

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Tuesday, July 26, 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, Monty Tapp, Joe Dike, Matt Grieves and Joel Hagy**. Council member absent: **Mark Claus**.

**Motion by Dike to excuse Mr. Claus from attendance at 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:           Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp (6)**  
**NAYS:           None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor, Mr. Claus was excused from the meeting.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Finance Director Jeff Hall, Law Director Todd Schrader, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Police Chief Bob Lippert, City Engineer Russ Critelli, Planning and Zoning Manager Erik Engle, Water Superintendent Jason Gibboney, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart and Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

**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.

**Proclamations**

**Richard Klein Proclamation**

Mayor Tapp read a Proclamation proclaiming August 6, 2022 as Richard Klein Day. A full copy of the Proclamation is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

**Proclamation re: Huron as Founding Member of the Regional Council of Governments and Regional Income Tax Agency**

Mayor Tapp introduced Brian Thunberg of RITA, who presented a Proclamation (a full copy of the Proclamation is attached as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference) and gave a short presentation regarding the services provided by RITA. Council was provided with a handout, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by reference.

## **Old Business**

### **Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Grieves to amend Resolution No. 18-2022 adopted by Council on January 25, 2022, to include the project name of “Neptune AMR Transition Project” and to increase the cost from \$100,000 to \$476,180.73 to reflect the entire cost of the project.**

Mr. Lasko asked Mr. Gibboney to provide some additional detail of the recommended amendment. Mr. Gibboney explained that the project was initially created with an anticipated 5-year, 20% per annum process, and the initial legislation reflected only one year’s worth of transmitters purchased for the first year. They have since come to realize the installations are going much quicker than anticipated, which is a great thing, and decided to come back to Council with a complete package instead of a phased project. This amendment reflects the entire package cost to switch the entire system over, and does include inflationary increases. The quicker they can get this process done, the more they may be able to cut some of those inflationary costs. Fund will be appropriated as needed to purchase pallets of the transmitters and gateways, as needed.

Mr. Hagy asked if the entire cost would be realized in 2022. Mr. Gibboney answered no – the project will still take several years, but does not think there will be a 5<sup>th</sup> year required, as originally planned, and it may take a short as 3 years. Mr. Hagy asked is coming out of the capital budget for water. Mr. Hall answered that it is, and that will be addressed in his presentation relating to Ordinance No. 2022-41. Mayor Tapp said this was discussed in the legislative agenda review meeting, and it makes it easier to present the entire project instead of coming back to Council every time a purchase has to be made.

Mayor Tapp asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being one, the Mayor Directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS:           Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp, Dike (6)**  
**NAYS:           None.**

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, Resolution No. 18-2022 was amended as moved and will take effect immediately.

### **Ordinance 2022-32 (Third Reading)**

**Mr. Biddlecombe recused himself from voting on Ordinance Nos. 2022-32 and 2022-35 in case there is any possible conflict of interest. Mr. Biddlecombe left the meeting at 6:45pm.**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that Ordinance 2022-32 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 1135 FLOOD HAZARD ZONING/FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION) be placed upon its third and final 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, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (5)**  
**NAYS:           None (0)**  
**RECUSE:       Biddlecombe (1)**

There being five or more votes in favor, Ordinance 2022-32 was placed on its third reading. The Law Director made a point of order that Mr. Biddlecombe left chambers until the Ordinance Nos. 2022-32 and 2022-35 are considered and voted on. The Law Director then proceeded to read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle reminded Council that this ordinance update proposes routine updates to comply with FEMA requirements. They have been working with ODNR to handle these minimum requirements, as well as to add further requirements to help mitigate future potential flooding issues with future development. There are two major changes, which include: (1) addition of a riparian buffer of 30'; and (2) addition of a conservation easement for any new developments along any waterways.

Mayor Tapp asked if this would be considered on a case-by-case manner, which Mr. Engle confirmed.

