

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

The Mayor called the regular meeting of Council to order at 6:30pm on April 12, 2022 in Council Chambers at Huron City Hall. 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 regular meeting of Council. The following members of Council answered present: **William Biddlecombe, Mark Claus, Monty Tapp, Joe Dike, Matt Grieves, Joel Hagy**. Council member absent: **Sam Artino**.

Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse Mr. Artino's absence from the meeting.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments regarding 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 (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Mr. Artino absence was excused.

Staff participating in the meeting: City Manager Matt Lasko, Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert, Planning and Zoning Manager Erik Engle, City Engineer Russ Critelli, OHM Engineer Larry Fridrich, Finance Director Jeff Hall, Water Superintendent Jason Gibboney, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart and Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Dike to approve the minutes of the Council work session of November 23, 2021, and the regular Council meetings of March 8, 2022 and March 22, 2022, as written.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion was approved.

Audience Comments

The Mayor advised any audience members wishing to speak to approach the podium, state their name and address for the record, and they will have 3 minutes to address Council.

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Tapp that Ordinance No. 2022-23 be taken off the agenda.

Mr. Lasko explained that Ordinance No. 2022-23 relates to the ConAgra property land swap agreement with ODNR, in which the City was providing ODNR with a small piece of the northern property in exchange for a piece of land owned by ODNR. We have received the executed deed from Governor Mike DeWine as of last week, but the consolidation of the City's larger parcel with the parcel deeded to the City by ODNR cannot be completed until the deeds are recorded. The deeds have not yet been recorded due to some additional title and survey work required by the County Engineer. That should happen sometime early next week and is planned to be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

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: Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2022-23 was taken off the agenda.

Ordinance No. 2022-9

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-9 (AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES; 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 (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-9 placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Claus to place Ordinance 2022-9 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 (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-9 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko stated that this is a standard ordinance brought to Council two or three times a year to update changes to State code, as well as changes to the City's codified ordinances. This ordinance will revise the codified ordinances through the end of February 2022, and adopting updates to the State ordinances through

the end of 2021. This covers everything from changes our ordinances related to rezoning, transient rentals, the combination of the Design Review Board and the Planning Commission, etc., done over the last several months.

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 2022-9. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievies, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-9 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2022-19

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-19 (AN ORDINANCE GRANTING APPROVAL OF A PETITION TO VACATE A PORTION OF KIRKWOOD ROAD CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 0.1204 ACRES IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO ERIE COUNTY, OHIO PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBERS: 45-00487.000, 45-00488.000, 45-00489.000, 45-00181.000 AND 45-00181.001 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, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievies, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-19 placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to place Ordinance 2022-19 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, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievies, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-19 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko explained that this ordinance is the final piece of legislation as relates to the partial vacation of Kirkwood Road. The City is looking to vacate just over 0.1 acres of the southern portion of Kirkwood Road, and those would be dedicated and vacated for the West family so that they can make improvements to their property. This is an unimproved road, but because it has been platted, it must be vacated.

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 2022-19. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-19 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 25-2022

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 25-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD THE BID AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NORTHSTAR CONTRACTING FOR LABOR AND MATERIALS RELATED TO THE HURON FISH CLEANING FACILITY PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED SIXTEEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$516,385.00)) 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: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 25-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko was excited to present this long-awaited resolution to enter into a contract with Northstar, a contractor out of Cleveland, for just over \$516,000.00. They were not the lowest bidder on the base bid, but they are the lowest bidder as relates to including Alternate 1, which is the installation of some additional make-ready lanes at the request of ODNR. That makes Northstar the lowest bidder. Between the construction costs, the previous design costs and the next the resolution relating to inspection costs, the total cost of this project is now about \$605,000. The City has previously received a \$500,000 grant from ODNR, and is happy to report that it received written notification from ODNR on Friday that they are going to contribute another \$80,000.00 to the project. The City will be bringing a grant amendment to Council at the next meeting. In addition to the \$580,000.00, Mr. Steinwart has submitted an additional grant application to Shores & Islands Ohio, which may reduce the City's exposure on this project to \$15,000.00 - \$20,000.00. This will be a great amenity for both the residents of Huron and the entire region. They are hopeful to have the facility up and running sometime in August, assuming there are not delays from a materials standpoint. The initial completion date was July 1st, but we are now 45 days past receipt of the bids, which is the reason for the delayed completion date. Their team is confident that the facility will be completed in August in advance of the busiest fall fishing season.

