



CITY OF HURON
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

August 7, 2026

Stuart Hamilton, City Manager

DONATIONS

K-9 Fund Donation: The Police Department received a \$500 K-9 Fund Donation from Mary Jane Patterson.

ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ConAgra: As required by ORC, the City sent the required notice to Erie County with our intent to ultimately approve an Incentive District TIF on the site to pay for the costs of the seawall. The County did not formally object to the TIF and the TIF was approved by Council on April 8, 2025, and submitted to the Ohio Department of Development on April 9, 2025.

The City is finalizing the process with ODNR to formally dedicate a portion of the ODNR boat launch property as public right of way – the preliminary dedication plat has been sent to Erie County for review and will be legislated by Council and signed in the next few weeks. As part of the plat, the City is providing a temporary name for the new roadway for purposes of getting the plat recorded as possible – which will be simply “Access Street.” Ultimately, the new public roadway will need a permanent name, and the staff is proposing calling it River Road as a continuation of the existing River Road – south of Rt. 6 – similarly to how we treat Berlin Road.

The City is putting the finishing touches on a joint easement agreement with ODNR which will permit the City temporary construction easements outside of the formal roadway while also providing ODNR an access easement for the property that is being dedicated as public right of way to ensure people have perpetual access to the boat launch.

USACE issued the permit for the Seawall project. We are waiting for confirmation that ODNR does not have any additional requirements. KS will prioritize the design completion and approval process, so we are ready to issue it at the correct time.

The developer's plans were approved at the Planning Commission and Design Review Board meeting on June 18th 2025 and forwarded on to Council for approval. A public hearing was scheduled for the Council meeting August 12th. 2025. The development plan was passed by Council at this meeting.

Staff met with the developer last week to discuss the status of their due diligence. The conversation did not go as well as hoped. They have discovered that each unit would require footers tied into the bedrock at a depth of around 50ft, adding unexpected additional costs. These extra costs are not anything the City can cover (~\$3M), so the developer (Triban) are looking at options from their side. The builder (KHov) does not have this additional cost built into their formulas, so for now, this project is somewhat at a pause as the situation is assessed.

The developer has requested the first of two available 60-day extensions to complete due diligence. This automatically extends the due diligence period through January 3rd, 2026.

The developer requested the second, and last available 60-day extensions to complete due diligence on the site. This period will expire March 3rd, 2026.

The developer was granted an extension to the due diligence period until August 3rd 2026. The developer has been informed that this will be the final extension.

The developer has completed their acceptance agreement with KHOV and is progressing in finalizing their agreement. We are currently working on the development agreement with them and then we will move to close. The final unit count will be 95 units with the rest of the development staying as passed by Planning Commission and Council.

Developers' landscaping plan was approved at the June 17th Planning meeting. Water, Sewer and Stormwater plans are in for review by staff.

On Monday, August 3rd, 2026 the City closed on the former Conagra property and title was transferred to Triban Investments. As a reminder, this property sold for \$750K. \$25K was deposited as earnest money, \$225K was paid at closing and the remaining \$500K will be paid in the amount of \$10K per unit sold for the first 50 units. We are excited to see this project keep moving forward.

INFRASTRUCTURE/STREETS/UTILITIES/IT

South Main Street Streetscape Design and Engineering: The City has received updated cost estimates from OHM and is reviewing internally. Once reviewed by staff, Council will be briefed and a work session scheduled to determine if we desire to move forward with the project and if so, whether the proposed scope of work should be amended.

Stage 1 and Stage 2 (combined) plans were submitted to ODOT for review. Comments and clarifications were received back, addressed and resubmitted. Stage 3 plans were submitted at the end of October.

The final PS & E package has been submitted to ODOT (12/18/25) and we are awaiting comment.

This project closed on 5/7/2026. Lowest apparent bidder was \$2,154,474. Bids are being reviewed for correctness and will return to Council for approval. As a reminder, we have \$360,000 in grant funding from ERPC, and \$410,000 in HSIP funds.

This project was awarded at the Special meeting on 6/4/2026. Project details to follow.