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 Ordinance 2022-32. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS:** Hagy, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (1)  
**NAYS:** None (0)  
**RECUSE:** Biddlecombe (1)

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2022-32 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

#### **Ordinance No. 2022-35 (Third Reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that Ordinance 2022-35 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING SECTION 1321.12 "MISCELLANEOUS FEES" OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE WITHIN THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON RELATING TO FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FEES) be placed upon its third 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, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (1)  
**NAYS:** None (0)  
**RECUSE:** Biddlecombe (1)

There being more than a majority in favor, Ordinance 2022-35 was placed on its third reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that the City does not currently have any fee schedule for floodplain management, and it does eat up a lot of staff's time. They have done some background research, and what they are proposing is \$100 fee for any kind of floodplain permit if it is a residential property, and \$300.00 for anything other than residential property (industrial or commercial-type uses). There would be a \$300.00 for any kind of Board of Zoning Appeals case.

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 Ordinance 2022-35. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Hagy, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (1)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**  
**RECUSE: Biddlecombe (1)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2022-35 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

**Mr. Biddlecombe returned to the meeting at 6:48pm.**

### **New Business**

#### **Resolution 66-2022**

**Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 66-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF A 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) 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, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

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

Mr. Hamilton explained that last year, we allowed Atlas to bring some equipment in for NASA Plumbrook, as it is one of the few spaces that can handle the size of the equipment. This is the return journey for that equipment. They will pick up from Plumbrook, bring it through the ConAgra site, load it on and take it back to Cape Canaveral. We allowed the use of the ConAgra site because they are another government entity. They will use the site for 10 days for a fee of \$3,500.00, and there will be a \$350 charge per day if they stay past 10 days. We should see it sail off on the 10<sup>th</sup> day.

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. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

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

**Resolution 67-2022**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be suspended and Resolution 67-2022 (A RESOLUTION GIVING CONSENT OF THE CITY FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REMOVE SNOW AND ICE AND USE SNOW AND ICE CONTROL MATERIAL ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE THE CITY CORPORATE LIMITS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL; AND GIVING CONSENT OF THE CITY FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM CERTAIN MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE THE CITY CORPORATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CERTAIN MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR) 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, Artino, 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 67-2022 was placed upon its first reading.

There was some discussion about whether this should be passed as an emergency measure.

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to place Resolution No. 67-2022 as an emergency measure.**

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, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that this is a standard set of agreements with ODOT. ODOT and our Streets Department work together to cover the perimeter of the City limits, and any work carried out within the City limits is sent back to us on a cost reimbursement basis. While there is no direct cost associated with these agreements, over the last previous year, that reimbursement has varied from \$36,000 to just over \$50,000. We can't project the exact cost. This will cover snow and ice removal and maintenance of State highways, and there is also some lighting included.

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 67-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 67-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Ordinance No. 2022-41**

**Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-41 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2021-41, ADOPTED DECEMBER 14, 2021, TO PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES AND TO PROVIDE FOR CASH TRANSFERS) 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, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-41 placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Hall explained that the first six items relate to appropriations increases as a direct result of a “fuel summit” held with department heads. We made the easy determination, unfortunately, that an increase adjustment was necessary for their fuel/lubricant budgets for FY 2022. Increases total \$31,750 for this year. The final item is a Water Capital Project related to the Neptune Water Meter Project for FY 2022 in the amount of \$80,000, seen as an increase in the budgeted transfer from the Water Fund to the Water Capital Project Fund from \$50,000 to \$130,000. Overall, the next impact for increase in appropriations is (-\$111,750).

The second portion of the request relates to customary quarterly transfers of funds from the General Funds and other funds for budgetary reasons so they can continue to spend as budgeted at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Mr. Hagy asked if the departments do not use the full \$32,000 for fuel in 2022, will those funds come back, or does it stay appropriated. Mr. Hall answered that, as far as he is concerned, that is something that will be reviewed at the end of the year. During the budgetary process in the fall, this item will be highlighted because he is not a big believer in once the budget increases, it never comes back. It is an expenditure, so he doesn’t look at it as a surplus, per se, maybe as an unencumbered balance.

