



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER

The City continued to make major capital investments into our infrastructure in 2024 – while simultaneously advancing several plans for future improvements. Additionally, the City made several enhancements that furthered our level of transparency to our residents and businesses.

The City completed the largest local road reconstruction project in the City’s history with the improvement to roadways and curbing in the Chaska, Old Homestead I and Old Homestead II neighborhoods. Additionally, the City completed the South Main Street watermain replacement project which also included replacing 100% of the roadway and curbing on Forest Hills Drive, Valleyview Drive and Hickory Road.

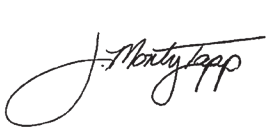
To enhance community engagement and transparency, the City implemented several new initiatives in 2024. The City appointed its first ever Charter Review Commission which helped modernize several sections of the City Charter to streamline certain operations. Secondly, the City hired our first ever staff person focused on marketing and communications. This has drastically increased the City’s social media presence, public events, groundbreakings and community engagement. Finally, the City completely overhauled and unveiled a new website which provides multiple avenues for the community to interact with the City.

In 2024, the City also advanced design and engineering plans for several large capital projects to occur in 2025 and 2026. This includes:

- Huron River secondary raw water intake
- 2M gallon elevated water tower
- South Main Street Streetscape
- Route 6 Phase II improvements
- New sidewalks to connect the City of Huron to Eagle Crest and Huron Green subdivisions

Finally, after several starts and stops, the City executed a purchase agreement with Triban Investment for the eventual redevelopment of the former ConAgra property. Triban Investment consists of development partners Knez Homes and K. Hovnanian (one of the nations largest homebuilders). This has set the stage for engineering and design work to be completed in 2025.

Huron continues to thrive – solidifying its place as one of the Great Lakes’ most desirable cities to live in and visit. The high standards and level of service our residents have come to expect are made possible by a collaborative City Council and tremendous staff. We are grateful for all of the progress made in 2024 and look forward to our continued growth in the years ahead.



Monty Tapp, Mayor



Matt Lasko, City Manager

ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Monty Tapp, Mayor
- Mark Claus, Vice-Mayor
- Sam Artino, Councilperson
- William Biddlecombe, Councilperson
- Joe Dike, Councilperson
- Matt Grieves, Councilperson
- Joel Hagy, Councilperson



CITY OF HURON
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ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2024

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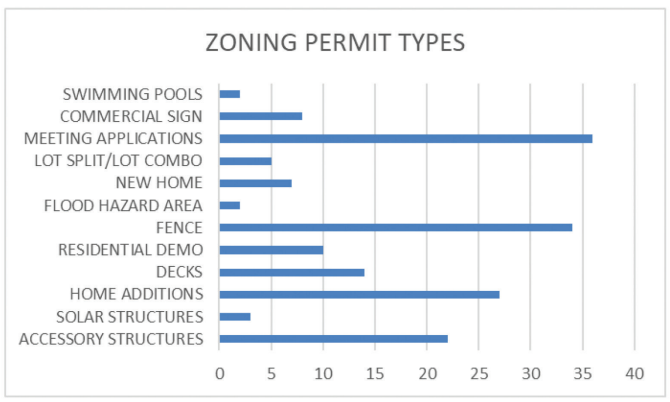
PLANNING & ZONING OPERATIONS

- **Client consultations:** Staff spends a considerable amount of time meeting/speaking with the public to help them through the process of permitting and/or researching the code for regulations to assist with their inquiry or project. These consultations are comprised of both residential and commercial projects.
- **Zoning Permit Applications:** plan review, approval, collection, and deposit of fees.
- **Contractor Registration Applications:** review, approval, collection, deposit of fees, and issuance of certificates.
- **Building Permit Application:** distribution to the Building Dept., collection and deposit of fees. Monthly reconciliation of building permit fees for Huron Township.
- **Code Enforcement:** review, inspection/investigation, reporting, noticing, corrective action, preparation, and distribution of case files to the City Prosecutor for legal action, invoicing, tax lien documentation preparation to Auditor.
- **Zoning Code Amendments:** Identification of obsolete and/or unclear code language. Research and creation of draft amendments for legal review.
- **ROW permitting- Driveways, Utilities, Trees:** coordination of plan reviews, inspections, collection of fees & bonds, return of bonds upon final inspections.
- **Miscellaneous Permits/Licenses:** Peddlers, Parades, Garage Sales, Temporary Stores- review, processing and collection of fees and issuance of permits/licenses.
- **Commercial Stormwater/SWPPP:** coordination of deposit collections and reconciliation of invoicing for Engineering and Erie Conservation.
- **Planning Commission & BZA:** Research, review, and preparation of staff reports for cases appearing on the Planning Commission and BZA agendas. Compilation of the case files, agenda packets, creation of Power Point presentations, meeting presentations, preparations of meeting minutes and record retention management for these Boards/Commissions.
- **Transient Rental Registration:** research/investigations, noticing, review, inspections, approval, collection, and deposit of fees, and issuance of certificates.

ZONING PERMIT BREAKDOWN & FEES

Accessory Structure	\$585.20
Solar Panels	\$100.70
Addition to Commercial	\$0
Addition to Residence	\$3,327.35
Commercial Structure	\$0
Deck	\$373.00
Demolition	\$153.40
Fence	\$1,896.60
Floodplain Permit	\$200.00
New Residence	\$1,353.65
Meeting Applications	\$5,215.00
Lot Split/Combinations	\$ N/C
Signs	\$916.25
Swimming Pool	\$150.00
<hr/>	
Total Zoning Fees	\$14,271.15
Total Fees Paid	\$12,763.65
*Unpaid Fees	\$1,507.50

*Unpaid fees comprised of recently issued permits awaiting payment, cancellation of permits after issuance, and outstanding/past due fees.