An RFQ for construction administration and construction inspection was issued and four responses were received. KE McCartney and Associates scored the highest and staff are currently working with them on a fee proposal.

Rt 6 Phase II: The City has received updated cost estimates from OHM and is reviewing internally. Once reviewed by staff, Council will be briefed and a work session scheduled to determine if we desire to move forward with the project and if so, whether the proposed scope of work should be amended.

The City received Federal authorization to proceed on this project. This project will go out to bid the first week of December, with bids due January 15th, 2026

Two bids were received in the amounts of \$2,742,143.44 (DL Smith) and \$2,951,088.00 (Smith Paving). Bids have been reviewed for correctness and legislation will be presented to Council for approval. Engineers estimate was \$4M.

An RFQ was issued for Inspection Services for this project. Three responses were received and OHM was selected. A proposal will be forthcoming and will be brought before Council at a future date.

This project will require an (up to) 60-day full closure of Rt6 west of Center St. Once we have a project plan in place we will ensure all parties are fully informed.

Expected full closure dates are June 8th through August 14th, 2026. The closure will be from west of Williams St to the Rt2 interchanges. Crews will start at Center St. and work west. Detours will be via Bogart Road and Cleveland Rd. W to Rye Beach Road. Commercial detour will be via Rt2 to Rt13.

Jim Campbell Blvd has now been closed at Center St. This closure will be permanent at this point.

The current plan is to fully open on Monday August 17th. We will organize a small ribbon cutting to open the project for the public to celebrate this milestone. More details to come.

We have had some requests/enquiries about why we did not remove the fence that runs between JCB and Rt6 during this project. Unfortunately, this is an ODOT Limited Access fence and is required to stay in place.

Electric Trail Connector: The city applied for and was awarded a grant from ODOT (TAP) funding of \$533,000. The project is still in its conceptual phase but will connect the Lake Erie Electric Trail to the soon to be constructed US6 Connectivity multi-use pathway that will run from BGSU to Sandusky and beyond. We thank ODOT for their continued support of our connectivity projects.

A PO has been issued to OHM Advisors to work with the City on the proposed route and ROW requirements to design this connector in the amount of \$12,550. Once this is complete, we will have enough information to start work on ROW acquisition and actual design.

An ODOT site walkthrough was conducted on 1/28/26 and a final Scope of Services has been agreed upon. Staff are getting ready to issue an RFQ for design services for this project. With ROW/easements being required to install this pathway, we do not anticipate the construction starting until 2027.

A design contract was awarded to OHM Advisors in the amount of \$102,730. This project is not scheduled to start until 2027.

Quiet Zone: Staff have been fielding a lot of inquiries from residents of both the City and the Township on a quiet zone. We happily walk them through what has been done and where we are at. We just wanted to remind Council of where we stand. We carried out the quiet zone assessment to see functionally and legally if one would be possible. The study returned the fact that a quiet zone in Huron is indeed possible, but at a cost. The budget estimate two years ago was over \$1M. With the failure of the income tax increase, we had to start removing projects from the budget along with services to balance the numbers, the Quiet Zone was one that was tabled. Staff continue to look out for grant opportunities that would allow us to resurrect this project, but with the current budget constraints, this is not viable project. To finish, this project has not been cancelled, it has been put on the back burner until sufficient funds are found.

ZONING/CODE/PLANNING

Code Enforcement:

Cases at the Prosecutor/Municipal Court Level:

- Wheeler Drive- (exterior conditions): The owner of the property was sentenced to jail time. The city understands the property is in the process of being sold, the prospective buyer has been informed of the property maintenance issues to be remediated and the city's timeline.
- Ashland Ave: (exterior, roofs, drainage, debris): Substantial progress has been made- yard is being maintained, windows have been replaced, in process of scraping paint/painting home. This was reported to Court; they have extended the deadline to September 1, 2026. A status report for Court is underway.

Property Violation Cases- YTD 102 Cases

In the absence of a Zoning Inspector, staff has been assisted by the Huron Police Department, who have provided inspections and documented photo evidence needed in these cases.

