

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:30pm

Call to Order

The Mayor called to order the regular Council meeting of November 12, 2024 to order at 6:30pm. The Mayor called for a moment of silence. After the moment of silence, the Mayor led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

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

Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse absence of Joel Hagy.

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, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Joel Hagy's absence from the meeting was excused.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Law Director Todd Schrader, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Police Chief Terry Graham, Fire Captain Mike Hohler, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart, Finance Director Ed Widman, Water Superintendent Jack Evans and Jen Kilbury, Acting Clerk of Council.

Approval of Minutes

None.

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.

None.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2024-24 (TABLED)

Motion by Mr. Claus to remove Ordinance No. 2024-24 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 185.01, 185.03, 185.04 AND 185.06 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO, TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF AN ADDITIONAL SEVENTY-FIVE ONE-HUNDREDTHS PERCENT (0.75%) INCOME TAX

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND PROVIDING A CREDIT UP TO 1.75% FOR INCOME TAX PAID TO OTHER MUNICIPALITIES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) from the agenda, permanently.

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, Grievs, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-24 was permanently removed from the agenda.

New Business

RESOLUTION No. 78-2024

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 78-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A THIRD AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ANDREA F. ROCCO FOR THE PROVISION OF EMPLOYMENT LAW AND HUMAN RESOURCES SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF HURON FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026) 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, Grievs, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 78-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Lasko said that he would be addressing Resolutions 78-2024 and 79-2024 together because the proposed changes are similar in each agreement. Resolution 78-2024 is a third amendment to the Employment Agreement for Andrea Rocco, who serves in the role of Human Resources and/or Personnel Officer for the City. Under the current agreement, which is a 1-year agreement, she is contractually paid \$45,000 per year. What is being proposed in this third amendment is: (1) instead of doing an annual agreement, they are proposing to do a 2-year agreement through 2026; (2) they are proposing a 3% increase to the \$45,000 base contractual obligation of the City; and (3) the current agreement allows for a 30-day termination by either the City or Ms. Rocco – they are proposing that to a 60-day notice by either party.

As relates to Resolution 79-2024, this is proposed fourth amendment for her services as Prosecutor of the City of Huron. That contract is different in the sense that the base contractual obligation of the City is \$35,000, but very similar to Resolution 78-2024, they are proposing a 3% increase to the \$35,000 base, a 2-year agreement for 2025 and 2026, and also terminating the termination notice from 30 days to 60 days.

Mr. Dike asked if this is a part-time or full-time position. Mr. Lasko answered that ultimately, it is more part-time than full-time, but because it's a contract, they are not actually an employee of the City. She does put in significant hours under both contracts and in the role of Prosecutor, which deals with our Police and Zoning Department on a daily basis, they have been very positive in their review of her performance.

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 78-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 78-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 79-2024

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution that 79-2024 (A RESOLUTION APPROVING A FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE PROSECUTOR AGREEMENT WITH ANDREA F. ROCCO FOR THE PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES AS PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF HURON THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026) 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, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 79-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 79-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 79-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2024-45 (first reading)

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2024-45 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 305.01, TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP, AND CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 305.02, TRAFFIC CONTROL FILE, REGARDING NO RIGHT TURN 7AM – 8AM AND 2PM – 4PM ON MAPLE AVE FROM LAKE ERIE PARKWAY; AND NO PARKING, STOPPING OR STANDING ON BOTH SIDES OF MAPLE AVE ANYTIME BETWEEN BUCKEYE ROAD AND DEERWOOD ROAD, AND ON THE WEST SIDE OF OHIO

STREET BETWEEN MCCORMICK TO CLEVELAND ROAD WEST, AND ON JIM CAMPBELL BLVD., FROM THE GYM ACCESS ROAD TO THE HANDICAPPED PARKING AREA WITHIN THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO) 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 (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-45 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mayor Tapp advised that this is an issue that came before the Safety Committee a couple of weeks ago. In attendance were the committee members, Chief Graham, Mr. Hamilton and 6-7 people from the Schools.