CODE AMENDMENTS

- In 2024, staff continued its mission to identify code sections that are antiquated/obsolete, contradictory, and/or contain confusing and unclear language. As a result of this review, the following Code Admendments were adopted.
- Ord. 2023-53 (adopted January 2024) Chptr. 1139 Zoning Administration**
Comprehensive changes for zoning process and procedures and the removal and relocation of Wind Energy to Special Provisions.
 - Ord. 2023-54 (adopted January 2024) Chptr. 1126- Special Provisions**
Creating a new Section 1126.19 Wind Energy (relocating the section from Zoning Administration to this chapter)
 - Ord. 2023-50 (adopted January 2024) -Building Plan Review**
Comprehensive changes to clarify the procedures and process for plan reviews and content required.
 - Ord 2024-8 - Section 311.02(a) - Parades and Assemblages**
Minor changes to include the requirement of a site plan to distribute to various departments to confirm no scheduling conflicts exist.
 - Ord 2024-9 - Chapter 711**
Peddlers- requirements added for specific business contact information, insurance certification, screening through HPD, and the addition of fees and term period.
 - Ord 2024-10 - Chapter 721 - Taxi Cabs (repealed)** Obsolete code.
 - Ord 2024-11 - Chapter 741 - Garage Sales**
Updates to allow for an increased number of sales allowed per year from 2 to 4. Updated hours, inclusion of sign code information, and the repeal of the fee.
 - Ord 2024-13 - Chapter 1323**
Contractors- updates to raise the insurance coverage and name the City as an additional insured. Certain types of contractors to be required to submit a Surety Bond of \$10,000. This language to coincide with Chapter 901 Excavations for ROW related work. No changes to fees, the department had always applied a cap of \$200, but language was added to codify this policy.
 - Ord. 2024-20-Section 1126.15- Self-Service Storage and Mini-Storage**
Changes to address conflicting code sections pertaining to setback requirements.
 - Ord. 2024-48, Ord. 2024-49, Ord. 2024-50 Building Code Amendments- Sections 1301, 1305, 1307**
These code sections reference the adoption of outsourced Codes (Ohio Building Code, Residential Code of Ohio, and the International Property Maintenance Code). The prepared code amendments will codify language that future code changes by the respective governing bodies shall automatically become a part of the city code. These amendments were needed to ensure that the city code includes the most current version of these outsourced codes.

- Ord. 2024-47: Zoning Code Amendments- Section 1137.03 and Chapter 1123-Residential Districts. Section 1137.03**
Yard Modifications contains language pertaining to the required averaging formula to establish the front yard setback that applies in all Residential Districts. The language was hard to follow, and staff has worked with Legal to simplify the language while maintaining the same outcome. Going hand in hand with this change, a critical component was to add reference to Section 1137.03 in all the R District code sections. This Ordinance was adopted by City Council on December 10, 2024.
- The following Code Amendments are in process and/or priorities for 2025:**
 - **Chapter 1131- New Section 1131.11-** Residential Exterior Lighting. This amendment was written by legal counsel at City Council request, to address resident complaints of light trespass by neighboring properties
 - **Chapter 1129-Signage Code-** Legal had advised the department the signage code that existed was not legally compliant. Legal has recommended that due to the nature of the code and litigious precedent with signage, a consultant should be hired to research and prepare such an amendment.

As code sections and issues are discovered, staff is adding them to a database to review and discuss for future amendments.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEES

- Planning Commission/ DRB**
 - 2024 - 9 meetings / 27 cases
 - 2023 - 14 meetings / 25 cases
 - 2022 - 12 meetings / 32 cases

- BZA**
 - 2024 - 10 meetings / 26 cases
 - 2023 - 9 meetings / 16 cases
 - 2022 - 9 meetings / 29 cases

Planning & Zoning staff meet with applicants to review their applications and advise of the process, prepare staff reports, agenda packets, meeting presentations, minutes, and follow up for cases appearing on these agendas.

CODE ENFORCEMENT & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

2024	2023	2022
144 cases	274 cases	252 cases
Top 3 Violation Types	Top 3 Violation Types	Top 3 Violation Types
Grass/Weeds	Grass/Weeds	Grass/Weeds
Landscape Maintenance	Debris/Sanitation Vehicle	Debris/Sanitation Vehicle
Home Exteriors	Parking	Parking
Certified & Regular Mailing Issued Expense	Certified & Regular Mailing Issued Expenses	
\$616.84	\$1,021.55	
City Mowing Expense	City Mowing Expense	
\$4,720.50	\$1680.63	
Paid Directly to City	Paid Directly to City	
\$1,692.38	\$281.25	
Fees Certified to Auditor on Tax Duplicate	Fees Certified to Auditor on Tax Duplicate	
\$3,028.14	\$1399.38	

*In 2024, there were four properties that required mowing every 2-3 weeks. Three of these properties were vacant homes/lots, one is a habited property. These repeated mowings are the reason for the increase in mowing expenses for 2024.

NON-ZONING PERMITS / LICENSES BREAKDOWN & FEES

	2024	2023	2022
Garage Sale	27	33	10
Temp Stores	2	2	1
Peddlers	6	19	4
Outdoor Dining	0	0	1
ROW Street/Driveway	42	25	4
ROW - Utility	25	30	14
ROW - Trees	5	15	3
Parade/Assemblages	3	3	1

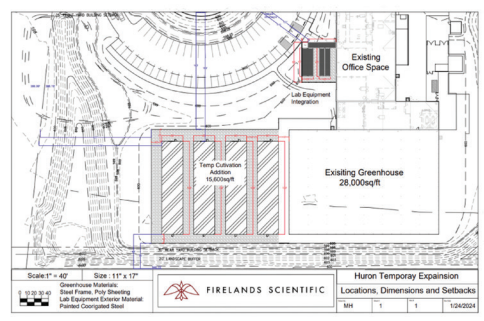
Garage Sale	\$12 (NC beginning 5-23-24)
Temporary Stores	\$300
Peddlers	\$200
ROW -Street/Driveways	\$1,850
ROW- Utility	\$1,300
ROW-Trees	No Charge
Parade/Assemblages	No Charge

Total Misc. Fees	\$3,662
Total Paid	\$3,562
*Unpaid Fees	\$ 100

*Unpaid fees comprised of recently issued permits awaiting payment, cancellation of permits after issuance, and outstanding/past due fees.

