VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE

February 24, 2025

The Village of Columbus Grove met in regular session on Monday, February 24, 2025, at 7:30 pm at Columbus Grove Council Chambers with Mayor Birnesser presiding. Council members in attendance were Aaron Siefker, Skyler Mayberry, Todd Wolfe and Pete Langhals, Brian Schroeder, and Gretchen Staley. Also attended: Chief William Bowers and Village Administrator Jeff Vance.

Mrs. Staley made a motion to approve the minutes from 2-10-25. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

Visitors: Ken Wright, Mona Daniels, Rosetta Warner, and Carson Garmatter

Ken Wright approached Council, as he is aware that Dinah King has retired from watering flowers in the Village. Ken would like to take over this job if Council would allow it. Also, he wanted Council to be aware that he will be stepping down form the Putnam Co CIC, and President Jeff Vance will be at his term in August. Its important that we have the new Village Administrator on the board. Council will need to nominate the new Administrator, if there is still a seat open at that time.

Mona Daniels came to speak to Council because she reported Mr. Wolfe as a trespasser on her property. She was upset as he did not announce his visit and was unwelcome. She was here to bring this to councils’ attention, she felt he was rude to her family, and they do not want him on their property. Chief Bowers explained the situation and asked council to re-write the verbiage on the ordinance, as it is vague as to whom can enter someone’s property. Chief Bowers listed several properties that he visited and tagged cars on and was approached by Mr. Wolfe in an irate matter, regarding one particular property. Chief Bowers wants council to know that he is taking care of the issues. Mr. Wolfe excused himself from the meeting.

Old Business: Council spoke about the stone lot that Denny Myers is inquiring about. The Village took it over for $0.00 in 2011 and the auditor website says its worth $9660.00. Jeff is going to ask Dan Irwin for pricing of the lot ang get back to council.

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to approve the bills. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay

Mrs. Kerns informed council that Schroeder Law has recorded Catalpa Dr and it is owned by the Village now to take care of.

Mrs. Kerns presented the employees health insurance renewal. The rates will increase 2.37%. Mr. Mayberry made a motion to approve the renewal. Mr. Siefker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay

Chief Bowers spoke briefly again about the Ordinance and council needed to decide who was allowed to be on properties in town.

Mr. Vance has spoken to the 2 contractors that are interested in the new housing development. They are running some numbers and are going to get back to him.

Mr. Vance feels that the rec board should meet, spring is approaching, and projects need to be planned for the year. The Rec Board will meet on Monday March 10th at 6:30 pm.

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

Mr. Langhals informed council that an Ordinance Committee meeting was held earlier in the evening, and they approve the DORA verbiage. Mrs. Kerns signed the Application, and she will send it to Nichole Shafer to move forward.

Mr. Langhals gave an update on Mr. Vance’s job. They have received a substantial stack of resumes and the personnel committee has gone thru them.

Mr. Schroeder asked council to keep the Halker building fresh in their minds, as this will have to be addressed sooner or later.

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Mr. Siefker made a motion for the first reading of Ordinance 2025-01 Amendment sewer/debt service allocation. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay

Mayor Birnesser spoke briefly of a signal light at the new fire station to alert people that trucks are leaving.

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay @ 8:24 pm

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to leave executive session. Mr. Siefker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay @ 9:08 pm

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Siefker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay @ 9:12 pm

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Clerk Mayor