VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE

February 12, 2024

The Village of Columbus Grove met in regular session on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:30 pm at Columbus Grove Council Chambers with Mayor Birnesser presiding. Council members in attendance were Skyler Mayberry, Gretchen Staley, Aaron Siefker, Todd Wolfe and Pete Langhals. Also attended: Village Administrator Jeff Vance, and Chief William Bowers. Brian Schroeder was absent.

Mr. Siefker nominated Pete Langhals to be Council President. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motions. No other nominations were given. Motion carried 4 yeas, 2 abstained (Langhals, Mayberry)

Mrs. Staley made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 1 abstained (Schroeder)

Visitors: Dylan Quail from HDER Link, Everett Palte & Deb Donaldson

Mrs. Donaldson came to discuss a water bill that was high due to a leak. The leak has since been fixed but asked that Council grant her a credit for some of the bill, as she has already previously was given a mainline leak credit. She presented a report that showed the bills, and she came up with an average. Council all agreed to give her a mainline leak credit for Jan, Feb, and if need be, also March. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve this, Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

Dylan from HDER Link came to discuss the possibility of renting space on top of our water tower for wireless internet. HDER Link could rent the space or give a monetary amount towards our internet if chose to go with them. He spoke of hardwire internet connections for residents, maybe in the future as well. They are currently working with Pandora to do the same. Mr. Quail will be working with Mr. Vance on this, and Mr. Vance will let Council know.

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to approve the bills, Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

All end of the month reports were given to Council

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-02 =2024 Permanent Appropriations.

Chief Bowers reported that he has cleaned out the evidence room. There are some guns in there that he would like to take along with the guns in the cruisers and trade them in on AR15’s. Should come out even or very close to eat. Mr. Schroeder made such motion. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

Mr. Wolfe thanked Bill for being around for the school and church.

Mr. Vance asked to go into executive session to discuss personnel.

Mr. Vance met with Superintendent Nick Verhoff to discuss sidewalks on North Main Street. Mr. Verhoff went to the school board to discuss the sidewalk issue, and the school didn’t see the need. Mrs. Staley asked that Chief Bowers have the speed sign be moved back there to get a report of the cars traveling through North Main Street. Have him take the report back to the school board and show them how heavily traveled the road really is. She also suggested that the kids be told to use the cross country path to get to the softball fields, instead of walking down North Main. Council all feels that this is a nasty stretch for kids to walk.

Mr. Vance is working on getting a quote for washing the water tower

State Route 65 and Sycamore Street project will run from July through December of 2024. They will start on the East side and push all the traffic to the West. Mr. Siefker suggested to ask if they could place a light at West St to slow traffic. Sycamore St will be closed at the railroad tracks.

The welcome sign will have to come out along with the Championship sign and the flag pole.

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Mr. Vance received 3 quotes for the walking path and the pickleball courts. He is hopeful to present them at the next meeting.

Working on getting the playground equipment area ready, they noticed that it won’t fit. Mr. Vance asked to set up a rec Board meeting to discuss where to place it. The old playground equipment will be taken down.

Mr. Mayberry read a thank you from the Emmanual Church, Mr. Mayberry and all other Council members took a collection to buy them flowers for their first service.

Mr. Wolfe would like to revisit parking in the tree lawn issue, this will be discussed at the Rec board meeting as the same council members are on the Sidewalks and streets committee. He also requested to make sure during their drive around that they go down East Pendleton. Mr. Wolfe also mentioned sidewalks going into Sycamore Grove. There is a hole in the slide on the playground at the pool that he asked Mr. Vance to look at.

Mr. Siefker made a motion for the second reading, Ordinance 2024-02 Sewer Allocation Amendment. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

Mr. Langhals asked Mr. Vance about the grinding. Mr. Vance reported that they are currently in Kalida and will be here after they are done.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay at 9:07 pm

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to leave executive session. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay at 9:13 pm

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to hire Mike Lease for the water sewer plant for 3 months at $40.00 per hr , 20 hrs a week.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Siefker seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay at 9:15 pm

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Clerk Mayor