Mayor Tapp said they had this discussion at the legislative agenda review meeting and also several months ago, and he thinks \$31,000 was less than he thought it was going to be. Mr. Hall agreed, and said it was something they all agreed not to go overboard on, but also not underestimate. The departmental heads are conservative and are not going to spend frivolously. The Fire Department has already spent their fuel budget halfway through the year.

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 2022-41. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-41 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:

- **Sawmill Creek Annexation** – At the previous meeting, Council approved the amendment to the Annexation Agreement to add the three parcels. That Annexation Agreement has now been executed by Huron Township and the City, and that agreement has been certified and sent over the Cedar Fair for ultimate inclusion in their Annexation Petition, which will go to Erie County. We received a copy of the signed Annexation Petition from Cedar Fair this morning. Their attorneys have signed off on it, as has Cedar Fair, and they are letting our legal counsel give it a courtesy look, which they are doing right now. The Petition should be sent off to Erie County, hopefully by the end of this week.
- **Safe Routes to School Applications for Berlin Rd. and Cleveland Rd. E.** – The application to the STRS program were not successful in their initial funding applications. They obviously remain very committed to that project in partnership with the Township, and are continuing to explore funding opportunities. They have already met with the Planning Department and OHM about looking for some of those opportunities and have a potential opportunity in September through ODOT (for which they will be seeking Council approval) to apply for up to \$500,000. They are going to continue to try to make sure they get that project funded as soon as possible.
- **Local Street Resurfacing** – The 2022 Paving Program Project has been awarded, including the alternates, PO's have been issued to start the work and contracts have been executed with Erie Blacktop LLC. They anticipate mobilization to probably start in the next 2-3 weeks. He would anticipate people being able to start seeing workers and construction crews out there, with completion near the end of September. They will remain communicative as they can with residents on the roads, for everything from No Parking signs and other issues. They will make sure they are out of in front of those residents to give them as much notice as possible.
- **Pavement Condition Report** – OHM has completed the Pavement Condition Report for 2022. This is a document that they continuously update every 2 years to give staff recommendations on what improvements and roads should be prioritized for local street resurfacing. He believes it will be going to the Utilities Committee at their next meeting in August for review.
- **Stormwater Management Plan** – There was a Phase 1 Kickoff Meeting held with internal staff and OHM's stormwater team - they are excited to get the project going. The discovery phase will be very manual, as staff will need to digitize old As Built plans. That should be done regardless, so it is a good exercise to go through that as part of this project. They anticipate the project lasting from 8 month to a year, and at the end OHM will deliver a visual stormwater inventory to take them into the future. During this time, folks will see a lot of OHM staff around the City collecting data. If anyone has any inquiries or concerns, they can always call Service Director Stuart Hamilton (419-433-5005, ext 1104).
- **Fiber to Home** – There will be two fiber companies in town installing fiber to home networking throughout the City. One of those companies, Frontier Communications, has already started. Omni will be starting in 2 weeks. This has generated a lot of questions from folks as they are working their way around the City. These companies are digging in the boulevards and other parts of front yards through recorded utility easements, but these are things a lot of property owners don't know about. As always, he recommends any questions be directed to Service Director Stuart Hamilton (419-433-5000, ext 1104).
- **Main Street Steering Committee**. A meeting for the Main Street visioning process has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm at the Huron Boat Basin facility. They are very excited to make sure that process continues to move forward, as well.
- **Solar Panels** – At the next Planning Commission meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, staff will be presenting alterations to the zoning code that will both address roof mounted and free-standing structures. At present, roof installations are subject to electrical plan

reviews and structural analysis, but are generally permitted anywhere in the City. Free-standing also have generally been permitted anywhere in the City and treated as an accessory structure, required only to meet setback, height and lot coverage requirements, but no concerns beyond that. Staff is proposing to permit roof-mounted structures in all districts (still subject to electrical and structural analysis), but only permitting free-standing structures as a conditional use in residential and commercial districts, and therefore subject to a greater degree of scrutiny by the Planning Commission/Design Review. They anticipate there being some good dialogue at the Planning Commission meeting, and ultimately at the Council level, as well.

