

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 12, 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: **Sam Artino, Mark Claus, Monty Tapp, Joe Dike, Matt Grieves and Joel Hagy.** Member absent: **William Biddlecombe.**

Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse the absence of Mr. Biddlecombe 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, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Artino (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed.

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Dike to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2024 regular Council meeting, as written.

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

YEAS: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Artino, Claus Tapp 6)

NAYS: None (0)

With more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and the minutes of the regular Council meeting of January 23, 2024 were adopted.

Motion by Mr. Dike to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 regular Council meeting, as written.

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

YEAS: Dike, Hagy, Artino, Claus, Tapp (5)

ABSTAIN: Grieves (6)

NAYS: None (0)

With more than a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and the minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 13, 2024 were adopted.

Audience Comments

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

None.

Mayor Tapp wished Jack Evans, the City's Water Superintendent a happy birthday.

Old Business

Motion by Mr. Artino to table Ordinance Nos. 2023-51, 2023-52, 2023-55, 2023-56 and 2023-57.

Mr. Hagy said this is the second or third time these ordinances have been tabled, and asked why. Mr. Artino said that he has some concerns about enforcement and has spoken with the Law Directors, and they are going to be looking at some things with the Mayor. Mr. Schrader added that he has been talking to staff as late as today about having one more go-through to make sure that everything is covered. To Councilman Artino's point, he said that it is to make sure everything is tidy.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance Nos. 2023-51, 2023-52, 2023-55, 2023-56 and 2023-57 were tabled.

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.

Ordinance No. 2024-2 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Grieves that Ordinance No. 2024-2 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING SECTION 165.03 (FACILITIES FEES) UNDER CHAPTER 165 (DIVISION OF RECREATION) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-2 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Steinwart said the Nickel Plate Beach fees will be going from \$6 to \$7, keeping the resident seasonal passes at \$25, and increasing the non-resident from \$30 to \$40. With regard to the pickleball courts, facility fees will be \$5 for 2 hours for residents and \$10 per court for 2 hours for non-residents from Monday through Friday. They hope that this will help them to manage that new facility better. They will see how it goes and if they have to make adjustments, they will. They are using a lot of the legwork that Erie MetroParks provided to them through their 7 years' experience with the growing sport of pickleball. The last fee change is the exclusive rights fee for facility usage fees for outside tournaments, which will now be \$1,500 per day.

Mr. Hagy said that these seem to be fairly modest fee increases, and asked if Mr. Steinwart has an estimate of how much more income that would generate. Mr. Steinwart said with NPB going from \$6-\$7 over the 5-year average, would be \$7,000-\$8,000. With increased staffing and beach cleaning and combing, additions to the temporary restroom facilities, added water features (foot washing station, drinking fountains), they feel that it is reasonable. The last increase was in 2019.

The Clerk advised the Mayor that a roll call was needed to place Ordinance No. 2024-2 on its third reading. 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 placing the ordinance on its third reading. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2024-2 was placed on its first reading.

Mr. Dike asked if the teams holding tournaments at Fabens Park are limited in the amount they are allowed to charge per car for parking. Mr. Steinwart answered that there is a maximum of \$20 per tournament. The proceeds go to the organization running the tournament. The City does run its own tournament, Dog Daze Softball. There is no difference for resident vs. non-resident.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-2. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-2 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 10-2024

Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 10-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO, WITH THE HURON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RELATIVE TO THEIR LAKE FRONT MARKET EVENT TO BE HELD AT LAKE FRONT PARK ON FRIDAY, JUNE 7th AND SATURDAY, JUNE 8th , 2024) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being more than five votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 10-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Steinwart explained that ordinance relates to the annual agreement with the Huron Chamber of Commerce for the Lakefront Market event. There will be a half-day on that Friday (2pm-9pm), and all day on Saturday. There is a \$750 charge to have exclusive use of the park. They have had no complaints from the residents in that area because they do request to block off half of Wall Street and a portion of Center Street. That has worked over the past couple of years, and they have had no resident complaints in that corridor. It has been a positive event for the Chamber and for the City. We have a lot of people come visit, including a lot of residents, and get a lot of positive feedback.