- Tall Grass & Weeds
- Ridgewood Ave- long case history of property maintenance issues and past court action, Zoning is questioning condition of the property and has sought to set up an onsite meeting with the owner and the Building Official. Owner has not responded to requests- discussing next steps with the Building Department.

- Cleveland Road West- Extensive inspection and documentation will be required. Exterior conditions of the home and garage, bushes/shrubs overgrown, weeds. May require coordination with the Building Department.
- Animal complaints
- Multi-Residential property maintenance –fencing in poor condition, exterior issues
- Landscape Maintenance- fences, shrubs, beds
- Exterior Conditions of structures
- Trash/Debris
- Drainage/Flood Issues- city wide- are being recorded in Code Enforcement in order to have a searchable listing of cases.

Code Amendments: Staff continue to document code sections that are antiquated, contradictory, absent and/or unclear as written, and as time allows research and documentation into other municipal codes are compiled. The code sections we are presently drafting:

Chapter 1129 Sign Code Amendments- The first work session was held on Tuesday, May 19th- Specific items within the draft earmarked for Planning Commission discussion and recommendations were reviewed. Comments will be compiled and provided back to the Consultant to incorporate. The Commission and Consultant reviewed/discussed the amendments at the June 17, 2026, meeting, the Consultant will revise the draft accordingly and resubmit for reviews.

Chapter 1321- Building & Zoning Fee Schedules - Staff has completed municipal comparisons, and in our research of our own code have found multiple references to fees for appeals throughout various chapters, these chapters will have to be amended to remove the stated fee and insert a reference to the fee section. In other instances, fees are mentioned in the code, but are not identified with a dollar amount, and do not appear in the fee schedule either. While the amendments may involve multiple code sections, the actual proposed changes to fees are few and minimal; bringing the fees more in line with other municipalities. Staff are working with the Building Department to incorporate recommended changes, the amendment to Chapter 1321 is anticipated to be ready to present to City Council in July or August 2026.

Chapter 1133 Off-Street Parking – At the most recent Planning Commission meeting, discussion ensued regarding existing code language pertaining to commercial off-street parking lot requirements. Chairman Boyle referenced Section 1126.01 which was a section repealed in 2017 that appeared to have included language requiring all parking lots to be paved. The current Off-Street Parking code sections were adopted/amended in 2015, 2017 and 2025. The current code language speaks to “required” off-street parking for facilities based on Principal Building or Use, but does not refer to public/private parking lots. The Planning Commission expressed their opinion that they believe the code should require paved public and private parking lots. Staff will research the previous code language v. current code language and prepare findings for review. The Planning Commission made a

recommendation in support of amendments to the code to ensure public and private parking lots are required to be paved. Staff will be working on a report to the City Council.

Chapter 557 Grass, Weeds and Vegetation – In the past year, the City has had inquiries regarding Section 557.01 which specifically lists noxious weed varieties. The issue raised is that one, of not more, of the weed varieties listed in the City's ordinance is no longer considered a "noxious weed" by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. In particular, milkweed was removed from Ohio's Noxious Weed List in 2018 and is widely promoted as the only host plant for monarch caterpillars, which are currently listed as an endangered species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Ordinance No. 2026-22 to amend the existing ordinance will be placed on the agenda for its first reading on August 11, 2026.

Transient Rentals:

We presently have 14 applications on the Wait List. The database of registered properties and the wait list database are posted on the website ([City Of Huron](#)).

Consults and Commercial Improvements:

Active/open inquiries for research and preliminary zoning reviews and/or consultations include:

Main Street: inquiry into potential business, review of use, parking requirements, driveway regulations.

Cleveland Road W: Vacant home owned by HUD for several years. The home is now for sale, numerous inquiries into zoning, buildable area, potential lot split criteria, etc.

Firelands Scientific: Final site and design plans for expansion anticipated for 7-15-26 PC/DRB meeting. PC/DRB approved the plans as submitted; next step is the submission of Commercial Zoning and Building Applications and plans.

