

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular/Organization Meeting Friday, December 1, 2023 at 5:00pm

Call to Order

The Law Director, Todd Shrader, called the Huron City Council meeting to order at 5:00pm. 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.

Oaths of Office – Newly Elected Council Members

Mr. Schrader asked newly elected Councilmembers Joel Hagy and Mark Claus to raise their right hand and he then administered the Oaths of Office to them (copies of signed Oaths of Office are attached to these minutes).

Roll Call

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

Appointment of Council Clerk

Motion by Mr. Claus to appoint Terri Welkener as the Clerk of Council for a term of two (2) years.

Mr. Shrader asked if there were any questions on the motion. Mr. Shrader then asked Ms. Welkener to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Terri Welkener was appointed as Clerk of Council for a term of two (2) years.

Mr. Schrader then asked Ms. Welkener to raise her right hand, and administered the Oath of Office to her (a copy of the executed Oath of Office is attached hereto).

Election of Mayor

Mr. Schrader said that they would now entertain nominations for the position of Mayor. The way they will address this is, he will ask for nominations for the position of Mayor. Once the nominations are presented, we will entertain a motion to close the nominations to cut off this part of the agenda. Thereafter, the roll will be taken to close the nominations and we will vote on nominees in the order in which the candidates are presented in the nominations. Of course, the first person with 4 votes for each office (Mayor/Vice-Mayor) will win, and we will repeat the same process for the Vice-Mayor. At this point we will entertain nominations for the position of Mayor.

Mr. Artino said that this Council and the Administration have worked diligently in the last few years to help enhance the quality of life and economic stability of our community, and that doesn't come easy. That comes with planning, teamwork and collaboration. The collaboration really is between Council and the private sector and the public sector. The private sector is, for example, the Chamber of Commerce, corporations and small businesses. They would have a difficult time getting to where they are today if

Mr. Biddlecombe said that he doesn't have a speech like Mr. Artino, but he would like to **nominate Mr. Mark Claus as the Vice-Mayor**.

Mr. Schrader asked if there were any other nominations from Council. There being none, they will entertain a motion to close the nominations.

Motion by Mr. Hagy to close the nominations.

Mr. Schrader asked if there were any questions or comments on the motion. There being none, Mr. Schrader directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and nominations for the position of Vice-Mayor were closed.

Mr. Schrader said that we would now entertain a motion to elect Mark Claus as Vice-Mayor of the City of Huron for a term of two (2) years.

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to elect Mr. Mark Claus as Vice-Mayor for a term of two (2) years.

Mr. Schrader asked if there were any questions or comments on the motion. There being none, Mr. Schrader directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being four or more votes in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Mr. Claus was elected as Vice-Mayor of the City of Huron for a term of two (2) years.

Mr. Schrader asked Mr. Claus to step down to the front of the podium and raise his right hand. Mr. Schrader then administered the Oath of Office for Vice-Mayor to Mr. Claus (a copy of the executed Oath of Office is attached hereto).

Mr. Schrader said that it was most appropriate for Mr. Claus to conduct the balance of the meeting, and that this would be the appropriate time to entertain motions to excuse Councilmembers that are not present.

Motion by Artino to excuse the absences of Mr. Tapp and Mr. Dike from tonight's meeting.

Vice-Mayor Claus asked if there were any questions or comments on the motion. There being none, Vice-Mayor Claus directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Mayor Tapp and Mr. Dike were excused from the meeting.

Mr. Schrader said that we would now entertain a motion to elect Mark Claus as Vice-Mayor of the City of Huron for a term of two (2) years.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Law Director Todd Schrader, Service Director Stuart Hamilton and Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of October 24, 2023, as written.

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

YEAS: **Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Hagy (4)**
ABSTAIN: **Grieves (1)**
NAYS: **None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, the minutes of the Council regular meeting of October 24, 2023 were adopted.

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.