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 25-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 25-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 36-2022

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 36-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHM ADVISORS FOR ENGINEERING INSPECTION SERVICES RELATED TO THE HURON FISH CLEANING FACILITY PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$30,000.00)) 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: Grieves, Hagy, Biddelcombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 36-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko stated that most, if not all, of our construction projects have a construction inspection component as part of the project as the City's eyes and ears on the ground, which OHM is proposing for this project. The \$30,000 proposed for the construction inspections was included in the previously mentioned "all in" \$605,000. Grant funds from ODNR and, potentially, Shores & Islands Ohio can help offset this cost, as well. Even without the additional grant from Shores & Islands Ohio, the City has already budgeted \$50,000 for this project, which we should be able to cut at least in half.

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 36-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddelcombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 36-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 43-2022

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 43-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO, WITH THE HURON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RELATIVE TO THEIR LAKE FRONT MARKET EVENT TO BE HELD AT LAKE FRONT PARK ON FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022 AND SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022) 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: Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 43-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko said the City is delighted to partner with the Chamber of Commerce, once again, this summer for their Lake Front Park event. Mr. Steinwart explained that this event starts on the evening of 10th, and will run through the entire day on Saturday, the 11th. The road closures requested are the same as in past years at Wall St./Williams St. and Center St. at the park. They will work with the Street Department to close those areas off. This event has grown over the years and a lot of our residents and visitors enjoy the event.

Mayor Tapp asked if extra security would be provided. Mr. Steinwart explained that the Police Department has not yet received a specific request, but the last couple of years they have done some night security for them and throughout the day with the regular shift.

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 43-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

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

Resolution 44-2022

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 44-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RELATING TO THE FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ON THEIR PLAN TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS KNOWN AS THE US 6 CONNECTIVITY CORRIDOR 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: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 44-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko said Resolution 44-2022 is the first of two resolutions before Council related to the US 6 Connectivity Corridor Project as a follow-up to a recently held work session. This resolution seeks a letter of support from Council to be submitted to the US Department of Transportation on behalf of the State of Ohio Department of Transportation, specific to this project. This project is the result of a study that was undertaken in 2019 that was looking at substantial and comprehensive improvements from the City of Huron to the City of Sandusky along US 6. Most specifically, on a very high level, this project makes major intersection improvements at 3 intersections on Rye Beach Road (2 at the highway interchanged, and the intersection of Cleveland Road and Rye Beach Road). The project also includes road widening in front of Sawmill Creek Resort, and the most exciting piece could be installation of a 7-mile off-road multi-use path that would connect Huron to the City of Sandusky on the north side of US 6. It is an exciting project in that

it has brought together a lot of our political jurisdictions, including the City of Sandusky, Huron Township, Perkins Township, Huron, Erie County and the railroad. ODOT is seeking federal funding through a RAISE grant that goes to the US Department of Transportation, which they hope will fund the overwhelming majority of this project. The letter of support would be provided to ODOT for their submission to the US Department of Transportation for this project, which is an approximately \$30 Million project. This project will benefit the region from a traffic flow standpoint, an access standpoint and a pedestrian and multimodal safety standpoint.

