

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, November 22, 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, Law Director Todd Schrader, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, City Engineer Russ Critelli, OHM Engineer Larry Fridrich, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart, Planning and Zoning Manager Erik Engle, Water Superintendent Jason Gibboney, Finance Director Cory Swaisgood and Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Dike that the minutes of the regular Council meetings of October 25, 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: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (7)
NAYS: None (0)

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

Ordinance No. 2022-59

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance 2022-59 (AN ORDINANCE Repealing TITLE 11 (URBAN RENEWAL) WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE Code of the CodiFied Ordinances of the City of HURON) be placed upon its second 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, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, Ordinance 2022-59 was placed on its second reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Lasko reminded Council members and the public that this is the second reading on repealing a section of the City's Codified Ordinances related to urban renewal. They have been going through a comprehensive and exhaustive review of their zoning code since Mr. Engle started with the City. They came across this Code, which was implemented years ago in order to receive Federal funding for urban renewal activities within the City. Obviously, they don't envision that program coming back, and certainly not in the form that it was previously. There are a lot of the elements of the Code as it relates to the process the City should go through to condemn and demolish buildings, whether historic or not, so the current Code already covers some of these sections. It is their recommendation to repeal this section of the Code.

New Business

Resolution 102-2022

Motion by Mr. Grievs that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 102-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHM ADVISORS FOR ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION DESIGN AND BIDDING SERVICES RELATED TO THE SOUTH MAIN STREET WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$259,125.00)) 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: Grievs, 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 102-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that this is a proposal for the design and bidding services for the South Main water main replacement and road resurfacing projects. This was originally just the water main replacement, but they decided if they are going to be doing that much damage, they may as well do the road work at the same time. This will cover portions of South Main Street, Huron-Avery Road, Mudbrook, Valleyview, Hickory, Forest Hills, Huron Street and Mill Street, in varying degrees. They expect the total project to be about \$3.4 Million with design, construction and inspection. They hope to get the project started in late 2023, and will probably continue through 2024.

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 102-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 102-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 103-2022

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 103-2022 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CITY MANAGER'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL AND EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MEDICAL MUTUAL FOR THE PROVISION OF 2023 MEDICAL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE) 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: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 103-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Swaisgood explained that the City's medical provider has been Medical Mutual of Ohio for many years. The City has been fortunate to receive annual renewals since 2015 that range between 3-5% per year since then. Any increases during that time have been paid by the City through departmental budgets, while employee contributions have remained the same. The initial 2023 renewal from Medical Mutual came in at a 37% increase to the City for the annual – that is 37% more than the City is currently paying in 2022, which would lead to an additional \$271,000 that would have to come out of departmental budgets during the year. This amount of an increase was not sustainable long-term and would also set a baseline for years to come. The City's benefit consultant, Gallagher, worked with Medical Mutual to find other plan options that will reduce both the City's and the employees' annual premium, while staying in the language of the union contracts. The current union contracts, beginning in 2023, requires employees to be responsible for 4% of the Plan going forward, so any decrease in that renewal would also decrease employee premiums. They found a solution that would reduce the premium from 37% down to 7.4%, or \$54,000 more in 2023 than in 2022. This plan would keep the current HRA in place and require that employees pay a small portion upfront, but still under industry standard throughout the State of Ohio. He is requesting approval on the first reading, as open enrollment begins next week for the 2023 plan. He said that he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Artino asked if Medical Mutual said what drove the price up so high – we didn't have any major incidents, did we? Mr. Swaisgood answered that there were many factors, but one of the main factors was that the City's current rates were well below market, and this will bring them up closer to market. He thinks they were fortunate enough last year to only have no increase last year, and the usage and claimants over the past year have risen, and that also factored in a lot on the increase.

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 103-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 103-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 104-2022

Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 104-2022 (A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ERIE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT DRAFT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN) 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, 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 104-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton stated that this simply procedural, as the Solid Waste Management Committee created their plan to manage solid waste within the County, and O.R.C. says that they need to get 60% support from across the municipalities and other government units across the County. This is their shot at approving the plan. There is no effect to the City itself – there is no financial effect to the City. This is just approving the County's Management Plan for Solid Waste.

