

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:30pm**

**Call to Order Public Hearing**

The Mayor called the Public Hearing 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 Public Hearing. The following members of Council answered present: **William Biddlecombe, Sam Artino, Mark Claus, Monty Tapp, Joe Dike, Matt Grieves and Joel Hagy.**

**Swear in Witnesses**

Law Director Todd Schrader swore in witnesses for the Public Hearing, including all members of Council and the City Manager.

**Public Hearing**

Mr. Schrader that this is a Public Hearing on the Re-Zoning Application of Lemmy's Restaurant on approximately 0.5597 acres of the property comprised of three parcels - PPNs: 43-00306.000, 43-00305.000 and 43-00307.000 from the current R-1A Single Family Residential to B-3 General Business.

**Witness Testimony**

Mayor Tapp called on the witness(es) to testify regarding the Re-Zoning Petition of Lemmy's Restaurant.

Mr. Hagy asked of the Planning Commission had given this a thumb's up, which was confirmed by Mr. Claus.

Mr. Engle added that folks at Lemmy's want to expand what they are doing right now. What they want to do is expand what they are doing right now, and that would trigger a bunch of variances, so they decided to go the route of rezoning. The Planning Commission and staff have found that these improvements are consistent with the Master Plan.

Mr. Claus added that Lemmy's has been operating under a non-conforming as long as the R1A Zone has been in place. Lemmy's was already there when that zoning was put in place, so that little parcel should have probably been done separately at that time. We are just trying to clean some stuff up.

**Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Claus to approve the Re-Zoning Application of Lemmy's Restaurant on approximately 0.5597 acres of property comprised of three parcels (PPN's 43-00306.000, 43-00305.000 and 43-00307.000 R-1A Single Family Residential to B-3 General Business.**

Mayor Tapp 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 of the motion, the Application was approved.

**Adjournment of Public Hearing**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the Public Hearing and move into the regular 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: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy (7)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and the Public Hearing was adjourned.

**Call to Order of Regular Council Meeting**

The Mayor called to order the regular meeting of Council at 6:35pm in Council Chambers.

**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 Grievess and Joel Hagy.**

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Law Director Todd Schrader, Finance Director Cory Swaisgood, Planning Director Erie Engle, Police Chief Terry Graham and Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Mr. Claus to approve the minutes of the Council work session of June 27, 2023, as written.**

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

**YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)**  
**ABSTAIN: Hagy (1)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the minutes of the Council work session of June 27, 2023 were adopted.

**Audience Comments**

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

Mike Riggle – 2024 Williams St., Apt. K. I am wondering what is going to happen to Thee Fisherman's Wharf.

Mayor Tapp said that they would get him the information that they have. Mr. Hamilton or Mr. Lasko will contact him.

Email from Anonymous. The Clerk read this email into the record, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

Mayor Tapp said that all members of Council also received this email today. He and Mr. Claus had discussions with the Service Director, Mr. Hamilton, just to make them aware that when this comes up, there will be questions. Mr. Hamilton can explain a lot of the topics that were brought up, which he also explained to him, and it made sense. When they come to that resolution, they will have a discussion and Mr. Hamilton will explain some of that and make the Council aware of what's going on.

#### **Old Business**

None.

#### **New Business**

##### **Ordinance No. 2023-40 (first reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2023-40 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF HURON TO REFLECT THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 0.5597 +/- ACRES OF LAND OWNED BY JAN WESKE BUCHOLZ LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CLEVELAND ROAD, ERIE COUNTY, OHIO PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBERS 43-00306.000, 43-00305.000 & 43-00307.000 FROM THE CURRENT R-1A (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT) TO B-3 (GENERAL BUSINESS)) be placed on its first reading.**

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

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, Ordinance No. 2023-40 was placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that the Planning Commission did find the proposal from the R-1A to the B-3 to be consistent with the 2023 Master Plan, as described under the Concepts for the Western Communities.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions. There were none.

##### **Ordinance No. 2023-39 (first reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Dike that Ordinance No. 2023-39 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING PARAGRAPH (b) UNDER SECTION 163.04 (PAID HOLIDAYS) OF CHAPTER 163 (EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS)) be placed on its first second reading.**

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

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, Ordinance No. 2023-39 was placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Lasko stated that this legislation proposes alterations to our codified ordinances, Section 163.04 Paid Holidays in Chapter 163 Employment Provisions. Once every 7 years, we have a situation in which Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve fall on Sundays, and Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Mondays. Per our ordinances, what would typically happen is they would observe a half day on Monday, and a full day on Tuesday, in those instances, and the City offices would be closed. This creates two complications: (1) a half-day on Monday when you're off the day before and after and is, ultimately, going to lead to a lot of staff likely taking off anyways, which they are well within their rights to do; and (2) we normally have a Council meeting that second Tuesday, in December, which would have to be moved. What they are proposing for this year, and moving forward, is that when those sets of holidays fall on Sundays and Mondays, they would take a half-day on Friday, and close on Monday. The language is written so that every time this happens in the future, that's the way in which the City would observe that time off. This will be impacting both the administration and AFSCME. This does not have any impact on Police and Fire, which are working 24/7.