Chief Graham said that this Ordinance is the result of numerous collaborations between them and the Schools, as well as citizen complaints, with regard to traffic issues at Woodlands Elementary. They are all very aware of the complaints made to members of Council. There are several issues here. They have complaints about the traffic and Buckeye and Deerwood. They have complaints of when the parents come to drop off their children at Woodlands, they are supposed to come up to the stop sign at Lake Erie Boulevard and Maple, and they go around the loop and go back out Lake Erie Boulevard (the school had given all of the parents a recommendation as to the preferred traffic flow). As we all know, not everybody follows recommendations, and some of the parents are coming up to the stop sign and after they drop off their child they are turning right (eastbound on Maple) and then going north on Buckeye. This is causing a problem because the School's recommendation for buses arriving at the school is southbound on Buckeye, drop off their kids at the school, and then they go back out northbound on Deerwood (in a horseshoe affect). When the parents are making a right turn at the stop signing and coming north on Buckeye, the buses and cars are in a standoff. We all know that the road is very narrow and very difficult to handle vehicular traffic in both directions.

He and Mr. Hamilton met extensively on this, and have met with the Safety Committee, and have come up with some options to alleviate this traffic problem. The first proposal is a No Right-Hand Turn between the hours of 7-8am and 2-4pm (also agreed upon by the Schools). That would give the police some legal authority to not only educate people, but to enforce it so it doesn't happen. Right now, people can make that right-hand turn legally.

On Maple between Buckeye and Deerwood both ways there is No Parking Anytime. Some parents pull up there and stop so that their child comes straight out onto Maple, and they can scoot right out. They have officers that go up and say they can't park there, but they say their car is in drive and their foot is on the brake. They are playing games. They hope that if they have an ordinance that says No Parking, Stopping or Standing, that gives them more enforcement ability to get people to not do that. They have this in multiple locations, at Woodlands, McCormick (southbound on Ohio Street from Cleveland Road up to the school) and the High School (from the gymnasium access road up to the handicap parking area), where parents are doing the same thing.

Finally, he met with Mr. Hamilton today and they are scheduling the solar-powered speed detection signs currently located on Adams Ave. to be moved over to Buckeye and Deerwood to help visually educate people on how fast they are driving. They have had stationary patrols in that area, but with it only being a block long, there aren't a lot of places to sit. They think that the signs will assist in reducing the speed there. They cannot put the 20mph signs on Buckeye and Deerwood because the property is not contiguous to the school property, which is required for 20mph speed limit signs.

Mayor Tapp added that they have had complaints about the speeding. Hopefully, these signs work and the number of turning right is reduced. They hope to solve a couple of problems with this legislation. This is the first reading (there will be 2 more). There was a lot of thought put into this.

Mr. Grieves asked if there is any signage that will have to go in. Chief Graham answered that, if this legislation is passed, they are going to add signage to the stop sign so people will know they cannot turn during those specific hours, and they will change the No Parking Anytime to No Parking, Stopping or Standing signs. There will be no additional signage on Cleveland Road turning onto Lake Erie Parkway.

Mr. Dike asked about the possible expansion of Woodlands Schools. Buckeye and Deerwood are tight – he doesn't think is going to be the end-all/save-all – do we have any other plans or thoughts to do something else in the future? There have been discussions about Jim Campbell (doing different access points), is it possible that could be expanded? Are we thinking far ahead? He doesn't think a sign is going to help. Hopefully, it helps the police, but he thinks in the future, for example of doing that third phase with the traffic lights on Jim Campbell, etc., we should be thinking about something like that. Mr. Lasko answered that they meet with the School District monthly (both the Superintendent and Treasurer) and they are always talking about issues that overlap between the City and the School District. They have been very good with integrating and approaching the City about not just immediate issues such as these, but also with future issues with future campuses or whatever facilities they continue to have in their inventory in their Facilities Plan. We have representation on their Facilities Committee with Councilman Biddlecombe. Yes, we are always going to continue to have a seat at the table to make sure that whatever is being done with their facilities both meets the needs of their facilities as well as remaining sensitive to the existing community so that they are not inundating those communities with vehicular traffic, and that we are getting them to the main roads as quickly as possible. They are going to continue to be at the table to make sure they are not worsening the problems but making them better.