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, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

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

Resolution 45-2022

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 45-2022 (A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF CITY FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000.00 RELATING TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S PLAN TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS KNOWN AS THE US 6 CONNECTIVITY CORRIDOR 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: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 45-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko stated that as the City has been in discussions with both ODOT District 3 and ODOT's Central Office, one of the things that will maximize the applications for potential funding is to be able there is local support from a funding standpoint. Through these conversations, it has been estimated that they would like to generate somewhere between \$3-5 Million in local support, both from local jurisdictions and Erie County. The City of fortunate that it anticipates that it will have the Sawmill Creek Resort TIF as a source of payment for any contributions requested of the City. Based on the total scope of the project, based on the benefit for the City and the region, we felt comfortable asking Council to commit up to \$1 Million for this project. Caveats and conditions included in the resolution include: 1) these funds will only be committed to the project in 2023 or later; and 2) because we still have to put the finishing touches on the annexation and the creation of the Sawmill Creek TIF, this \$1 Million commitment is contingent on those funds being available in the TIF account.

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 45-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 45-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 46-2022

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 46-2022 (A RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR FOR ADDITIONAL WORK ASSOCIATED WITH INTERNAL SERVICE FUND MATTERS RELATING TO THE ANNUAL AUDIT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020 TO INCREASE THE TOTAL FEE FOR SERVICES RENDERED TO AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$28,536.00)) 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: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 33-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that several meetings ago, staff presented an agreement with the State Auditor's Office to undertake the 2020 audit for \$27,716. The State Auditor requested an amendment to that agreement a couple of weeks ago based on some additional work necessary on the State Auditor's part. That additional expense is \$820, which would increase the total contract to \$28,536.

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 33-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 46-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution 47-2022

Motion by Mr. Tapp that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 47-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE A GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION BY THE HURON FIRE DEPARTMENT TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, STATE FIRE MARSHAL 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: Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 47-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko stated that this is a request to submit an application to the Division of Commerce on behalf of the Huron Fire Department for an amount not to exceed \$13,638. If approved, this would help the City purchase three complete sets of bunker gear. The bunker gear replacement is in the equipment replacement schedule in the upcoming years, so he credits our fire department with looking ahead and looking for available grant opportunities as they present themselves to help offset some of those local costs for things that are in our capital replacement plan and equipment replacement plan. He appreciates all of their efforts and Council's consideration of this request.

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 47-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Claus (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 47-2022 was adopted. The Resolution 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:

- South Shore Marine – At the next meeting, he anticipates presenting a CRA Agreement and two School Compensation Agreements as relates to a proposed tax abatement for South Shore Marine's next expansion project. EHOVE has considered their School Compensation Agreement and they have approved it as of April 6th. These compensation agreements are drafted in a way that would keep the school districts whole from an anticipated tax revenue standpoint, which is something we have to do to memorialize that structure within the abatement.
- Buckeye Sports – We are hoping to wrap up finalization of the tax abatement for Buckeye Sports tomorrow morning. They will be constructing a \$5 Million facility on Lake Erie Parkway across from Goodwill. The City has approved all of their agreement, as have EHOVE and Huron City Schools, but because of its location, Erie County Board of Commissioners approval is also required. That matter comes before their Board tomorrow morning at 9:30am. Hopefully, that will be the final step in getting that project across the finish line, from an incentive standpoint.
- ConAgra – We are happy to report that we received the Governor's Deed last week from ODNR, which we are in the process of recording. We will immediately follow that up with a lot consolidation, hopefully at the next meeting, and we will also be submitting a request to dedicate the public roadway coming off Cleveland Road into the project. The Planning Commission previously approved that roadway dedication and plat back in 2020, but that has never been presented to Council. He hopes that the dedication will be brought before Council sometime in May, which dedication can be done without naming it upfront.
- Sidewalk Extension – We have been in conversations with Huron Township about extending sidewalks on the east side of town from Gateway Blvd. to Huron Green. One of the things we were hoping to start off with was moving forward with the design process, which is about \$40,000 - \$45,000. We have received approval from the Huron Township Trustees to move forward with that design and split the cost 50/50. The City has already budgeted for our half of the design cost, so we hope to bring an agreement as early as the next Council meeting to move forward with that design cost. We appreciate the Township's continued partnership with the City.
- Street Lights – Installation of all of the street lights on Cleveland Road has been completed. Once the initial installation was completed in the fall, we noticed that there were 4 or 5 lamps that needed

to get replaced, weren't operating well, or were broken. Those replacements are now 100% complete.

