

REGULAR MEETING OF CELINA CITY COUNCIL January 26, 2009

President Rodriguez called the Regular Meeting of Celina City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Council Members Bachelor, Buxton, Jeffries, King, Larmore, Scott and Sell answered roll call. Also present were Mayor LaRue, Safety Service Director Hazel, Planning & Community Development Director Bryan, City Auditor Stewart, and City Law Director McKirnan.

CM King made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by CM Larmore. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

CM Bachelor made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 15, 2008 Regular Council Meeting as written, seconded by CM Sell. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

CM Scott made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 30, 2008 Special Council Meeting as corrected, seconded by CM Sell. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CM Bachelor stated that the Personnel & Finance Committee met on December 17th and discussed the General Fund Budget. He said the committee will be meeting again on January 27th at 4:30 p.m. in the utility building.

CM Jeffries reported that the Streets & Alleys Committee met December 22nd. They discussed parking lots and parallel parking downtown.

President Rodriguez said Council as a Whole met on December 22nd and went into executive session.

CM King said on January 6th the Parks & Recreation Committee met. It was an informational meeting on skate parks and she briefly went over the minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Director Bryan noted that there is no legislation on the agenda tonight concerning downtown parking.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS:

Teresa Howick asked if the bike path is coming through downtown Celina. Director Bryan replied that the parallel parking drawings show a 7' path, which in the past was referred as a bike path, but it is really a buffer zone to assist with parallel parking. Even though the buffer area is not dedicated solely to bike traffic, Kent noted it could allow for bike riding since it is actually against the law to ride on sidewalks.

Bob Heitkamp asked that he be notified when discussion on parallel parking takes place so he can attend. President Rodriguez explained that this will take place in a committee meeting and notices are placed in the newspaper for all meetings.

Bob Heitkamp expressed some concerns about snow and ice on sidewalks. He said he felt time should have been spent on cleaning those instead of the demonstration on sidewalk width. Director Hazel said it is the responsibility of the property owner to clean the sidewalks. Bob apologized and said he did not know that.

Teresa Howick stated that she feels it would ruin the downtown if parallel parking is put in.

Dave Howick asked about the purchase of the gator for the recreation department. He felt he should have been approached and was concerned about the bidding process. Director Hazel explained how the estimates were obtained and what the State requires.

Ed Kirts said he was concerned about parallel parking and stopping traffic to park. He briefly explained information he got from the highway patrol on violations that could be involved.

Julie Rose said she understood council would be voting on parallel parking from an article in the paper. President Rodriguez explained that what is mentioned in Readers Write is not always what is taking place at council and there is nothing on the agenda tonight on parallel parking. CM Buxton commented that there was another article that mentioned a vote taking place. No one else seemed to know about the article.

Anthony Diegel expressed concern about more upkeep and labor needed if parallel parking is put in because he understood that trees and so forth would be put in to pretty things up. CM Sell explained that even if parallel parking does not go in there will be some landscaping things done to brighten up the downtown area.

NEW BUSINESS: (First Reading)

1-09-O: An Ordinance levying assessments for the improvement by construction, reconstruction or repairing of public sidewalks and curbs under the Ward One Sidewalk Program and declaring an emergency. Director Hazel said this is an annual ordinance. The work has been done and once this ordinance passes they can assess property owners. CM Jeffries questioned some of the amount differences and Director Hazel explained that not all radiuses were the same. CM Scott had questions on how property owners pay and Director Hazel explained. CM Bachelor stated that the city's share has already been paid and it will not be coming out of the 2009 budget. CM Bachelor made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM King. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye. CM Sell made a motion to pass the ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

2-09-O: An Ordinance accepting a grant from the Ohio Department of Development, Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Comprehensive Downtown Revitalization Program, and declaring an emergency. Director Bryan said he has the grant agreement from the state. CM Jeffries asked about the matching fund. Director Bryan explained the match from the private property owner's counts as the match for infrastructure. There are 33 property owners participating at this time. A motion to suspend the rules was made by CM King, seconded by CM Sell. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye. CM Bachelor made a motion to pass the ordinance, seconded by CM Buxton. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