- Future Park at 624 Berlin Road – As of 4:00pm today, the City has officially closed on the purchase of the property located at 624 Berlin Road, which initially includes 12 parcels. They have also signed a proposal to have an asbestos survey done on both structures in preparation for demolition, minimally of the single-family house. They are going to continue to look at structural analyses of the barn structure and see if that is worth keeping, not just structurally, but also through the visioning process we hope to go through over the next couple of months. They have a commitment from the Erie County Land Bank to cover the cost of the asbestos survey and the demolitions. Again, as mentioned, they are anticipating commencing a visioning process in the upcoming months with all of our relevant partners to determine an amenity plan for the site. In the interim, it will be closed to the public until we can at least safely secure the structures and return them along with some additional dead trees onsite. They talked with the Police Department, and they will begin adding the site to their patrol. Because a portion of the site is within the Township, they are going to have to enter into some type of mutual agreement with the Erie County Sheriff's Department. Those conversations are ongoing. The purchase of the final remaining parcel on the northern end approved by Council at the last meeting, which is currently being surveyed by OHM, will close once a new legal description and boundary survey have been prepared. They hope to finish that up in the next 30-45 days.
- Finance – There was a special Finance Committee meeting held on July 18<sup>th</sup> to review several items. One of those items was the proposal for the utilization of our remaining ARPA funding. This is the American Rescue Plan funding. He included in the Manager's Report a review of the funds that have been used to date, those that are encumbered, and what the remaining funds are proposed to be used for. The funds that have been used or committed have since gone to US Route 6, the Main Street planning process, the 2022 Street Resurfacing Project, and also the purchase of the future park on Berlin Road (totaling roughly \$450,000 of the roughly \$720,000 the City has received). Of the remaining \$270,000 in unencumbered funds, the City proposed to the Finance Committee that \$220,000 would go toward the construction of the Main Street Improvement Project and then set aside roughly \$50,000 for potential infrastructure needs that may pop up over the next year or two that we have not anticipated. The June 2022 Financial Report is now complete, and that has been sent to Council and the Finance Committee as of July 21<sup>st</sup>. The City remains in the strong financial position based on very positive income tax returns through the first 6 months. After the transfers being made this evening, they still anticipate a General Fund balance of right around 30%, which is very strong. Any questions should be directed to Finance Director Hall, and there is a link to the OpenGov report included in the Manager's Report.
- 2020 Annual Financial Audit – The 2020 Annual Financial Audit is now complete and will be published on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The primary reason for the several month delay centered around the use of an in-service fund for health reimbursement benefits. After many months of debate, the Auditor of State in a virtual meeting with our Finance Department, ultimately sided with the City on our position on how that account has been used. They are very excited with that outcome. Most importantly, they did have a clean audit without any major recurring items to make improvements on, and now they can finally move forward on the 2021 Audit, which has been extended through the end of August.



- Water Department – As included in the last several Manager’s Reports, a couple of the boilers have failed at the Water Treatment Plant, and they have been securing multiple quotes over the last couple of weeks. Unfortunately, all three quotes received came in over \$50,000, and because of that, they are going to have to publicly bid the project. They are hoping to go out to competitive bid in the next couple of weeks.
- Water Rate Study – The Water Rate Study prepared by Poggemeyer was discussed at the Special Finance Committee meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Committee wants a little bit more time to digest the results of that Water Rate Study, and will be discussing it again at the next scheduled meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>.
- South Main Street Water Main Replacement – The next big capital project coming out of the Water Department is the South Main Street Water Main Replacement project, which is programmed for 2023 for design and potential construction. They hope to commence next year. They had an initial meeting with OHM to generate a proposal on the water main replacement program. This involves the ongoing replacement of aged underground infrastructure. The current project headed to engineering involves the replacement of following lines, which were included in the Manager’s Report. On a high level, they are looking at replacing portions of South Main Street, Huron-Avery Road, portions of Mudbrook, full replacement of Forest Hills, Valley View and Hickory, full replacement on Mills Street, and partial replacement on Huron Street. One of the other things they are going to do throughout the process is determine if there is street resurfacing on any of those street segments that they also want to include as part of the project. That discussion will continue over the next couple weeks and months.
- Upcoming Meetings – Utilities Committee on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 in the Main Conference Room; Finance Committee meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in Council Chambers; Board of Zoning Appeals on August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; Council Meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; Council Work Session on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm in Council Chambers; Council Meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 in Council Chambers; and Planning Commission on August 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in Council Chambers.

