VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE

June 27, 2022

The Village of Columbus Grove met in regular session on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 7:30 pm at Columbus Grove Council Chambers with Council President Skyler Mayberry presiding. Council members in attendance were Brian Schroeder, Pete Langhals, Skyler Mayberry, Aaron Siefker, Todd Wolfe and Gretchen Staley. Also attended: Village Administrator Jeff Vance, and Police Chief Sean Hiler.

Mr. Langhals made a motion to approve the June 13, 2022 minutes. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

Visitors: Delanie Strykul

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

Ms. Kerns requested an appropriation change and $60,000 be transferred from the general fund to the Police Fund for the purchase of the new cruiser and to cover part-time police officer’s payroll.

Chief Hiler announced that Troy Stevenson was sworn in previously and has begun to ride along with the chief to get to know the Village.

The straw bale notices were typed up, but Mayor Wright and Mr. Mayberry refused to sign. Mr. Mayberry explained that Council should be given the opportunity to check out the properties in question before they should sign the letter. Chief Hiler will re-type the letters and have them ready to sign at the next meeting or Council can come up to the City Building to sign.

Chief Hiler also reported that the letters previously sent to homeowners regarding their properties, has been going well. The painting portion of the letters has not been.

Mr. Vance announced that there was a fire meeting with the election of officers for a new 2 year term. Bob Bruabker- Chief, Jeff Vance- Assistant chief, Luke Nemire- Captain, and John Needler-Lieutenant. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

A few Council members were able to check out the plans for decorative edging at the pool. Ms. Staley made a motion to approve decorative edging from the stair out to the east at $2410.00. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

Mr. Vance informed Council that the Village did receive a $22,950.00 grant from ODOT for the engineering of the Safe Routes Grant. He has scheduled a meeting with ChoiceOne to move forward with the next part of the grant.

Mr. Mayberry asked about the stump grinding on South Broadway, should start in the next 2 weeks or so. Mr. Vance has requested that Council look at 207 S. Broadway, as the property owner has asked that if pays for time and material if the driveway could be straightened. Council agreed to wait 2 weeks for everyone to take a look at the property to make a final decision.

Mr. Schroeder asked Mr. Vance where the Township was with the junk notice at the property behind the pool. Mr. Vance reported that the landowner has not yet picked up the certified letter.

Mr. Siefker made a motion for the second reading for Ordinance 2022-02 an ordinance to Amend ordinance 2003-3, 2007-8 & 2017-06 Adopting of codified ordinances of the Village of Columbus Grove. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion tied 3 yeas (Staley, Siefker, Langhals) 3 Nays (Wolfe, Mayberry, Schroeder).

Before the roll was called. Mayor Wright asked Mr. Mayberry to ask Council again, What does this bring to the Village? Mr. Siefker explained that it is something like a garden, it brings freedom for our residents and opportunity. Mr. Vance asked what happens if the permit is revoked? Who has to go clean it all up? What happens to the chickens if the property owner doesn’t get rid of them? Where doe sit

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stop? He wonders why we are changing the ordinance for 3 or 4 people in town? What do they do with the manure? Will this bring other predators into town?

Over the weekend Mr. Vance went to several parts of the town and talked with residents about the chicken issue and out of the 20 people he talked to, 18 signed a petition to keep the chickens out.

Ms. Staley explained that things change and considerations can be made. She is going off of what Chief Hiler said, he doesn’t really foresee this becoming a huge issue. If he doesn’t feel this is going to be a huge issue, she can go along with allowing chickens in the Village. Mr. Schroeder cannot anticipate there being an issue, but you cannot foresee every issue that comes up.

Mr. Wolfe had also spoken to several people in the Village and about 80% of them say they do not want chickens in town.

Council agreed at this time if the Ordinance falls dead that the people that currently have chickens can keep them and continue to improve and care for their flock and their coops. They can have up to 10 hens. Ms. Kerns will check with Lee Schroeder to see where the ordinance stands.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Siefker seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay at 8:32 pm

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Clerk Mayor