VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE

July 28, 2025

The Village of Columbus Grove met in regular session on Monday, July 28, 2025, at 7:30 pm at Columbus Grove Council Chambers with Mayor Birnesser presiding. Council members in attendance were Skyler Mayberry, Todd Wolfe and Pete Langhals, Brian Schroeder and Gretchen Staley. Aaron Siefker was absent. Also in attendance: Chief Bowers and Village Administrator Jeff Vance

Mr. Langhals made a motion to approve the minutes for 7-14-25. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay

Visitors: Brad Brubaker

Chief Bowers asked to hire Brad Brubaker as a part-time officer at $22.66 per hour. Mr. Langhals made such motion. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yeas, 0 nay

Mr. Brubaker was sworn into office for the Columbus Grove Police Department by Mayor Birnesser.

Mr. Langhals made a motion to approve the bills. Mrs. Staley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay

Mrs. Kerns asked for several CD’s to be renewed with the Ft Jennings State Bank. 7 months @ 3.93%. Mr. Schroeder made such motion. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yeas, 0 nay

Mr. Vance informed Council that a small child had burnt her hands and feet on a grate out at the pool. The grate is over by the splash pad. Mr. Vance said that we have covered the grates before but was told by the health department that they could not be covered due to the mats being a trip hazard. He had recently told the health department of the incident, and they went ahead and let us cover the grates with mats. Council was notified that an incident report was taken by the Putnam County YMCA and was sent over to our insurance company. All insurance info was given to the parents of the small child.

Trees out at the pool have been cleaned up, there are more that need to come down, but the real bad ones have been removed.

The new playground at Hall Ave Park is open, grass will be planted in September. The pickleball court lights have also been installed, north side works great, South side is malfunctioning. They are working on this issue.

Village employees are starting to work on the properties in town, removing junk and weeds. They have more to go.

Mr. Vance requested to go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss contracts.

Mr. Vance met with the Fruchey’s, regarding the flooding problem on their property. After some discussion, Mr. Vance and Mr. Fruchey agreed to regrade the land to see if it helps with the water problem, before the decide to put in a catch-basin.

Mr. Langhals discussed the money that we are spending for the YMCA to run our pool. Thinks that the Village should take it back over and we could run it more efficiently. Mr. Vance explained that there aren’t enough employees to run the pool and its so much easier for the Putnam County YMCA to employee it.

Mr. Schroeder had a few gentlemen come to him and ask if they could donate a wind screen for the pickleball courts. Council was ok with this, Mr. Vance said that its already set up to have a wind screen installed.

Mr. Schroeder also discussed the Halker Building, Council needs to continue thinking of a remedy. Mr. Vance is still waiting for updated quotes on pricing to fix it up or tear it down.

Mr. Mayberry asked Mr. Vance about the tree bags, Ken is replacing them as he goes around and waters.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion for a second reading for Ordinance 2025-05 Annexation for Brandon Grigsby. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yeas, 0 nay

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Mr. Schroeder made a motion to go into executive session to discuss contracts. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay at 7:58 pm

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to leave executive session. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay at 8:08 pm

Mr. Langhals made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay at 8:09 pm

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Clerk Mayor