

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

The Mayor called the regular meeting of the Huron City Council to order at 6:30pm. The Mayor called for a moment of silence. After the moment of silence, the Mayor led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

The Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll for the regular meeting of Council. The following members of Council answered present: **William Biddlecombe, Sam Artino, Mark Claus, Monty Tapp, Joe Dike, Matt Grieves and Joel Hagy.**

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Finance Director Jeff Hall, Law Director Todd Schrader, Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Fire Captain Kurt Schafer, City Engineer Russ Critelli, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart, Planning and Zoning Manager Erik Engle and Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

Approval of Minutes

After some discussion among Councilmembers, it was decided to make separate motions for each of the 4 sets of minutes submitted for approval.

Minutes of June 28, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the minutes of the regular Council meetings of June 28, 2022 be approved as written.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority voting in favor, the motion passed.

Minutes of July 12, 2022 Work Session

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the minutes of the Council work session of July 12, 2022 be approved as written.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (7)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSTAIN: Hagy (1)

There being more than a majority voting in favor, the motion passed.

Minutes of July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the minutes of the regular Council meetings of July 12, 2022 be approved as written.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority voting in favor, the motion passed.

Minutes of July 26, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the minutes of the regular Council meetings of June 28, 2022 be approved as submitted.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Claus (1)

There being more than a majority voting in favor, the motion passed.

Audience Comments

The Mayor directed members of the audience having comments to approach the podium, state their name and address, and advised that they would have 3 minutes to make their comments.

None.

Old Business

Resolution 18-2022 (as amended)

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 18-2022 (RESOLUTION NO. 18-2022 ADOPTED ON JANUARY 25, 2022, IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE APPROXIMATELY 800 NEPTUNE WATER METER RADIO TRANSMITTERS FROM NEPTUNE TECHNOLOGY GROUP RELATED TO THE NEPTUNE AMR TRANSITION PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY AND 73/100 DOLLARS (\$476,180.73)), as adopted on January 25, 2022, be amended and placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 18-2022, as amended, was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Schrader explained that this resolution corrects a procedure technicality. The last time, Council voted to amend Resolution No. 18-2022 by motion from the floor, and we (Council Clerk Terri Welkener and Gary Ebert) determined that the proper method to do this should have been done by way of resolution. Had it been the first or second reading, it may have been proper, but it better to do by resolution once adopted. There were no substantive changes, only a procedural change.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 18-2022, as amended. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 18-2022, as amended, was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 66-2022 (as amended)

Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 66-2022 (RESOLUTION NO. 66-2022 ADOPTED JULY 26, 2022 IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF AN AMENDED LICENSE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING ATLAS HEAVY PROJECTS LLC TO USE THE CONAGRA SITE TO MOOR A VESSEL TO OFFLOAD, TEMPORARILY STORE AND MOVE GOODS FROM THE CITY PROPERTY TO RECIPIENTS IN THE GENERAL AREA), as adopted on July 26, 2022, be amended and placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Dike Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 66-2022, as amended, was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that the only change on the amendment is the dates the barge will be due to come to Huron. The barge broke down on the way here, so they won't make it here until August 15th. This will push the timeline out to start on the 15th for the 10-day period that the original resolution covered.

Mr. Claus asked about the wording in the title of the resolution that says, "offload, temporarily store and move goods from the city property to recipients in the general area," while they are actually going the opposite way. Mr. Hamilton agreed, and Mr. Schrader said that as long as the terms of the License Agreement itself were correct, it was sufficient.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 66-2022, as amended. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 66-2022, as amended, was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

New Business

Resolution 68-2022

Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 68-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ERIE COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF HURON RELATING TO ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 624 BERLIN ROAD, HURON, OHIO) be placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Hagy, Claus (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 68-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko said that as mentioned in previous Manager's Reports, he has been in conversations with the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation (aka the Erie County Land Bank), and they are willing to provide the City with funding as it relates to asbestos abatement and testing, demolition, and other grading and tree removal activities at the newly-acquired 624 Berlin Road property. This is a Memorandum of Understanding in which the County is promising and agreeing to reimburse the City 100% of the cost for asbestos surveying, any abatement necessary, demolition of the structures, and also includes removal of any dead trees, pretty significant site grading, as well as a \$5,000 allowance for any beautification efforts at the property immediately. The don't know what the cost of all of this will be yet, but they are anticipating somewhere in a rage of \$25,000 - \$50,000. The City is really, really appreciative of the County Land Bank's participation in this project. Mr. Lasko thanked them for coming to the table and helping with this project.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 68-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 68-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-42