Mayor Tapp asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**Ordinance No. 2023-41**

**Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance No. 2023-41 (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE 2023 NPP POWER POOL PARTICIPANT SCHEDULE WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC. ("AMP"); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.**

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Ordinance No. 2023-41 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

**Motion by Mr. Grieves to place Ordinance No. 2023-41 as an emergency measure.**

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-41 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hamilton explained that this Power Pool Agreement sets the terms and conditions for the participants who, through AMP, connect up to the generation of electric. This specifies how additional costs will be broken out. There are 43 participants in the membership for AMP, so it is broken down based on percentage of usage. Huron currently sits at about 2.5% of the total usage within the AMP and Northern Power Pool. This agreement will run from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2024 through the end of 2030. There is no

budgetary impact to us, these are just rules and regulations and how they break out additional costs, and an update to an existing agreement.

Mr. Hagy asked, when it says, "allocating among the pool participants," does that mean the cost or the power itself (how much power they get)? Mr. Hamilton answered that what this covers, is things like inadvertent costs and ancillary costs. When they buy their power, they pay for the power they use, but with that comes additional costs. Those costs are spread amongst the partners within AMP. Those costs are not associated with the MWh purchased, it is general, overall costs. They take that and divide it down, and that's how they allocate those costs over the year. Mr. Hagy added, it has nothing to do with power generation. Mayor Tapp added that if more partners are added, those costs would be further allocated down.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-41. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

**NAYS:             None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2023-41 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 71-2023 (first reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Artino that Resolution No. 71-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUTOMATIC ONE-YEAR REWEAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF FOR THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY DISPATCH SERVICES TO THE CITY OF HURON FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY AND 82/100 DOLLARS (\$102,130.82) FOR THE AGREEMENT RENEWAL TERM OF JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024) be placed on its first reading.**

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

**NAYS:             None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Resolution 71-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Chief Graham stated that this resolution is for the automatic one-year renewal for our dispatch services contracted through the Sheriff's Office, and there were no increases in that contract.

Mr. Hagy asked about the "not to exceed" - do we get billed by the call that it won't go over \$102,000. Chief Graham said the City gets billed by the month, in 12 equal payments. He does not know how they come up with that number. Mr. Hagy asked if that is a committed number, or is that not to exceed? Chief Graham answered that it will not be less than that, nor will it be more than that.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There were none.

**Resolution No. 72-2023 (first reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Artino that Resolution No. 72-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE AN ANNUAL PREMIUM PAYMENT TO THE BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION FOR THE POLICY PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2025 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$51,152.00)) be placed on its first reading.**

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

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Resolution 72-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Swaisgood said that Resolution No. 72-2023 is requesting payment for the annual Worker's Compensation premium required to be paid annually by the City. At this time, due to the dollar amount, they have to come forward to Council to ask for approval. They are going to be paying approximately \$51,000 this year. If paid in full by December 21<sup>st</sup>, they will receive a 2% premium refund, which they have taken advantage of in the past. The \$51,000 payment this year is approximately \$2,000 less than 2023. They are requesting approval following the third reading.

Mr. Claus asked if the \$51,152 is less the 2%? Mr. Swaisgood answered that \$51,152, and the BWC will then refund the 2%.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There were none.

**Resolution No. 73-2023 (first reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that Resolution No. 73-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF THE PROPOSAL AND PAYMENT OF THE ANNUAL PREMIUM TO THE PUBLIC ENTITIES POOL OF OHIO ("PEP") FOR THE POLICY PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2023 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2024 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY-SIX AND 53/100 DOLLARS (\$105,646.53)) be placed on its first reading.**

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, Grieves (7)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Resolution 73-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Swaisgood stated that Resolution 73-2023 is requesting authorization to pay the City's annual premium for property and casualty insurance to PEP, which is the Public Entities Pool of Ohio. The City's premium for 2024, which policy period begins on December 1, 2023, will be \$105,646. This is an increase

of approximately \$7,000, or 7.34% from last year's premium. They did receive, or attempted to receive, other quotes, which is noted in the market summary in the attachments. All of the carriers that they requested quotes from declined to quote due to not being competitive. For example, Travelers Insurance provided a quote in 2021 in the amount of \$145,000, and we are at \$105,000 currently. EMC Insurance declined to quote because, verbally, they said the quote would be approximately \$160,000 to \$175,000. They feel that staying with PEP for another year (they have been with PEP for the last 11 years) would be beneficial to the City as they have been a good partner in the past.

Mr. Hagy asked if there was a reason for the increase? Mr. Swaisgood answered that it is a market increase. It should have been 10% or more, but they gave the City a "loyalty credit" to get them down to the 7.3% increase.

Mayor Tapp said that if they can't even get quotes from other companies, that shows something.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There were none.

