VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE

January 27, 2025

The Village of Columbus Grove met in regular session on Monday, January 27, 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, and Gretchen Staley. Also attended: Chief William Bowers and Village Administrator Jeff Vance. Brian Schroeder was absent.

Officer David Collins was sworn in to the Columbus Grove Police Department. All Council welcomed him to the Village.

Mr. Langhals made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting on 1-13-25. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay

Visitors: Abby Beuscher, Audrey Kiene, Ryan Shartell, and Ken Wright.

Mr. Wolfe asked to go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss real estate.

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

Chief Bowers wanted to welcome Officer Collins and explained to council about some junk vehicles that have been in question.

Mr. Vance spoke about the waterline project in town. He is getting more details, but he believes the project can be split into 2 phases with $641,000 in principle forgiveness and the rest of the project will be in a 0% loan for 30 yrs. This is about $45,000 a yr that will be paid out. All lead will be replacing, even up to homes. Lead jointed pipes with lead line service all need to be replaced. Any lead lines found during the project must be replaced.

Mr. Vance discussed the with ChoiceOne about the subdivision and ChoiceOne getting numbers for the Village to place the retention pond and road construction to the properties. Contractors that are interested but not sure they can make any money from the project if they have to do it all. Mr. Vance feels that the Village should upfront these costs.

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

Mr. Langhals asked that the walking paths be cleared off after a snow

Mr. Siefker reported that earlier there was a Rec Board meeting. In this meeting they discussed lights at the pickleball courts, playground equipment for smaller children, small shelter house between the small park and big park and an inflatable pillow.

Mayor Birnesser wanted to commend the fire department for their efforts with the fire uptown and announced that there will be a wine & chocolate walk on March 8th.

Mr. Langhals made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and real estate. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, o nay at 8:22 pm

Council left executive session at 9:34 pm

Mr. Siefker made a motion to increase wages for Shana Kerns to $27.00 and Bob Michel to $29.00. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 yeas, 1 nay (Langhals)

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Siefker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nay at 9:37 pm

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Clerk Mayor