

## REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – April 14, 2025

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

Start Time: President King called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 PM

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

- Presiding Officer: President King
- Council Members Present:
  - Baltzell
  - Buxton
  - Clausen
  - Fleck
  - Gray
  - Sanford
  - Wolfe
- Absent Members: None noted.

### 2. Acceptance of Agenda:

- Agenda Approval: CM Gray made a motion, seconded by CM Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

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

- Minutes Approval:
  - Previous Meeting: March 24th
  - Corrections Noted: CM Sanford made corrections to the minutes.
- Outcome: CM Sanford made a motion to amend the minutes, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Buxton made a motion to pass the minutes, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

### 4. Committee Reports:

- None

### 5. Communications:

- None

### 6. Audience Communication:

- None

### 7. New Business:

a. **13-25-O:** An Ordinance authorizing a rental agreement between the City of Celina and the Celina Dolphins Swim Team for the rental of the Bryson Pool.

- Purpose: Authorizing a rental agreement with Celina Dolphins Swim Team.
  - Council by voice acclamation voted to read Ordinance 13-25-O and 14-25-O together.
  - CM Gray asked if there were any conflicts with the schedule and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted they were still establishing dates and meeting with teams to see when the pool is available.
  - CM Baltzell noted that these were private teams and not apart of our recreational teams and that the City is only deciding when or if teams can use our pools and at what cost.
  - CM Clausen noted we have nice pools and would like to see them be used.
  - CM Gray asked about some of the equipment being used and Safety Service Director Hitchcock spoke about the blocks possibly being owned by the Dolphins. CM Wolfe noted that usually items get donated to the City and we maintain the equipment and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed that to be true over the last 12 years since this administration has taken over.

- CM Wolfe asked if this would have the pool closing more often because people pay for passes and should be able to use the passes.
- CM Baltzell asked about the insurance requirements and it was confirmed that administration did not remember seeing it for this year.
- Jeremiah Schmidt spoke on behalf of the Celina Dolphins and discussed previous Rec Advisory Board and that he did not kick anyone off the board but informed them they were not voted in using the correct bylaws. Jeremiah spoke about how the pool in Celina is the best around but our swim and dive teams still rank toward the bottom. Jeremiah noted that last year's pool season was cancelled because the other two board members voted to cancel the season and won without a consensus. Lastly, Jeremiah noted he believes there should only be one swim team for the City of Celina.
- Larissa Albert who spoke on behalf of the Celina Sharks spoke about their readiness for the season and how they are hoping to have one meet at home but if not authorized they will go to St. Mary's instead of hosting them here. Larissa spoke about how every kid on the team is required to purchase a pool pass and the equipment and costs of the equipment. Larissa expressed concern about the suggested \$100.00 per hour for practices as neither team would be able to afford that. President King asked if both teams were okay with the projected schedule and Larissa noted that can make it work. CM Gray asked about the equipment use and there was discussion about who owned what equipment that is kept in the shed. CM Clausen asked about the hourly fee and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that was based off renting the pool and Council can adjust accordingly to what they think would be fair. Auditor Shinn noted the City is able to charge X amount for fees. CM Fleck noted he thinks the hourly rate works but would like to tweak the costs. CM Wolfe noted his believe that if the equipment was donated than both teams should be able to use it. CM Gray asked if either of these Ordinances can even get passed today and Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted they are still waiting on information so it should only be passed to a second reading. CM Fleck asked if administration can have all the information ready for the next meeting and it was confirmed they can have everything from their perspective finished. It was confirmed that when renting the pool, they also are getting life guards with the rental.
- Nickole Schmidt noted that swimmers on the Celina Dolphins are required to have a pool pass which brings in funds to the City of Celina with the exception of some toddlers. Nickole also noted the Celina Dolphins carry insurance and provides it to Administration. Nickole noted how from her understanding the Celina Dolphins own both the blocks and starting lanes. It was confirmed the City owns the timing system. Nickole noted that all of the equipment is expensive and she believes should not be shared between teams. Nickole noted that the teams rely on volunteers like parents and that they have high standards. CM Gray asked if it was possible for the City to receive a copy of the bylaws and they declined to present those.
- Joan Stephens spoke about a coach with a prior criminal history being hired to work around the kids and how she believes that shows poor character and noted the Celina Sharks will have background checks for the coaches. President King noted that he believes an emergency reading should be added to when it does pass the Mayor can sign right away and they can start their season. Mayor Hazel spoke about the donated equipment and when both parties are able to use certain equipment. Joan noted she believes that for the benefit of the kids that all equipment should be shared.
- Toby, a league coach from St. Mary's spoke about the previous year when parents were calling with concerns and that no teams were allowed or willing to schedule meets with Celina Dolphins. Toby also spoke about how some swimmers went to new teams which was authorized in the bylaws. Toby noted they would like to work with both swim teams in Celina if everything gets agreed to and figured out. Toby spoke about the standards that coaches and parents have to

follow and ensure they treat the judges with respect. Toby spoke about the good swimmers in Celina and wishes success to all parties involved. Lastly, Toby mentioned that St. Mary's does not charge them anything for using the pool.

- Outcome: CM Fleck made a motion to pass the Ordinance to a second reading, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0-1 Aye.

b. **14-25-O:** An Ordinance authorizing a rental agreement between the City of Celina and the Celina Sharks Swim and Dive Team for the rental of the Bryson Pool.