**Resolution No. 74-2023**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 74-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PAY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT AND 72/100 DOLLARS (39,158.72) FOR LANE MILE REIMBURSEMENT FOR STATE ROUTE 2 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION NO. 67-2022, ADOPTED ON JULY 26, 2022, FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023) be placed on its first reading.**

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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to waive the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 74-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton said that they signed this agreement last year, and every year ODOT bills them in arrears for what they do on US 6 and Route 2. This will include snow removal, direct maintenance, mowing of the centers and the edge lines – things like that. In 2022, that cost was just over \$52,000, in 2021 it was \$37,000, so it varies depending on how much work they do. This year, the total is \$39,158.72.

Mr. Claus asked if the lower price was most likely due to less snow removal. Mr. Hamilton answered that it could be anything. Some of this is electric from the streetlights – there are a lot of things that go into this. Less snow removal would be one reason for a reduction, as would a decrease in direct maintenance. The mowing doesn't really change that much. This is all charged per lineal mile. Mr. Claus commented that it's pretty hard to budget for when it varies so much year to year.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 74-2023. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 74-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 75-2023**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 75-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF THE PROPOSAL FROM BUSINESS COMMUNICATION SPECIALISTS (BCS) FOR FIREWALL ENDPOINT PROTECTION SERVICES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY-TWO AND 45/100 DOLLARS (\$30,992.45)) be placed on its first reading.**

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to waive the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 75-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that when it comes to security, if you have too many things to look at, you miss everything and you correlate things together. Currently, they have multiple, different firewalls with no central management, and their endpoint protection is another separate add-on in this legislation. If they believe something has happened, you can't see across everything and can't tie stuff together. What IT did, was they went through and looked at a lot of different offerings and settled on SOFOS. What SOFOS will do is give them a high-performance centralized firewall and endpoint protection on the desktops. They will be able to see everything that happens from the outside and from the inside/out. It makes it a lot easier to keep an eye on what's happening. If they believe there are any incidents, the program will tell us what's happening instead of them having to try to correlate a whole load of information. This has been long past due. Their firewalls are currently at end-of-life, so this is definitely a needed investment for the City.

Mr. Hagy asked if this will provide perimeter protections. Mr. Hamilton answered that this will give them a centralized fire box with a redundant one, and then all of the endpoint protection software on the clients' desktops/laptops. They all talk together, so it's the endpoint protection and centralized firewall. Mr. Hagy said it's not just perimeter protection, there are internal firewalls, as well, which was confirmed by Stu.

Mr. Claus asked if this is an annual fee. Mr. Hamilton answered that this covers a 3-year equipment and support package. Usually, maintenance is billed annually, but with this 3-year deal, they got all of the hardware for free, basically. Mr. Claus said that in three years, would we potentially have to upgrade hardware again? Mr. Hamilton answered that by 3 years, firewalls are very outdated – technology moves that fast.



The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 75-2023. 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 of adoption, Resolution No. 75-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 76-2023**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 76-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS AUTHORIZED CITY DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL OF MATTHEWS FORD MARION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 FORD F-350 SUPER CAB WITH 8' KNAPHEIDE FLIP-TOP SERVICE BODY, 4-CORNER STROBE LIGHTING, LED STROBE LIGHTING BAR AND WESTERN 8' STRAIGHT BLADE PLOW AND PLOW ASSEMBLY IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND THREE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$76,003.00), AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A LETTER OF INTENT WITH MATTHEWS FORD MARION RELATING THERETO) be placed on its first reading.**

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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion waiving the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 76-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that this is a planned replacement of one of their service trucks. They are trying to start standardizing their trucks so that there are no longer trucks designated to a person or a position. They are more general-use trucks that will work across all of the departments. They only had \$40,000 in the budget this year. The trucks are hard to get, and they don't know when they are going to be on the lots again, so they had the opportunity for this one. Matthews Ford Marion agreed that if the city did the \$40,000 downpayment and a letter of intent, they could pay the difference at the beginning of the new year when the new budget starts. That is when they would pick up the truck. The truck will come fitted with a snowplow and the light bars and it will be a full-service truck. To address the resident's opposition to this legislation, he wanted to be clear that this is a service truck that is actually fitted for a plow. Its primary purpose is to be a service truck. The resident was concerned that we were going to end up with too many snowplows. This isn't a snowplow; it is a service truck that can be used as a snowplow. The reason they got the plow attachment on it is that different levels of trucks come with different plows and different plow attachment – so our Ford 150's cannot run on our 350's, and vice-versa. The resident had some comments about crack sealing. There is nothing they would love more than to crack seal for 3 seasons out of the year, but that takes time and money, and that's something they don't have enough of, so they can't possibly crack seal for 3 months. They do as much as they can with the budget and manpower available. To compare us to Sandusky is not really apples-to-apples. Sandusky has 3 or 4 departments doing what our Streets Department does. That's how they can crack seal for 3 seasons a year. Our team

does as much crack sealing as they possibly can. They are never going to get all of it, but they do as much as they can. He believes that he has covered most of the resident's concerns.