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 104-2022. 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 104-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 105-2022

Motion by Mr. Grievess that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 105-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MAINTENANCE SYSTEMS OF NORTHERN OHIO RELATING TO THE FABENS PARK 2023 PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND EIGHTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$29,085.00)) 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: Grievess, 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 105-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that it is once again time to crack seal and tidy up the pavement in the parking lots and road in Fabens Park. They will crack seal all of the existing pavement and they will top coat it so that it all looks uniform, They will then restripe it. That will include the road and through the entire parking lot, and up Adams to the edge boundary of the park. They got through quotes in that ranged from \$29,000 up to \$63,500 – there was a big variance. Maintenance Systems came in at the \$29,000, so they were chosen for the project. The did not work the last time it was done, as well, so they know the park well.

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 105-2022. 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 105-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-58

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-58 (AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE TO BE PAID BY ANY VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OFFERING VIDEO SERVICE IN THE CITY; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE; 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: 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 2022-58 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Hagy to place Ordinance 2022-58 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: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-58 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hamilton explained that local municipalities had always managed the cable tv franchise until 2007, when the State took that ability away from the local entities, and they now manage the franchise fee centrally. Municipalities still receive the franchise fee. Their local franchise agreement runs out in December, so that means it will now move to the State. Therefore, the City must now apply to keep their franchise fee. This ordinance will give the City the authority to request their 5% fee so that they can continue to receive that revenue.

Mr. Hagy asked if the State will now pay instead of Buckeye. Mr. Hamilton answered no, that it is just managed through the State – Buckeye will still pay the City. Mr. Hagy asked where the 5% came from – is that a set number that is dictated to us? Mr. Hamilton answered yes, they can only get up to 5%, which is the maximum. This is for any cable television sales within the municipality, and does not include internet or phone service, it is for cable tv only. They expect their revenue to continue dropping as fiber spreads throughout the City. They believe people will stop paying for cable tv. The 5% will also include any ad revenue received. Mr. Hagy said he assumes that this will not apply to the new fiber optic companies coming in – is that an accurate assumption? Mr. Hamilton answered that that is accurate.

Mayor Tapp said that the City will see its income decrease, which Mr. Hamilton confirmed. Mr. Swaisgood added that revenue has been slowly decreasing over the last few years because people are moving to streaming. Mr. Hagy said that is where it is headed – it is an antiquated mode of obtaining television.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-58. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-58 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-61

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-61 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING SUBSECTION (j) OF SECTION 161.04 (POSITION AND SALARY SCHEDULE) OF CHAPTER 161 (DIVISION OF PERSONNEL) OF THE CITY OF HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES; 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, Grievies, Hagy (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-61 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to place Ordinance 2022-61 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, Grievies, Hagy (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-61 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Swaisgood explained that Chapter 161 of the City's Administrative Code currently dictates the amount of on-call pay an employee receives for the Department of Utilities, Streets and Parks. This section is inconsistent with the current union contracts for Utilities and Streets. Employees within those unions receive 2 hours of on-call pay, while the current Administrative Code calls for 1 hour of on-call pay. In an effort to provide consistency with the union contracts and offer the Parks employees similar benefits, the Administration is requesting that the Code be amended to increase the number of on-call pay from one hour to two hours to allow those Parks employees to experience the same benefits. The increase was budgeted for 2023, and will become effective on January 1, 2023, if approved tonight, which will result in about \$3,000-\$4,000 more to the Parks budget next year.

Mr. Claus asked if an employee is on-call, they will get a minimum of 2 hours of pay, whether they get called in, or not. Mr. Swaisgood said that is correct, they will get their 2 hours and their regular work rate. They get 2 hours to be on-call for 24 hours. If they get called in, then they will be paid time-and-a-half.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-61. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-61 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-62

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-62 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2021-41, ADOPTED DECEMBER 14, 2021, TO PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES) 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, Grievies (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-62 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Swaisgood stated that the appropriation before Council is necessary for year-end budgetary housekeeping on projects that are planned for construction in 2023, or have engineering and design being budgeted for 2022, beginning in 2022, so that the project can be encumbered and purchase orders can be opened. One example is the Sawmill Parkway Improvements, the South Main Street Water Line Replacement, and the Fabens Tennis Courts. The funds have sufficient balances or we are anticipating that a grant or loan will be received within the next year to cover the supplemental appropriations on Exhibit A. The legislative item also includes additional cash transfers from the General Fund and Water Fund to cover these purchase orders opened for these capital projects in 2022.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-62. 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 2022-62 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-64

