

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:30pm

Call to Order

The Mayor called the Council meeting 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, Matt Grieves and Joel Hagy**. Member absent: **Joe Dike**.

Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse the absence of Mr. Dike from tonight's meeting.

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, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert, Finance Director Cory Swaisgood, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Police Chief Terry Graham, Water Superintendent Jack Evans, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart, OHM Engineer Larry Fridrich and Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council.

Oath of Office

Mr. Lasko explained that after a lengthy hiring process, the Police Department has selected Zachary Blair as the next full-time police officer. He is a lateral transfer from the Sandusky Police Department with 6-1/2 years of full-time experience. Prior to that, he was a part-time for HPD for 3 years. He officially started on March 17th and he has almost completed his field training. We are very excited to have him.

Matt Lasko then administered the Oath of Office of Patrol Officer to Zachary Blair (see copy of Oath of Office attached hereto as Exhibit "A").

(Applause).

Photos were then taken of Patrolman Blair, his family, the City Manager, Chief Graham and Mayor Tapp.

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. 2023-51 (TABLED)

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-51 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 505 (ANIMALS AND FOWL) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE OF HURON, OHIO TO ESTABLISH A NEW SECTIONS 505.18 (CHICKENS)) be placed on its third and final reading.

Ordinance No. 2023-52 (TABLED)

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-52 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 505 (ANIMALS AND FOWL) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE OF HURON, OHIO TO ESTABLISH A NEW SECTIONS 505.19 (BEES)) be placed on its third and final reading.

Ordinance No. 2023-55 (TABLED)

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-55 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING SECTION 1123.01(c) (ACCESSORY USES) UNDER CHAPTER 1123 (RESIDENCE DISTRICTS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final reading.

Ordinance No. 2023-56 (TABLED)

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-56 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1125.01 (B-1 NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT) UNDER CHAPTER 1125 (NONRESIDENCE DISTRICTS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE OF HURON, OHIO TO ESTABLISH A NEW SECTION 1125.01(a)(7)) be placed on its third and final reading.

Ordinance No. 2023-57 (TABLED)

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-52 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1123.04 (R-3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT) OF CHAPTER 1123 (RESIDENCE DISTRICTS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE OF HURON, OHIO TO ESTABLISH A NEW SECTION 1123.04(f)) be placed on its third and final reading.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 25-2024

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 25-2024 (A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ERIE COUNTY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL RELATING TO ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENTS AND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENTS) 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, Grieves (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than five votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 25-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that this is an annual process that Sandusky, Huron and all of Erie County must go through every March as relates to existing tax abatements and TIF agreements that have been passed previously. Every year, the Tax Incentive Review Council meets to review and ensure that those tax abated projects are continuing to meet the obligations from an employment standpoint, a payroll standpoint and an investment standpoint. This year, we reviewed 11 tax abatements and 3 TIF agreements specific to Huron. All but 1 agreement were recommended to continue in terms of those individuals continuing to meet their obligations and in many instances, exceed the obligations. There was a recommendation to terminate the abatement that was historically granted to the News2You facility. As everyone knows, they have gone virtual, and the property was sold in the fall to a new owner. That new owner did not petition the City to have that agreement assigned to that owner. Without any future investment, the TIRC recommended termination of that agreement. If and when the new owner wants to make significant improvements to that project, they can always approach the City at that time seeking a new abatement.

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. 25-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 25-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 27-2024

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 27-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF A ONE (1)-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SHOWBOAT LLC, DBA OLD FISH HOUSE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024, FOR A PORTION OF ERIE COUNTY, OHIO PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 42-01077.000 COMPRISING APPROXIMATELY 1,701 SQUARE FEET IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO LESSEE'S PROPERTY LOCATED AT 30 MAIN STREET, HURON, OHIO, FOR THE ANNUAL RENTAL AMOUNT OF TWO THOUSAND FIFTY-EIGHT AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,058.00)) 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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 27-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko stated that this agreement is fairly identical to the lease approved by Council last year. When Covid ceased to significantly impact the restaurant business, the City instituted a rental fee for this lease. That fee is anticipated to remain the same at just over \$2,000 annually for just over 1,700 sq. ft. north of The Fish House on the former Showboat property. The only significant change is that this is a 1 year lease with the ability to extend for two 1-year periods, which extensions must be mutually agreed upon. The City cannot terminate the lease through the months of May through September, which is when there are significant operations of that business, unless there was something illegal or a breach of the lease.