- Purpose: Authorizing a rental agreement with Celina Sharks Swim and Dive Team.
- Outcome: CM Fleck made a motion to pass the Ordinance to a second reading, seconded by CM Baltzell. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0-1 Aye.

c. **15-25-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to award the Westview Park Restroom Project to Grand Lake Building Co. and declaring an emergency.

- Discussion:
  - Mayor Hazel spoke about how this was in the 2025 budget and this just awards it.
  - CM Gray asked if he has received any feedback from the community and Mayor Hazel confirmed it has been all positive.
  - CM Sanford asked for a timeline and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed that will be in the next report.
  - CM Buxton asked how this price compared to our previous bathroom purchase and Safety Service Director Hitchcock confirmed it was for a similar cost.
  - CM Clausen noted how this new bathroom is greatly needed in Westview.
- Outcome: CM Clausen made a motion to suspend the rules, 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 Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

d. **16-25-O:** An Ordinance appropriating funds for the Electric Distribution Department and declaring an emergency.

- Discussion:
  - Mayor Hazel noted this was last second but will save the City tens of thousands of dollars to buy the truck now as it was just offered to us as another City passed on it.
  - CM Clausen asked about the material handling functions and CM Wolfe confirmed that it would be able to move transformers and CM Clausen noted his believe that we should take advantage of this deal and save the City some money.
  - CM Wolfe confirmed that this would be replacing a 20-year-old truck.
- Outcome: CM Gray made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Wolfe. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Clausen made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Sanford. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

e. **17-25-O:** An Ordinance appropriating money from the General Fund and Income Tax Additional Half Percent Fund for deposit in the Police Capital Fund, Fire Capital Fund, Street Improvement Capital Fund, and Park Capital Fund to transfer funds, and to declare an emergency.

- Discussion:
  - Mayor noted he was pleased with the moving of money and this would help start the allocation of funds for the fire building and noted the feasibility study would be about a month out.
  - CM Clausen noted the proven accountability and putting the money in the right accounts that will need it in the future.
- Outcome: CM Clausen made a motion to pass the Ordinance to a second reading, seconded by CM Sanford. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

f. **18-25-O:** An Ordinance appropriating funds for the monetary donations received by the Celina Recreation Department and declaring an emergency.

- Discussion:
  - Mayor Hazel noted how pleased, grateful, and thankful we are for the donations.
  - CM Sanford noted how thankful we are for the equipment.
  - CM Clausen noted how service groups continue to give to the community and how thankful we are for that.
- Outcome: CM Sanford 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 Clausen. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

g. **19-25-O:** An Ordinance appropriating funds for the purchase and installation of security cameras in the CMU Administration Building, the Police Department flooring replacement project, street maintenance repair material expenses, and State Route 703 Waterline Replacement Project engineering fees, and declaring an emergency.

- Discussion:
  - Auditor Shinn noted that the flooring quote expired and that they have raised prices.
  - Public Works noticed that 100,000 that was approved by Council during the 2025 budget was never actually included in the budget and this was fixing that as well as putting passwords on the excel sheets.
  - Safety Service Director Hitchcock noted that joint project with the County and that this was to pay for our portion of the project within the city limits.
  - CM Wolfe asked about the splits and his believe that is should come out of the water fund and not be split and Auditor Shinn noted she would look into it.
- Outcome: CM Baltzell made a motion to pass the Ordinance to a second reading, seconded by CM Fleck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

## 8. Old Business (Second Reading):

a. **10-25-O:** An Ordinance appropriating funds for multiple critical Water Department Projects and declaring an emergency.

- Discussion:
  - Mayor Hazel noted how this needs to pass to order the parts.
- Outcome: CM Clausen made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye. CM Baltzell made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0 Aye.

## 9. Administrator Reports:

a. Mayor Hazel spoke about the Spring Trash Pick-Up schedule.

b. Mayor Hazel spoke about the Democrat protest by the lighthouse to protest Elon Musk.

## 10. For the Good of the Order:

a. CM Buxton asked about the building being built by Ferguson and it was confirmed that we will supply the Water and Sewer.

b. CM Clausen spoke about the Utilities Committee Meeting and the need for further discussion and Mayor Hazel confirmed they will come back to discuss and CM Clausen mentioned he believes the figure is quite high.

c. CM Gray thanked Kerry Duncan the Wastewater Superintendent for the tour and noted it helped him understand more during the committee meeting.

d. CM Gray spoke about the Fire Department having a new employee start in the upcoming week and congratulated Zachary Metzger. CM Gray also spoke about and congratulated the two cadets that recently graduated the police program.

e. CM Fleck spoke about the bypass and the need for more testing and to see how many outlets it is flowing to.

f. CM Sanford spoke about the recreation league sports and how thankful he is for those programs.

g. CM Sanford asked about the transfer with the dispatchers and Chief Wale confirmed that morale is high and it seems to be a smooth transition.

h. CM Sanford spoke about a possible committee meeting to discuss the pool contracts and Mayor Hazel spoke about the pool slide being gone and we are in the process of getting a new one with the Bryson's Trusts help and they have agreed to help pay for the concrete work that is needed and noted the new slide will not be ready for opening day.

**11. Adjournment**

- Time: 9:00 PM



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Michael F. DiDonato, Council Clerk

  
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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 4/14/2025, and were approved by Council 4/28/2025.

\_\_\_\_\_ Council Clerk