- OHM/Planning Department ECPC MCO STP Application – We will be seeking approval to submit an application to Erie County's Metropolitan Planning Organization in late April for their Surface Transportation funding. We are still working with OHM and the Planning Department on which project(s) make sense to submit for, but he anticipates seeking approval from Council for that submission at our next meeting.
- Work Session on Local Preference – Based on the results of a recent work session, there was general consensus on moving forward with an ordinance in which we would provide a preference of 4% for those businesses that are bidding on construction contracts or supply contract for those headquartered in Huron or Huron Township, and 2% for those headquartered in Erie County. We are still looking at some type of cap on that preference, and in talking to our department heads and staff, what we are going to propose to Council at the next meeting is a \$10,000 preference cap for projects up to \$500,000, and a \$25,000 preference cap for projects over \$500,000.
- Scooter Ding Ding – The agreement entered into last year has been renewed per its terms (it was a 1-year agreement with two 1-year renewal terms) for the placement of those racks on City property, namely, the Boat Basin and Nickel Plate Beach. We are in agreement to extend that agreement through the 2022 season. The existing terms of the underlying agreement will remain the same. We are excited for another year to partner with that company.
- Parks & Recreation – Patricia Irvin is retiring in May after 10 years of employment with the City. Her dedication and knowledge of overall operations of the Parks & Recreation Department will be missed, and we certainly wish her all the best as she enters retirement. Jennifer Kilbury will be assuming the part-time Administrative Coordinator position in Parks & Rec. This includes program registration, computer processing, filing, marketing, customer service and overall support and communications for the department. Also included within this job description is producing the community outreach publications, such as the Huron Light, newly revamped report, and the activity brochure guides, in-house. We are excited to welcome Ms. Kilbury and certainly want to wish Patricia well in retirement.
- Upcoming Contracts – The Republic Services contract is set to expire at the end of June, although there are renewals built into that agreement on a yearly basis. We have discussed this fairly extensively at several of our committees early in 2022. It was pretty unanimous that we should exercise the 1-year option starting July 1st through the end of June 2023. As such, by exercising that option, customers will not experience any change to their service level or cost. In talking with Stuart Hamilton, we anticipate undertaking a Request for Proposal as early as the fall of 2022 to make sure we are well ahead of when the 1-year renewal is up in 2023. Secondly, our contract with Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash expires in early June. We are likely to recommend a 1-year renewal with SSEG for legal and law director services for the time period of June 2022 through May of 2023. We have heard that there will be no cost increase for this 1-year renewal, which we are very thankful for, and look forward to continuing that partnership. We hope to make a recommendation to Council sometime in May.
- Upcoming Meetings – City Council – April 26 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; Planning Commission – April 27 at 5:00pm in Council Chambers; State of the Community sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and BGSU Firelands will be held on April 20 at the Cedar Point Center at BGSU Firelands – doors open at 6:30pm.

Mr. Claus asked if the lights on the bridge can be upgraded to use some of the lights that were taken down. Mr. Lasko said that we are in possession of the lamp heads, and approached Ohio Edison very early on asking if they would abandon their poles over the bridge so that we could install the heads that were sitting on those poles. In early 2022, they told us that they were not looking to abandon those poles, but we are in continuous conversations with Nick Katsaros, who is their governmental affairs representative, to

emphasize our desire to still have those poles abandoned so that we can ensure consistency from an esthetic standpoint. There has been no official update that they have approved any type of abandonment, thus far.