Robin Garland – I think a lot of you know me, but not face-to-face. I live at 218 Ohio Street. I just came tonight because I am really troubled by some of the comments that were made at the last meeting, because I think, largely, there is a lot of misunderstanding about why people are upset about the Oster's property. As far as myself's concerned, I think all of you know through communications and Facebook, and what have you, that I wasn't a fan of what happened, or what transpired, but the night of the meeting and the people from the trailer... I don't want to call it a trailer park, I don't think that's appropriate any more, but you know what I mean, the residents came forward and spoke, and then you guys had to go into private session and what have you, and you came back and you voted. I realized that nothing was nothing was going to change then. Things were going to move forward, and I was very grateful that when that happened, at least this Council was willing to consider giving more room for the amount of time for those people to vacate. Now with that said, I don't feel like it's good for the City, for you all to proceed as if you are defensive, or you are angry with people because they communicate about, because I can tell you I probably feel more emotionally invested in this because I had a period in my life where I was a very poor person, and I couldn't imagine what it would feel like to be one of those people. And the other thing you can't discount is the number of citizens in this community that know people who were impacted by the decision. Their relatives, their friends, their cousins, their aunts and uncles. I would never want you all to feel that what I was saying that you don't care. I never got the impression that you didn't care; what I did get the impression of was maybe you all didn't take the time to think through all of the consequences.

And I will give grace for that. I am saying please, don't be defensive, please don't be angry with the citizens. You want them involved. You've got to be willing to hear their voices and make sure it doesn't happen like this again, because it was secret.

Vice-Mayor Claus thanked Ms. Garland for her comments. He can only speak for himself, but he thinks that they have all stated how seriously they have taken this, and the process, and many of them are not on Facebook. Some of the comments that came out at last meeting related to stuff that wasn't completely factual. Not trying to be defensive, per se, but trying to point out what they have done and what things have been happening. There have been extensions given, how much time, and what efforts the City has put. He completely understands, sympathizes and is empathetic to the citizen of the Oster's neighborhood. He appreciates Ms. Garland coming in to make her statements, and is thankful that she (as he understands) is interested in helping these people, as well, or making sure that they get taken care of, as they are. If you have any questions about the details of what's going on and where we are, definitely get in touch with City Manager Matt Lasko. He is intimately involved and has talked to every one of these residents on multiple occasions, and knows all of the details of where people have gone and how they have gotten help, and we are now down to the last couple.

Tom Harris, 105 Wheeler Drive – Basically, I just wanted to say congratulations, guys, for your re-elections, and he wanted to say thank you for coming, because you and I had some interactions on Facebook, and it's good to see you here. Ms. Garland answered that she is blunt, but she is harmless. Mr. Harris said that's okay and that's all I have to say.

Vice-Mayor Claus said, to Tom's point, they appreciate when people come in, and they definitely don't want to give the impression that if you come in and speak, someone is going to jump all over you. I hope you don't have that impression. Ms. Garland, from the audience, said no, she has talked to Matt, she has talked to William. I don't feel that way at all. I might have opinions.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2023-39 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Grieves that Ordinance No. 2023-39 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING PARAGRAPH (b) UNDER SECTION 163.04 (PAID HOLIDAYS) OF CHAPTER 163 EMPLOYMENT PROVISIOS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its third and final reading.

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

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (5)

NAYS: None (0)

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

Motion by Mr. Grieves to place Ordinance No. 2023-39 as an emergency measure.

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

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of the motion, Ordinance No. 2023-39 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko reminded Council that this legislation addresses the issue of when Christmas Eve and Christmas, and subsequently, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, fall on Sundays and Monday, which happens every 7 years. They would typically take a ½ day on Monday and a full day on Tuesday. They did not think that it made sense to come in for a ½ day when a lot of people are going to be using vacation. Secondly, taking off Tuesday would impact the regularly-scheduled Council meeting. What they are proposing to do when that happens moving forward is to take a ½ day on Friday and a full day off on Monday for both sets of those holidays

Subsequently, at the last meeting, based on research conducted by SSEG, they also determined that our current code is quiet at to what happens which those holidays fall on Friday/Saturday. What they are proposing through the amendment that was made at the last meeting, is to observe a ½ day on Thursday and a full day on Friday.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-39. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2023-39 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2023-40 (third and final 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 third and final reading.