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. 27-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 27-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 28-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 28-2024 (A RESOLUTION AGREEING TO COOPERATE WITH THE ERIE METROPARKS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING OUTDOOR RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS) 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 (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 28-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Steinwart asked that he be allowed to address Resolutions 28-2024 and 29-2024 together. These resolutions relate to the same grant application to Erie Metroparks. They need an authorization from Council for the 2024 Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program. Park commissioners, through their property tax receipts, allow municipalities and townships to apply for some of these capital improvement grants. They are applying in Resolution No. 2028-2024 for replacement of the canvas that covers the amphitheater stage in the amount of \$1,959.99, and the second would be to replace a 50' section of their beach access mat at Nickel Plate Beach. It is a 50' x 5' section to make the beach more ADA accessible in the amount of \$2,145.25.

Mayor Tapp asked if they have mats that can go all the way down to the water. Mr. Steinwart answered not all the way down to the water. They tried that, but that is an issue when they get strong northeast winds. They have 200' going down, and then to the west in an L-shape. This is a reimbursable grant, so if awarded, it will be a 100% reimbursement.

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. 28-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 28-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 29-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 29-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO ERIE METROPARKS – LOCAL PARK CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM RELATING TO REPLACEMENT OF THE TENT THAT COVERS THE STAGE AT THE HURON BOAT BASIN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) 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 (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 29-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

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. 29-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 29-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor, Vice-Mayor, Councilman Sam Artino and the Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 30-2024

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 30-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION(S) TO THE OHIO MEANS JOBS – ERIE COUNTY INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$50,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$50,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) 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, Grieves, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 30-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Chief Graham said that this is a grant from the County that he came across when he was getting the grant for our cadet to pay for his tuition at the academy and to pay for 6 months of his salary. This grant allows for 75% reimbursement for existing employees for any training above state-mandated training. There is not a limit on the amount that we can apply for and there is not a limit on how many times we can apply. It is not only for police, we can apply City-wide for training reimbursement.

Mayor Tapp said it is great the Chief Graham found this grant opportunity, and it applies to anyone that works full-time for the City.

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. 30-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 30-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 31-2024

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 31-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. SENATOR SHERROD BROWN'S FY25 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING (CDS) RELATING TO THE HURON RIVER RAW WATER ALTERNATE INTAKE AND SLUDGE LAGOON PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,500,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,500,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL)) 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, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 31-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans said that he will be speaking relating to both Resolution No. 31-2024 and 33-2024. They are requesting a \$1.5 Million for each of these appropriations requests from the CDS spending. These are appropriations of funds that can be used for State or District projects. This will be for the Alternate River Intake and Sludge Lagoon Project.

Mr. Claus asked if these are two different applications. Mr. Evans answered, yes, one is for US Senator Sherrod Brown and one is for US Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. Mr. Claus asked if it is possible to receive both. Mr. Evans answered that it is possible, but unlikely. A question in the application asked if you have applied for these funds from any other source.

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. 31-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 31-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 32-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 32-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. SENATOR SHERROD BROWN'S FY25 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING (CDS) RELATING TO THE HURON MUNICIPAL BOAT BASIN RENOVATION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,750,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,750,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) 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 (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 32-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Steinwart said that this is similar to the previous resolution. This is a CDS appropriations request to US Senator Sherrod Brown in the amount of \$1.75 Million for the revitalization of the Huron marina facility.

Asked by Mayor Tapp if he and Mr. Evans were fighting for funding, Mr. Steinwart answered that while they are not fighting, they had to put a ranking of 1 or 2 on the applications. This request is #1. The Boat Basin revitalization was not a fit for the Marcy Kaptur CDS appropriations request.

Mr. Hagy asked what is included in the revitalization. Mr. Steinwart answered that they started with Matrix Engineering, a coastal engineering firm, in 2014 to perform an assessment of all their facilities – water lines, electric, fire suppression, sea walls, concrete walkways, lighting, etc. They assess all of those things. They rebooted that in 2022 with KS & Associates, and they came back with a plan of what is failing, the lifespan of things, and where they should be, along with a cost estimate. While they could break that apart in some sections, but they are going for the whole thing. If they were to break it into sections, the problem would be determining where to stop.

