor Shinn noted that we have been using Team Sidelines since 2018 and that is where parents can go to sign up their children for our youth sports programs and since they recently switched the credit card processing vendor which is why this is coming to Council and that the City will keep paying the same amount as before but there is a slight increase to the fee for parents who sign up and pay online. CM Clausen noted that there was an “Exhibit A” in the Ordinance but no attachment and asked if that should be taken off or if there is an exhibit and Auditor Shinn confirmed the sub merchant agreement was going to be “Exhibit A”. Law Director Moore noted that this Ordinance was first discussed around 3 pm on this day and noted that she needs Council approval to sign the agreement and did not want to delay the rec league sign ups or inconvenience anyone by not allowing them to sign up online and that they are able to print off the sub merchant agreement for Councils consideration but believes the rules should still be suspended. CM Gray noted that the only reason they were voting on this was because Team Sideline changed their vendor and Law Director Moore confirmed that was his understanding. CM Clausen noted that if there was no effect on the cost to the City and it is the customer who chooses to use the app has the additional charge he believes it should be suspended. CM Wolfe noted that we have been using them for years and like Auditor Shinn stated the fees do get passed on to the customer and that Team Sidelines is pretty cheap compared to similar services. CM Buxton also noted that it helps get the kids registered quicker for the sports as well. Law Director Moore noted that it was very late notice for the Ordinance. CM Gray asked if they are also allowed to pay with cash and it was confirmed they can pay with cash if they prefer. CM Clausen made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Fleck made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

OLD BUSINESS (Second Reading):

8-24-O: An Ordinance to vacate a portion of Holly Street between East Wayne Street and Johnson Avenue situated in the City of Celina, Ohio; and declaring an effective date. President King asked if they ever

came up with an effective date and Law Director Moore confirmed the effective date should be April 10th, 2024. CM Buxton noted that it was possible to put an emergency clause on the Ordinance and it would not have to wait the 30 days and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that he does not remember a vacation not going three readings and 30 days. CM Wolfe made an amendment, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0-1 Aye. CM Clausen made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0-1 Aye.

9-24-O: An Ordinance to accept the petition for the annexation of 3.96 acres more or less in Jefferson Township to the City of Celina; to be known as the Casey's Marketing Company annexation. CM Wolfe made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

10-24-O: An Ordinance to prohibit recreational adult use cannabis operators within the City of Celina, and declaring an emergency. CM Fleck made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

14-24-O: An Ordinance authorizing a lease agreement between the City of Celina and Celina Lake Festival for the lease of the Bryson Park District. **(Amended 2/12/2024)**. CM Buxton made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

4-24-R: A Resolution amending City of Celina Council Rules. **(Exhibit A Amended)**. CM Buxton asked about section "M" and if someone who did not pre-register wanted to speak to Council, they could but after still providing their address and name and noted that it did not specifically state that and Law Director Moore noted that this is still subject to change and he can specifically put that any non-pre-registrant will still have to provide their name and address. CM Buxton also asked about the sign in roster or sheet and where it would be placed and how it would prevent anyone from taking pictures because they would turn the slip in right after filling it out. President King pointed out that those cards would become public record after being turned in to himself and Law Director noted that they can get rid of them after they are no longer admiratively necessary but they would also be placed in the minutes. CM Buxton noted that he would like to make notes the night of them speaking to see how it can be addressed and noted that they would only be given the name on the night so he would not be able to know if they are in his ward. President King confirmed that the addresses would be put in the minutes based on the slips but that does not help CM Buxton know where they reside on the night of the meeting. CM Clausen noted that if the person had a ward specific problem, they would probably mention their ward or what street or area the problem is at. President King noted that the Clerk of Council is able to give him or anyone a copy of the slips after the meeting for anyone that they are interested in. CM Clausen made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

OLD BUSINESS (Third Reading):

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Auditor Shinn noted that she will email the general fund summary and the utilities report to Council. Auditor Shinn also noted that she emailed "Exhibit A" from 20-24-O to Council.

Law Director Moore noted that the tabled 1-24-O had no action taken and it will remain where it is on the agenda unless or until some action is taken on it.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

CM Clausen mentioned the that award they were given for best hometown in Ohio came from the house representative Angie King which recognized the City of Celina.

CM Buxton noted that in March or April there will be another article written about Celina in Ohio magazine.

CM Buxton asked about the EV stations and it was confirmed that they shut off once the car is fully charged. CM Buxton asked who was liable if a car were to catch on fire and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed it would be the owners or the EV stations.

CM Buxton wanted to inform the public that the City of Celina has laws against electric skateboards and electric scooters on the streets as well and golf carts on the sidewalks. CM Buxton suggested putting it in the newsletter to help inform the public. Chief Wale noted that the Celina Police Department would be able to help if they get a call when golf carts are driving on the sidewalk and not well after the event occurred.


President King reminded Council of a Parks & Recreation meeting for March 11, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

President King adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by Michael F. DiDonato, Clerk of Council



Michael F. DiDonato, Council Clerk



Jason D. King, Council President

I, Michael F. DiDonato, Clerk of Council of the City of Celina, Ohio, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of 2/26/2024, and were approved by Council 3/11/2024.

_____ Council Clerk