Mr. Artino said there was some discussion about additional parking in the future at Woodlands. This was heard at the Safety Committee meeting. Something is going to happen. Hopefully, this will help prevent that in the meantime.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-47 (first reading)

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance 2024-47 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REPLACING SECTION 1137.03 (YARD MODIFICATIONS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 1123 (RESIDENCE DISTRICTS) TO ADD RELATED CROSS REFERENCES) 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, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-47 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Lasko said he would give a brief introduction to the legislation and then hand things over to Attorney Matt Waters, who has done the heavy lifting with these drafts. They are looking to do two things under this legislation. The first is to amend a section of our Zoning Code called Yard Modifications, which speaks to front yard depths when someone is either building a house or making an addition to house. They have found those sections to be somewhat unclear. Part of the modification is to make it much more matter-of-fact and understandable to both staff and the community. Secondly, and more importantly, they have setback requirements in their residential districts, but unfortunately, they make no reference back to the Yard Modifications section. If we have a new employee, they would have no clue that the setbacks may be different based on this Yard Modifications requirement, so they want to make sure they are adding references for anyone looking at our residential district setback requirements.

Attorney Waters explained that subsection (a) of Section 1137.03 has been amended. In amending this section, they have tried to keep the exact same meaning as the original wording – just making it more readable. As Mr. Lasko pointed out, this is trying to keep the front yard setbacks equal on a street front. If the adjoining properties are set back further, you want that house in the middle of them to be at least equal to them, if not deeper. If those are closer to the street, you want them to be at least as far back as the two adjacent properties (or farther). It also requires at minimum of at least 10', and not to exceed 50' setback from the street. It also takes care of any adjoining vacant lots. If you have a house being built or being added onto, and there is a house one house and the other side does not have one, they are assuming that the empty lot will be at the minimum. You take the average of those two adjoining lots and that is where you get this standard by which you are going to judge the setback of the addition or new building.

Mr. Dike asked if this only relates to the front of the building – does this have anything to do with the side setbacks. Attorney Waters answered no, this is only for the front yard setback, and it's a mandatory modification to what the standards are throughout the rest of the code. That is why they have added the references throughout the rest of the code to bring the reader to this section. This should be more user-friendly than the current version.

Mr. Biddlecombe, referring to the tables in the exhibit, asked if a 4,500sf lot with lot frontage of 60 feet, would the setback be 15' (page 39)? Mr. Lasko answered that those are the requirements for that particular residential district. What they are trying to correct is there may be neighborhoods and/or specific streets that may have been built a long time ago where they want the house to remain in line – where these setbacks may not be applicable. The problem was, you would never know to reference that there should be a different setback. They are not changing any existing setbacks at all. Mr. Biddlecombe asked if that is based on where the pin is, or if based on the center of the road. Mr. Lasko answered that would typically be where the property lines are.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-48

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance 2024-48 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1301 OHIO BUILDING CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON BY ADDING SECTION 1301.12 FUTURE CODE CHANGES TO ALLOW FUTURE MODIFICATIONS TO THE OHIO BUILDING CODE TO AUTOMATICALLY BECOME PART OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE AVAILABILITY OF A COPY OF THE OHIO BUILDING CODE FOR INSPECTION BY THE PUBLIC; 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-48 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Artino to place Ordinance No. 2024-48 as an emergency measure.

Mayor Tapp 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, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-48 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko explained that they would be address Ordinances Nos. 2024-48, 2024-49 and 2024-50 collectively in the explanation. In addition to our local codified ordinances, they many times follow State ordinance and/or international ordinances that make updates to their ordinances all the time. This states that when those updates are made, they automatically adopt those updates as the State and international levels.

Mr. Waters added that Ordinance No. 2024-48, if approved, will automatically incorporate the most recent version of the Ohio Building Code. Ordinance No. 2024-49, if approved, will automatically incorporate any updates to the Residential Code of Ohio. Ordinance No. 2024-50, if approved, will automatically update Huron's Code to include the most recent version of the Property Maintenance Code. It is necessary to include the most current version. If not, they would have to amend these ordinances every time these other codes were updated.