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-64 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4 AND SECTION 5 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2022-26 TO AUTHORIZE AND SPECIFY ADDITIONAL PURPOSES FOR WHICH SERVICE PAYMENTS DEPOSITED INTO THE SAWMILL CREEK IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND AND THE SAWMILL CREEK PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND MAY BE EXPENDED; 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-64 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Artino to place Ordinance 2022-64 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-64 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko reminded Council that the TIF Ordinance approved a couple of months ago created two TIF funds relating to the Sawmill Creek Resort. One of them is a Section 40 Fund, which can be used for public infrastructure, and one is called a Section 31 TIF Fund, which can be used for private investment. An example of a private investment is the \$2 Million the City will be committing to the project. The Section 41 TIF Fund, which funds private investments, is going to be populated based on tax revenue from the appraised value of the project. The Public Infrastructure Fund is going to be populated by the City billing Cedar Fair for the difference between \$450,000 (the Service Payment) and the appraised value. To ensure that they have ultimate flexibility in the event the funds going into the Private Fund are more than what they are required to pay Cedar Fair, they want flexibility to use those funds for public infrastructure. Quite simply, they are amending the TIF Ordinance so that both TIF Funds can be used for public infrastructure, versus only one of them. There was a very minor change made to the Ordinance that gives the City flexibility to make sure that those funds aren't restricted to private use.

Mr. Artino asked if Cedar Fair needs to agree to any of the changes. Mr. Lasko said this something that only the City approves. Cedar Fair is only a party to the Service Payment Agreement, which obligates them to pay the \$450,000, minimally, each year. How those funds are allocated in terms of projects is not up to them.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-64. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-64 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-65

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-65 (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$3,025,000 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE NOTES OF THE CITY UNDER SECTION 13, ARTICLE VIII OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION AND CHAPTER 165 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE TO PAY COSTS OF A "PROJECT" AS DEFINED IN SECTION 165.01 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING OR PRESERVING JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND IMPROVING THE ECONOMIC WELFARE OF THE CITY AND ITS RESIDENTS AND THE STATE OF OHIO; PROVIDING FOR THE PLEDGE FOR THAT PURPOSE OF CERTAIN NONTAX REVENUES; ESTABLISHING AN ACCOUNT OR FUND OF THE CITY; APPROVING RELATED DOCUMENTS; 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-65 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Artino to place Ordinance 2022-65 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-65 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Swaisgood explained that Ordinance 2022-65 gives the City authority to issue \$3 Million in notes, plus the cost of issuance, with a 270-day maturity. As a result of prior legislation related to the TIF and

annexation of Sawmill Creek Resort, the City would need to issue debt to pay a direct subsidy to Sawmill Creek Resort by the end of this year for improvements on the property in the amount of \$2 Million. An additional \$1 Million will be issued as well, to potentially be used for eligible uses in the TIF Ordinance, which includes public improvements near the US 6 Corridor. Since the City will not receive Service Payments from Sawmill Creek Resort until 2024, notes are necessary at this time, and will mature 9 months from the December issuance date. Once those notes mature, the City will consider 20-30 year bonds to match the Service Payment from the TIF parcels. Most of these bonds, if not all, are expected to go against the City's debt capacity, and these will be accounted for in the TIF Funds that were created in 2022. The Finance Committee members will recall that he showed them how the debt issuance will impact those funds over the next 5-10 years. This legislation is giving the City authority to issue those notes next month.

Mr. Hagy asked if there will be 2 separate notes, or is it all together in one. Mr. Swaisgood answered that it is all issued together, but in 9 months from now they might be separated. To everyone other than the investor, they will be all together with the same interest rate.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-65. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-65 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Hagy setting a public hearing on the 2023 Municipal Budget for 6:30pm in Council Chambers at Huron City Hall immediately preceding the regular meeting of the City Council on December 27, 2022.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions 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, Grievess (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed, and the public hearing on the 2023 Municipal Budget was set for Tuesday, December 27th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