Mr. Hagy asked if the \$1.75 Million would cover the full project. Mr. Swaisgood answered that the full project is actually \$6.5 Million. The project would include new docks all the way down and including the sea wall all the way north to the Showboat property. They looked at past history of successful applications and determined that the amount of \$1.75 Million could be successful.

Mr. Artino asked how long it would be before we started having serious issues. Mr. Steinwart answered that life expectancy is around 25 years for a public marina, and they are at 35 years. When they did the dredging project with KS & Associates, they spent some time down there. Everything looks good on the surface when you drive by, but there are a lot of deficiencies they keep patching and putting back out there. This is why they are actively going after any type of funding they can. Mr. Lasko said they have talked about this in the budget process, and specifically when reviewing the capital plan. There is more funding out there for things like waterlines or the raw water intake or roads, etc. We know the Boat Basin is a non-revenue-generating facility with limited funding streams, whether internal or external. One of the things we are trying to do is bite off some of these larger State and Federal legislative pots of money. They are still waiting on the final dollar amount but know the City has been awarded somewhere between \$200,000 and \$250,000 through a prior round of legislative-directed spending. They will get this request in, and Council will see two more requests for the Boat Basin in April through the State Capital Bill on applications to Nathan Manning and Dick Stein. He believes that the time is now to prioritize the Boat Basin property, whether that's the City with their own capital plan, or on some of these larger funding requests to the State and Federal Governments. They are going to do everything they can to start to bite off what could be, worst-case scenario. Between \$5 Million to \$6 Million to do everything. They are going to start biting that off little by little. Mr. Steinwart added that there is one more grant called the Boating Infrastructure Grant through ODNR, who gets internally funded through US Fish & Wildlife. He talked to them today, and it is a July 1st application deadline. That would be around \$1.5 Million. They are casting as many lines out there as they can. Asked about Shores & Islands by Mr. Artino, Mr. Steinwart answered that they do grant opportunities, but not in the \$1.5 Million the City is looking for.

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. 32-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 32-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 33-2024

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 33-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN MARCY KAPTUR FY25 INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING PROGRAM RELATING TO THE HURON RIVER RAW WATER ALTERNATE INTAKE AND SLUDGE LAGOON PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,500,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,500,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) 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, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 33-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

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. 33-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 33-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 34-2024

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 34-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THREE (3) AGREEMENTS WITH BARNES NURSERY FOR SITE DEBRIS CLEANUP AND REMOVAL, SITE REMEDIATION AND SEEDING, AND TREE REMOVAL AT THE FORMER OSTER'S MOBILE HOME PARK PROPERTY IN THE COMBINED AMOUNT OF FIFTY-TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 (\$52,650.00)) 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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 34-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that this is what they anticipate being the last expense for Phase 1 of the cleanup at Oster's Mobile Home Park, which is the final grading and seeding, roadway removal and tree removal throughout the site. Fortunately, they are up to just about \$105,000 in demolition costs, of which \$100,000 of that has been paid for by the County Land Bank. The remaining \$52,000 was the lowest of the three bids. The other bids came in at \$67,000 and \$78,000. With the reputation and low bid of Barnes, they were happy to go with them. He noted that they are in ongoing conversations with the Erie County Land Bank about providing additional assistance as part of the 2024 budget. They are still setting their budget for this year, which they won't know until early April. He anticipates some level of funding from the County Land Bank. Even without that funding in place, they have more than sufficient dollars sitting in their capital account, should they need to dip into that to pay these funds. They are looking to get this finished up in late April/early May.

Mr. Hagy commented that he has had a lot of questions about what the City's intent is for that area. He sees that we are seeding and clearing it. He asked Mr. Lasko to state for the record what the City's intention is for that area. Mr. Lasko answered that the City a year ago had no intent with the actual property itself. The intent was always to get those residents into more sufficient, safer and cleaner housing, and he thinks they have successfully done that. Right now, they want to make the site grass for easy maintenance. They have communications out to the Rye Beach community about getting a series of meetings set up in April/May/June to solicit their input. They will also want to touch base with some of the commercial stakeholders in the area. He also thinks it is worthwhile to engage the broader community somehow, whether that's through one or two open forums or a community survey. He thinks it makes sense to start with the Rye Beach community. There are no conversations the City has ever had with any third party (private, non-profit or otherwise) about future reuse of that site. It will remain grass for the foreseeable future.