Mr. Hagy if there was a PCR prepared two years ago. Mr. Lasko answered that the last one was done 2020, and the information contained in that study was used for the recommendations for this year’s 2020 Street Repaving Project. The new PCR will inform staff starting with 2023.

Mr. Dike said that he has numerous individuals approach him regarding the fireworks – they don’t like it because people are just firing them off when they feel like it. They would like to see some more conversation and maybe some changes made.

Mr. Dike asked when there is debris in the river, who is responsible for its removal? Mr. Steinwart answered that he does not know of any entity that is responsible for debris removal.

Mr. Dike was asked that there was going to be a sewer line installed down the bike path. Mr. Lasko explained that, at one point, the County was looking at abandoning the Sawmill Creek pump station at Sheldon’s Marsh, and they were going to tie that all in to the facility on River Road. That would have brought the sewer line through, nicely opening up some of that are for development. It just so happens they met with the County on an unrelated topic about a week and a half ago, and brought that up to them. Unfortunately, the cost of the project to abandon and increase the capacity of River Road has more than tripled in expense, so he does not anticipate that line going in anytime soon. There was very serious discussion on the County level, probably about a year ago.

Mr. Dike asked that the PCR map be shared with Council. Mr. Lasko said they are going to start with the Utilities Committee on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, and will certainly share that with all of Council. He also saw no reason why they couldn't put it on the website for our residents.

Mayor Tapp asked if staff had heard from EDA regarding the Sawmill Parkway project. Mr. Lasko said that the Economic Development Administration (EDA) is the main funder of the Sawmill Parkway Reconstruction. They know it would be a very long review process, but he admitted that he didn't anticipate that it would be this long. They got some very, very minor comments back on Friday as relates to the bidding checklist. With that said, they are still waiting for full plan signoff and full signoff on legal and title. It has been a very long, but as of now they still don't have a green light to bid the project. They cannot move forward without their approval.

### **Mayor's Discussion**

Mayor Tapp thanked Mr. Thunberg for RITA's Proclamation. He is excited about 624 Berlin Road, as is Mr. Steinwart. Kudos to the Parks Department for taking it over for right now. There is a lot of chatter about that, and people are pretty excited. The Water Department has provided a lot of information the last couple of weeks and he commended Mr. Gibboney for what he is doing – it is not easy, but he is staying on top of everything. There are a lot of great things happening. Thanks to the staff and Mr. Lasko.

### **For the Good of the Order**

- **Mr. Biddlecombe** – Thanks to staff. Thanks to Mr. Thunberg. Thanks to Dick Klein for his service to our country and the school system. He will definitely be missed, and he extended his condolences to his family and friends. He welcomed Martin Luipold to the Water Department, and he hopes he has a long, fulfilling career with the City. The next Scott Cemetery Board Meeting will be held on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:45pm at the Huron Township Hall. The Huron Boosters are currently conducting their annual membership drive. You can join as a Tiger level to get 2 season passes to any sport of your choice, or as a Super Tiger level to get 2 season passes to all sports throughout the next school year. For more information, you can go to [www.HuronBoosterClub.com](http://www.HuronBoosterClub.com) and any senior citizens can their sports passes at the high school office during normal office hours. Make sure everyone comes out and supports the student athletes this year. Boat Basin events coming up: July 27<sup>th</sup> – Moving Jungle Cruise starting at dusk; July 30<sup>th</sup> – K96 Summer Jam at 5:00pm; July 31<sup>st</sup> – Erie County OSU Alumni Band at 7:00pm; August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Big Hero Six at dusk; August 6<sup>th</sup> – Band SOBOS at 7:30pm; August 7<sup>th</sup> – Windjammer Band at 7:00pm. The deadline to register your classic car or boat for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual All Classics Festival is August 1<sup>st</sup>. Come out and attend those events, and Go Tigers!
- **Mr. Artino** – He thinks we ought to mention that the Sawmill Parkway grant they are talking about is \$2 Million, so people have to understand that the City is not dragging their feet on doing this project. He doesn't think the local taxpayers want to shell out \$2 Million if they don't have to.
- **Mr. Dike** – Nothing.
- **Mr. Grieves** – Nothing.
- **Mr. Hagy** – Nothing.