Mr. Artino asked if this purchase was put out to bid – did Valley Ford bid on this? Mr. Hamilton answered that this is State term pricing.

Mr. Hagy asked about the funding source – is it coming out of the Streets Capital Fund? Mr. Hamilton answered that the money is coming out of the Water Fund. This is our Water Distribution truck. This will be one of their primary service trucks. Mr. Hagy said he believes this was an opportunity to replace 2 trucks for 1 truck. Mr. Hamilton explained that the City lost a Water Distribution van this year, so they need to replace that, and there is a really old truck in Water Distribution so, short term, they took a truck from the Water Plant and gave that to Water Distribution. This truck will save them having to buy a second truck. The Water Plant is okay operating on a single truck, and as the police roll out cruisers over time, we will pull one of the older cruisers to give us an additional vehicle. They are actually buying one vehicle instead of two.

Mayor Tapp commented that he appreciates all of the concerns and questions that they get forwarded to them. He sat down with Mr. Hamilton and asked for clarification, and to be clear, there is always two sides, and he wanted to find out exactly what we are doing. Thank you for that clarification, and he hopes it cleared up some of the questions.

Mr. Claus added that in Finance Committee meeting when they are talking about capital and vehicles, the goal going forward is to standardize the service vehicles as much as possible between departments that use that type of vehicle, or pickup trucks, so that they can cross-utilize things like plows and plow attachment. The vehicles can be used inter-departmentally, if necessary. This is part of that process to eventually, as they phase out 150's and 250's, the departments will have similar vehicles that will have cross-utilization of attachments, etc. The next time they buy a 350, they wouldn't necessarily need another plow, they would just need a plow attachment on the truck.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 76-2023. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 76-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 77-2023**

**Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 77-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CINTAS CORPORATION PERTAINING TO UNIFORM RENTAL FOR SERVICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL FOR A 60-MONTH TERM) be placed on its first reading.**

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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion waiving the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 77-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton stated that Cintas is the reason that our Water staff, Distribution staff and Street staff look so handsome and spiffy when they are out on the road. Every 5 years they tend to enter into a new agreement. At that time, they get rid of all of the old uniforms, and get them all new uniforms. Some of the staff use a laundry service, while others do not. They will come in, pick up those uniforms (11 of each), take them away, clean them all up and bring them back. The results in their gear always clean. This year, they rolled in some walk-off mats, as well, with the City logo for a couple of the buildings, so that they look a little nicer. There is nothing worse than the salt coming in here and trashing our floors during the wintertime. On average, the yearly cost for Water is about \$4,300, Streets is about \$2,300, and the walk-off mats are just over \$500. That results in a spend over the 5-year contract of around \$36,000.

Mr. Hagy asked if the rates have gone up compared to the last contract. Mr. Hamilton answered that they pretty much stayed the same. They vary a little because they change to different gear.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 77-2023. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 77-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy to set the public hearing on the proposed FY 2024 Municipal Budget for Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers, immediately preceding the regular Council meeting.**

Mr. Swaisgood explained that the public hearing is an annual requirement according to the City Code. This hearing must be held in December, so he will be presenting on the budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

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, Grieves (7)**  
**NAYS:             None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and the matter was set for Public Hearing on December 12, 2023 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

#### **City Manager's Discussion**

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

ConAgra Site – Based on recent conversations with the development team, the City and the proposed developers of that site have agreed to mutually part ways. We do want to thank the development team for their interest in Huron and the time invested in hopes of bringing a project to fruition on that site. We look forward to other opportunities with their team based on conversations they have had, looking at other sites within the City. Moving forward, and understanding that there is significant interest in the site, we continuously get phone calls ever since we made the announcement two years ago. We want to move pretty quickly in identifying a new development partner for that site. We have already issued a new Request for Qualifications and conceptual development proposals, which went out to multiple developers with responses due in early January. We hope to present a new party to Council for consideration in late January or early February.

Oster's Mobile Home Park – We continue to work diligently with our nonprofit partners in relocation efforts at the park. As we stand here today, we are at 24 out of the 27 households that have been physically relocated. Six of the seven trailers that need to be moved, have been moved to new locations. The sixth trailer was moved today. There are only three occupied units remaining on site, with two of those households still needing to identify housing for relocation.

As relates to demolition activities on the vacant units, which are owned by either the City, Oster's Mobile Home Park, LLC, or Bob Day, individually, 19 mobile homes have been demolished thus far. We will continue those clearing activities over the next couple of weeks prior to closing on the actual real estate.

Fall Leaf Pickup Program – I mentioned this last meeting, but I think it is important so that everyone understands the processes. Our leaf pickup began on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. These will be done on a rotating basis from east to west, with at least two trips throughout the City – we usually make significantly more than that. We anticipate continuing to pick up leaves through December 8<sup>th</sup>, weather contingent.

