

REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL – January 26, 2026

Attendees: Council President King; Council Members Doseck, Gray, Sanford, Schulte, Uhlenhake, and Wolfe; Mayor Hazel; Law Director Moore; Police Chief Wale

Start Time: Council President King called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 PM

1. Prayer & Pledge

2. Call to Order and Roll Call:

- Council President King
- Council Members Present:
 - Doseck
 - Gray
 - Sanford
 - Schulte
 - Uhlenhake
 - Wolfe

Absent: Auditor Shinn, Safety Service Director Hitchcock, and CM Clausen

3. Acceptance of Agenda:

- Agenda Approval: CM Doseck made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

4. Corrections and acceptance of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes:

- Minutes Approval:
 - Previous Meeting: January 12, 2026
- Outcome: CM Doseck pointed out a scribner error on page 3 under 2-26-R Gary should be Gray. CM Wolfe made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by CM Schulte. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

5. Committee Reports:

- None

6. Communications:

- Mayor Hazel Discussed:
 - Winter Storm Response
 - Significant snowfall over the prior weekend
 - Staff and crews worked 14.5 hours before a break; all roads cleared
 - Level 2 emergency declared within the city, reduced to Level 1 as of meeting date
 - County still at Level 2, had been at Level 3
 - City roads clear; some slick spots remain
 - Special thanks to the Moose and Eagles for donating food for staff
 - Contractors assisted in clearing snow for business parking lots reopening
 - Special praise extended to Public Works and all other departments who helped with snow removal

7. Audience Communication:

- None

8. New Business:

- a. **3-26-O:** An Ordinance authorizing a lease agreement between the City of Celina and the Foundations Behavioral Health Services (Recovery Clubhouse) for the lease of the Bryson Park District.

Discussion:

- Emma Whistler from Foundations Behavioral Health Services was present to answer Council's questions.
- CM Schulte asked about the location; grassy area between basketball courts and Lake Contracting; map attached to Ordinance.
- CM Gray asked if there would be any food vendors; no food vendors, only popcorn/drinks provided.
- CM Wolfe stated this will be a great event and glad to see this happening in the park.
- CM Sanford asked if this event is open to the public; yes, public is welcome to attend.
- Outcome: CM Wolfe made a motion to suspend, seconded by CM Gray. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Gray made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Schulte. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

- b. 4-26-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Police Chief to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with Rockford, St. Henry, Ft. Recovery, and Coldwater and declaring an emergency.

Discussion:

- Police Chief Wale Explained:
 - Improves ability to provide/receive assistance in emergencies (major events, personnel shortages, critical accidents)
 - Agreement offers liability protections: each city/village is responsible for its own personnel, including accidents or legal claims.
 - Agreement is indefinite but can be terminated by any party with 30 days written notice.
 - Required to take effect before January 31, 2026 to support upcoming WOW event in Ft. Recovery.
- CM Wolfe asked if pay would be similar to other special events; payments for mutual aid work (such as special event policing) are made to the city, which pays officers via payroll; not paid directly to officers.
- CM Schulte asked if the city has done this before; city previously did not enter into such agreement, but now sees clear benefit based on coverage, liability, and staffing realities.
- Police Chief Wale explained the Sheriff's Office is not part of this because they already have county wide jurisdiction.
- CM Gray stated glad to see the city can decline to send officers if local staffing issues or emergencies.
- Outcome: CM Wolfe made a motion to suspend, seconded by CM Uhlenhake. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Gray made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Doseck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

- c. 5-26-O:** An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to hire an additional Dispatcher for training and declaring an emergency.

Discussion:

- Mayor Hazel Explained:
 - Similar approach previously used for bailiff training.
 - Notice of retirement from John Mangan, dispatcher for 17 years plus 9 years as auxiliary officer; effective retirement date March 31, 2026.
 - Position is strictly temporary and will be abolished upon outgoing dispatchers' retirement.
 - Wages/benefits as per FOP Dispatcher contract.
 - No significant budget noted due to wage step down.

- Outcome: CM Gray made a motion to suspend, seconded by CM Sanford. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye. CM Gray made a motion to pass the Ordinance, seconded by CM Doseck. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

9. Old Business (2nd Reading):

- 1-26-R:** A Resolution authorizing the sale by internet auction during calendar year 2026 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).

Discussion:

- Outcome: CM Wolfe made a motion to pass to third reading, seconded by CM Uhlenhake. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

- 2-26-R:** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor as delegate to represent the City of Celina as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Municipal Electric Association.

Discussion:

- Outcome: CM Wolfe made a motion to pass to third reading, seconded by CM Sanford. Motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0 Aye.

9. Administrative Reports:

A. Mayor Discussed:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting Scheduled for February 9, 2026 at 6:30pm for an Executive Session

B. OMEA Board Legislation

- Need to suspend rules on board delegate legislation (2-26-R) at the next meeting so Mayor can attend related conferences

C. Cold Weather Advisory

- Let faucets drip to avoid frozen pipes, especially on outer walls and in garages
- Open cabinet doors under sinks for air circulation
- Remove sink stoppers before running taps, to avoid overflow
- Check/maintain carbon monoxide detectors; ensure snow does not block furnace, hot water tank, dryer, or other venting
- Take precautions against frostbite for anyone outdoors

D. General Thanks

- Extended to Public Works, Safety Service, Fire, and Police departments personnel for exceptional service during the recent storm and continuing cold.

10. For the Good of the Order:

- CM Wolfe remove sink stoppers if allowing faucet to drip
- CM Sanford ensure carbon monoxide and dryer exhaust vents are not blocked by snow
 - Avoid carbon monoxide buildup; monitor for safety, especially in heavy snow
- CM Gray general appreciation for Public Works, Fire, Police, Safety and other staff, and my partners who helped during weather event.

11. Adjournment:

- Time: 7:32 PM



Kari R. Fox, Council Clerk


 Jason D. King, Council President

I, Kari R. Fox, Clerk of Council of the City of Celina, Ohio, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of 1/26/2026, and were approved by Council 2/9/2026.

Kari R. Fox

Council Clerk