MAJOR COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS, RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, PLAN REVIEWS

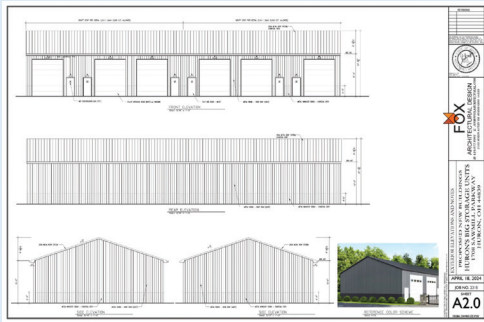
- Sheltered Brook- R-1 PUD - 2 New Homes



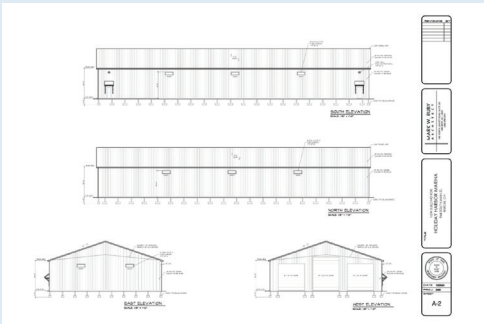
- Firelands Scientific, 2300 University Drive - Expansion



- Long John Silvers, 2018 Cleveland Road W - New Build



- Huron’s Big Storage, 1708 Sawmill Parkway - New Build



- Holiday Harbor, 944 S. Main St. - New Build

ConAgra Development

In 2024, significant steps were taken to finally advance the eventual redevelopment of the former ConAgra site. The City re-issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in order to seek development ideas from interested developers. The RFP resulted in three (3) submittals which were ultimately narrowed down to a preferred proposal. In the summer of 2024, Council instructed staff to begin negotiations with a development team comprised of K. Hovnanian Homes (one of the nations largest home builders) and Knez Homes (one of northern Ohio’s largest developers and home builders). During the Fall of 2024, staff engaged in negotiations with the development team ultimately resulting in the execution of a Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between the parties which was executed during the winter.

The development plan tentatively calls for the development of ninety-four (94) for-sale townhouses ranging from 2-3 stories. Additionally, developers are committed to identifying a hospitality partner to operate a new restaurant on the site while also constructing a 30-50 slip marina on the east side of the property. Finally, a major component of the project will be continuing the public access that exists on the west side of the site along the northern and eastern edges – resulting in full public access, walking paths, and greenspace around the entire perimeter of the site.

As part of the project, the City will be undertaking a \$4-5M reconstruction of the north and east side seawalls which are over 75 years old and well beyond their useful life. No local taxpayer dollars will be used for this improvement as the cost is being born by the new homeowners of the project over a 30-year time frame.

Per the purchase agreement, the development team has 9 months to complete their due diligence and work though the planning commission and design review process. If all goes well, site work could commence in late 2025 or early 2026.



South Main Street Streetscape Project

As outlined in Huron’s Vision 2020 Action Plan, the goal of the Main Street Plan is to create an interconnected downtown experience centered on infrastructure improvements, community identity and key redevelopment sites.

In 2024, the South Main Street portion of this action plan began to take root. With the assistance of OHM Advisors, plan designs and preliminary engineering took place.

The South Main Street Streetscape Project spans from Bogart Road to US-6. The goal of the project is to increase bicycle and pedestrian access, create visual connections for existing businesses and tie South Main Street into the northern portion of the Main Street.

The plan not only places emphasis on appropriate safety enhancements for the public, but it also further looks at public parking, suitable land uses, overall aesthetics, and environmental improvements to assist in defining the core of Huron’s southern portion of Main Street Business District.

Staff and representatives from OHM Advisors met with business owners to review the preliminary drawings and discuss the logistics of the scope of work.



Rt. 6 Phase II



In 2024, the City of Huron received a letter of intent from the Ohio Department of Transportation to allow a 100ft Limited Access Break (LA Break) adjacent to Liberty Ave on State Route 6. This break allowed the City to move ahead with the planning of a proposed roundabout on Rt6 at Liberty Ave. This project would also close Jim Campbell Blvd at Center St, remove the unwarranted light at Center and Rt6 and add a multi-modal pathway on Jim Campbell. The roundabout will take Rt6 from a two-lane road down to single lane road east of the walk-bridge, slowing traffic coming into town. Early in 2024, TranSystems Corporation of Ohio was awarded the professional design work and bidding services for this project in the amount of \$369,469.

In addition, staff will seek grant funding for public art and/or gateway signage denoting entering the city.

PARKS & RECREATION PROJECTS

Waterfront Parks Plan: The City was awarded \$35,000 in funds from the Coastal Management Assistance Grant in 2023 to undertake long-term improvements and connectivity planning. In 2024, OHM along with City staff started to complete the waterfront parks plan to include design solutions for coastal planning, park connectivity, environmental enhancements, best land use, and financial feasibility analysis. The three areas in the study include: the Show Boat property, Lake Front Park, and the Public Access property (located behind the Service Building). Public input and community surveys were completed.