## Executive Session

### **Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to move into executive session to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation, and to invite Mr. Lasko, Mr. Schrader, Mr. Ebert, Stephanie Schoolcraft and Daniel Downey via Microsoft Teams, and Mark Claus via Microsoft Teams. Mr. Claus will attend, but not participate in the executive session.**

The Mayor asked if there were any questions 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: Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grievies, Hagy (6)**

**NAYS: None.**

There being 5 or more votes in the affirmative, Council moved into executive session at 7:23pm.

## Return to Regular Session

Council returned to regular session at 7:55pm.

## Adjournment

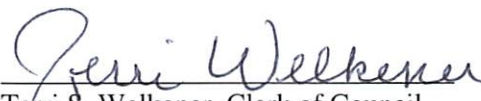
**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the meeting.**

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

**YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grievies, Hagy (7)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the meeting of July 26, 2022 adjourned at 7:55pm.

  
Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 09 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.*



## MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Huron wishes to memorialize Richard Klein for his years of service to the Huron community; and

WHEREAS, Dick died on June 8, 2021 at the age of 98; and

WHEREAS, Dick was the last of the "Legends" of Huron High who graduated in the early 1940's and became part of the Greatest Generation; and

WHEREAS, Dick was a paratrooper who jumped into France on D-Day, later into Holland to help liberate that country, and was wounded during the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, Dick started his teaching career in Huron in 1949, and that career covered a span of seven decades; and

WHEREAS, Dick was a mentor to many young teachers; and

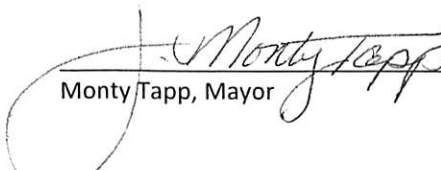
WHEREAS, Dick was the Athletic Director for decades and served for many years as head baseball and basketball coach; and

WHEREAS, Dick was an amazing teacher, loved by his students and made a positive impact on thousands of students through his history and civics classes and helped them to never forget the Greatest Generation; and

WHEREAS, Dick led by exemplifying basic values of family, schools, community service and friendships.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Monty Tapp, Mayor, on behalf of the City of Huron, do hereby proclaim August 6, 2022 to be Richard Klein Day to coincide with the 60<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion of students graduating from Huron High School in 1962. It is with sincere appreciation that this award be presented to his family.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the City of Huron, Erie County, Ohio on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

  
Monty Tapp, Mayor





# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Council of Governments and Regional Income Tax Agency were founded in 1971 by 39 Ohio cities and villages, to foster cooperation between Ohio municipalities through the sharing of facilities, equipment and costs for their common benefit, including the establishment of a central collection facility to administer the income tax laws of all Ohio municipal corporations participating in the Regional Council of Governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Huron was one of the 39 founding municipalities of the Regional Council of Governments and the Regional Income Tax Agency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Council of Governments and the Regional Income Tax Agency are celebrating 50 years of serving Ohio municipalities and their municipal taxpayers, and carrying out the vision and mission of the founding member municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, participation in the Regional Council of Governments and the Regional Income Tax Agency has grown to include more than 350 Ohio municipal corporations that share the vision and mission of the founding municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Income Tax Agency Board of Trustees, as the governing body of the Regional Council of Governments, wishes to recognize and thank the City of Huron for its participation in the founding of, and continued success of, the Regional Council of Governments and the Regional Income Tax Agency.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Regional Income Tax Agency Board of Trustees, as the governing body of the Regional Council of Governments, recognizes the City of Huron, and proclaims the gratitude of the entire municipal membership of the Regional Council of Governments for the City of Huron's participation in the founding, and continued success of, the Regional Council of Governments and the Regional Income Tax Agency.