There are two methods of pickup. Method 1 is bagged, curbside pickup. All City residents that receive services from Republic have access to unlimited weekly yard waste collection, including the fall leaf season. Residents can continue to bag leaves and place them at the curb for weekly pickup. The leaves will need to be in cans marked "Yard Waste" or yard wastepaper bags, and these cans and bags can contain any acceptable yard waste materials. For Method 2, residents are permitted to place leaf piles at the curb to be picked up by the City's Street Department, which started on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and will continue on a rotating basis through December 8<sup>th</sup>. It is important for anyone that is utilizing Method 2, which is the City's curbside pickup, to know about certain guidelines to be followed to ensure proper pickup. Leaf piles must be placed within 6 feet of the curb, and pickup is for leaves only – no sticks or other yard waste materials are permitted. Please do not place leaves in the street or behind parked vehicles, as they will not be picked up. Any piles of leaves that fail to meet those guidelines will be painted with an "X" and will not be collected. If there are any questions about the process, please contact the City Streets Department at 419-433-9504.

Planning & Zoning Department – The final draft of the Main Street Downtown Master Plan will be presented to Council and the community on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 during a work session beginning at 6:00pm. Representatives from OHM Advisors will be presenting the Plan and will be present to answer

any questions. This is, hopefully, the last step in the process of final adoption following a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission at their meeting in October.

Parks & Recreation – As everyone is aware, every 2 years the State of Ohio goes through a capital budgeting process in which municipalities and other institutions can make requests to their local legislators for capital projects. Initial guidance was released last week regarding the 2024/2025 State Capital Budget process. As discussed in past meetings, we believe that the project we want to focus on as a City and community is taking care and addressing the necessary improvements at the Boat Basin and Amphitheater. We have previously provided information to our State legislators, both in the House and the Senate, and we look forward to further conversations with our elected officials in the upcoming weeks. We have also reached out to the Greater Sandusky Partnership, which is the local affiliate that is going to help advocate four projects in Erie County at the State level, as well.

Personnel and Administration – I do want to recognize the 15-year work anniversary for Jerod Smith. He is a firefighter who has completed 15 years of service earlier this month. He was hired by the City on November 10, 2008, and served the community responding to all types of emergencies during his 15-years. We want to thank him deeply for his commitment and dedication to the residents of Huron and Huron Township.

Boards and Commissions – This is something that we are going to start doing on an annual basis. We recently sent out letter to all boards and commissions who have members whose terms are set to expire. We are going to do this annually, moving forward. The intent of these letters is to (1) let people know whose terms are expiring, and (2) detail to incumbents or interested parties the process for making application to the City if they are interested in serving any particular Board or Commission.

Hiring of Whitney Hermes – I believe Whitney Hermes started yesterday in our Finance Department. She is the new Finance Specialist in the Finance Department. Mr. Swaisgood and staff interviewed several applicants for that position, resulting in the hiring of the preferred candidate. Ms. Hermes comes to us with several years of experience working for public entities, most recently, the Erie County Health Department. She has a Masters of Business Administration, and again, we are excited to have her join our team.

Election – Ballot Issue 13, which was the creation of a Charter Review Commission, was overwhelmingly approved by the electorate. Approximately 75% of residents voted for approval and creation of that Charter Review body. Looking forward, we want to start this process in 2024 to be our first Charter Review Commission and review of our Charter. Anyone that is interested in a position on that Board to be considered by Council is encouraged to make application to the City. If we haven't already, we will make sure that's posted on social media. Again, although Council may want to nominate someone directly, this will cast a wider net and invite folks to make application for consideration on the Charter Review Commission.

K-9 – We have purchased our K-9, and as of last week, Officer Ryan Boesch has been selected as the handler for the dog. They have started their 5-week handler training this week. The patrol dog will be

making a guest appearance at the Huron Police Department booth at Winter Fest, and I believe we are planning a formal swearing in ceremony for the patrol dog at our December 12, 2023 Council meeting.

Fall/Winter Newsletter – I believe we sent our newsletters to print for the Fall/Winter edition, so if those haven't been received in mailboxes yet, they will be any day now. Thank you to staff, department heads who worked on that, and a special thank you to Jen Kilbury, who takes the lead in our publications and newsletters.

Agreements – City Manager agreements that have been signed: the Friends of Huron Public Library made a request to place a sign in the median west of Center Street for their library book sale to help raise money for the library. We did approve that on October 27, 2023. It is a 2' x 3' sign that will be placed in the median from December 1<sup>st</sup> through December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The money raised from this sale helps to support popular Huron Public Library programs, like the new memory lab, quarterly in-library concerts, summer reading program, and the new Tween & Teen Gaming Club after school program.

In City Manager Reports moving forward, and he appreciates Mr. Hamilton for making this recommendation, because they don't ultimately have to come to Council to bid out projects, we are going to add a section to the Manager's Report of any projects that are currently out to bid, just so Council is fully aware of those. Although we generally try to mingle those through the Reports anyway, we are going to create a specific section for projects that are out to bid prior to bringing those contracts to Council.