Mr. Dike asked how many pages are in the Ohio Building Code. Mr. Waters answered that it is all online – he has never printed it out, so he doesn't know the answer to that. It is very long. Mr. Schrader added that Ms. Gibboney raised this issue because there was one section of our code that says the automatic

applies, but it didn't apply to all of them. Mr. Gibboney is also responsible for bringing to their attention the issue with the setback reference issue.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2024-48 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2024-49

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance 2024-49 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING SECTION 1305.03, FUTURE DWELLING CODE CHANGES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO TO ALLOW FOR FUTURE MODIFICATIONS TO THE RESIDENTIAL CODE OF OHIO TO AUTOMATICALLY BECOME PART OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON; 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-49 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Artino to place Ordinance No. 2024-49 as an emergency measure.

Mayor Tapp 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, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-49 was placed as an emergency measure.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2024-49 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2024-50 (first reading)

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance 2024-50 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1307 (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO, TO ADD SECTION 1307.04, FUTURE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE CHANGES, TO ALLOW FOR FUTURE MODIFICATIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE TO AUTOMATICALLY BECOME PART OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON AND BY AMENDING SECTION 1307.01, INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE ADOPTED, TO CLARIFY THE AVAILABILITY OF A COPY OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE FOR REVIEW AND INSPECTION BY THE PUBLIC; 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: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-50 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Artino to place Ordinance No. 2024-50 as an emergency measure.

Mayor Tapp 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, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-50 was placed as an emergency measure.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2024-50 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 80-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 80-2024, (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD THE BID TO AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BONDED CHEMICALS INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINETY-TWO THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$92,000.00)) 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: Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 80-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Evans stated that these are these same six chemicals they go out to bid for every year, and he would be speaking on Resolutions 80-2024 through 83-2024. They had four vendors this year for the six chemicals. Prices were very comparable to 2024, with some of the chemicals dropping a few cents per pound or gallon, while others increased by several cents per pound/gallon, and other remained exactly the same. Compared to useage for 2024, they are within the same ballpark for 2025 (within \$1,000).

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 80-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 80-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 81-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 81-2024, (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD THE BID TO AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH JCI JONES CHEMICALS INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND NINETY-NINE XX/100 DOLLARS (\$33,099.00)) 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: Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 81-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 81-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 81-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 82-2024

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 82-2024, (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD THE BID TO AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH UNIVAR SOLUTIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SEVENTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$17,482.50)) 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, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 82-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 82-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 82-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 83-2024

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 83-2024, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD THE BID TO AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH APPLIED SPECIALTIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$118,200.00)) 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: Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 83-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 83-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 83-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2024-46

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2024-46 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-49, ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 12, 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES) 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, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-46 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Widman stated that this legislation includes several budgetary and supplemental items. There are still funds left in the General Fund that will be moved to the K-9 Fund (Fund 224). There is a building vehicle that needs some repairs, and as their budget has no funds, they need to move some funds there. Also, the Building Department had a program that is no longer needed, and unfortunately we are too late to cancel, so we have to pay for that this year in the amount of \$8,400. Use of that program will be terminated before it goes much further. Mr. Evans needs a couple of water valves totaling \$90,000. They will end up transferring the funds from the General Fund for the K-9 resources to the new fund, so this will be a supplemental appropriation adding to the budget, as well as the transfer,

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-46. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-46 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 84-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 84-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH R.A. BORES EXCAVATING, INC. FOR THE INSERTION AND REPLACEMENT OF TWO (2) 16" WATER MAIN VALVES AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN STREET AND CLEVELAND ROAD, EAST IN AN

AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINETY-ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE AND 12/100 DOLLARS (\$91,399.12)) 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, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Resolution No. 84-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Evans stated that, unfortunately, this repair is necessary. They found the problem while exercising valves. As many are aware, they had water trickling up out of the valve housing at the intersection of Main Street and Cleveland Road. What they found is one of the valves on the main 16" transmission line that feeds the east side was seized in the open position (unable to be exercised). They were able to isolate and exercise the other valve, but then it started to leak afterwards. They procured several quotes. This is a job they can't do in-house because the water main is at a depth of 10', when they are usually at a depth of 4-5'. In addition, the main is 16" wide (the largest in the city). Because they are going to insert 2 new valves, they are going to replumb that intersection and remove the valves that are inoperable.