Monty Tapp said that he has also received several inquiries about what was going to happen, and there was someone that put out there what the City was going to do, but that was only a rumor. Grading and seeding is what he has told everybody. That's where we have been and that's where they are staying right now. Mr. Lasko will keep Council updated if anything changes.

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. 34-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 34-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 35-2024

Motion by Mr. Tapp that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 35-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A BINDING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

WITH IAFF LOCAL 4168 MODIFYING ITS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF HURON TO CLARIFY ARTICLE 15.1 OF THE CURRENT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY, HOW FLSA (DAILY) COMPENSABLE HOUR DEDUCTIONS FOR SLEEP HOURS SHALL BE RECORDED AND WHAT HOURS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE 212-HOUR WORK PERIOD TOTAL) 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: Tapp, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 35-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Swaisgood stated that the City and Fire Union were recently bade aware of conflicting payroll procedures around current timekeeping practices per the union contract and FLSA law. The Fire Department's timesheets did not take into consideration actual hours worked over a 28-day period that may have triggered overtime pay under current FLSA law. The union and City got together to establish a procedure going forward to ensure actual hours worked are appropriately tracked in accordance with federal law, and overtime is paid out to all firefighters eligible during that 28-day work cycle. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) before Council for approval addresses this situation and will more than likely result in additional costs to the Fire Department budget in 2024. They will monitor the additional overtime costs as the year goes on and will return to Council for additional budget if deemed necessary by the end of the year. They anticipate that this procedural change could cost the City up to \$70,000 per year, which will be split with the Township per the fire contract. They are negotiating the fire union contracts in 2024, as it does expire at the end of the year. If there are modifications to this timekeeping procedure needed to manage overtime costs or if there are staffing constraints through this process, they will make sure to address those concerns with the union during those negotiations.

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. 35-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 35-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2024-7

Motion by Mr. Tapp that Ordinance No. 2024-7 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING PARAGRAPH (a) OF SECTION 143.01 (CREATION AND COMPOSITION) OF CHAPTER 143 (FIRE DIVISION) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) 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: Tapp, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-7 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that, unbeknownst to most of us, Chapter 143.01 puts a cap on how many fire personnel can be rostered. That cap is 40 individuals. In their conversations with the Fire Captains, one of the things they always struggle with is keeping a full and healthy part-time roster. They view themselves as the AAA training ground for a lot of firefighters that come here part-time and go work somewhere else full-time. Ultimately, they want to have the broadest roster possible. Some of these people they only use once or twice. The roster is ultimately restrained and controlled by the budget, regardless, so they have that financial protection. What they are proposing is to take the cap off the fire roster from a number individuals standpoint. There will be no cap, but the personnel will be controlled by the budgetary process. The roster is currently at 43.

Mr. Hagy asked if the part-timers are counted in the 40? Mr. Lasko answered, yes, the vast majority of that number are part-timers. Mr. Hagy said he is all about increasing the number because we are already there, but do we have to go to unlimited? Mr. Lasko answered that they did talk about capping it at 50 or 60. There is openness since this is only a first reading. They can always just have a significantly higher cap and this is open for conversation. Mr. Hagy asked who makes the determination to hire a firefighter. Mr. Lasko answered that it is as the Captain's recommendation, and he would ultimately have to sign off on that. Mayor Tapp said that the Volunteer Paid On-Call roster... it is a little tougher nowadays. They may have 5 people on a roster that can work 1 day a month, and then they move on. It keeps alternating. If you have 60 people, you don't have 60 people that show up. It is turning into a training ground, but that is happening to the police, as well.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-8

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2024-8 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING PARAGRAPH (a) OF SECTION 311.02 (PARADES AND ASSEMBLAGES) OF CHAPTER 311 (STREET OBSTRUCTIONS AND SPECIAL USES) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) 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, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-8 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Engle said that as part of the Planning Department's audits of our code sections, they are went through all of the non-zoning permits. This is the first of a series of amendments they are recommending. He thanked Chris Gibboney for taking the lead on all of this. Ordinance 2024-8 addresses assemblage and parades, which currently requires a permit at no cost. Generally speaking, they distribute that to the Huron Police and Parks & Rec Department as a means for them to coordinate and sign off on. The only edit for this would be including some sort of map to indicate the parade route and the location of the assemblage to further denote where such happenings are taking place.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-9

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2024-9 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 711 (PEDDLERS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) 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, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-9 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that Chapter 711 addresses peddlers or solicitors (folks that want to see things door-to-door). How the process now works is they run all of these applications through the Police Department for background checks and look for outstanding warrants, etc. They are recommending that a fee be attached (currently free). They are looking to establish a \$50 fee for a 6-month timeframe, or \$100 for a year, which is in line with other codes in the area, specifically Sandusky.