Marconi's: Permit Applications and plans submitted for the expanded outdoor dining patio and bar, plan reviews underway. During plan review, city discovered both water and sewer mains running under the proposed location. County actually has an easement. Contactor and owner have been contacted. Permits cannot be issued as proposed; the owner and contractor are looking into alternate locations.

Board of Zoning Appeals: We currently have a position available on our Board of Zoning Appeals. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council at 419-433-5000 ext. 1102, or e: terri.welkener@huronohio.us. The regular meeting of August 10th has been cancelled.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Arts at the Amphitheater: The last Arts at the Amphitheater event is Sun. Aug. 16th - Amplify, a Summer praise gathering for all ages at 6PM.

Movies by the River: Movies by the River will be held at the Huron Boat Basin Amphitheater on Wednesday, August 12th at dusk featuring "Lion King".

Boppin' on the Basin: Saturday Aug. 15th SuperBeatle a Tribute to early and mid-period Beatles songs at 7PM.

New Pickup Truck: The Parks & Recreation Department received their new F-150 pickup truck and placed the 2007 Ford F-250 on GovDeals to be sold by the end of the month.

E-Bikes/E-Scooters/Low Speed Micromobility Devices at Fabens Park: City Administration, Legal and Police Dept. met to discuss E-Bikes, E-Scooters, etc. in Parks, specifically at Fabens Park. Signs were posted at the access paths going to ball fields that prohibits E-Bikes, E-Scooters, Bikes and Low Speed Micro Mobility Devices on access paths, grass and fields. The perimeter path is classed as a multiuse pathway; therefore, those modes of transportation are still allowed around the outside. These rules are in place for the safety of the visitors to the park.

Huron Joint Recreation District: After conversations with both the Township and the School administration, a discussion led by staff, was carried out at the March HJRD meeting. This discussion centered around how HJRD is currently run vs. how it should be run. This issue was asked about by our auditors and prompted the need to come up with a plan for the future. The two choices would be either to put HJRD out on its own as an independent entity as it should function, or disband the district and move to a City Parks Board. Due to the complexities and cost of HJRD functioning as an independent entity, staff's preference would be to move to a Parks Board with support from the Township and the Schools. This was supported by those present at the HJRD meeting.

Transient Rental Dock Replacement Project: Our recent grant funding specified that it could be used to improve transient rental dock. So, this project is looking to replace and upgrade B and H piers, which comprises of approximately 26 docks. Stage 1-Preliminary Design drawings for the removal of the existing docks and installation of the new docks has been completed.

KS is working on stage 2-Final Construction and bidding Documents. KS & Associates is finalizing details on Stage 2-Final Construction and bidding documents and we are working with ODNR to initiate the agreement process to bring to Council for consideration.

During design of this project, working with an electrical contractor, it was discovered that the existing electrical supply was not sufficient to support the new docks. This electrical has been there since the Boat Basin was constructed and is not in good shape. There will not be enough

money in the grant funding to support this electrical upgrade (~\$325K), so the City is investigating the best way to pay for these upgrades. These upgrades are essential for safety reasons.

Bids for the Boat Basin Floating Dock Replacement Project were received and opened on Wednesday, July 15th. The apparent lowest bidder came in at \$772,284.97 which is over \$200,000 the grant funded amount. We are looking at options to cover this difference. The bids range from \$583K to \$1.1M.

US Fish & Wildlife Service Boating Infrastructure Grant: ODNR Parks & Watercraft has received notification from the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) that our project has been fully approved for selection of funding on the Boating Infrastructure Grant Tier II for \$300,000.

With this approval, the next step in the process will be to complete all required compliance measures. This includes NEPA, ESA, SHPO, a full ODNR environmental review, and final design submission. These items will be compiled over the next few months and submitted to USFWS for review. Please note that USFWS has up to 90 days to complete their review once all documentation is submitted to them.

After compliance approval is received from USFWS, then comes the agreement (contract) process, which typically takes approximately 2–4 weeks. Once the agreement is fully executed and all signatures are obtained, we will receive a formal Notice to Proceed, and the BIG portion of our project may begin.