Upcoming Meetings – There is a Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in the Council Chamber; there is our fifth and final Finance Committee Budget Meeting on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers, and that will be to go over and review the capital project list, which we like to do annually as a wrap-up of the budgetary process; reminder that the Thanksgiving holiday is coming up, and that City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>; and we will close out the month with a Council work session on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers, and that will be for review of the final Downtown Master Plan and OHM will be here to make that presentation, and that will be followed by the regular City Council meeting at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers. I won't yet go over all of the December meetings, but this is your reminder that Winter Fest 2023 is scheduled for Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Events start at 12:30pm with the winter holiday parade, and culminate with the holiday tree lighting ceremony (he wanted to recognize Councilman Dike, who I believe last year had made the request to bring back a holiday tree for the City). We did get a donation from Grow Huron for that tree, and will actually have our tree lighting ceremony at 6:15pm at the Boat Basin parking lot, which will be followed by fireworks at 6:30pm.

Finally, I do want to thank everyone that ran in the election last week, both the incumbents and the new folks. We are always excited to have people wanting to be involved in government, to provide insight and questions for us. We hear a lot that it's hard to get people to be involved. Congratulations to both the Council that was re-elected, and also Carolyn and Tom. We look forward to their potential continued involvement in our boards and commissions. Thank you to everyone that ran last week, and congratulations to the three Councilmembers that were re-elected.

Regarding ConAgra, Mr. Hagy said we were on a path – we had a developer and we talked briefly about how far this has set us back. Mr. Lasko said that they made the initial announcement of our selection and recommendation of NAI Harmon and Ridgestone in late fall of 2021, which is approximately 2 years. He does not view it as a loss of 2 years – we really did spend the first 12 months after that announcement doing some pretty important background activities that included partnering with EHOVE and Huron Schools on the creation of a Tax Increment Financing District, which is absolutely necessary to help finance the public improvements, including the sea wall reconstruction on the north end of the site. We went through a pretty lengthy rezoning process on that site, as well. We also engaged KS & Associates out of Elyria, which is one of the best maritime engineers, to do a full-blown capital needs assessment of that seawall. It took approximately 12 months to do all of those activities, so although it's been 2 years, I would argue that we have lost 1 year, and I can view that as being a little bit shorter than that because we went through a pretty grueling and extensive Planning Commission review process on the conceptual plan. It is conceivable with a new developer that has a plan that is more desirable to not just the Planning Commission, but also this community, that we can actually move quicker than the last project did through the review process. Again, I really want to thank Ridgestone and McCarthy Builders, who they brought on after NAI Harmon left the project. What we know is that when the partnership changed, the design changed a bit, and they proposed something that they are much more experts in and comfortable with. The reality is that I think that deviated from this community initially saw, what Council saw, what Planning Commission saw, and I think because they (in their minds) compromised a bit, they only wanted to compromise so much because they know what they build and know what they are successful at. I really do think that we are at a mutual impasse, albeit cordially and respectfully. We just realized that with the partnership change, what they are really good at is a little bit different than what this community is expecting based on the initial process. I really do mean it when I say talking to them about working on future projects, but based on what they build and what we envision on this site. Once the partnership changed, the match in what they preferred to build there no longer matched our vision. Mr. Lasko said that it is conceivable, if they have a partner selected in January or February and move fairly aggressively. There have been several developers over the past two years who have been chomping at the bit for this to be potentially opened up. I think we could get through a Planning Commission process next year.

Regarding the Main Street Plan, Mr. Hagy asked if that is north, middle and south, or is it just for one of those areas? Mr. Lasko answered that all of those areas are included. As we have gone through the planning process, as much as we want to create one cohesive corridor, I do think based on the extent of the interventions needed in each, it makes sense to talk about them as different segments. What we do know, is that if that Plan is adopted by Council, we are going to move very aggressively to Phase I, which we are identifying as South Main Street, which is Cleveland Road to Bogart Road. We have American Rescue Plan funds already set aside to immediately start the engineering process, albeit we are going to put out an RFQ to select the design team to handle that engineering and design process. We are probably going to partner with the community in finishing that design process next year. We have already received nearly \$400,000 from Erie County to help offset the infrastructure costs for Phase I. We anticipate that first phase of the project being constructed in 2025. I think it's really exciting to adopt a plan and immediately jump into being able to see those improvements. It's a long-winded answer of, it's the entire corridor, but we will phase in the projects.

#### **Mayor's Discussion**

Mayor Tapp said:

I will try to keep this brief. Applications to boards – there are some terms that are coming up. I give these people the utmost credit, because these are volunteers commissions. We need the community members to join these things and be involved and give their input. With that said, put in an application. For the Boards that do not have people that are coming off now, we are going to hold onto your application. Please get involved in that.