Mayor Tapp asked if all peddlers get a physical permit from the City, and are they supposed to show you that? Mr. Engle answered, yes, they are supposed to have it onsite with them when they are out. If they don't, the City needs to know about it.

Mr. Hagy asked if this includes food trucks. Mr. Engle answered, no, they will address that later.

Mr. Biddlecombe asked about the school sports teams, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. Mr. Engle said that they don't require a permit from them, it is normally for-profit organizations that must pull a permit. Mr. Biddlecombe asked if it would make sense to have anything like that in the ordinance. Mr. Hagy said there are exceptions in the ordinance, such as baked goods and non-profits. Mayor Tapp said exclusions include charitable, civil, religious, etc.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-10

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2024-10 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 721 (TAXICABS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON) 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, Grievess, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-10 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that while the City does require a taxicab permit, there has never been one issued to anyone's knowledge. With services like Uber and Lyft, which they don't regulate, they are recommending that this entire section be repealed based on how obsolete it is.

Mayor Tapp asked what the difference is between taxicabs and transportation companies. Mr. Engle said that is a great question. Mr. Hagy said for the one that the City has, is it only if your taxicab company is headquartered in the City? Mr. Engle answered, yes. Mr. Hagy said a cab can come here to drop off or pick up someone without the need to get a permit.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-11

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2024-11 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 741 (HOME SALES) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) 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, Grievess, Hagy (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-11 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Engle said that these amendments make a clarification to change "Home Sale" to "Garage Sale." The definition includes yard sales, sales on your driveway, etc. to include all sales on residential property. They have increased the number of garage sales allowed to 4 per year (from 2) and the hours have been updated to 8am to 9pm, and referencing the signage code for any kind of temporary signage. There is currently a \$2 fee for this permit, and they are looking to eliminate that.

Mr. Hagy said they may want to consider making the start time 9am because the cars start lining up at 8am. Mayor Tapp agreed that people get there an hour beforehand. Mr. Artino believes the City once provided a sign for garage sales.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-12

Motion by Mr. Grievs that Ordinance No. 2024-12 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 731 (TEMPORARY STORES) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) 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: Grievs, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-12 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that our code currently defines "Temporary Stores" as any kind of pop-up shop or transient type market. We do require a permit with all of that with a \$150 fee for a period of less than 120 days. None of that is changing, however, with the influx of food trucks they feel that it is best aligned with this code section. They have included the term "Food Truck" throughout the legislation, as well as adding certain requirements for that, including any kind of Health Department certificates that they might need.

Mayor Tapp said as far as the Health Department certification, the City doesn't control that. They must show that they have a certificate. Mr. Engle added that they must pass all inspections if it is a food-type item that is being sold. Mayor Tapp asked if the cost is the same whether it's 2 days or 120 days. Mr. Engle confirmed that is the case.

Mr. Grievs asked about the car shop that shows up at Burger King. Do they have to do anything? Technically speaking, the answer is no. These are more for Airstreams, trailers, something more temporary basis. If it's a brick-and-mortar establishment that follows rules included in the commercial district, then no, it would not fall under this.

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

Ordinance No. 2024-13

Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2024-13 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 1323 (CONTRACTORS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) 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, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-13 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that Chapter 1323 addresses contractors. Within the City limits, any contractors doing work must be registered. They were looking to clarify the language and incorporating best practices. They want to raise the bodily and property damage insurance from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000. That's pretty standard practice and is also in line with the research from other codes, as well. They are also requiring that the City be named as an additional insured, also in line with Chapter 901 section on excavations. They are trying to make the ordinances more consistent from a permitting standpoint. Only contractors doing work within the City are required to register, as opposed to all contractors. They are raising the fee from \$100 per trade with a \$200 max cap to \$250 for 2 or more trades. A surety bond in the amount of \$20,000 (or 10% of the project) must be provided, which is standard practice. They further delineated building movers, which was not previously addressed. They would follow the same procedure for registration.