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-42 (AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FUND 232 – OPIOID SETTLEMENT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-42 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Claus to place Ordinance 2022-42 as an emergency measure.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-42 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hall explained that this ordinance is a follow-up to a Council meeting item from August of 2021. As a direct result, the City has received the first of 18 annual settlement payment in the amount of approximately \$2,600 as part of \$830 Million opioid settlement between the State of Ohio and Cardinal Health, et al. The City will receive these payments over 18 years, which funds are restricted for uses to combat or abate the opioid epidemic.

Mr. Hagy asked if the settlement payment would be a set amount every year. Mr. Hall answered that it should be the same amount each year, give or take a few pennies, most likely. The settlement agreement states that some funds will be distributed directly to the City, and other funds will be distributed on a regional basis, with Ohio being divided into 18 different regions. It may fluctuate a little bit every year, but roughly \$42,000 - \$46,000 in total can be expected. Some will be direct and some will be indirect through a regional mechanism.

Mr. Artino asked how much the County will be receiving. Mr. Hall answered that he does not know. That's where that regional format of the distributions comes into play. It was difficult to understand how the funds are to be received, but the County is part of a multi-county group that set as part of the regional recipients.

Mr. Lasko added that there is a spreadsheet listing every political jurisdiction in the state if anyone has interest in seeing that. He, Mr. Hall or Ms. Welkener can provide a copy if requested. Mr. Hall said the packet includes only one piece – he also has a map. They have plenty of narrative and some additional information. Mr. Hagy asked if there are restrictions on what the funds can be used for. Mr. Hall answered that the funds can be used by our law enforcement and first responders. They are going to monitor every year how the funds are used. Page 69 of the packet shows some uses. Mr. Hall said he would send out another list he has to Council.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-42. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-42 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 70-2022

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 70-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A LETTER OF INTENT BETWEEN PFUND SUPERIOR SALES AND THE CITY OF HURON FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) FREIGHTLINER CHASSIS) be placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 70-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that the City had originally entered into an LOI last year for the purchase of an ambulance in 2022, which was included in the Capital Equipment Plan. Unfortunately, that order has since been canceled. Because of that, and coupled with the fact that we know the lead time on some of these chassis is 12-18 months and that we have a second ambulance in the Capital Improvement Plan for 2024, the thought is to put in an order for two (2) chassis now through this Letter of Intent. This is not a financial commitment – that would ultimately have to come before this Council at a later date. The cost will be split 50/50 with the Township. Considering the delays involved, he thought it advisable to put in the pre-order for both of the chassis in line with the Capital Improvement Plans for 2022 and 2024.

Captain Schafer explained that by the time they could received the two chassis, the existing ambulances could have well over 200,000 miles on them. One is a 2012 and one is a 2013. With all of the delays, they felt that if they didn't do it now, they would be in trouble come 2026. They are trying to adjust to the environment we are in. There is an email between Captain Hohler and Mr. Lasko that explains everything. They have the ability to adjust their capital budget in 2023/2024 to make up for any overages.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 70-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 70-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 71-2022

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 71-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ERIE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF HURON RELATING TO THE HURON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT) be placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 71-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton said this is his favorite kind of resolution, where the City actually gets some money back. When they talked to their friends at the Erie Soil & Water Conservation District about the Stormwater Management Plan, they kindly offered to add some monies to help pay for the plan. As they move through the project and meet the deliverables, they will send the City a check for \$10,000.00. They are thankful for the continuing support for these projects, and hopefully, they will keep working with the City through the different phases of the project.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 71-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 71-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-43