I want to thank Mr. Harris and Ms. Schreck. It's good to have competition, and I like seeing you here. You have been showing up and know what's going on and you are staying involved. I appreciate everything you have done. I would like to thank the incumbents, Mr. Hagy and Mr. Claus. I would like to thank the community for getting out there and voting.

Before I forget, this is in no special order and I will be jumping around. Mr. Riggle, be sure that you give your phone number to either Mr. Lasko or Mr. Hamilton. I would like to welcome Whitney Hermes in the Finance Department. I met her yesterday (her first day). On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the tree lighting will start... Mr. Lasko said the events start at 12:30pm with the parade, but the tree lighting is actually at 6:15pm at the boat basin.

Regarding the Oster's project, I want to give staff and Mr. Lasko... the work and effort that these people have put in. It started off, I believe, with 71 people, and we are down to 2 families, and those are moving right along. I will also say there are text messages and emails that are coming in and these people are just ecstatic about their new housing, and how much better off things are. I will put that out there on the record.

Also, I know this has been a long project at ConAgra, I think it was imploded in 2012. This is a big deal, and I am fine with doing our due diligence, and making sure this thing goes the right way. We are going to have setbacks, we have had setbacks, but the legwork that has already been done does nothing but help us moving forward. Again, I give credit to the staff, Council and everybody, as far as the due diligence. We want to do this correctly and in the right way.

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

**William Biddlecombe** – I would like to say I appreciate everyone who ran. Getting involved, whether it be a board position, sending in the emails or just reading the newsletter when it shows up in your mailbox. Please reach out to any one of us if you have any questions on anything in the newsletter or anything is ever any of the agendas at any time. We are always happy to answer questions. The most important thing is to stay involved. At the last meeting, I did misspeak and improperly noted that the sale of Shawnee School by the School Board was \$4.49 Million, when in fact it was actually \$1.49 Million. It was a typo in my notes, and I apologize for any confusion. I would also like to thank Ms. Welkener for pointing that out to me, and to thank all of the rest of the staff for your hard work. I would like to congratulate firefighter Jerod Smith on his 15 years, and welcome Whitney Hermes to the Finance Department. The next School Board meeting is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the High School. There is a Dine-to-Donate to support the Huron Band tomorrow at Sandusky Panda Express on Route 250, and also to support the Huron Classified Educational Association Scholarship Fund on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Huron Pizza House. Parks and Recreation is having a sign-up now for the 2024 Indoor Youth Soccer League that runs from January 13<sup>th</sup> through March 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can sign up through the Parks & Rec Department down at the Wall Street building or through the email. Right now is Fall and Winter Indoor Yoga, as well, every Tuesday



evening at the Boat Basin Building. They charge per session, so you don't have to sign up for every one of them, but those are every Tuesday evening at the Boat Basin. I would like to congratulate Nick Rager and Rachel Merckens. They were accepted in the Ohio State University Honors Band, and they will participate in an event that will occur in January. I would like to congratulate the Girls' Cross-Country team, who earned a trip to the State Meet this year. I would like to congratulate the volleyball team, who made it to the Elite 8 this year. Unfortunately, the Varsity Football Team finished their season on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Regional Quarterfinals. Winter sports are starting up now, so home games coming up are the Girls' Basketball on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone, and Go Tigers!

**Sam Artino** – I just want to echo everything that has been said tonight, so far. Congratulations to the people that got involved, and those that got reelected, and to the two people out here that ran. I agree, stay involved. There's an election coming up again. We also would like to congratulate the firefighter, and I think I echo the comments about the trailer park. Once again, it has been an issue that this Council has had for a long time, very close to our hearts, and we are really happy to see the results so far.

**Mark Claus** – I wanted to thank Mr. Harris and Ms. Mitchell for running for Council. It's really great to have people get involved, and we hope you guys... I see you here tonight, which is an indication you want to stay involved and stay up and things, and I hope you consider applying for some boards or commissions. That's where you can really start to get entrenched in what's going on with us here. We appreciate that. Congratulations to Mr. Tapp and Mr. Hagy, also, on your win and I think we've got a good group here and we will keep things moving along. Thank you to staff. Again, Mr. Lasko... Mr. Tapp really covered it, but the Oster's situation, we are just really down to the last couple families there. Things are getting really close. If we can have this wrapped up, meaning we can have these people relocated, then pretty much people have gotten new residences and new locations, we have heard pretty much nothing but positive responses from their new situations. Hopefully, we can get those people relocated in better situations very soon.

**Joel Hagy** – I just want to say thank you to the anonymous resident that sent that note today. Notes like that make us, as a Council, dig deeper for answers that we maybe didn't initially, so I really welcome that. I wish we got one a day of those notes, so thank you. Congratulations to Jerod Smith on 15 years as a firefighter. I am sure it went fast. Here's to 15 more.

**Joe Dike** – Congratulations to everybody that was voted in, and also congratulations to Jerod Smith.

**Matt Grieves** – Congratulations to everyone that got voted in.

#### **Executive Session**

**Motion by Mr. Claus to enter into executive session for consideration of compensation of a public employee and inviting Todd Schrader and Mr. Swaisgood.**

Mr. Claus added that, as William said, I think we all forgot, Happy Thanksgiving next week since we won't see you before then.