Berlin Road Park: Installation of a new fishing dock was completed in July extending 15 feet out over the water. The new dock system provides opportunity to fish the catch-and-release 3.5-acre pond. In addition to the new fishing dock, the installation of a larger parking area for visitors was installed. This project widened the entrance, expanded the gravel surface with proper base and significantly enlarged the parking area on the southeast portion of the site.

The Anchor Memorial: The dedication and celebration of the Anchor Memorial at the Boat Basin Amphitheater took place in May. The purpose of the project is to honor four Huron residents who were the foundation and strength in “anchoring” the Huron Community through the Huron Joint Recreation District Board. The four individuals, David M. Dreffer, Don Ritzenthaler, Tom Solberg, Sr., and the former City Manager, Mike Tann, played an integral role in creating and increasing recreational opportunities while securing and improving the future of Huron’s green spaces.

Huron Boat Basin Dredging: Dredging of the Huron Boat Basin Marina took place in Feb/March with the milder winter weather. The last time maintenance dredging was conducted in the Huron Boat Basin was in 2009 and has averaged about every ten years since its inception. High water the last four years helped push this back, but dredging is necessary for maintaining the existing waterway. Removing the sediment from the bottom of the marina allows for safe passage of boats in and out of their slips.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & FESTIVALS

City-Wide Clean-Up: Over a dozen volunteers showed up to help clean-up the green public areas of Huron. This year’s clean-up focus was on the pier, Nickel Plate Beach, and the new Berlin Road property.

City Wide Garage Sale: 38 vendors consumed 56 spaces for the annual spring sale in the parking lot across from the Boat Basin.

Solar Eclipse: A “Totality...in a Great Lake Place” watch party and community event took place at the Boat Basin & Amphitheater area drawing thousands of visitors.

Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt: The department partnered with the Huron Lion’s Club for a pancake breakfast, magic show, and the Huron Food Pantry food collection. Over 100 children (between the ages of 2-8) returned and participated in the Easter Egg Hunt at the Boat Basin.

Huron Pumpkin Fest: Fun was had by all the with the 14th Annual Pumpkin Fest. This fall festival has plenty to offer families with live entertainment, children’s games, and of course, the Pumpkin Drop.

Huron Winter Fest: The annual winter festival returned on Saturday, Dec. 7, with a full schedule. The afternoon kicked off with a 25-unit parade, a visit from Santa & Mrs. Claus, Elsa, Anna, and Olaf along with horse-drawn carriage rides, maker’s markets, cookie decorating, Main Street shopping and Family & Friends photo stops. The event concluded with the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Winter Fireworks over the Huron River.

RECREATION

Youth Programming: A total of 415 local youth participated in the Youth Summer Camps and the Youth Sports Camps. The 2024 camp offerings included: Safety Town, Safety Town Extended Camp, Arts & Crafts Camp, three separate Junior Fun Camps, Baseball, Track, Golf, Cheer, Basketball and both indoor and outdoor Soccer Camps.

Huron Baseball/Softball Programs: Over 300 local youth participated in the 2024 Baseball/Softball Program at Fabens Park.

Fall Ball Tournaments: Four consecutive weeks of Fall Ball Tournaments took place in August and September. Sixteen baseball teams played on Saturdays and eighteen softball teams played on Sundays. Between the two local baseball and softball programs, this represented over 700 youth.

The 24th Annual Dawg Daze Tournament: The August event is a girls fastpitch softball tournament bringing in 35 teams from Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, New York, and Ohio.

Tournaments: The Department hosted 4 outside baseball/softball tournaments at Fabens Park with over 200 teams and over 2,000 youth participants.

Adult Programming: There was a total of 50 registered adult participants for both Tai Chi and Yoga along with 31 new or renewed yoga memberships and 115 daily (drop-in) participants over the course of the summer season. Walk your Way to Fitness at Fabens (Summer) and Walking at Woodlands (Winter) are two free, non-registration required programs.

NEW EMPLOYEE

Bryan Edwards was hired as the Huron Boat Basin Facility Manager. He will oversee both the marina and amphitheater operations. Mr. Edwards will be responsible for supervising dockhands, overseeing facility maintenance, plan and execute activities and coordinate special events.

NICKEL PLATE BEACH

- Nickel Plate Beach attendance remained high in 2024.
- 170 season passes sold
 - Over 9,100 vehicles entered the park (between 10 AM-6 PM daily; Memorial Day-Labor Day)

HURON BOAT BASIN

The 2024 Event Schedule at the Huron Boat Basin was full of live entertainment with fourteen consecutive weekend events of **Boppin’ on the Basin**, five weeks of Wednesday evenings of **Movies by the River**, and five Sunday afternoons of **Arts at the Amphitheater**.

Amphitheater Canopy: The canopy at the Boat Basin Amphitheater was replaced through an Erie Metroparks Local Improvement Grant.

Elite Fleet Award: The Huron Boat Basin Marina was awarded the Elite Fleet award recognizing exceptional service and facilities by marinas.com.

Events: The Boat Basin facility partnered with various non-profits, groups and other city departments to host numerous community events including fishing tournaments, Water Safety Day, school activities and more.

Dockage: The Boat Basin Marina remained full for Seasonal Boaters totaling 71 filled slips. The extended good weather this past fall helped to increase the transient dockage to a record-breaking 975 stays in 2024. Fall dockage continues to help increase revenue.

2024	2023
71 Seasonal Dock	71 Seasonal Docks
975 Transient Visits	912 Transient Visits

PARKS

Fabens Park: A dedication and ribbon cutting celebration of the new courts systems consisting of a total of 5 tennis courts and 6 regulation- striped pickleball courts took place in June. The court project was made possible through a partnership between the City of Huron, Huron Township and the Huron Joint Recreation District.