The plan is to use the \$200,000 from the State of Ohio that we received from the Strategic Investment Funding that was issued last year as the match for a total of \$500,000 to go towards replacement of two dock piers. More info to come.

State Capital Budget: The city has informally been told that we will be receiving \$200,000 from the State of Ohio as part of the first \$350M in one-time Strategic Investment funding. There will be another \$350M announced shortly which is on top of the state capital funding bill. The \$700M is from a one-time allocation of surplus operating funds from the state of Ohio. These funds will be used to offset part of the necessary capital improvements needed at the Boat Basin site. We will keep Council up to date as we get more formal information about this funding.

Ohio Historical Marker: The Erie County Historical Society was awarded for a grant through the Erie County Community Foundation for the replacement of the Huron Urban Renewal Marker at the Boat Basin. The marker has structural cracks and cannot be repaired so we have been working with Erie County Historical Society on replacement options. Next step is working with the Historic Marker Division at Ohio History Connection about the marker's replacement. The goal is to have the project complete by July. Erie County Historical Society is hopeful that we can satisfy OHC's concerns regarding the replacement marker's text within the next few weeks, and OHC will place the order for the replacement marker once the final verified text is complete. Erie County Community Foundation is aware of this situation and they have given us an extension for spending the grant funds we received for the project. Once we have this text situation resolved with the OHC, we hope to have a fall installation of the Marker.

SAFETY SERVICES

Detective John Dusza: Det. John Dusza was nominated for part-time Task Force Officer-of-the-Year by the United States Marshalls Service. In addition to his detective duties, Det. Dusza is assigned to the Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force. There were 10 nominations for this award in northern Ohio out of over 500 other task force officers. There will be an awards banquet in Cleveland on September 24th where the part-time Task Force Officer-of-the-Year will be announced.

Fire Department Call Volume: HFD had its busiest month ever in July with 251 emergency calls. (130 calls ahead of last year)

Promotional Testing: Promotional Testing for Lieutenant and Captain has been announced. Members have started studying for the testing in mid-September. Two Lieutenants and two Captains will be promoted off of this list due to upcoming retirements. We will also begin the process of finding two full time firefighters to add, as well.

School Inspections: HFD Shifts will be inspecting all of the schools this month as classes start back up in a couple weeks.

FINANCE

Income Tax: Income tax receipts through July total \$2.3M, trailing 2025 results by 15% or \$400K. The City's largest income tax revenue category, withholding payers, has remained stable and seen 2.4% growth from last year. The income tax category driving the decrease in total collections is from net profit payers, which has shown a year-over-year decrease of 211%. Overall budgetary performance through the second quarter has remained in line with expectations due to increases in KWH Excise Tax revenue and the collection of Adult Use Marijuana Tax revenue. Total unexpended cash position has improved from \$13.6M at the beginning of the year to \$16.9M, with the general fund cash balance growing from \$1.7M to \$2.3M as of 7/31/2026. Investment performance continues to yield around 3.85%.

Budget preparation season is getting underway with departmental meetings taking place throughout August and September with presentations to Finance Committee in October and November. The Finance Committee budget meeting schedule is tentatively set as follows:

2026 Calendar – Budget Meetings start at 5PM in Council Chambers

Oct 19th 2026 - Community Development (Parks, Boat Basin, Zoning)

Oct 26th 2026 - Services (Streets, Water, Electric, Stormwater, Garbage, Street Lighting)

Nov 2nd 2026 - Public Safety (Police, Fire, Court)

Nov 10th 2026 - Debt, Capital, General Fund, Other

Nov 16th 2026 – if needed

Dec 8th 2026 - if needed

Monthly Financials (July): https://stories.opengov.com/huronoh/published/qN98vW_vj

2026 Budget Book: <https://stories.opengov.com/huronoh/published/Bb4uXP8eV>

WATER DEPARTMENT

Recent Activity:

- 85.230 MG raw water treated in July.
- 80.344 MG finished water produced in July.
- 2.800 MG wash water required in July.
- Erie County usage for July has not yet been calculated.
- July average plant capacity 47.1% (5.5 MGD Plant Rating)
- Staff are exploring installation of flow meters at representative points in the distribution system. This would include the installation of a vault and a cellular antenna to gather flow data and reduce time spent searching for watermain leaks.
- At the filtration plant, there were 144 shift coverage hours needed in July and 110 are needed for August. Hours are being split between the 2 “relief” employees and all hours covered are being tracked.
- NOAA is predicting a “moderate” algal bloom for Lake Erie this summer and will likely surpass algal events for the past 5-years.
- Triennial sampling for lead and copper has been completed for 2026. The city is proud to announce that all samples were “**Non-Detect**” for lead.
- The Water Superintendent and legal met with Cartiga to discuss the next steps in financial compensation for the city’s PFAS related claim. The claim form has been submitted and the Water Superintendent provided clarifying information on July 20, 2026.
- Staff are evaluating and prioritizing the water main replacement schedule and will nominate a project for OPWC funding. Staff is gathering supporting documentation for Lincoln and Washington Streets.
- The chemical laboratory renewal survey will be conducted by the Ohio EPA on 10/15/26. All employees of the Water Filtration Plant will receive full certification.
- Water Plant Operator, Marty Luipold, has passed his Class 3 Water Supply exam and has applied for licensure. Congratulations, Marty!

Active Project Updates:



West Side Water Tower: The most recent bi-weekly construction meeting was held on 7/23/26. Welding of the steel bowl at grade has been completed and the welding crew demobilized the week of 6/29/26. The painting crew was able to adjust their schedule and painting on 7/9/26. Staff met on site on 7/27/26 to sign off on the exact placement of the logos. This has been shared with Ardagh, and they are in agreement. The exterior painting of the bowl has been completed, and the Huron logo has been installed. The steel bowl is currently being painted at grade before being hydraulically hoisted into place in September 2026. This lift date will possibly move up. The \$5M grant from the Department of Development has been exhausted and the city is now drawing on the 0% interest loan through WSRLF/OWDA. Kleinfelder is working with the DoD on grant closeout as well as remaining retainage. There have been 2 change orders approved by City Council. There will be 2 more change orders coming in the near future. There will be a change order for the logo as the price has increased due to 2 different logos and color schemes being painted on the tower. There will also be a change order as related to the disinfection byproduct removal system, as 3 phase power may be necessary. A rendering of the tower logo was provided by Landmark. A construction site audit will be scheduled with Kleinfelder and the Ohio EPA sometime during the month of August 2026.

Alternate Intake/Sludge Lagoon: Staff is currently obtaining quotes for water sampling analysis of the Huron River. These samples are required by the OEPA, but will not delay the project. The Water Superintendent has been working closely with Kleinfelder to answer any remaining questions related to design and engineering. Kleinfelder is also assisting the city in securing funding sources for this project. Severe winter weather and icing events at the filtration plant have highlighted the need for this project to continue. Numerous grants have been applied for as related to this project and the city is still navigating financing options.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT (WATER DISTRIBUTION, STORM WATER & STREETS)

Projects: Current Projects:

Water Distribution

- Taps on Bogart Rd for Schlessman Family Farms completed & old 2" steel line shut off and abandoned, meter pit also removed
- Working with contractor on old News 2 You building for installation of fire line and larger domestic service
- Assisting with Fecon mowing in areas around the RAB project before Aug 17th opening

Storm Water

- Laurel Ave & Cleveland Rd storm tile still under construction by contractor, OMNI Fiber issue
- Catch basin on Rose Ave was holding water, had cleaned and the tile jetted and discovered iced tea bottle stuck in pipe
- Flushing of lines still taking place on Cleveland Rd West to discover storm water flow direction

Streets

- Mowing of City lots/right of ways
- Crack sealing has begun, Center St & Berlin Rd first to be done
- Received new nylon American flags for light poles to replace existing, they are much lighter and will handle rain events and not bend flag poles when wet
- Street signs re-installed at Main St & US 6 that had previously blown down
- Weed sprayed fence along Jim Campbell, Woodlawn's School & RT 2, Water tower sites

Crossing on JCB by High School: Staff approached ODOT with this project, and they believe it will be a good candidate for Safety Dollars. The intent would be to construct this crossing as a high visibility crossing, and also to construct it as a multi-use crossing instead of just a pedestrian crossing in preparation for future multi-use development. The Safety Dollars would be a 90/10 split. The City will work with the schools on covering the 10% local match.