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

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy (5)
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. Lasko said that with this being the third and final reading on this legislation, our Planning Department has been working with the new owners of Lemmy's over the last couple of months, who are planning some pretty significant alterations and improvements to that site. With that in mind, and given that it's legal non-conforming, we thought the best course of action was to do a zoning change for what more adequately what is there and what is planned. What is being proposed is to rezone the property from R0-1A Single Family to B-3 General Business. This has been heard and recommended to Council by the Planning Commission, as well.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-40. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2023-40 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2023-42 (second reading)

Motion by Mr. Hagy that Ordinance No. 2023-42 (AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE FORM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF THE 2024-2028 LANDFILL ENERGY SCHEDULE WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC. AND TAKING OF OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH REGARDING LANDFILL GENERATED ENERGY PURCHASES) be placed on its second reading.

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

YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-42 was placed upon its second reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that this is a second reading on a 60-month contract to buy landfill-generated electric through AMP from Erie County Waste Management. This is for 300 KWh, and will replace an existing contract for the same amount. The cost per MW went up \$5 for this contract, which is a pretty good, stable price considering the price of electric right now.

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

Ordinance No. 2023-45 (second reading)

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2023-45 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 501 (GENERAL PROVISIONS AND PENALTY) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW SECTION 501.13 (CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AS A NUISANCE; USER CHARGE FOR EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION OF PUBLIC SERVICES)) be placed on its second reading.

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

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2023-45 was placed upon its second reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Chief Graham first congratulated Councilman Hagy and Councilman Claus on their reelection. This is the second reading of the excessive use of public safety services. They had much discussion on this at the last meeting. Again, on the surface, this ordinance holds property owners accountable for the people who occupy these places. When you really dig down deeper into this, it is to provide those residents who live next to and around these places, the standard of living he thinks we all expect and demand. He thinks that this should always be the vision of the City – to provide a high standard of life around these places. This is not a revenue generating ordinance. That could happen, but they have many layers of this ordinance that are trying to get compliance from property owners. This is just one more tool for the City to use to gain compliance.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any more questions on the motion. There were none.

Ordinance No. 2023-44 (second reading)

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2023-44 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 909 (ASSESSMENTS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW SECTION 909.04 (CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AS A NUISANCE; EXCESS CONSUMPTION OF PUBLIC RESOURCES)) be placed on its second reading.

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

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-44 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Chief Graham explained that this ordinance goes in concert with the excessive use of public safety service. This will allow the City to certify assessments to the property owner on record with the Auditor's office on these properties that meet the requirements.

Vice-Mayor Claus added that this is not only for Police services, but this could also apply to life safety services (Fire Department and EMS), as well. Mr. Graham said this is law enforcement, this is fire, the squad and could also be zoning issues.

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

Resolution No. 71-2023 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Resolution No. 71-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUTOMATIC ONE-YEAR REWEVAL 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 third and final reading.

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

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy (5)
NAYS: None (0)

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

Chief Graham explained that this resolution relates to our dispatch services with the Erie County Sheriff's Office. There are no increases from our 2023 to our 2024 contracts.

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

YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 71-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 72-2023 (third and final 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 third and final reading.

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

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (5)
NAYS: None (0)

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

Mr. Lasko said Resolution 72-2023 allows the City to make its annual premium payment to the Bureau of Workers Compensation. The amount for 2024 is \$51,152.00, which is a 4% reduction in premium from 2023, which was \$53,280.00. He wanted to remind Council that the City will also receive a 2% premium rebate of just over \$1,000.00 if the payment is made in full before the end of the year, which they will look to do.

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

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 72-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

New Business

Resolution No. 83-2023

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 83-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES ("AFSCME") AND THE CITY OF HURON MODIFYING SECTION 17.02 OF THE CURRENT AFSCME COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT EXPIRING ON DECEMBER 31, 2024 AS IT RELATES TO SECTION 163.04(b) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES CLARIFYING OBSERVANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEAR'S EVE HOLIDAYS) be placed on its first reading.