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-43 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2021-41, ADOPTED DECEMBER 14, 2021, TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN ESTIMATED RESOURCES) be placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-43 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Hall explained that, in connection with Resolution 71-2022, Ordinance 2022-43 confirms the receipt and increase in resources because of the generosity of the Erie Soil & Water Conservation District. This recognizes the additional \$10,000 in resources that will offset the initial design phase expenditure of about \$52,000, which is coming out of Fund 401 – Capital Improvement Fund, as well as Fund 605. Mr. Hagy said we haven't received the \$10,000, yet it is still being accounted for even though we are not holding it. Mr. Hall explained that he is recognizing it now, and won't recognize it again in the future when the funds are actually received. If he mentions down the road that they are receiving another \$10,000, that would obviously be incorrect. Mr. Hagy said it sounds like the City is confident they are good for it.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-40. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-43 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

City Manager's Discussion

Mr. Lasko spoke on several topics:

- **US-6 Connectivity Project Grant Award** – Late last night, the City was notified by Senator Portman's office that the US-6 Connectivity Project was awarded \$24.45 Million through RAISE Grant funding from the US Department of Transportation. This funding will completely transform US-6 from Rye Beach Road to the Sandusky corporation limit, and also portions of Rye Beach. To quickly summarize what that project entails, right now the project is calling for three roundabouts on Rye Beach Road, a roundabout at Camp Street and US-6, and major intersection improvements at Perkins Avenue, a new 4-mile multimodal path connecting the City of Huron to Sandusky's corporate limits. The project will likely also include a turn lane in front of Sawmill Creek Resort and connectivity improvements on Rye Beach Road. Right now, the sidewalk doesn't connect across the railroad tracks – that is included as part of the project, as well. They are going to be working with their partners to try to do a few other additions to that project, one being making a connection from the new bike path to the Lake Shore Electric Trail. They have also had conversations with the BGSU Firelands and Arboretum about making the connection to that facility, as well. For a non-urban project to get funded on its first submission is remarkable and a testament to the teamwork across a lot of jurisdictions and also those in the private sector. This is going to spur a lot of economic development and recreation along the corridor. With this funding, it all but ensures the project moving forward, albeit ODOT is still seeking some additional funds later on this year. This truly transformational and exciting news for the County and all its jurisdictions. They are thrilled along with their partners locally, at the state level, and certainly at the federal level – both Senators and Representatives helped to push this project across the finish line from a funding standpoint.
- **Firelands Scientific** - Firelands Scientific has been going through planning for a pretty major expansion. They were approved at the July meeting for some façade alterations to their new facilities. The City is currently reviewing building plans, but Firelands Scientific already has materials staged at the facility. We should start seeing construction very soon on that project.
- **Sawmill Creek Resort Annexation** – The Erie County Board of Commissioners is going to consider the Annexation Petition at their meeting this Thursday, August 11th. If approved, there is a statutorily required 60-day waiting period prior to the City being asked to pass one final piece of legislation accepting the 12 parcels into the City. They should have an updated later on this week based on the activity by the Erie County Board of Commissioners.
- **Sawmill Parkway Reconstruction** – There are two hurdles they have been trying to get over with the Economic Development Administration: (1) clearing the title work process ensuring the City has a legal right to construct the project and there aren't any easements prohibiting them from making improvement; and (2) approval of the construction drawings themselves. They found out last week that the City has cleared the title component of that review process, so they are looking forward to them signing off on the construction drawings, which they hope is imminent.