Berlin Road Park Property: A Community survey was completed for the property at 624 Berlin Road to name the Park.

Playgrounds at Lake Front Park and Fabens Park: Wood fibers for both Lake Front Park and Fabens Park playgrounds were purchased through a grant opportunity from the City’s insurance provider.





CALLS FOR SERVICE
2024 - 4,327
(21% increase from 2023)
2023 - 3,571
In 2024:
Reports - 1,274
Traffic Citations - 368
Traffic Warnings - 1,341
Accident Investigations - 60

The primary mission of the Huron Police Department is to provide the citizens, visitors, and those that work in the City of Huron with the most efficient, effective, and professional law enforcement services possible in our ongoing efforts to protect life and property. The department continues to prioritize the use of various technologies for recruitment improvement and officer training.

STAFFING

The Huron Police Department is staffed by a Chief of Police, three (3) sergeants, nine (9) officers assigned to the patrol division, a detective, and a School Resource Officer. In 2024, the department hired three (3) new full-time police officers to fill three vacancies creating a total staff of fifteen (15) full-time officers.

FLOCK CAMERAS

A total of five Flock cameras were purchased in February of 2024

Total Vehicle Volume per month = 450,000 (average)
Total Unique Volume per month = 240,000 (average)
Total Vehicle Volume per year = 5 million (average)

Three additional Flock cameras were purchased in 2025.

Solvability rate of investigations such as hit/skip accidents and thefts have increased exponentially due to Flock cameras.



PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

All officers completed twenty-four (24) hours of state mandated Continuing Professional Training in addition to at least 40 hours of specialized training. One (1) officer completed ODNR's marine patrol school and is now certified as marine patrol officer for the department's Harbor Patrol.

GRANT FUNDING

The police department continues to receive state grant funding for our body worn camera program which allows each officer to be equipped with a body worn camera. Additionally, all officers are equipped with new tasers and departmental handguns, both of which are interfaced to automatically activate the officer's body worn camera.

MARINE PATROL PROGRAM

During the summer boating months, the waterways were patrolled by the department's Harbor Patrol. Our Marine Patrol Program is also funded in part through a state grant. In 2024, the department's marine patrol officers conducted 54 boat safety inspections, contacted 232 persons on board, and issued 70 warnings.

K-9 PROGRAM

The police department started a K-9 fund initiative to support future K-9 programs to better serve the community in a variety of ways. Fundraising efforts will continue into 2025. The new K9 "Jax" and his handler attended and successfully completed state mandated training which allows the K-9 Unit to be operational.

COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAM

The police department's new community policing agenda assigns an officer to a neighborhood with specific duties. The neighborhood policing duties include checking for roadway view obstructions or potentially dangerous conditions, junk vehicles, 24-hour violations, streetlights not working, traffic signs in need of repair, weed and grass violations, looking for subjects with arrest warrants, conducting resident house checks, and attending neighborhood or association meetings when requested. Depending on shift activity, officers are to conduct at least three patrol area checks of their assigned neighborhood each tour of duty.

The community policing program is a proactive approach to problem solving.



PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The Huron full-time staff completed over 2000 hours of training in an effort to stay proficient in all skills within their scope of practice. The majority of the hours cover Fire, EMS, Rescue, Inspector and Instructor. The majority of the hours cover Fire, EMS, Rescue, Inspector and Instructor. Some members were able to attend various technical training sessions as well. As noted above several of the firefighters are Fire/EMS instructors that continue to pass on knowledge and skills to the generations of firefighters to follow.

GRANT FUNDING

In 2024 the Huron Fire Department was awarded a Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in total of \$135,523.80 to replace outdated and obsolete Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This new gear will protect the fire-fighters for the next 10+ years to allow them to enter hazardous environments safely. With this grant, all fire-fighters will meet the current National Fire Protection Standard (NFPA). We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of this gear within the first quarter of 2025.

DIVE RESCUE & RECOVERY TEAM

The HFD Dive Rescue and Recovery Team continued to enhance their skills and participated in 10 training dives including lake, pond, quarry, river and pool dives to highlight a few. The team currently is staffed by 10 members, including FT/PT members. The team is scheduled to continue its training this year by adding a certified dive rescue class in 2025.

INSPECTIONS

The fire department completed 221 inspections of commercial properties. During these inspections, several violations of the Ohio Fire Code were noted and mitigated, thus lessening the number of major incidents.



CALLS FOR SERVICE
2024 - 2,269
EMS - 1,914
FIRE - 287
Water Rescues - 8
Accident Investigations - 60
City Calls - 1,225
Township Calls - 997
Mutual Aid Calls - 37
HFD Request for Mutual Aid - 10

COMMERCIAL LIVE BURN TRAINING

On November 2, the Huron Fire Department got to host a commercial live burn training at the former Erie Metro Parks "Frost Center". This would not have been possible without the Metro Parks and Barnes Nursery. A special thanks goes to the Huron Eagles Club, Mesenburg Catering, and the Gathering Grounds Coffee House for providing food, drinks and other items. We hosted 13 departments and over 60 firefighters from Erie, Huron and Lorain Counties. We were able to get over 50 controlled burn sets within the structure under extreme conditions of smoke and fire.

CPR CLASSES

The fire department continued their efforts in 2024 to provide CPR classes for both residents and businesses within the community. These classes were held five times throughout the course of the year with 58 certificates issued. Additionally, fire department personnel were able to provide an instructor to assist with classes at St. Peter Catholic School and Huron High School, as well as offered a babysitting course hosted by the Abbey Rose Foundation.

WATER SAFETY DAY

Fire Education hosted 180 third and fourth grade students from Huron during the annual Water Safety Day event in May. Each student saw presentations from 6 different public safety and water related agencies, and each was provided a life jacket to keep. Fire Prevention Week educated over 738 of Huron's preschool through fourth grade students in fire safety.