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

**NAYS:               None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Council moved into Executive Session at 7:42pm.

**Return to Regular Session**

Council returned to regular session at 7:58pm.

**Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Claus to increase the annual salary compensation of the City Manager by 2.5%, effective January 1, 2024.**

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

**NAYS:               None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed.

**Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Claus to award the City Manager a one-time bonus in the amount of 7.5% of his 2023 base salary, which amount shall be payable immediately.**

Mr. Claus said he just wanted to say that he really appreciates all of Matt's hard work throughout the year on all projects and in particular, this year as they have mentioned many times, the Oster's project. His hard work and diligence with helping these folks and his empathy for the residents there has really gone above and beyond his normal requirements of the job. He wanted to make that statement at this point, and he appreciates all of his hard work.

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

**NAYS:               None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Lasko wanted to quickly thank Council. He truly means it - he is more excited today than he was when he started here three years ago. He actually had one person, when he took this job, who said, I think you're going to be bored out in Huron. That's not to say that we need to always be doing crazy and outlandish things and pushing the envelope for such a well-established community, but we are trying to make sure we remain viable moving forward, and with that comes the fact that we ultimately need to make some changes, both aggressive and not. All of what he does, and more importantly, what our staff does, could not be done without the backing of Council. Not that they need to agree all the time, and they won't agree all the time, but the way he has seen Council come together during his three years has been extraordinary, and we have had the opportunity to undertake some really exciting projects and necessary projects, some more sexy than others. He couldn't be more excited to be in this job and he appreciates

the support of Council, and we have a tremendous staff that makes all of this possible on a daily basis. Again, it is a great community to work for, and he thanks Council for the support and he is excited to keep moving forward.

Mayor Tapp said, for future reference, that speech should come before evaluation.

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the regular meeting of Council.**

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

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of November 14, 2023 was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Adopted: 09 JAN 2024

  
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Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

## Terri Welkener

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**From:** William Biddlecombe  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Stuart Hamilton; Matt Lasko  
**Cc:** Terri Welkener  
**Subject:** Fwd: Objection to Resolution 76-2023

FYI

Thanks,

William Biddlecombe  
Huron City Councilman

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**From:** JAMES OSTENMET <huronstrow1968@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023 12:28:52 PM  
**To:** Monty Tapp <monty.tapp@huronohio.us>; Mark Claus <mark.claus@huronohio.us>; Sam Artino <sam.artino@huronohio.us>; Joel Hagy <joel.hagy@huronohio.us>; Matthew Grieves <matthew.grieves@huronohio.us>; William Biddlecombe <william.biddlecombe@huronohio.us>; Joe Dike <joe.dike@huronohio.us>  
**Subject:** Objection to Resolution 76-2023

Huron City Council,

I write to you today to make my opposition to resolution 76-2023 known. I am a Huron Resident but due to my working profession I wish to remain anonymous as I feel there is a potential for ramifications should it be known.

With regard to the issue at hand, Resolution 76-2023:

Will the Streets Fund be utilized for the procurement of the snow plow (part of this purchase)? How many snow plows can we possibly need? I have several acquaintances who can attest as to the quantity we have on hand.

Streets has two pickup truck plows with salt dogg attachments. The salt doggs are seldom utilized and are intended for parking lots, not full lengths of roads, thus this results in many trips back to reload with salt. Streets has one small dump truck with a plow and two commercial trucks with plows. This yields a total of 5 plows for streets.

Water has a small dump with a plow and a commercial truck with a plow. This represents a grand total of 7 snow plows as of today. Huron does not operate with seven active snow plows at any one given time. Most often two or three, top end of 4 active. So we already have at least 3 spare plows, why add an eighth plow which would put additional wear and tear on a vehicle funded by water revenues?

Also, take an interest in some facts: The two commercial street dump trucks have very very minimal miles compared to their age. They are hardly ever used when in fact they would clear the most width per pass. It is a fact that these commercial trucks have had seized brakes and completely dead batteries due to no use but still we must purchase more snow removal equipment?

Whether or not water has to fund the snow plow I want it known that it is opposed by a citizen and several employees who would not wish to be named due to ramifications.

I would instead direct your focus on motivating employees to work an honest 8. Crack seal the three seasons other than winter! I am consistently disappointed as I travel through Sandusky and see crack sealing almost daily when weather permits. In Huron, crack sealing is done only a couple days per season which = more cracks becoming potholes, which in turn = premature road resurfacing. Stop wasting our tax funds and rates on triple redundant snow plows, there is no need for 8. Staffing is generally full or near full, get crews out in the field crack sealing and working not two employees in an F350 perusing city streets with an empty truck bed at least daily.

I know council is much removed from this. Please make this known at the council meeting. Direct your Service Director to look into the matter and follow up on the outcome.

Thank you in advance,

James O.