3-09-O: An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to enter into a lease agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company and declaring an emergency. Director Bryan said the administration has been working on this for some time. He explained where the property is located and briefly explained the reason for a lease agreement. CM Jeffries said the memo talks about paving and Director Bryan said there is no intention to pave. CM Sell asked about the length of the lease and Director Bryan said it is a perpetual lease. CM Bachelor asked about the amount of real estate taxes. Director Bryan said no record can be found on this property for real estate taxes. CM Bachelor asked if there are any environmental issues. Director Bryan said no study has been done or are there any plans to do one. CM Scott asked if we have an ordinance that says parking lots have to be paved. CM Bachelor said the ordinance says dust free and explained how that could be done. CM Jeffries asked if the slab will be removed from the property when the building comes down and Director Bryan said that is the plan. After further discussion on the lease agreement, a motion to pass the ordinance to second reading was made by CM Bachelor, seconded by CM King. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

4-09-O: An Ordinance to authorize on the City of Celina to aggregate demand response of retail customers in accordance with FERC Order 719 and taking other actions in connection therewith and declaring an emergency. CM Sell made a motion to read by title only, seconded by CM Bachelor. The motion passed by voice acclamation. Director Hazel explained the ordinance and Order 719. He said this will protect the integrity of our system. CM Bachelor commented that an issue here is our commitment to power sources. CM Bachelor made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM Sell. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye. A motion to pass the ordinance was made by CM King, seconded by CM Larmore. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

5-09-O: An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds (Series 2009) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$482,000 to refund bonds previously issued by the City for the purpose of acquiring real estate for economic development in the City, and declaring an emergency. CM Sell made a motion to read by title only, seconded by CM King. The motion passed by voice acclamation. Hazel explained that the copy passed out tonight is the correct copy and he explained the one change. CM Scott asked if this is refinancing and Director Hazel said yes. CM Bachelor asked how close we are to the \$10 mil qualified tax-exempt obligations. Auditor Stewart said she has a meeting this week and will know then but at this time we are not close. A motion to suspend the rules was made by CM Bachelor, seconded by CM Scott. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye. CM Sell made a motion to pass the ordinance, seconded by CM Larmore. Roll call vote 7-0, Aye.

1-09-R: A Resolution authorizing the City of Celina to submit a grant application through the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Program for the West Bank Rotary Walkway Project, and declaring an emergency. CM Jeffries asked where the 25% match would come from and what cost is involved in writing the application. Director Bryan explained we are asking for \$250,000 from the state and the 25% match would come from the Grand Lake TIF District. He said there is no outside expense for the application because it is being prepared in-house. The grant will be awarded in the summer or early fall and would carry us into 2010. Director Bryan said in the past, most grant awards were in the \$250,000 to \$300,000 range. CM Scott asked if the West Bank TIF would cover the match. Director Bryan said it should, but if we cannot make the match, the project will not be done and the grant would be turned back in. The City would probably not get this same grant again at that point. After further short discussion, CM Sell made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by CM King. Roll call vote 6-1, Aye. CM Jeffries voted Nay. CM Sell made a motion to pass the resolution, seconded by CM Larmore. Roll call vote 6-1, Aye. CM Jeffries voted Nay.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor LaRue said she will have her State of City Address at the next meeting.

Director Hazel reported:

- Received 34 applications for pool manager
- Have used 650 tons of salt this year

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

President Rodriguez said she made no changes to committee assignments for this year.

CM King said three applications were received for assistant pool manager.

CM Scott asked if there is a charge for an ambulance run in the city. Director Hazel said yes, only if they are transported.

CM Buxton asked how much salt we have left. Director Hazel said 400-450 tons.

CM Buxton asked who was responsible for the upkeep of metal grates that are on sidewalks at properties and Director Hazel said the property owner.

CM Bachelor said the operating statement for electric is showing a negative and asked how we are going to handle this. Auditor Stewart said this is incorrect and we are in the positive.

CM Bachelor said we have spent more in the General Fund than we took in and we need to be more prudent.

Mayor LaRue informed the council that the Safety Service Director and Development Director have frozen their salary for this year and will not be taking a raise.

CM Jeffries expressed some concern about his electric and water bill. Director Hazel said he would look into it for him.

A Special Council Meeting was set for Monday, February 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

President Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Jackie L. Lacy, Council Clerk