Mr. Hagy asked the total project cost for the sidewalk extension to Huron Green. Mr. Lasko said he believes the estimated cost is \$500,000 (contractor's cost estimate). Regarding the tree assessment program, Mr. Hagy asked if there has been any movement on that program. Mr. Lasko acknowledged that changes must be made to our codified ordinance because of the assessment component, but deferred to Mr. Engle. Mr. Engle said the tree assessment ordinance is still in draft form. Mr. Hagy said that he is not so much worried about the ordinance than he is that we have community members that want to be involved.

Mr. Hagy asked when we would have the water rate study would be received. Mr. Lasko said that we have a draft in our possession as of this morning, but staff has not yet reviewed that study in any great detail. Regarding the water rate study, Mayor Tapp asked if the EPA had told us that if we don't raise our rates we could get dinged. Mr. Hagy said no, but that they were asking why we haven't raised our rates for so many years, because that can be an indicator that we are not maintaining our plant. He said that he doesn't mean to speak for Mr. Gibboney, but the inference is that if you are not raising your rates, you are not investing in your infrastructure, so maybe they should be looking a little harder. Mr. Lasko said capital needs aside, inflation alone really has an impact to our plan for just a chemical cost standpoint. Without getting into the nitty-gritty, the EPA has recommended to minimally attempt to keep up with inflation, let alone future capital needs of plant. This is something that this study is absolutely looking to undertake. The EPA has brought it up, not so much as a ding, but to retain the viability of the plant from an economic standpoint is something that every City should look at.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp thanked Ms. Irvin for her service to the City – she has helped out tremendously with the Parks Department. Best wishes to her on her retirement. Welcome to Stuart Hamilton and Jeff Hall – thank you for all of the hard work you are doing. Thank you to the staff for their continued hard work. There are a lot of big things happening. Thank you to Council, as well.

For the Good of the Order

- **Mr. Biddlecombe** – Thank you to staff and Patricia – he hopes she enjoys her retirement. Welcome to Jen Kilbury. Welcome Alex Richter, a new part-time police officer – he actually works with his dad. It is great to have him in the City. His nephews definitely enjoyed the past weekend's Easter egg hunt – thanks to Parks & Rec for putting that on every year. There was an excellent turnout despite the weather. It seemed like everyone enjoyed it. The Huron football H team is selling mulch as a fundraiser to help support the football program. If you are interested, you can contact Kim Weir at 419-656-0335. He thanked Mike Riddle - Julie Sowecke sent an email that he was out there shoveling the snow off the sidewalks all winter long. He appreciates that from him. He saw on Facebook that there was an informal poll – which would you prefer Huron to be in the future, the same or like Vermilion with a downtown with lots of businesses. From what he could see, the majority picked to be like Vermilion with a downtown and lots of business. While not really a scientific poll, that was important to note. Home games coming up: Girls Softball – April 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21; Boys Baseball – April 15 and 18; Boys Tennis – April 14, 19 and 21; and Track – April 12, 19, 23 and 26. Please go support those student athletes, and Go Tigers!
- **Mr. Claus** – Welcome to Jeff Hall and Stu Hamilton. They have hit the ground running and they appreciate all of their hard work, along with the rest of staff. We are getting ready for summer. It was a nice, sunny day today. He thinks we are all getting anxious to get out on the water and enjoy our lakefront community.
- **Mr. Dike** – Congratulations to Patricia Irvin on her retirement – she was very helpful he was there to sign up for programs for his children. Welcome to everyone. Good job to Matt and his team. He is excited for more to come.

- **Mr. Grieves** – Nothing
- **Mr. Hagy** – Nothing.

Mayor Tapp said that Mr. Biddlecombe mentioned Mike Riddle. He is like an icon in the community when he is out there with his snow shovel. Thank you so much for everything you do, Mr. Riggle.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment


Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the meeting.

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, 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 April 12, 2022 adjourned at 7:12pm.



Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 10 MAY 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.