The Mayor said that this is a great event, and it's still good that the Chamber is pushing this. Mr. Lasko added that he doesn't know how well it's known publicly, the Huron Chamber of Commerce is going through a formal merging process with the Greater Sandusky Partnership ("GSP"). The Chamber staff is

now actually part of the staff of the Greater Sandusky Partnership. Those organizations still must complete the merger legally, but one of the things that is very important through this merging process is whether it's the Huron Chamber or any other organization, there are going to be some sacred events or activities that these organizations have historically done, that GSP will continue to do moving forward. The Lakefront Market event is one of those events they believe will continue annually, even during and after the transition.

Mr. Artino asked if the events will be coordinated through GSP instead of the Huron Chamber – it won't be called the Huron Chamber? Mr. Lasko said that it will be under the name of GSP, but there will be a staff member of GSP that is dedicated to Huron that will be here physically here in the City and will dedicate the majority of their time to City interests. Mr. Artino said he is more concerned with the billing – is it going to be called a Huron event, or Greater Sandusky event? Mr. Lasko answered that he thinks that the Chamber will eventually go away through the merger, and the umbrella of GSP will take over. He didn't want to speak on behalf of GSP, but he does know that they are very sensitive about the name, specifically, as they have been reaching out to a couple of other jurisdictions that have a little concern with the GSP name. He thinks that is something that GSP and their board are going to look at in terms of creating an umbrella organization that is working in individual jurisdictions that want to have their own identity.

Mr. Claus asked Mr. Steinwart if the closures on Center Street and Wall Street are on just one side of the road. How do the people that live there get into their driveways? Mr. Steinwart answered that the entire streets are closed, but they have volunteers through the Chamber to man the barricades. They will reach out to those homeowners before the event to explain what they need to do for access to their driveways.

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. 10-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 10-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 18-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 18-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FROM HUFFMAN EQUIPMENT RENTAL & CONTRACTING, INC. FOR THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL DREDGING, TRANSPORT AND PLACEMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL 1,850 CUBIC YARDS OF DREDGE MATERIAL RELATING TO THE HURON BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$27,657.50), BRINGING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT TO THREE HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$394,105.00) 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: Grieves, Hagy, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 18-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Steinwart provided some background information on how they got to the subject change order. Before the bidding process, they do manual soundings to try to find the quantity by taking each dock, repoint it, and then graph it out. After the bid was awarded, they do pre-dredge soundings with sonar on a boat. They reach the areas where the manual soundings can't get to. They take pictures of the channels, turnarounds, etc. That's where the 1850 cu. yds. difference comes in. They will also do a post-dredge sounding when they are done, hopefully in a few weeks, and then they will use the pre-dredge from the GPS to determine the quantity. It is \$14.95 per cu. yd. for the 1850 cu. yds.

Mayor Tapp said he was told that the actual amount wasn't changed. Mr. Hamilton said that when he told him that, he answered incorrectly – the total amount has changed because of the increase in sounding amounts. Mr. Claus asked if the amount will be reconciled at the end, which was confirmed by Mr. Steinwart. The City won't pay more, but could pay less. They want them to hit that quantity. This extra amount of dredge material being removed at \$14.98/cu. yd. will result in an additional 2+ years before they must dredge again. Asked by Mr. Dike how much they will be removing, Mr. Steinwart answered that per the contract and this change order, it would be close to 15,000 cu. yds. The average span between dredgings has been 10 years in the past. This cycle has been 14 years (since 2009). They got an extra 3 years due to the high-water levels. Asked by Mr. Dike where they are dumping the spoils, Mr. Steinwart answered that it is deposited in a dumping ground 3 miles north of the lighthouse. They were not able to do open water dumping the last several years, and that's why they had to get the EPA's certifications (4 different testings/soundings) to prove that they are clean enough to dump in the open lake. They can do that if it is under a certain quantity. They are trying to get to -8 low water datum. Where the water level is now, they will probably end up at 9' deep – that's the goal. The shallowest part is just behind the amphitheater, and it gets deeper as you move toward to entrance of the harbor. Asked by Mr. Grieves if they had any issues with pulling the docks, Mr. Steinwart answered that they have had some issues, but they have allowed a contingency for those issues. Two of the piers did not settle back on the inner piling after the Memorial Day storm a couple of years ago, and they are now finding those inner pilings when they are dredging. They have recovered 12 of those inner pilings, which can be reused/reattached with chains.