Mr. Hagy asked for clarification of the term "per trade." If he was a contractor and he is working on a house and do carpentry, electric and plumbing, is that three separate applications. Mr. Engle said that depends; they have an application for electrical/HVAC/plumbing (more specialized) and they also have a category for general, as well. If you are a Jack of all trades, you have the option of marking the "general." If you are a general contractor and also have the plumbing experience, that is where the \$250 would kick in.

Mayor Tapp asked Mr. Ebert if this is pretty standard. Mr. Ebert answered that he could get a general contractor permit, but if you have a contractor that is plumbing only, that's when you have another permit. In most cases, a general contractor doesn't have a plumbing and electrical license, so you would need the \$250 to cover the subtrades. Mr. Artino said that is his concern. They are not going to let a general do electrical or plumbing work. Mr. Ebert agreed, saying an electrical license is required. Mr. Engle said that licensing is part of the application process. If you are doing only plumbing, that would be \$100. If you are doing plumbing and carpentry, then it's \$250. We still require that they have all of the licensure.

Mr. Hagy said that it's a pretty big jump from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 in insurance coverage. Is that because we haven't looked at this in 40 years, or are we going to put undue burden on a small contractor. Mr. Harris, from the audience, said that most of them all carry \$1,000,000. Mr. Engle added that in his experience, the certificates the City is receiving from insurance companies state \$1,000,000 already.

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

City Manager's Discussion

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

Development Updates – We are continuing to vet the three submittals for the ConAgra property; we did do a third interview with the third firm today. We still hope to make a recommendation to Council, with

that firm coming to Council and making a presentation themselves on what their concept plan is, financial capabilities, past experience, etc. We hope to do that in late April/early May.

Carmeuse Implosion - If anyone saw the front page of the newspaper today, just a friendly reminder that we have been notified, weather permitting, that the implosion of the Carmeuse facility will occur on April 12th at 10:00am. If anything changes, we hear from the contractor or the company, we will get that out to the public as best as we can and as fast as we can.

Infrastructure – We started the roadway work in Chaska Beach during the week of March 18th. They are going to start in Chaska before moving on to Old Homestead II and then Old Homestead I. The intent is to work through the north/south roads first before tackling the east/west. That is a moving target as the contractors go through the neighborhood. I drove it myself yesterday, and for as cramped as those neighborhoods are, they are doing a really good job of keeping the roadways as accessible as they can and are keeping things clean as best they can. They are still anticipated to have a completion date, weather dependent, of June 21st.

US 6 Connectivity Corridor – Reminder that the public and interested stakeholders are invited to an in-person public information open house on March 28th from 6pm-8pm at BGSU Firelands Cedar Point Center Auditorium. This is for folks to learn more about the project and ask questions from ODOT. There is also going to be a 30-day virtual option for folks to learn about the project, which will be open from March 28th through April 29th. If interested in that way of viewing the project, you are encouraged to visit www.publicinput.com/usr6.

Railroad Crossing Closures - We received a communication just before this meeting from Norfolk Southern that they are going to be replacing old ties at crossings between Sandusky and Vermilion. Once those are done, they will repave those crossings. There will be hard closures throughout the City, unfortunately. Right now, they are slated to close Berlin Road, River Road and Rye Beach Road. The worst-case scenario is between April 15th through April 29th, which is a 2-week duration. It doesn't mean that it is going to be that long; we are hoping that is a worst-case scenario. We will get this out to Council and the public first thing tomorrow so that they are aware of those hard closures.

Parks & Recreation – The dredging is complete. I do believe there may still be some minor repairs needed, and final billing is being updated. It was really impressive to see those contractors get in and out as quickly as they did. Thank you to Huffman for doing that project successfully and doing a great job.

Flock Safety Cameras – At the time of this report, we are up to 400,000 license plate reads, which have been instrumental in several incidents and investigations. Recently, there were several vehicle entries in the City and in an adjacent jurisdiction. Within a few hours, our officers and officers from the other jurisdiction, using these cameras, were able to identify the vehicle and suspect from the Toledo area. That suspect was charged with 10 criminal charges because of that activity. Again, these are the success stories that seem to be occurring every week with these camera systems. Thank you, Chief for the continuous updates. Council and the community appreciate it.