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

YEAS: Claus, Grievess, 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 83-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that this resolution is a companion piece to Ordinance No. 2023-29 that was adopted on its final reading this evening. The AFSCME bargaining unit observes the same holidays as the administration, so they needed to do a Memorandum of Understanding as relates to the bargaining unit contract specific to AFSCME so that they will follow the same days off that they just approved this evening. This will be a 1-year MOU, effectively, because when the code is changed and new contracts are negotiated next year, they will follow these changes. This is just to make sure AFSCME gets the same days off that the administration will this year and moving forward.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 83-2023. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 83-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 84-2023

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 84-2023 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SHEPHERD'S SHORELINE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE PROVISION OF DEMOLITION, LAND CLEARING, AND ROUGH GRADING SERVICES AT THE OSTER'S MOBILE HOME PARK PROPERTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$75,000.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to waive the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 84-2023 was placed upon its second reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko stated that his authority from an expense standpoint is capped at \$25,000, so what they are looking to do with this legislation is to get blanket authority up to \$75,000 to complete the remainder of the demolition work onsite. This is specific to structural removal of which is remaining. He did want to mention that, likely in the spring, they will need to return to the site to do final grading and seeding, dead tree removal, utility pole removal, etc. This will cover the first \$75,000 of that work. 99% of these expenses are not going to the contractor, they are for the cost of dumpster removal through Barnes and Erie County Landfill fees. The contractor is only charging \$1 per trailer removal as part of the contract. He reminded Council and the public that 100% of these expenses are reimbursed through the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation, also known as the Erie County Land Bank. The City will be reimbursed all expenses related to this contract.

Mr. Artino asked if this contract includes demolition of the brick structure. Mr. Lasko answered that they anticipate that the duplex in the middle of the property will likely fall under this \$75,000. They have signed a separate contract with Mad Cleaning of Sandusky for just under \$5,000 to do the asbestos removal (approx. 600 linear feet of window glazing). That expense will also be reimbursed through the Land Bank.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 84-2023. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 84-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

City Manager's Discussion

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

Re-Elected Councilmembers – I want to extend additional congratulations to Councilman Tapp, Councilman Claus and Councilman Hagy for their reappointment. I also want to congratulate Mr. Tapp and Mr. Claus for the Mayor and Vice-Mayor appointments, as well. I look forward to additional years moving forward, and everything we are working with.

Hinners Litigation – I want to make one statement, as well, as relates to some historical ongoing litigation the City was a party to. The City of Huron's insurance carrier has settled the Hinners lawsuit to end a lengthy legal process and avoid any additional costs. The settlement with Stacy and Jason Hinners is not an admission of fault or guilt in any manner, and is not a judgment, per se, against the City. The settlement costs are covered by our insurance carrier and will have no impact on the City's budget. After more than 4 years of legal proceedings, it did become evident that entering into this Settlement Agreement was the best course of action for our City, our taxpayers and our residents. We are relieved to put this matter behind us.

Winterfest – Lastly, I do want to remind everyone that Winterfest is tomorrow. Events start at 12:30pm with the parade. We will also, for the first time in a long time, have a tree lighting ceremony at 6:15pm. I don't know if Mr. Tapp will make it tomorrow, so if you are able, Mr. Claus, you may be filling in. Mr. Claus asked Matt to text him the speech. The tree lighting ceremony will happen at 6:15pm, and it will be immediately followed by fireworks at 6:30pm. I think Mr. Biddlecombe did a great job of thanking our Parks and Recreation staff and everyone that's involved in putting this event together in terms of the army of volunteers. Again, kudos to everyone that is pulling off that event, and it looks like the weather is, hopefully, going to hold off for us all.

Mayor's Discussion

Vice-Mayor Claus said:

I don't have much, I also want to congratulate Mr. Hagy and Mr. Tapp on being elected to Council again this year, and Mr. Tapp for your appointment as Mayor. Thank you, the rest of Council, for your votes and your confidence in selecting me as Vice-Mayor again. I really have enjoyed my time working with Council. We have a great group here and with staff, and I look forward to another 2 years, at least, and keeping moving forward with everything that we have got going on. That's really it. I hope Mr. Tapp is feeling better. If not, I will have him text me his speech for tomorrow night. That's all I have.

For the Good of the Order

William Biddlecombe – I would like to thank you again for coming. I appreciate the conversations we have had online. It's nice to meet you in person. I'm glad that you stay involved and are watching the meetings at home when you can't be here, paying attention. I think you were the one who suggested that I add in the specific legislations in my Facebook post – I started doing that. We want to get everyone involved. We want to make sure they're here, if they can be. Like Mark said, not everyone has Facebook. That can't be the primary way we get information out. There are other ways, so everyone watching at home, please stay involved as much as possible.