- Sidewalk Connectivity Project to Huron Green – There was a meeting held last week with ODOT, the Township and the City to do a field review of the project. ODOT is very excited for the project in terms of its advancements for connectivity, while also supporting multimodal transportation and truly multi-jurisdictional projects. There were some proposed changes discussed in terms of elimination of certain crossings across US-6, but there was also a good recommendation to potentially extend sidewalks westward from the water tower to make the connection to Shawnee Middle School so that students aren't having to cross US-6 multiple times to get eastward to Huron Green, which he thought was a great recommendation. They are currently looking at including that as part of the project.
- Street Resurfacing – Residents will see construction crews out there as relates to our local street resurfacing project for 2022. Smith Paving has mobilized their team and started the concrete work, which consists of curbing in certain locations and access ramps at certain crosswalks. That work began last week, and we should start to see the milling out of some of the roadways in the upcoming dates. If there are any questions, community members or Councilmembers can always feel free to reach out to Mr. Hamilton at 419-433-500, extension 1104.
- Planning Updates – There was a second South Main Street Steering Committee meeting held in late July as relates to the Main Street downtown visioning process. This meeting really focused on desired amenities and land uses along the corridor. There was great discussion on these topics – everything from enhancements to public spaces to business and services folks on the Steering Committee would like to see. The next step is to start the first public-outreach aspect of the project. Mr. Engle and the folks at OHM are working the engagement process with the public to talk about amenities and upgrades they would like to start seeing on the corridor as part of this plan.
- Fiber Connections. With regard to the ongoing construction relating to installation of fiber connections, as mentioned in the last several Manager's Reports, there is a lot of work going on in the community right now with Frontier. Omni Cable will also be coming to town. Any question can be referred to Mr. Hamilton at 419-433-5000, extension 1104. He acknowledges that this construction has caused a lot of disturbances in the neighborhoods, and the City will continue to provide updates on Facebook, as necessary. This is a really exciting project for this community- we will no longer have only one internet provider – we will have three. Of course, there are growing pains associated with that process. Please reach out to staff with questions or concerns.
- Transient Rental Cap Reached – The City has reached its transient rental cap of 165 units in the City. As of yesterday, they hit the cap of 165. They continue to update the public in regard to the process for reviewing permits to ensure someone does not actually lose their permit accidentally. They also have standard operating procedures for folks to get on the waiting list, as well. Anyone reaching out to the Planning Department will be able to get that same information.
- Proposed Ordinance Changes – There was good discussion at the last Planning Commission related to proposed ordinance changes for solar panel installations, both roof mounted and ground mounted arrays. He believes the topic was tabled and will be brought up at their next Planning Commission meeting. The memberships want a little more time to digest, but are hopeful that they will have something for Council in the next couple weeks.
- Parks and Recreation – They been trying for years to find a way to afford reconstruction of, or reconstruct or significantly enhancing the tennis courts. OHM has nearly completed with development of several options for the tennis courts. These options range from significant restoration to complete removal for reconstruction. They are also considering upgrades like improved fencing and onsite drainage. They hope to run these options by the Huron Joint Recreation District in the fall in the hopes to present a final recommendation to Council to move forward with this project as early as 2023. They have reached a critical point with those courts, so they would like to do something as early as next year.
- 624 Berlin Road Purchase – There is a third-party contractor that was present last week to do the asbestos survey. They should have results of those asbestos surveys in the next week or two. Their

internal team was at the site late last week to start developing their demolition and construction specifications to those can go out to bid, and that project should close sometime in mid-fall.

- Financial Report – The July 2022 Financial Report is now complete, and was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday. One of the things Mr. Hall went over with the group concerned income tax receipts remaining really strong – for the first 17 months they are 18% higher than they were at this time last year. Looking at just July, they are 6% higher in July than in July of 2021. From an expenditure standpoint, they are right at 57-58%, which is where they should be 7 months into the year. From a General Fund balance standpoint, they are just over \$1.5 Million, which is 32% of expenditures. They continue to be in a very healthy financial position. There is a link in the Manager's Report to the OpenGov report if anyone would like to take a look at that July report.
- Upcoming Meetings – Council Work Session – August 23rd at 5:40pm in Council Chambers; Council Regular Meeting – August 23rd at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; Planning Commission – August 24th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers.

Regarding the grant funds received relating to Route 6, Mr. Dike said that the first question he is going to hear very soon is, is there going to be a roundabout at Rye Beach Road? Mr. Lasko answered that based on the Trans Systems study that was done in 2018/2019, and based on the data they received from that study and just from a best practice standpoint, the plan calls for a roundabout at Rye Beach and Cleveland Road. Mr. Lasko said there will be a series of public meetings related to this project, but as of right now, that is what the plan calls for.

Regarding the reconstruction of the tennis courts, Mr. Dike asked if that is a joint effort between the City and everyone involved in the Huron Joint Recreation District for funding, or is that something that the City of Huron will be funding. Mr. Lasko answered that the HJRD is reserving \$95,000-\$100,000 that they could contribute to the project (they have identified the tennis courts as the preferred project). Beyond that, the request would be that the balance be funded by the City.

Mr. Dike said he would like to see a map of where the 165 transient rental units are located, and asked what type of revenues are those rentals bringing annually for the City? Mr. Lasko said he knows we have an Excel list of rental properties, but didn't know if they had ever been mapped. Mr. Engle said that he could map them for Council.