Mr. Artino said he doesn't see the water leaking anymore. Were they able to bypass the leak. Mr. Evans answered that they pumped down the valve housing and they were able to put in a temporary plug in there so the leak is no longer visible. It is right next to the catch basin, so he would imagine the water is just making its way underground to that catch basin.

Mayor Tapp added that those valves are ancient (1962 and 1972). They don't make those valves with the packing anymore. Mr. Evans said the excavation required to attempt to repair the packing wouldn't be a viable option, and would be a temporary fix, at best. They did put an inflatable pool in the valve housing. Mayor Tapp emphasize that these things pop up that aren't budgeted, and he wanted to Council to know that one of the bids came in at nearly twice as much.

The Mayor asked if there were further questions. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 84-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 84-2024 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

City Manager's Discussion

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

ConAgra Project – As we continue to move along behind the scenes, we have sent all pertinent documents to the development team, which includes a Letter of Intent, a Purchase Agreement, a Development Agreement, a Promissory Note and a Mortgage. Those are all being reviewed by the development team as we speak. We are also in the process of finalizing the final dedication of what will be the public road that will reach to the site. This will go through the ODNr property and a part of our property. I envision we will be bringing a dedication plat to Council soon, after it has gone through the Planning Commission.

S. Main Street Water Main Replacement Project – Construction is substantially complete. There will be a final walkthrough the week of November 18th and a final punch list will be developed prior to officially closing out the project.

City Hall Parking Lot – We have closed out this project. We will continue to monitor the parking lot on an annual basis to determine if additional sections need replacement.

Parks and Waterfront Connectivity Survey – The survey closed as of November 1st. We received over 300 responses to the concept ideas that were shared publicly, which is a great response. We are meeting with representatives from OHM over the next few weeks to determine if any alterations to the original concept plans are needed based upon that feedback. I want to thank all of the individuals who took the time out of their days to share feedback, comments, etc. during the survey process.

Buoy Removal – I want to thank the Chief and his staff, who have removed the buoys. On Saturday, November 2nd, I think Chief was out there himself, as well. Thank you for doing that.

Eagles Club – I want to thank the Eagles Club, who provided a \$2,500 donation to our K-9 Program.

Finance Department – The Finance Committee meetings have commenced, and we have gotten through all of the departmental draft budgets. We have another Finance Committee set for November 18th, which will cover the capital equipment and capital project plans, as well as our debt projections. We anticipate using the placeholder meeting on November 25th for a very high-level review of final budgets. This will be based on final healthcare costs, which we are still going through and getting finals on. We want to be sure to bring those final numbers back to the Finance Committee one last time.

Water Department – I want to thank Mr. Evans and his staff. They recently had a sanitary survey conducted by the Ohio EPA at the Water Filtration Plant on October 23rd. The City received zero violations and 13 recommendations, many of which have already been completed. Thank you for your guys' hard work under your direction, Mr. Evans.

Final Water Plant Rerating – We have been waiting for the final Plan rerating. The EPA issued a response on October 11th that included requests for additional information. That was reviewed by our Water Superintendent and Kleinfelder, who is our consultant on the project. We have provided answers to the Ohio EPA and will be returning our responses after final review.

Upcoming Meetings –

Finance Committee – Monday, November 18th at 4pm in Council Chambers;

Planning Commission/DRB – Wednesday, November 20th at 5pm in Council Chambers;

Finance Committee (Final) – Monday, November 25th at 4pm in Council Chambers;

City Council Meeting – Tuesday, November 26th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

Election - I also want to thank and acknowledge all of our residents and electorate that went out of the polls last week. Although we did not get the clean sweep we were hoping for, we are very appreciative of their support of the Charter amendments, and anyone that voted, whether yea or nay, for the income tax measure. It is more important that people got out and voted than how they voted. Thank you to our staff for all of their hard work leading up to the election, particularly Jen, who did a tremendous job. Thank you, so much.

Mr. Biddlecombe said that we have done a couple different park surveys now. When does Council get to hear the results? Mr. Lasko answered that they did take the recommendations, particularly for the Berlin Road Park Plan, to the Joint Recreation District to narrow that down. He is the first to admit that with everything going on with budgets, negotiations and the election, they back-burnered that issue, but anticipates bringing those recommendations to Council either through a work session or email communication prior to making the final recommendation for the name. As relates to the Park survey, they received a link a couple of days ago, and will share that with Council in the interim. They are ultimately going to bring those plans and recommendations back through the Planning Commission and Council.