Mayor Tapp said that he wanted to bring something up before they moved on to the City Manager's Discussion. He spoke to Mr. Lasko and Councilman, and he wanted to put it out there that he thinks that we need a boat house for the fire boat. We need to look into it. This has happened a couple of times, but just today the boat was in the fire department bay because it was so cold last week. They had a call today, and it could have gotten really, really bad. There were 2 gentlemen probably out 5 or 6 miles, and their boat was sinking. It does take a while to get the boat out of the station, get it into the water, and then get out to the location. The lake is not freezing like it used to years ago, and the fisherman are here and it is super crowded right now because of the tournaments going on. It could have ended up very poorly today, but it didn't, and that's a good thing, but there are some issues we need to work around. Years ago, there used to be a Coast Guard station here, but now the closest ones are in Marblehead and Cleveland (they did actually send out the helicopter from Detroit, which is a 30-40 minute flight), but they did get to cancel those guys. This is something to think about – he just wanted to bring that up. He doesn't know if there are grants out

there. We have great people on staff that can find grants for us. Mr. Dike said that he was down at his place of business today, and he did hear the sirens go off, and then all of the sudden the ambulance pulled up and then they took off. Ten or fifteen minutes later, they went flying down the Huron River out into the lake. He was pretty impressed with the response time, but that point, he did hear on the fire radio that they were at 7% (as far as their boat was full). If they could have had that extra 15 minutes, he thinks that would have been valuable to those people. We have to take ownership – we are putting in a cleaning station, we have this beautiful boat launch – we have to take ownership of what we are drawing here. If we can't accommodate, he doesn't think what we should up here. He said that we need to take a serious, hard look at that because that's 15 minutes... He saw those two guys coming in, they were both on separate boats, and you could tell that they were in pretty bad shape (could have been a lot worse), and they all could have possibly... those are valuable minutes, and we need them. We should really take a hard look at this and see if there are any opportunities. Mayor Tapp said that those gentlemen ended up in the water and, they were far enough out that that they shot a flare off and we did not see the flare. Luckily, it took a little while, but there was another fishing boat that came by and actually pulled them out of the water. At the current water temperature, you can't stay in the water very long. He wanted to put this out there and he thinks we should think about this. There are not going to be any fewer fisherman coming, and with the lake not freezing, they are going to be out there all winter.

City Manager's Discussion

Mr. Lasko spoke on the following topics:

- **River Road Property** – They now have a fully executed contract between the City and the Warren Slag Company as of late last week. They have also signed the proposals for the survey work and the Environmental Phase I Site Assessment. He envisions that will be completed in the next 30-45 days. Assuming that comes back sufficient, they will look to close on the property in the first quarter of 2023. They will keep Council apprised of how the diligence process goes.
- **Development of Vacant Lot Across From the Comfort Inn** – They have received preliminary plans from a developer interested in developing the vacant lot on Main Street across from the Comfort Inn. The preliminary plan calls for the construction of for sale townhouses on that site. The project will first be presented to BZA in December, are there is a handful of variances needed. They will keep Council and the public apprised of this project as it, hopefully, moves forward in the upcoming weeks.
- **Infrastructure and Streets** – He believes Council received an email from the Ohio Department of Transportation District 3 a week or two ago as relates to timing around the City's payment of the \$1 Million for our commitment to the US 6 Project. Obviously, in that request, they were hoping the City could frontload our funds as early as January of 2023. What they had conversations with them about is when they refinance the 9-month note that Mr. Swaisgood mentioned earlier, it would be at that time that they would look to roll in the extra \$1 Million. They discussed with ODOT that they desire to push their commitment back to the end of the third quarter/early fourth quarter of 2023, which they were fine with. As part of that conversation, as well, they wanted to make sure that they weren't the only local jurisdictional partner or private partner that is looking to contribute in 2023, and we have learned that Erie County, Shores and Islands Ohio and Cedar Fair are all looking to make contributions in 2023, as well. They are happy that they were able to work out an agreement in terms of the timing of that payment.
- **Sawmill Parkway** – Staff held a site meeting with the folks at Ardagh management, specifically to agree on a plan to get the cul-de-sac in good shape for the winter months. Right now, it's just loose stone and dirt, which isn't going to suffice until spring. The goal would be to build a base now for finishing next spring, and then adding a temporary surface for the winter to be sure that heavy traffic can move over a suitable surface as soon as possible. They are looking forward to that, and

he is glad that they could come up with an interim solution and still be able to reuse that base then they do the full-scale reconstruction starting in 2023.