Regarding the sidewalk extension, Mr. Hagy said it sounded like it was a good meeting and feedback was very favorable for Huron Green to Gateway – was there any discussion about the Berlin Road sidewalk extension. Mr. Lasko answered that the City applied for Safe Routes to Schools funds for both Berlin Road and Cleveland Rd. E., both of which were unsuccessful. They did not talk about Berlin at this meeting – this was really just because they received funds of \$120,000 from the County specifically for the Cleveland Rd. E. project, which triggered ODOT's involvement in the project. That's why their attention is so focused on this project first. They are continuing to have ongoing discussion on how to fund the Berlin Road component, but that would not be part of this field review.

Mr. Hagy asked about the \$24.45 Million received for the Route 6 Connectivity Project – does that cover everything, or does the City still have to come up with funds? Mr. Lasko answered that right now, initial estimates are that it's an approximately \$35 Million project. That was from a budget put together a couple of months ago. When they go out to bid, they don't know what that number will be. With that said, out of \$35 Million, about \$25 Million is from this funding from the US Department of Transportation, and the Ohio Department of Transportation has already committed \$5 Million, which bring the total to about \$30 Million. Locally, the letters of support (Huron committed \$1 Million), Lake Erie Shore & Islands, Cedar Fair, Erie County and the City of Sandusky have all contributed. The only two that haven't figured out how

much they can fund are Perkins Township and Huron Township. If the project stays at \$35 Million, they are pretty close based on the budget from the spring.

Mr. Hagy stated that the transient rental registrations went up pretty quickly – were there big chunks that someone came in and registered 10 at a time? Mr. Engle answered no, not to his knowledge.

Regarding the roundabouts, Mr. Artino said that this is a State of Ohio project. He asked if there was a discussion about a roundabout at Rye Beach Rd. and Bogart Road. Mr. Lasko said he doesn't know about a Bogart and Rye Beach roundabout, but that's not to say that there wasn't. It is an ODOT-driven project. They will still have community meetings, but what we do not is that it's ODOT's strong preference to install roundabouts anywhere they can, like they did at Campbell at Bogart. It is a State-driven project. Mr. Artino said that because of the discussion about putting in a roundabout at Berlin Rd. and US-6 a few years ago – the City really can't stop the State if that's what they really want to do. Mr. Lasko answered, speaking as a novice, that communities can certainly push back pretty heavily, and it's not to say that ODOT wouldn't flinch, but it would take a lot for ODOT to flinch. This is partly because they have done a lot of safety study and traffic movement studies across the entire state, which is why they prefer these types of intersections in terms of limiting auto accident, preventing pedestrian vs. vehicle conflict, and in terms of being able to move traffic more efficiently. It would be a hard fight based on all the data they have showing how safe roundabouts are compared to traditional signal intersections. Mr. Artino said they are going to get grilled. Mr. Tapp said he believes on the first map the roundabouts are located at Rye Beach and Cleveland Road, and both exits at Rye Beach and Route 2. Mr. Claus said there will be three roundabouts in a row on Rye Beach, not just at Rye Beach and Cleveland Road. Mr. Artino said that they will hear from some businesses that it will be very difficult to get in and out of traffic because of the constant flow along Cleveland Road near Sawmill – you get a break with the light, sometimes.

Mr. Biddlecombe said that he would still be interested in touring the Berlin Road property/park area. Mr. Lasko said that he asked the Clerk to poll Council this evening to set up a date in the next 5 to 7 days. They are happy to provide more than one date for a tour – everyone's schedules are crazy.

Mr. Claus said with the popularity of pickle ball, although he acknowledged that there has to be 5 tennis courts for the schools, but he is hoping that they are looking at options for designs to accommodate both. Beyond the schools, pickle ball would be used way more than tennis at this stage of things – he wanted to make sure that they've got that in the thought process. Mr. Steinwart answered that the pickle ball courts is included in one of the new build options – there are four different options. Mr. Claus said they could do at least 2 pickle ball courts per tennis court, at a minimum. Mr. Biddlecombe agreed that it would be popular to have the pickle ball courts.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp acknowledged his excitement about receiving the RAISE grant. He looked into it and saw how difficult to get those funds on the first try. He has been receiving phone calls and text messages, and he knows Mr. Hamilton has received his fair share as well, regarding the fiber-to-home installations. He asked residents to reach out and let them know what is going on – they are on top of it and Mr. Hamilton is out there almost weekly. If there are any problems or questions, speak up.