The City was awarded \$123,300, with a request to add additional lighting which would also be funded. Staff are currently looking into this and will work with ODOT on final scope. The hope will be to install this over the summer months this year. The additional lighting is estimated to be around \$44,000. This new scope has been sent to ODOT for approval. ODOT has requested we push this work until the summer of 2027 for budgetary reasons.

An RFQ for Design was issued, and the City received 3 responses. OHM scored highest and a contract was legislated at the July 28th meeting for \$39,500.

Road Resurfacing: Staff are investigating a resurfacing project on Riverside Drive, which is easily the worst road within the City. We will request quotes and decide when the pricing comes back in.

Tree Program –

District 2: Invoices have been mailed to residents. Residents will have 30 days to pay the invoices. Any unpaid invoices will be certified to the County Auditor for collection over a 4-year period (on Council agenda for first reading 8-11-26).

District 3: Invoices have been mailed to residents. Residents will have 30 days to pay the invoices. Any unpaid invoices will be certified to the County Auditor for collection over a 4-year period (on agenda for first reading 8-11-26).

District 4: The City is working to retain an arborist to conduct the initial tree inspections for Districts 4 and 1.

District 1: The City is working to retain an arborist to conduct the initial tree inspections for Districts 4 and 1.

Sidewalk Program –

District 2: Sidewalk repairs have been completed and invoices have been sent out to residents. The residents have 30 days to pay the invoice; if the invoice is not paid, the cost will be certified to the Erie County Auditor to be paid over the next 4 years (on Council agenda for first reading 8-11-26).

District 3: Certified letters were mailed to residents living in District 3 on May 1, 2026 per the Resolution adopted by Council at the April 14, 2026 meeting. These letters will provide residents 60 days to complete the required maintenance work. Following that waiting period, the City will go out to bid for the concrete work with an anticipated work completion date in the fall.

District 4: Certified letters were mailed to residents living in District 3 on May 1, 2026 per the Resolution adopted by Council at the April 14, 2026 meeting. These letters will provide residents 60 days to complete the required maintenance work. Following that waiting period, the City will go out to bid for the concrete work with an anticipated work completion date in the fall.

District 1: District 1 sidewalks were inspected in March, with courtesy letters mailed to residents on March 27, 2026. Follow-up inspection was completed in June, with Resolution 53-2026 adopted at the June 23, 2026 Council meeting ordering the repair of sidewalks and authorizing certified mail notice to property owners. Certified mail notices were mailed to property owners on June 29, 2026.

HURON PUBLIC POWER (HPP)

3rd Transformer: The City participated in a bond ratings call with Moody's during the week of March 31st as a leadup to the bond issuance for the 3rd transformer. A follow up call was held on April 9th to understand our current bond rating (which we anticipate remaining the same – which is a good thing) prior to us going out to the market for bids. Given the limited number of customers on HPP and the fact that they are all private entities, the bonds are expected to be taxable versus tax-exempt, meaning higher interest rates.

These bonds were sold on April 17, 2025 at a rate of 5.55% over a 15-year period. Our excellent Moody's rating helped keep this rate down.

Switch Gear and Transformer Installation: The contract has been signed, and a kickoff meeting is scheduled for mid-February. Once this has been held we will be able to put together a project schedule.

The project has been held up with contractual and performance issues. We are hopeful of getting this back on track soon.

