VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE

April 15, 2024

The Village of Columbus Grove met in regular session on Monday, April 15, 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, and Brian Schroeder. Also attended: Chief William Bowers. (Mr. Wolfe- Late)

Mrs. Staley made a motion to approve the 3-25-24 minutes. Mr. Mayberry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 yeas, 1 abstained (Schroeder)

Visitors: Ken Wright, Melody Karhoff, April Karhoff, and Brian McKanna.

Mr. Wright and Mr. McKanna came to discuss DORA and some negative impacts that it may have on our community. Mr. Wright doesn’t feel like it is a need for Columbus Grove. He feels that it will hurt outside establishments, such as the Legion and the Eagles. There are already 3 bars and 3 carry-outs uptown, the encouragement is enough with what we have to offer in the Village. Mr. Wright expressed alcohol can destroy families and feels that the Village offers enough than to have to expand alcohol use. Mr. Mckanna added that he feels DORA was established for larger cities and his concerns are that we would be creating a space that our whole downtown will be a part of, he requests that if DORA is passed, he recommends the Village to conduct a study of negative effects on the town. Mr. Siefker said that DORA is only good for 5 years and can be re-evaluated before renewing.

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 and end of the qtr reports were given to Council.

Chief Bowers reported there was no major activity during the eclipse. There has been som ATV issues in the Village down at the park. Council asked Chief Bowers to check with other communities that have DORA and get some feedback from them. Mr. Schroeder requested a Personnel Comm Meeting on April 29th at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Vance presented Resolution 2024-03 911 updates. Mr. Langhals made a motion to approve such resolution. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

The Eagles has presented a new electronic sign for their establishment, the sign will not run all night but council approved for the sign to be on during operating hours. Mr. Schroeder made amotion to approve the electronic sign. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nay

City building improvements will begin on April 29th, the steps will be taken out first, and the drop box will be moved to the side of the building. Mrs. Staley requested that the bel tower also be looked at and fixed.

The east side of Hall Ave park will be finished up this week, and there is no update on the pickleball court. Playground work will start around April 20th.

Mr. Vance asked about a homeowner that wants to erect a privacy fence with his neighbor and put it on the property line. Council advised that this needs to go to the board of zoning appeals.

A contract with ChoiceOne for the Housing development was presented to Council. This needs to be approved to move forward with the process. There will be a total of 92 lots when all sections are complete. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to sign the contract. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 yeas, 1 nay (Langhals)

Mr. Schroeder suggested a mailer once a year for upcoming events and projects in the Village.

Mr. Mayberry asked Jeff about the water bags for the trees.

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Mr. Siefker wanted to clarify and issue that was reported in the Sentinel for the Putnam Co YMCA parking. The lot behind BRSW is owned by Dane Jesko and Todd Meyer not the YMCA.

Mrs. Staley had some questions regarding the safe routes to school.

Mr. Wolfe asked if there was any chance that the water bills would go down anytime soon.

Mr. Mayberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Langhals seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 yeas 0 nay at 9:07 pm

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Clerk Mayor