Prashant Shah, Chairperson  
Regional Income Tax Agency Board of Trustees

Mayor Kathy Mulcahy  
Orange Village  
RCOG President

Mayor Annette Blackwell  
City of Maple Heights  
RCOG Secretary

Mayor Patrick Ward  
City of Lyndhurst  
RCOG Treasurer



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Jeff Hall, Finance Director; City of Huron

**FROM:** Brian Thunberg, Member Services - RITA

**SUBJECT:** RITA Services

**DATE:** 07/26/2022

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RITA is providing the City of Huron with a summary report containing information pertaining to its programs and tax administrative services that were conducted in 2020, 2021 and 2022 YTD. This summary is not meant to be all inclusive, but rather to highlight those services most visible to your residents and businesses. Other services include, but are not limited to, payment and form processing, auditing, full disaster recovery plan, and monitoring legislative changes as they pertain to municipal income tax. A full list of services being provided by RITA may be found at [ritaohio.com](http://ritaohio.com).

### Registration

RITA added 431 new accounts in 2020, 385 new accounts in 2021, and 365 new accounts in 2022 YTD. The sources that were used to determine these registrations include, but are not limited to, new filings, utility records and permits, State of Ohio filings, and IRS filings.

### E-Filing

The City of Huron residents and businesses actively utilize RITA's e-Services for registrations, payments, and tax filings. In 2020, there were 3,659 submissions received electronically and 25 new accounts added. In 2021, there were 4,170 submissions and 29 new accounts added. In 2022 YTD, the activity has continued with 2,858 submissions and 20 new accounts added. The total electronic payments for 2020 were \$1,669,925.68, 2021 were \$2,045,757.84 and in 2022 YTD are \$1,350,814.39.

### Year-to-Date Collections

The collections for the 2020 tax year were \$2,812,509.54. The collections for the 2021 tax year were \$3,306,777.86. This was an increase of 17.57% over the 2020 results. The collections for the 2022 YTD tax year were \$2,267,674.10. This was an increase of 17.29% over the 2021 results for the same time period.

## **Compliance Programs**

### **Subpoena/Delinquency**

The City of Huron had a delinquency program that started on June 9, 2021, and ended May 31, 2022. During this program, RITA issued 1,734 delinquent letters and 1,462 subpoenas. The program has identified a total of \$200,618 in liabilities of which \$93,487 has been collected. All remaining identified liabilities are subject to billing and, if appropriate, collections and legal action. The cost for the subpoena program is \$1,462.

### **Federal Tax Information (FTI)**

In 2020, the Agency's Federal Tax Information (FTI) Department identified \$46,734 in new liabilities and has collected \$52,205. In 2021, the Agency's Federal Tax Information (FTI) Department identified \$101,732 in new liabilities and has collected \$115,337. All identified remaining liabilities are subject to billing and, if appropriate, collections and legal action. The work performed by our FTI Department is conducted year-round, at no additional cost to the membership.

### **Legal**

The City of Huron participated in the legal program in 2020, 2021 and 2022 YTD.

From January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, RITA filed 25 lawsuits representing \$20,401 in liabilities due to the City. To date, \$15,917 has been collected. The direct legal cost for 2020 include: \$2,119.68 collection attorney and \$262.50 hearing attendance.

From January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, RITA filed 59 lawsuits representing \$68,978 in liabilities due to the City. To date, \$47,287 has been collected. The direct legal cost for 2021 include: \$1,012.09 collection attorney and \$385 hearing attendance.

From January 1, 2022 to 2022 YTD, RITA filed 36 lawsuits representing \$55,027 in liabilities due to the City. To date, \$20,176 has been collected. The direct legal cost for 2022 YTD include: \$747.91 collection attorney and \$253.75 hearing attendance.

The remaining balances due are: 1) in the process of a of post-judgment payment plan, 2) with an outside collection firm for garnishment, bank attachment, etc., or 3) scheduled for a hearing.