FIRE BOAT 461

In the off season, fire boat 461 was outfitted with new electronics making water related emergencies safer and more efficient. Crews trained on the water to make sure they were proficient to operate these new electronics. 461 maintained readiness throughout the busy boating season and into the extended fishing season.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

The vehicle and house maintenance shift were busy maintaining our fleet of vehicles and keeping them on the road in a ready state. With the increased volume of EMS runs, it is crucial to stay on top of the preventive maintenance items, when time permits, to keep things running smoothly.

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• **COMPLETED TRIENNIAL SANITARY SURVEY**
The Ohio EPA survey is a thorough examination of the Water Filtration Plant and water distribution system to ensure all rules and regulations are being met. In October, Huron received zero violations and 13 recommendations that have already been implemented.

• **CONSTRUCTION OF NEW WATERMAINS**
Portions of South Main • Forest Hills Drive • Valleyview Drive • Hickory Drive • Portions of Huron Street • Mill Street

This water main replacement addressed some of the older pipes in our distribution system that were prone to breaks. New water mains will reduce breaks and ensure residents always have access to safe, palatable, and potable water.

• **PLAN UPDATES**
Update and revise Huron Water Contingency Plan, Asset Management Plan, Risk and Resiliency Plan, and the Emergency Response Plan. It is a combination of these plans that ensures a potable water supply flows uninterrupted 24/7/365.

• **WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS**
Completed competitive bidding for water treatment chemicals for calendar year 2025. A collaborative effort among the City of Sandusky, Erie County, and the City of Huron was once again completed. Advertising together allows greater chemical volumes to be bid on and thus more competitive financial offers from vendors. Chemical prices are very comparable to last year and only increased 0.004% overall from 2024.

• **SLUDGE LAGOON MAINTENANCE**
Completed annual sludge lagoon maintenance. 2024 maintenance involved the rental of a Case long-reach excavator to dredge the one-acre sludge lagoon into the two previously formed retention dikes for a duration of two weeks.

Staff has been diligently building the GIS database for mapping of water assets including watermains, valves, fire hydrants, water meter pits, and more.



• **HYDRANT FLUSHING**
Exercised valves and flushed hydrants in the water distribution system. It is a requirement of the Ohio EPA to flush hydrants annually and exercise 20% of system valves per year. Hydrant flushing ensures water quality in the system, specifically in dead end water mains, while also ensuring the proper operation of the hydrants for emergency needs. Valve exercising ensures that valves will open and close successfully when needed in the event of routine or emergency maintenance (water main break).

- **LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY**
Completion of the lead service line inventory as mandated by the Ohio EPA. This information may be found on the city website.
- **AUMA ACTUATORS**
Replacement of aged Auma actuators for filter to waste valves with Rotork actuators.
- Replaced VFD drives with Low Server Pump #4 and High Service Pump #3. The pump drives are being replaced as they were damaged during a power surge. Every piece of equipment at the Water Filtration Plant is redundant to minimize the effects of equipment failures.
- Replacement of sodium permanganate feed system. New Watson-Marlow peristaltic pumps were installed along with a new day tank.
- **OHIO NORTHWEST DISTRICT AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOC. MEETING**
The City of Huron hosted the Ohio Northwest District American Water Works Association summer meeting that included a tour of the Water Filtration Plant. The tube settler project that was completed in 2022 was showcased during this event.
- **EMERGENCY WATER MAIN REPAIRS 2024**
 - 1/30/24 - 4" line - Vine Avenue – crack
 - 3/13/24 - 6" line - Valley View – crack
 - 9/26/24 - 6" line - Rye Beach Road - hole (top)
 - 10/24/24 - 8" line - Lakewood Avenue – hole (top)
 - 12/26/24 - 6" joint - First Street
 - 12/30/24 - 8" joint - Silvern Avenue
- **EMPLOYEE UPDATES**
Hired new Water Filtration Operator Kyle Capodice to fill a vacant position. Kyle has a mechanical background and has previous experience as a welder. He has also passed his Class 1 Water Supply examination.
- 2025 OBJECTIVES**
 - Continue GIS mapping of water assets – water mains, valves, meters, pits, hydrants
 - Explore needs for future finished water clearwell storage
 - Receive completed design/engineering of Huron River Emergency Intake Project from Kleinfelder.
 - Continue with the chemical pump replacement program at the Water Filtration Plant. Many of the chemical pumps are obsolete and replacement parts can no longer be obtained. New pumps will ensure the constant production of safe, palatable, and potable water.
 - Receive a plant rating of 5.5 MGD (increasing from 3.4 MGD) from the Ohio EPA. This rating is necessary to support the increased residential and commercial demands. The tube settler project that was completed in 2022 increased plant capacity that allows for this rating.
 - Paint the East Side Water Tower. This tower was inspected in 2024 and it was determined that 2 overcoats are necessary to maintain the integrity of the exterior coating.



NEW 2.0 MG WATER TOWER

In 2024 the department received the completed design/engineering of 2.0 MG Water Tower from Kleinfelder. This tower will be placed at the end of Sawmill Parkway and will provide increased potable water storage in the event of an emergency.

In 2025 the goal is to begin actual construction of the 2.0 MG Water Tower. This tower will provide increased potable water storage in the distribution system and is necessary for increased residential and commercial demands. This project is paid for, in part, by a \$5,000,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Development.

MUNICIPAL COURT

MUNICIPAL COURT

The mission of the Huron Municipal Court is to provide a fair, impartial, and efficient resolution of the matters brought before it, without unnecessary delay, in a courteous manner.