- Planning – Our partners at OHM organized a joint Planning Commission and Council meeting on November 16th along with steering committee members regarding plan progress for the transformation and redevelopment of Main Street and downtown. The purpose of the meeting covered work completed to date, and reviewed results of the public survey, in which they solicited responses for what people want to see in terms of amenities and land uses in the downtown area. They received over 725 responses. He thinks it is tremendous when you can get over 10% of the population to participate. This was a terrific outreach from OHM and our staff. The Planning and Council were given the opportunity to provide their own feedback on desired streetscapes, land uses and amenities. This meeting marked the closing of the feedback portion of the plan, and they are now going to use this information and begin drafting actual recommendations for the corridor and downtown. There will be a second public process in which they reach out to the public, Planning Commission and Council to tweak those recommendations. They hope to adopt the plan during the first quarter of 2023.
- Public Hearing – There is a public hearing to establish a new section of the zoning code related to solar structures under Chapter 1126 of the Planning and Zoning Code. That is set for Tuesday, December 13th in the Council Chambers. He wanted to remind folks, as that hearing was set at the last meeting. The public is welcomed to provide input regarding the proposed legislation.
- Parks and Recreation – Ed Burdue & Co. did commence interior demolition at the barn structure related to the new and future park at 624 Berlin Road. They are looking to do interior demolition as they still pursue opportunities to reuse that barn structure. They anticipate tree removal to start this week at the site. Ultimately, the residential structure will be demolished in early December. Because of the time of year, the crews are going to have to come back in the spring for final site grading and seeding.
- Potential Field House – The City organized a kickoff and brainstorming session regarding the potential development field house, which was held on November 17th. Again, these conversations are very exploratory to determine if there is an appetite among stakeholder groups to talk in terms of potential locations, amenities, fundraising plan and operations. This meeting included representatives from the City, HJRD, Huron Township, Huron Schools and the Boosters. It was a very enthusiastic meeting in which they asked the stakeholder representatives to go back to their individual organizations, report out and better determine what level of participation each entity may want to have moving forward. The plan is to reconvene sometime in January of 2023.
- Finance – The City and the Finance Committee held its final budgetary meeting on Monday, November 14th, predominantly to review the Capital Improvement Plan, Capital Equipment Schedule, existing debt and future debt capacity and spending plan. In this meeting, they highlighted several large-scale projects on the horizon including, but not limited to, Route 6 Phase 2, Main Street Transformation, new Service Complex, and large-scale street resurfacing. At that meeting, the Finance Committee unanimously approved the budget and recommended moving that to the full Council, which will happen at the end of December. A huge thank you to the Finance Committee, department heads, and particularly, Mr. Swaisgood and his staff, for their excellent work in what is a really thorough, exhaustive process. Thank you, Mr. Swaisgood and your team for all of your work.
- Personnel/Police Chief Search – The Police Chief Search Committee held its organizational meeting on November 10th. Application are continuing to be received through December 15th, and interview dates have been set for December 1st, 6th and 19th. He will continue to report to Council as that process moves forward.
- December Meetings – HJRD will meet on December 6th at 6:30 in Council Chambers; Utilities Committee will meet on December 7th at 5:00pm in the main conference room; the Finance Committee will meet on December 12th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers; BZA will meet on

December 12th at 6:30 in Council Chambers; Council Meeting will be held on December 13th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers, followed by the second monthly Council meeting on December 27th at 6:30pm in Council Chamber. The Planning Commission is set for December 28th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers.

Mr. Hagy asked if the City owns the parking lot across from the Comfort Inn. Mr. Lasko answered that they do not own that property.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp reiterated what Mr. Lasko said about the Main Street joint work session. He thinks that went really well – there was a lot of information and everybody appreciated that there were a lot of options. As Mr. Lasko said, the response for the survey was overwhelming, which is great. He credited the steering committee for what they are doing in getting together. He thanked the Finance Committee – those guys do a lot of work. He wanted to thank Mr. Swaisgood, who puts a lot of effort into this. At those Finance Committee meetings, they go through everything. It is quite an ordeal, and he gives them a lot of credit for that. He also wanted to mention that June Klein, who was the wife of Richard Klein, passed away on November 14th or 16th – she was in her 90's. He was a 45-year employee of the school system – condolences to her family.

For the Good of the Order

- **Mr. Biddlecombe** – He wished all of the residents, visitors, Council and staff and Happy Thanksgiving on Thursday. He would like to thank all of the staff for their continued hard work. He attended all of the budgetary meetings of the Finance Committee, and he has always found the last couple of years that it has been very educational. This month's School Board takeaway is that it is their intention to operate only 3 buildings next year. Given the cost to operate each school, the cost to move the different grades around to different buildings, and a desire to keep the age groups together without large ranges, the initial lean is toward closing Shawnee. The public is welcome to attend an informal facility planning discussion on December 5th at both 10am and 6pm at the Huron Public Library. You can also view the facility report on the Superintendent's page of the School's website.