Ms. Garland commented that the City's website is very confusing – she can never find anything. Mr. Claus said that the new website is going to be better. Mr. Biddlecombe said that he is definitely looking forward to the new website. Ms. Garland said she thinks it will help, because online is a lot of the community's way of getting information. Mr. Claus added that even though people aren't on Facebook, they can still access information regularly online through websites, etc. I think that will be a big bonus for us, as well, and that should be coming soon.

Mr. Biddlecombe continued: I would also like to congratulate Mr. Hagy, Mr. Claus, Mr. Tapp and Mrs. Welkener on your re-appointments. It's hard to believe that I've been on Council for 2 years now, I am midterm. It feels like I just sat down here yesterday. It comes at your fast. The entire first year I felt like I was just learning. It's nice to have been able to get more involved now that I've kind of gotten some time under my belt here. Reminder that the Salvation Army is still looking for bell-ringers, and you can contact Lori Yutzy at 614-975-3998. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Winterfest tomorrow. Look for me in the parade towing the Riverfest float again this year.

A reminder that the Boys' Basketball is playing at home tonight, and Girls' Basketball is at home tomorrow. Come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes, and Go Tigers!

Sam Artino – I would like to congratulate the re-elected Councilmembers. It was a great election, and for the folks who also ran, I really... I think that's what the City so great, if we have people that do get involved. Congratulations to you folks, as well. I would like to comment, Ms. Garland, if I came across as defensive, I apologize to anybody that took it that way. I can tell you that my frustration isn't with comments that are made by our citizens, because I have been on Council for a while, and I learned from both the positive and the negative comments. I welcome comments, as bad as they can be, and believe me, I have had some bad ones directed at Council. My frustration comes from, and I am going to be honest with you, this didn't have to happen. About 10 years ago, I went on a tour of that facility because I was so frustrated with what the State had done by taking away any authority that not only the City, but also the County Health Department had to really create a much better environment there. That went on for 8 years until they made it a decision to do away with that policy. I have got to watch how I say this, because obviously there was mismanagement. That's what I am frustrated with, and I aggressively argued against doing what we did 10 years. It took a like for not just myself, but also for other Councilmembers, to make this decision. That's what frustrates me. This didn't have to happen, but after that it just deteriorated to such an unsafe condition that the City had to take action. When I saw it for myself, I saw a shed with a power cord (an extension cord) going into it, and apparently somebody was living in it. I apologize if I personally (I can't speak for everyone) came across as defensive, I didn't mean it, but I do mean that I am frustrated. As far

as I am concerned, I think the results came out the best they could for the situation we were in. Thank you.

Matt Grieves – I have nothing for the good of the order.

Joel Hagy – No sir, I have nothing for the good of the order.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

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

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of December 1, 2023 was adjourned at 5:52pm.

Adopted: _____

13 FEB 2024


Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

****OATH OF OFFICE****


"I SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF OHIO AND WILL OBEY THE LAWS THEREOF, AND THAT I WILL, IN ALL RESPECTS, UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER AND ORDINANCES OF THIS CITY AND WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF VICE-MAYOR FOR THE CITY OF HURON UPON WHICH I AM ABOUT TO ENTER."



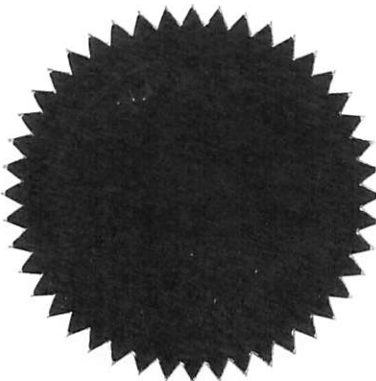
MARK CLAUS

BY THE AFFIXING OF MY SIGNATURE, I DO HEREBY SWEAR THAT THE COMMISSION ISSUED TO THE VICE-MAYOR IS GIVEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF HURON AND ITS MUNICIPAL CHARTER, SECTION 12.01, AND THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME AND AFFIXED HIS SIGNATURE TO THIS OATH IN MY PRESENCE.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