Filed:

- 1,653 traffic cases filed
- 350 criminal cases filed
- 271 civil cases filed

Resolved:

- 1,747 traffic cases
- 402 criminal cases
- 321 civil cases

In total, the Municipal Court held 105 regular court sessions with 2,804 total cases scheduled.



LAW

LAW

- Participated in creating over 70 pieces of legislation
- Participated in negotiations of LOI and Real Estate Purchase Agreement for ConAgra
- Assisted Charter Review Commission with analysis and review of Charter provisions resulting in the electorate adopting all changes presented for consideration
- Addressed adoption of legalization permitting City to participate in Cooperative Purchasing Programs, often at appreciable savings to the City

CRACK SEAL PROGRAM

The Street Department used 9,600 lbs. of crack seal material for sealing roadway repairs. These repairs including: Buckeye, Deerwood, Bruns, Silvern, Adams, Wilbor, Wilder, Scott, Klein, Taylor, Brunswick, Portland South, Center, Williams, Jim Campbell, areas on Gloucester and in Wexford.

MOWING/WEED WHACKING/TREE TRIMMING OF CITY LOTS AND ROADWAYS

These services were performed to City owned properties, such as: Berlin Rd., River Rd., Tiffin Ave., Water towers, Rte. 6 to merge, Rye Beach HPP, Silvern, Center St., old city dump, Pier, ConAgra, Service Complex, & Rye Beach Park. Also, we purchased a Fecon Forestry Mulcher Attachment for the City's Mini-Excavator for a lot of additional cutting and trimming behind guardrails, along roadside areas, walk path on Catalpa, and around the park on Berlin Road.

STORM WATER

Catch Basins/Manholes/Storm Lines/City Ditch Maintenance/ GIS Mapping: Continuing to work on & updating GIS storm sewer mapping, jet/camera 3,010 ft of storm line, repair/replace 56ft of storm line, 7 catch basins/manholes, maintaining Nickel Plate & Sail Away Dr. ditch areas & cleaning out 120 catch basins/manholes.



FALL LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM/STREET SWEEPING

In yet another successful leaf collection year, the City offered 2 methods of collection: (1) weekly pickup with yard waste service; and (2) was the Big Green Leaf Truck which started the year Monday Oct. 21 and finished Tuesday December 10th. We rotated from the east side of town to the west side of town making 6 complete trips around town for a total 58 truckloads equaling 1,450 cubic yards of leaves.

The City street sweeping began in mid-March and continued through mid-October due to an early spring weather. The city swept up 58 truckloads equaling 348 cubic yards of material. Blacktop grinding and dust control spray was completed on Maple Ave.

STREET PAVING/CONCRETE PROJECTS AND REPAIRS

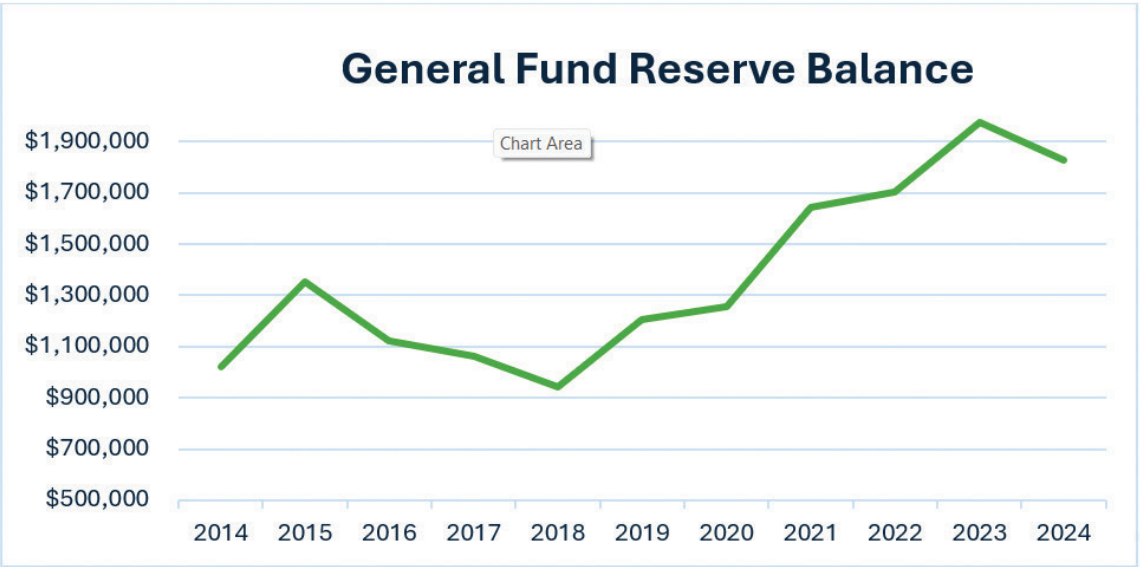
The Department completed some in-house repairs on Riverside, Bogart, Williams, and Cleveland Rd. W. However, some of the most notable concrete/curb road slab repairs were on Chaska and Old Homestead I & II streets, as well as milling and repaving of Lakeway in Chaska, River Rd. between the railroad tracks & Rte. 6, and the repaving/curb replacement after the water line replacement project on Forest Hills, Hickory, Valley View, Mills, Huron, and Main Street.

UPDATING STREET SIGNS/POSTS PAVEMENT STRIPING

Many old posts and/or faded traffic signs (Stop, Mph, No Parking, etc.) were updated and replaced throughout the city. Most notable, updated new street name signs in Rye beach, Village Green, Wexford, Huron Heights, Chaska Beach, Old Homestead I & II, and Beachwood Cove. City Pavement striping took place throughout the city including roadways, City parking lots, stop bars, and crosswalks.