Mr. Artino said he spoke with the Mayor earlier, and based on the result of the income tax increase vote, they talked about having some kind of an action plan to figure out what we might do. We definitely want to avoid anything that could happen 3-4 years down the road to impact services and all of the projects. They will expect some kind of a plan from staff. Mr. Lasko responded that, without question, they will probably start meeting as early as the first quarter of 2025. From what they have seen so far, the budget for 2025 is a good budget, but beyond that, we have all seen the graphs at the Finance Committee meetings or during the income tax presentations. They will need to have much more detailed conversations, both with their operations and probably more importantly, with their capital project list and capital equipment list, because that is where the overwhelming majority of the cost. They will be talking internally and will have really detailed conversations with the Finance Committee and Council as to how that may impact our course moving forward as relates to projects and purchases.

Mr. Claus wanted to add another future meeting of the Huron Joint Port Authority, which will be held on Wednesday, November 20th at 6pm at Huron Township Hall. These meetings have been more frequent than usual.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp said:

I want to thank everybody that went out and voted. Like Mr. Lasko said, no matter how you voted, as long as you got out there... I appreciate all of that. I welcome people to come to these Council meetings to observe and express anything they have to say. Mrs. Merckens is back there, and I want to say thank you for coming. I see we have a Scout here, thank you for coming. We encourage people to come and speak whenever they want to. I want to thank the Eagles for their donation to the K-8 Program – they have been very good at that kind of stuff.

I wanted to ask Mr. Evans a question regarding fluoride in the water. Where are we at on that? Mr. Evans answered that he has reached out to the Ohio EPA, and they are waiting for direction from the Federal EPA. Contrary to some of the news articles, they weren't required to remove fluoride from drinking water, they were just supposed to reassess levels for safety. Our levels are safe. Anything could change in January with the new administration and they are prepared to do whatever the Ohio EPA recommends.

For the Good of the Order

Mark Claus – I have nothing further.

Sam Artino – I have nothing other than to say thanks to the staff. There has been a lot of hard work going on all the time, but especially the last few months with budget season on top of us and all of the items that had to go on the ballot. Thanks a lot.

Joe Dike – Thank you to everyone attending, and best of luck to the officers in the No Shave November. I can't wait to see those mustaches. Thank you.

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

William Biddlecombe – Thanks, staff for your hard work. Thank you to the Eagles for your donation. The next meeting of the Huron City Schools Board is on Monday, November 18th at 6pm at the High School. River Fest has just launched a survey of their own. You can find the link on the River Fest social media page. Please go out and complete that survey, and I hope it will be on their website soon, also. Fall/Winter Yoga is going on now. It is held every Tuesday at the Boat Basin. You can call 433-8487 for more information on that.

There are no home games coming up, but basketball season will start soon. I would like to congratulate the cross-country athletes that competed in the State meet recently. For the boys, Sage Edgerly Bork finished 11th, and Jake Case finished 64th. For the girls, Sam Leznak finished 35th, Claire Putman finished 55th, Liz Heidel finished 86th, Sasha Fry finished 87th, Caitlyn Kurtz finished 107th, Olivia Coleman finished 152nd, and Emma Keller finished 172nd. Unfortunately, the Tigers Football team finished their season with a record of 7-5 in Bluffton last Friday in the Regional Quarterfinal. Please come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes, and GO TIGERS!

Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Claus to enter into executive session to consider compensation of a public employee, and to invite Mr. Schrader.

The Mayor advised that there will be no further legislative action taken following the Executive Session.

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, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Council moved into executive session at 7:26pm.

Return to Regular Session

Council returned to regular session at 7:50pm.

Adjournment

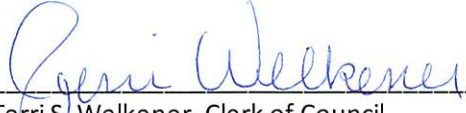
Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the regular meeting of Council.

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 (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of November 12, 2024, was adjourned at 7:50pm.



Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council
(minutes prepared from audio/visual recordings)

Adopted: 14 JAN 2025