Electric Aggregation: The City aggregation program expires in July. Due to the market, we are unable to provide meaningful aggregation pricing and will, therefore, let the program expire. We will continue to monitor the electric market and will aggregate again when pricing makes this beneficial. Residents will be automatically returned to Ohio Edison upon expiration of the program and will not need to take any action. However, we suggest they shop around on their own to find competitive pricing. Sites like Energy Choice Ohio Apple to Apples ([Energy Choice Ohio - Apples to Apples](#)) will present options for Residents to sign up on their own.

PERSONNEL

New Part-Time Zoning Inspector: Welcome to Michael DelGrosso as our new part-time Zoning Inspector. Mike started his new position on August 5th and will be working M/W/F in the Planning & Zoning Department. Mike comes to us from Canal Winchester and has many years of experience in industrial design, manufacturing processes and value engineering.

ADMINISTRATION

Water and Sewer Regionalization: Staff received an update on this project. As we were aware, Sandusky joined the County to review this regionalization effort. Milan and the new administration in Vermillion have now also joined. While staff still do not see a benefit arising from this study, we will join the process to have a seat at the table. Our stance and opinion is still that our residents and the service thereof is our main priority. This process is starting with investigating an RFQ to a consultant to review possibilities around regionalizing Water and Sewer services. This report could come back saying there are savings to be had, or that there are not, but either way, without Councilmatic action, the report is just a report. The City will not be contributing monetarily to the cost of this report.

A kickoff meeting was carried out here at the City Building where initial conversations addressing expectations and concerns about the project. In attendance were representatives from the County, City of Vermillion, City of Milan, the City of Sandusky and myself. This was an honest conversation where it was reiterated that our Residents come first and everything else is secondary.

All the entities involved agreed on verbiage for a RFQ to solicit vendors to assess feasibility. It was requested we release this so it is not tied to both water and sewer, rather allowing companies who specialize in each to submit individually. We will keep Council informed on release dates and due dates. Scoring and selection would be carried out by all entities involved.

The County issued their RFQ for a "Feasibility Study for the Regionalization or Consolidation of Water and Sewer Services". Responses are due Sept 1st, 2026.

AGREEMENTS/CITY MANAGER APPROVALS

PROJECTS OUT FOR BID

CONTRACTS

- **HJRD Annual Agreement (Res 9-2025) – Expired 12/31/25.**
- Building Official – Service Agreement (Res 43-2021) - **Expires 7/25/26.**
- Lease Agreement with Showboat LLC dba Old Fish House (Res 27-2024) – **Expires 9/8/2026**
- Confirm City Manager Powers (Ord 2022-50) - **Council motion after 12/1/26**
- Republic Services (Res 44-2023; Res 62-2026 (1st Amendment) on agenda for 7/28/26 Council meeting) – **Expires 12/31/26.**
- City Prosecutor Employment Agreement (Res 79-2024)– expires **12/31/26.**
- Personnel Officer Employment Agreement (Res 78-2024) – expires **12/31/26.**
- Dispatch Agreement – Erie County Sheriff (Res 101-2024) – **Expires 12/31/26.**
- Erie Soil and Water Conservation District (Res 8-2025) – **Expires 1/31/27.**
- Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash Co., LLP (Res 33-2026) – **Expires 6/3/27.**
- School Resource Officer School (Res 82-2025) **Expires 6/30/27.**
- Dynegy Electric Standard Large Stable Service Agreement – **Expires 08/31/27.**
- FOP-Sergeants Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 100-2024) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- FOP – Patrol Officers Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 99-2024) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- AFSCME Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 102-2024) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 7-2025) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- Charles E. Harris & Associates GAAP Conversion (Res 10-2025) – **Expires 12/31/27.**

- School Resource Officer Township (Res 32–2024) – **Expires 8/31/28.**
- Emergency Services Agreement with Huron Township (Res 9-2026) – **Expires 12/31/31.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 2026 Meetings:

- Finance Committee Meeting- Tuesday, August 11th at 5:30pm in Council Chambers;
- City Council Meeting – Tuesday, August 11th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers;
- Planning Commission Meeting – Wednesday, August 19th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers;
- City Council Meeting – Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.