Regarding the Berlin Road sidewalks, he is hoping that with the acquisition of 624 Berlin Road as a park, will help to secure some funding for that important project. He thanked staff and all of the departments for their hard work, and asked them to keep moving forward.

For the Good of the Order

- **Mr. Biddlecombe** – Thank you to staff for their hard work and Mr. Hamilton at extension 1104. Reminder that the next Scott Cemetery Board meeting will be August 22nd at 3:45pm at the Huron Township Hall. He hopes Luke Bryan enjoyed his time in Huron, and he thanked the residents for respecting his privacy while he was on vacation with his family. Boat basin events coming up: August 10th – movie Space Jam at dusk; August 13th – 23rd Annual All Classics Festival with the band Rolling Out of Cleveland at 7:30pm; August 20th – band Super Beatle at 7:30pm; come out and attend those events. Good news! High school sports are back. Home games coming up: girls tennis on August 10, 13 and 18; girls soccer on August 12 and 16; girls and boys golf on August 15; and boys soccer on August 18. Huron football begins their season on Friday, August 12th with a scrimmage at Clyde at 7:00pm, and then they open the regular season at home at 7:00pm against St. Paul. Please come out and support our student athletes and Go Tigers!
- **Mr. Artino** – I has received a couple call on speeders going back to Fabens Park. He asked that they take a look at that. He's not against roundabouts, but...
- **Mr. Claus** – Nothing.
- **Mr. Grieves** – Nothing.
- **Mr. Hagy** – Nothing.
- **Mr. Dike** – Nothing.

Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Claus to enter into two consecutive executive sessions. The first executive session is to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, and the second executive session is to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee. Mr. Lasko, Mr. Schrader and Mr. Ebert are invited to participate in both executive sessions.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions relating to the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five (5) or more votes in favor of the motion, Council moved into executive session at 7:18pm.

The Mayor said that there would be action taken following the meeting.

Return to Regular Session

Council returned to regular session at 8:05pm.

Ordinance No. 2022-44

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-44 (AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC USE LOCATED AT 306 LINDEN DRIVE IN THE CITY OF HURON, ERIE COUNTY, OHIO, PARCEL NUMBER 43-00095.000 IN THE AMOUNT

OF FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00), PLUS CLOSING COSTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed upon its first reading.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-44 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to place Ordinance 2022-44 as an emergency measure.

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-44 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko said last week there was a property that became available on the market at the corner of Linden and Ridgewood for \$6,500. That property is currently a vacant lot, and is undevelopable as it stands now. It is 0.05 acres, and the City thought it prudent to acquire for some potential development opportunities in and around the west end of Huron and the Rye Beach neighborhood. This property was listed at \$6,500, and the City has come to an agreement with the Sellers to purchase the property for \$5,000, plus closing costs, which will probably tack on a few extra hundred dollars. They are looking to close the transaction in the next 2-3 weeks. This was a very quick-come piece of legislation due the real estate market moving pretty quickly. Although they don't have any definitive or imminent plans for the site, they thought it important to acquire the property for potential future development in and around the area.

Mr. Hagy asked if this was a cash transaction – is there a loan involved? Mr. Lasko confirmed that will be a cash transaction.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-44. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-44 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Adjournment

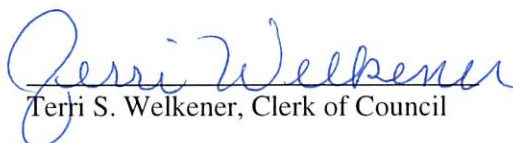
Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the meeting.

The Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the meeting of August 9, 2022 adjourned at 8:08pm.


Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 30 AUG 2022

Upon approval by the City Council, the official written summary of the meeting minutes will become a permanent record, and the official minutes may also consist of a permanent video and/or audio recording, excluding executive sessions, in accordance with Section 121.01(III) of the Administrative Code.