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. 18-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 18-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 19-2024

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 19-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SMITH PAVING & EXCAVATING INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES RELATING TO REMOVAL OF THE SLUDGE RETENTION DIKE AT THE HURON WATER FILTRATION PLANT IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$29,535.00)) 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: Grieves, Hagy, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 19-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans explained that the water treatment plant has a sludge lagoon that handles all their solids removed in the treatment process. That is all the sludge that settles out in their sedimentation basins, as well as all of the backwash water from their filters. All that water is sent to the lagoon, the sludge settled out, and decant water trickles off to the creek and back to the lake. Once a year, they rent a long reach for staff to dredge the lagoon and put it in the retention dike to dry. Over the last several years, their flows have doubled, resulting in the generation of a lot more sludge. While they used to have only one retention dike, they now have two. This is the second dike – it has never been hauled offsite before. Once it is dried, it will be hauled offsite, and they will start over with the process.

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. 19-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 19-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 20-2024

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 20-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD THE BID AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DANIEL R. SCHMOLDT ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES RELATING TO THE 2024 HURON PUBLIC POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM EXPANSION PROJECT – PHASE 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$369,870.00)) 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: Hagy, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 20-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton said that he would be covering both Resolutions 20-2024 and 23-2024 at the same time, as they are for the same project. This project will finally get HPP out from its historic footprint and travel north of the tracks. This will expand HPP down from University Drive to the railroad tracks, under the tracks, and will take it down to the west end of Sawmill Parkway. The two westerly owners of the parcels at that end of Sawmill Parkway have granted easements to HPP so that they can work outside of the right-of-way. This project will put conduit and live cable in the ground. The second agenda (Resolution No. 23-2024) is to buy the actual switching gear. What that does is it takes HPP's voltage and regulates it to whatever the businesses need on Sawmill Parkway. The DRS contract is to install everything.

Mr. Dike asked if the businesses on Sawmill Parkway have access to this power, or not yet? Mr. Hamilton answered, not yet – this will get power down there, and then they will start working through the easements to take power down the Parkway and start supplying the businesses on the Parkway. Mr. Dike asked if there are any projections on how much HPP can gain from getting the Sawmill Creek customers. Mr. Hamilton said they have looked at them and have also looked hard at Ardagh. It will be a fight to pull Ardagh over. He thinks they still must convince them that they are a reliable electric company. If they are willing to move over to us, they will become our biggest customer. They have talked to them, but still have some work to do. Mr. Dike asked if any infrastructure for this was installed as part of the Sawmill Parkway Reconstruction Project. Mr. Hamilton answered that the critical crossings in; wherever it would be necessary to dig the road up, a critical crossing was installed. They also put in spots for new lights. As far as the actual expansion of HPP distribution is concerned, they will put in that infrastructure as they go. They are going to try to pay for the infrastructure as they sign up customers. They don't want to keep throwing money at it in the hope that they will come. We will be going to our customers to talk to them when they are ready.