Don't miss the Huron Winter Fest coming up on December 3rd from 12-6pm, with the parade at 12pm. You can meet the Grinch, visit with Santa and meet Elsa, Anna and Olaf, all starting, at 1pm. The Elf on the Shelf Storytime is at 2pm. Captain America will be there at 3pm, and the event finishes off at 6pm with fireworks over the river.

Huron High games coming up are boys' basketball on December 2 & 10; boy's wrestling on December 3; boys' and girls' bowling December 3, 6, 10 & 13. Please come out and support all of our student athletes, and Go Tigers!

- **Mr. Artino** – He would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving, also. He would like to say that he is really excited to see this Main Street steering committee. That is something they planned when they advanced the Vision 2020 Plan, and he is glad to see that starting to take shape. Also with that was the west end of town – they had invested in the very much in the west end of town, so he thinks these are two big projects that are going to really enhance our community. Thanks to all of those folks on those.
- **Mr. Claus** – He has been on the Finance Committee for a couple of years now, and going through the process again with Mr. Swaisgood and all department heads, Mr. Lasko, Mr. Hamilton and everybody's hard work in putting all of that together – it is always very, very informative. He has a question that maybe Mr. Hamilton can answer. He had a couple questions related to fiber-optics come up from citizens and whether there would be yard boxes in locations where there are overhead power lines.

Some of the people said that they, in particular in Rye Beach, noticed that there appear to be boxes in the ground even though there are overhead power lines. Mr. Hamilton answered that all of the fiber providers are operating in the utility easement. Anytime they can put fiber under the ground, they will do so, even if there are overhead lines at that location. When it becomes more expensive to put underground, they will revert back to going overhead. They have had some comments about people ending up with utility boxes in their yards. Unfortunately, they don't have any jurisdiction over that – that's a private matter. What they do is take the complaints and link the citizens up to the providers who are putting the fiber in the ground and try and help with resolution. The utility easement says that they can have communication boxes in their yards, unfortunately. Mr. Hagy asked if those boxes will be in every yard for every subscriber, or is it just a few? Mr. Hamilton answered that the utility easement runs across the City through the yards, so even if you don't have service there, they can traverse your yard, but they have to restore it back to how they found it. Also, even if you don't have service, if that's where it's stipulated, they can put boxes. They tend not to, unless they absolutely have to, but they can. Mr. Claus said he thinks what Mr. Hagy is asking is if there is a box in every yard. Claus added that the boxes aren't at every house, but he mistakenly thought that where there were overhead power lines, there would be no boxes. Mr. Hamilton said that is not necessarily the case. Happy Thanksgiving to everybody on Council, staff, and citizens at home.

- **Mr. Grieves** – Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. He understands that it is their responsibility to help all first responders get there quicker, but also, anyone going out there must take precautions, be safe and come back in one piece.
- **Mr. Dike** – Happy Thanksgiving to everyone, as well, and would like to give his condolences to the Klein family. He would also like to ask Mr. Tapp if he is going to be in the parade.
- **Mr. Hagy** – Nothing.

Executive Session

Mayor Tapp stated that Council would be going into executive session.

Motion by Mr. Claus to move into executive session to consider the compensation of a public employee and invite Mr. Ebert to attend.

Mayor Tapp 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 or more votes in favor of the motion, Council moved into executive session at 7:21pm.

Return to Regular Session

Council returned to regular session at 7:27pm.

New Business (Continued)

Ordinance No. 2022-63

Motion by Mr. Tapp that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-63 (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO AND MATTHEW LASKO, AS CITY

MANAGER, FOR A 5-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2027 AT A BASE SALARY OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$128,500.00); 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: Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-63 placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Tapp to place Ordinance 2022-63 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: Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-63 was placed as an emergency measure.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-63. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-63 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Adjournment

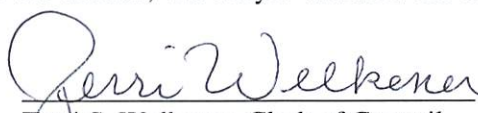
Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the meeting.

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 (7)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the meeting of November 22, 2022 adjourned at 7:30pm.


Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 13 DEC 2022