Personnel – Reminder for Parks & Recreation, we are still accepting applications for several part-time seasonal positions – Nickel Plate Beach parking attendants, youth program assistants, parks maintenance

crew and Huron Boat Basin dock hands. To apply, go to www.cityofhuron.org or look at any of our social media channels at the City or through Parks & Rec directly.

Sergeant John Orzech – Sgt. Orzech recently completed his first of 3 weeks at an advanced leadership training course called “Supervisors Training and Education Program,” also known as STEP. This is a program where we are hoping to get 75% of those expenses back through the Incumbent Work Force Training Grant. This is something we already had budgeted for Officer Orzech to go to, and again, we are hopeful that the County will continue to be a great partner in reimbursing the City for those costs.

Agreements – Over the last two weeks, the Administration has executed several agreements. We are happy to report that we received the Submerged Land Lease for the former Showboat property. That is initially going to be a 50-year Submerged Land Lease with ODNR at a rate of \$1 per year. The Lease goes through March 31, 2072. To limit administrative time in the future, the City and ODNR agreed to allow the City to make a one-time \$50 payment for the full 50 years of the Lease.

The City also entered into a design contract with OHM Advisors to begin designing and bidding services related to the two Route 13 crosswalks anticipated to be installed, hopefully, later on this year. That contract is in the amount of \$18,080.

The City also executed a License Agreement with Speer Brothers. This License Agreement is for temporary use of the dump site in Mudbrook Road for staging of their equipment and construction materials relating to the South Main Street Watermain Replacement Project.

The City also entered into a License Agreement with DL Smith Concrete for temporary use of the east water tower site for staging of their equipment and construction materials relating to the 2023 Paving Program Project.

Upcoming Meetings – Charter Review Commission Meeting on Thursday, March 28th at 5pm in Council Chambers; reminder to everyone that the administrative offices will be closed at noon this Friday, March 29th in observance of Good Friday.

As a closing comment, I do believe early next week we are going to announce what, minimally, will be four public meetings throughout the City at various times to meet with the public interest in learning more about a potential income tax measure that may or may not be on the ballot in November. We are finalizing those dates and times, hopefully, tomorrow or Thursday, and will have those out on social media and other media channels on Monday or Tuesday of next week. Those are going to be early April through early May, and I do anticipate that in addition to those 4 public meetings, we are going to be reaching out to more select neighborhood groups, any which way we can connect with the public as best we can prior to Council having to make any decision about a potential ballot measure in June or July this summer.

For anyone that went through this extensive agenda tonight, the City was asking for a lot of money from a lot of different agencies and I do think that is a testament to our department heads and the administration's promise to Council and this Council's promise to the community that we will do anything and everything to find any dollar that is out there to limit the amount our residents are expected to pay for these projects. I think it is absolutely remarkable the amount of money we have been able to secure of the last 3-1/2 years, and I think we will be successful in securing in the future. It really is overwhelming

when you look at the agenda how well our department heads are able to find these funding streams and write competitive applications. Again, that was a promise of this staff and this Council to the community, and I think that was on display tonight on the agenda.

Mayor Tapp asked if Council had any questions for the City Manager.

Mr. Biddlecombe said he had more of a comment than a question and it goes to Mr. Engle, as well. He had a couple different residents reach out about transient rentals, and that they don't necessarily like them, but do tolerate that they are here, but wanted him to know that they know we have hit our limit for licenses, but they know there are more operating in the City than those that are licensed. They didn't want to give out names or addresses, but just wanted to let us know that they know there are some out there. Mr. Lasko answered that he certainly wouldn't doubt that, but we have over the years had several complaints in which we have been able to investigate and successfully issue cease and desist letters. They proactively monitor some of the more heavily used sites that are out there. That is not to say that there aren't more under-the-radar ways in which people can advertise and lease their properties. Certainly, if someone does call and give their name, and they cannot promise anonymity due to public records requests, he would encourage through some method to get that address to us. It is always something we can investigate. Mr. Biddlecombe said he was hoping to get that information, but they didn't want to be the person to point fingers at anyone. I at least wanted to bring it up. Mayor Tapp said that he doesn't know why they wouldn't give the information to Mr. Biddlecombe. The City monitors the sites, but it is a lot easier if someone that knows something lets the City know. If they don't know, they can't do anything about it. We have reached our limit, and if there are people out there doing it illegally, let us know and we will get on it.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp said:

Mr. Lasko, about the grant applications, that was the first thing in my discussion. I see some of it, but I don't see all of it. I just must give kudos to the staff. These grant applications they apply for... the amount of money we have received already is extremely touched the community as far as what we have to use out of the General Fund and what we get taken care of. Chief Graham, the Police Department and the Fire Department are always checking everything they can do. This does nothing but help us. Mr. Artino, because he has been here the longest, can say how different it is now compared to what it used to be. Mr. Artino said, big difference. I just want to thank the staff, every department and safety services for everything you are looking into.

I also want to thank the Charter Review Commission. Those folks are on their own taking care of things themselves. This is an appointment, but it is a volunteer appointment. I appreciate everything you guys are going. I know Mr. Harris is the Chairman for that. Thank you, and please pass it on to the members.

Chief, please make a statement saying that these are not speeding cameras or reading license plates to find speeders so that we can get hold of them. I have received inquiries about that, and some people have just noticed that some cameras up and the first thing that comes out is we are checking to see what they are doing. Chief Graham answered that he has put articles in the Sandusky Register and has told everybody who will listen. These things are amazing in what they have done so far. They are valuable, so I am glad they are getting used.

Councilman Dike and I went to Woodlands School yesterday and gave a little presentation to the 4th grade class on local government. They asked for us to attend and they had questions. The level of 4th graders compared to when we were in school is a little different. I was probably chewing mud back then. These guys are talking about starting their own businesses. It was amazing, and the questions they had were... it was very interesting and very informative not only for them, but also for us. We did 2 classes, and everything was great and went well. We are going to have some people coming up that will probably be sitting here sooner than later. We enjoyed that. I didn't know exactly what I was doing until yesterday afternoon because Mr. Dike likes to keep things secret. With that, I want to thank Council for all their support, and thank the staff. We do have a busy, busy year. Matt reminds me of that weekly. With that said, that's all I have.

For the Good of the Order

Sam Artino – I would like to congratulate Officer Blair. Welcome to our great City and our outstanding Department. I would also like to say on these grant applications, in the past, it wasn't as widespread throughout the departments as it is now, but I would like to recognize that's probably been here as long as me, Mr. Steinwart. Doug has a history of applying for a lot of grants, if he remembers correctly. That's one person that I think is part of the group who has been doing this for a while and he has been very successful with a lot of them. Not to put any pressure on you, Doug.... Doug has a history of helping out the City with those grant applications, as well, and I think the people that were here did what they could, but it has across the board been more than I have ever seen. I would like to thank everyone on staff for their hard work and what they are doing. I agree with Mr. Lasko, we made a commitment a while back that we would do all we could to keep local dollars, and apply for everything we can, and I think we're doing that. Thanks again.

Mark Claus – Congrats to new full-time Officer Blair, and thanks again, everyone has been stating it... all of the efforts of all of the departments in grant applications. I just remember specifically when we were talking about the water rates, that was one of the specifics. During Finance Committee, we said we are going to vote on this, but it is contingent on you continuing to work on finding sources for things so that when we do a review in 3 years, we don't have to even consider increasing again, and could consider backing off if we find a whole bunch of funding for water, in particular. Across the board, all department heads have done an amazing job. I want to give kudos for that. I also want to tell everyone, Happy Easter upcoming this weekend. People are going on spring break, vacation, etc. – have a nice beginning to Spring.

Joel Hagy – First of all, I don't know why you looked at me when you said you are demonstrably older than me. I don't mean to over-index on this, but I was also going to bring it up. If you look at the agenda today, and full 1/3 of the items we acted on were to find funding sources. That shows me the power of having professionals in charge of the stuff that you guys do. I really appreciate that.

Matt Grieves – Congratulations to Officer Blair.

William Biddlecombe – I would like to thank staff for their hard work and wish everyone a Happy Easter, and Go Tigers!

Executive Session

None.

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, Grieves, Hagy (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of March 26, 2024 was adjourned at 7:46pm.

Adopted: 09 JUL 2024


Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council