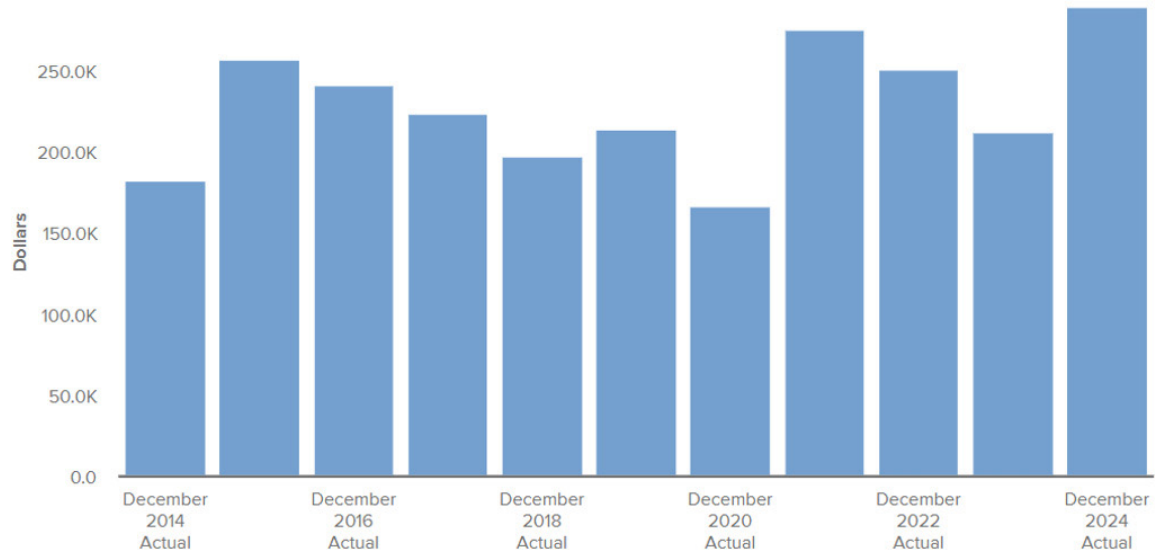


The Finance Department supports the operations of all City departments and Council. Services provided to these departments and the public include accounts payable, payroll, utility billing, budget preparation and financial reporting. In addition, the Finance Department assists Council and the City Manager to secure funding, while managing the City's debt capacity and investment portfolio. The City utilizes 52 separate funds to account for the activity of various services, such as Fire, Police, Service, Water and Electric. The General Fund is an unrestricted Fund and critical to the City's essential operations, such as Police and Fire. The City must maintain a General Fund reserve greater than 15% of annual expenditures. The City's General Fund reserve has maintained a balance of 18% to 32% from 2017 through 2024. The City maintains these reserve balances to ensure essential services are not affected by unanticipated emergencies and economic downturns.

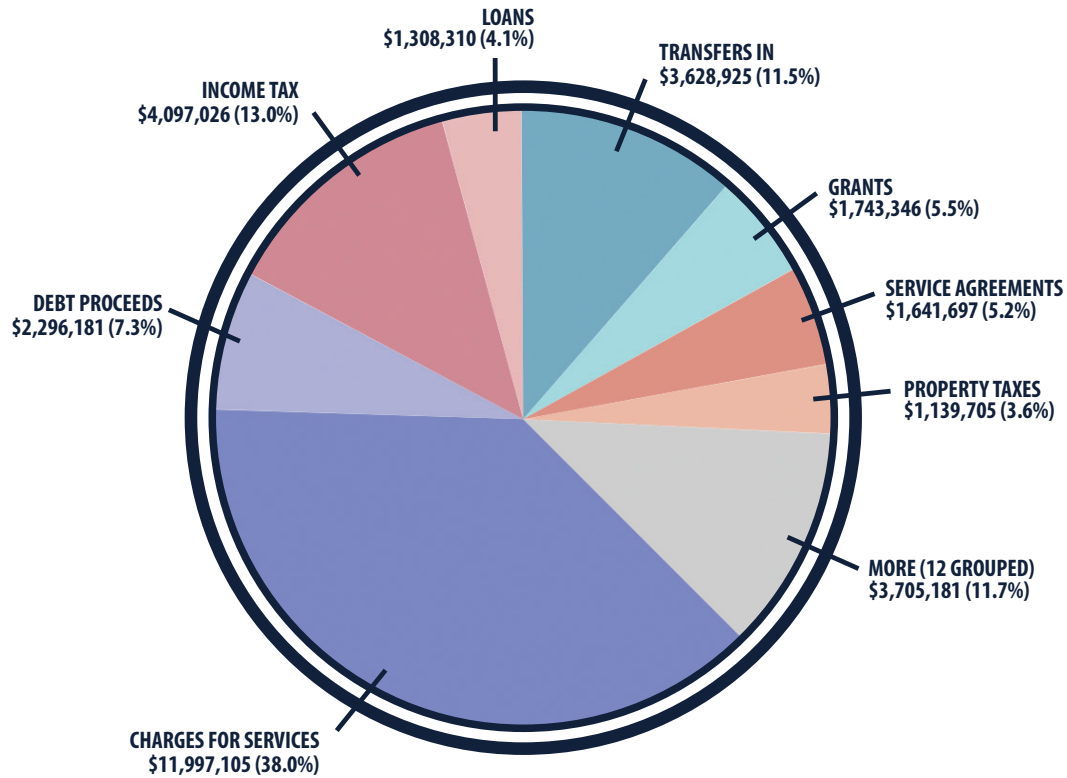


The City's income tax revenue accounts for approximately 65% of General Fund income. Income Tax growth year over year is pivotal due to the City's reliance on this revenue source. 2024 income tax revenue was 1% lower than 2023.

Visualization



2024 REVENUES BY SOURCE



2024 EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$26,382,637