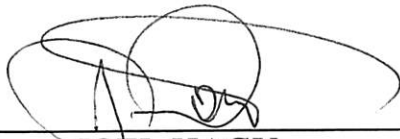


TODD A. SCHRADER
LAW DIRECTOR



****OATH OF OFFICE****


"I SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF OHIO AND WILL OBEY THE LAWS THEREOF, AND THAT I WILL, IN ALL RESPECTS, UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER AND ORDINANCES OF THIS CITY AND WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE CITY OF HURON UPON WHICH I AM ABOUT TO ENTER."



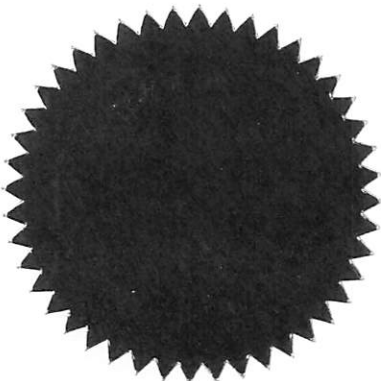
JOEL HAGY

BY THE AFFIXING OF MY SIGNATURE, I DO HEREBY SWEAR THAT THE COMMISSION ISSUED TO JOEL HAGY IS GIVEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF HURON AND ITS MUNICIPAL CHARTER, SECTION 12.01, AND THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME AND AFFIXED HIS SIGNATURE TO THIS OATH IN MY PRESENCE.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.



TODD A. SCHRADER
LAW DIRECTOR



****OATH OF OFFICE****

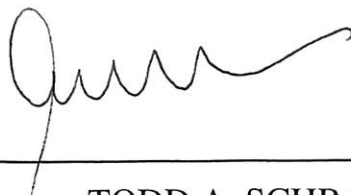
"I SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF OHIO AND WILL OBEY THE LAWS THEREOF, AND THAT I WILL, IN ALL RESPECTS, UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER AND ORDINANCES OF THIS CITY AND WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF HURON UPON WHICH I AM ABOUT TO ENTER."



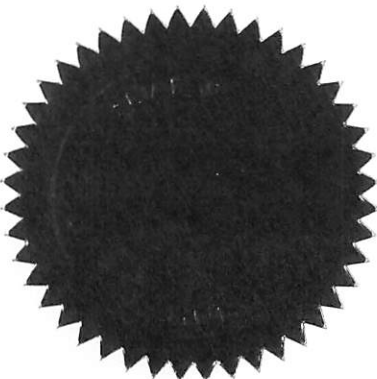
TERRI WELKENER

BY THE AFFIXING OF MY SIGNATURE, I DO HEREBY SWEAR THAT THE COMMISSION ISSUED TO TERRI WELKENER IS GIVEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF HURON AND ITS MUNICIPAL CHARTER, SECTION 12.01, AND THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME AND AFFIXED HER SIGNATURE TO THIS OATH IN MY PRESENCE.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.



TODD A. SCHRADER
LAW DIRECTOR



****OATH OF OFFICE****

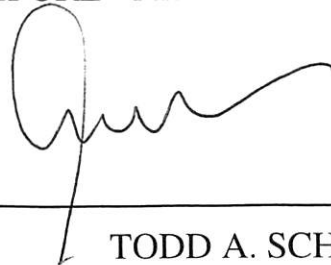
"I SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF OHIO AND WILL OBEY THE LAWS THEREOF, AND THAT I WILL, IN ALL RESPECTS, UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER AND ORDINANCES OF THIS CITY AND WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE CITY OF HURON UPON WHICH I AM ABOUT TO ENTER."



MARK CLAUS

BY THE AFFIXING OF MY SIGNATURE, I DO HEREBY SWEAR THAT THE COMMISSION ISSUED TO MARK CLAUS IS GIVEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF HURON AND ITS MUNICIPAL CHARTER, SECTION 12.01, AND THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME AND AFFIXED HIS SIGNATURE TO THIS OATH IN MY PRESENCE.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.



TODD A. SCHRADER
LAW DIRECTOR

