

REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – January 27, 2025

President King called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:00 pm. Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Clausen, Fleck, Gray, Sanford and Wolfe were present. Also present were Mayor Hazel, Safety Service Director Hitchcock, Auditor Shinn, and Law Director Moore.

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

CM Wolfe made a motion to pass the minutes, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President King spoke about a Committee of the Whole on January 13, 2025 that went into executive session.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Hazel spoke about a new police officer trainee that started with the City of Celina and how that put us at 12 active police officers able to be on the streets and another 5 police officer trainees identified or already starting with the City that are at the police academy. CM Gray asked about lateral transfers and Chief Wale noted there are currently no lateral transfers that have applied for our open positions yet but if they do they will get some serious consideration for the position. Chief Wale explained the premise of the National Testing Network and how we utilize it to hire police officers.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS: (First Reading)

4-25-O: An Ordinance appropriating funds for the monetary donations received by the Celina Fire Department and declaring an emergency. Fire Chief Lange explained how the donation would be used and how thankful we are to receive the donation. CM Gray asked about the inspector school and if we get any help from the state and Chief Lange explained yes but a minimal amount of help. CM Gray asked if this needed to be suspended and it was confirmed that it does. CM Clausen asked about the donations we have received in the past from this business and it was confirmed they have donated every year for quite some time and CM Clausen asked about how people got involved in the process and thanked them for their donations. Chief Lange spoke about the 600 inspections they do a year and noted we are behind and that getting more people trained will help. CM Fleck asked about some of the bigger companies that have their own crews come by for inspections and Chief Lange noted that the City of Celina sends fire personnel to ensure they are doing their job right. CM Gray noted he and the City are very thankful for the donation. Mayor Hazel noted there is also a scholarship to go to Wright State and how thankful the City of Celina is. CM Gray made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Clausen made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

OLD BUSINESS (Second Reading):

2-25-O: An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to enter into an Annual Service Agreement with Emergency Networking, Inc. for Fire reporting services for the Celina Fire Department and declaring an emergency. Chief Lange confirmed that the new Fire Department system would not translate with water and wastewater departments unless people want to enter information on two different systems but they are of course able to log into the Fire Department system for any information that they want. CM Clausen confirmed that after the initial period with the new system all other departments Chief Lange spoke to thought the system was great and have had no additional problems and Chief Lange confirmed that. CM Wolfe asked about the field maps that Water Distribution uses and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that businesses are not having their systems be very compatible with each other. Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that administration is happy with two different systems having information input so fire critical information is only being input by our fire personnel. CM Gray asked about the hydrants being shut off and with the fires in California if that is anything we need to worry about and Chief Lange noted we have great pipes and does not foresee any problems. CM Baltzell made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

1-25-R: A Resolution authorizing the sale by internet auction during calendar year 2025 of municipally owned personal property which is not needed for public use, or which is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 721.15(D). CM Fleck made a motion to pass to a third reading, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

OLD BUSINESS (Third Reading):

71-24-O: An Ordinance authorizing a lease agreement between the City of Celina and the Veterans Forever, Inc. for the lease of the Bryson Park District. CM Buxton noted they did not win the bid for 2025 but they did for 2026 to host a point giving event. CM Clausen made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Auditor Shinn noted an error on her report that will be fixed for the next report and listed the names of people or businesses and amounts that were donated to the City of Celina during 2024. CM Clausen asked about some of the line items that seemed high over expected amounts for 2024 and Auditor Shinn explained that through interest we made much more money than expected which is why the number is so high. CM Clausen noted before the interest the money would sit there and not earn much of anything and thanked administration for their efforts. CM Buxton thanked the people for their donations. CM Gray thanked the people for their donations.

Safety Service Director Hitchcock spoke about the Mill Street project and how it will be started soon if not already started that day.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

CM Fleck noted that people were also working on the reservoir and Mayor Hazel thanked him for noting that as he did not have a chance to go out there and see if they started after getting better weather.

CM Buxton asked to confirm we were still on schedule with the Mull & Architects for the feasibility study and administration confirmed we were still on track.

CM Buxton asked about possibility clearing a path on the boardwalk for the walkers during inclement weather after we do other streets and other sidewalks and administration noted that we do not have the right tools for that area and do not feel comfortable salting it but they can look at plowing it but are cautious about making it slicker.

CM Sanford asked about the bees in the committee and asked for an updated timeline and Law Director Moore noted that his referral gave him another name to ask and they have not replied to an email yet and noted he cannot move forward without talking to someone with superior bee keeping knowledge. CM Sanford asked if there are any other bee keepers he can ask and Law Director Moore noted he did not know any but would be happy to work with any that someone might suggest and it was noted someone may have a name for them after the council meeting.

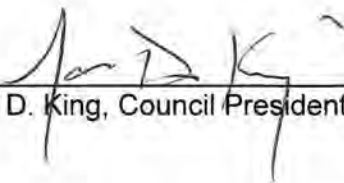
President King scheduled a Buildings and Grounds Meeting on February 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm and immediately following for a Utilities Meeting.

President King adjourned the meeting at 7:42 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 1/27/2025, and were approved by Council 2/10/2025.

_____ Council Clerk