Mr. Dike asked about the \$400,000 just to get where we are currently to Sawmill Parkway. He is assuming the next project, hopefully after all of this, would be to go under Route 2 – how much would that cost? Mr. Hamilton said they are estimating that to be roughly the same price. Believe it or not, it may be easier to go under Route 2 than it was to go under the train tracks. Dealing with Norfolk Southern and all of the things that go with it make it more difficult. It is an easier and cleaner bore to go under Route 2 – you pick a path and then you can shoot straight across. Mr. Dike asked if the easements have been finalized, and did we have to give up a lot to obtain them? Mr. Hamilton answered, no.

Mr. Artino asked if conduit was put in on Sawmill Parkway. Mr. Hamilton answered that they installed critical crossings – anything that would make them disturb the road. They didn't open up enough of the outside of the roadway where the power conduit would have gone to justify that additional cost in that project, and they couldn't get any of that money back from EDA if they did it. They got their critical stuff in, but the general expansion infrastructure will be put as they go.

Mayor Tapp said he thinks that the goal is to have HPP pay for itself and cover the cost of the expansion. Eventually, the goal is to expand HPP over the years to all the businesses and then to the residents. HPP was brought about as an economic development tool to help businesses; it is not there to make money. HPP must sustain its own bank accounts so they can offer it, but their job is to take cheap and reliable power to businesses so they can do better. Mr. Artino asked if HPP has a backup to the substation. Mr. Hamilton answered that HPP currently has 2 transformers. Before Mucci came along, they only did direct supply. After Mucci came on, they are just about to add the third transformer. That third transformer will get us enough redundancy to lose a transformer and still supply all our customers. If Ardagh was brought on, that would require a whole new substation. Everyone along Sawmill Parkway and existing customers would continue to receive power if one transformer is lost. Asked by Mr. Grieves how many existing customers HPP currently has, Mr. Hamilton answered 12 - 11 on University Drive and Mucci.

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. 20-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 20-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 23-2024

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 23-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PEPCO PROFESSIONAL ELECTRIC PRODUCTS COMPANY FOR THE PURCHASE OF SWITCH GEAR RELATING TO THE 2024 HURON PUBLIC POWER EXPANSION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND XX/100 (\$58,700.00)) 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: Hagy, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 23-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The 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. 23-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 23-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 24-2024

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 24-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE BID AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SPEER BROTHERS, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES RELATING TO THE SOUTH MAIN STREET WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY-NINE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,549,899.00)) 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, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 24-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans stated that this project includes replacing the water mains on S. Main Street, Mudbrook, Huron-Avery, Valley View, Hickory, Forest Hills, Mill Street and Huron Street. They were pleasantly surprised with this bid because it came in significantly under the engineer's estimate of \$3.14 Million. Part of that is due to Speer Bros. boring a lot of the waterline work instead of open-cut trenching. That saves on a lot of rehab work. They are looking forward to working with Speer Bros. and they are looking forward to getting started, if awarded, in the next month or so. Mr. Hamilton added that they are also doing a full resurfacing of Valley View, Forest Hills and Avery as part of the project.

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. 24-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 24-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 22-2024

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 22-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHM ADVISORS FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES RELATING TO THE SOUTH MAIN STREET WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY AND XX/100 (\$197,680.00)) 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, Dike, Grievess, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 22-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans explained that OHM Advisors will be providing the construction and inspection services for this project. The majority of these funds will be paid as the project progresses at the standard hourly rate.

Mr. Dike said if OHM Advisors is inspecting and something goes drastically wrong; who is responsible for that, the City or the people that are inspecting it? Mr. Hamilton answered that on contracts like this, there is usually a performance bond that will last for the length of that contract. The City is covered by that bond. After that is gone, then the City is responsible for anything that breaks on top of that. Especially with water main projects, most of that construction inspection is just to check how it is installed. Water mains are always going to break. So long as someone's got eyes on it to make sure it is put in the right material, it is packed properly and connected properly, then that performance bond will time out and the City will be responsible for everything after.

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. 22-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grievess, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 22-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 26-2024

Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 26-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, ON BEHALF OF THE HURON POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GANLEY CHEVROLET OF AURORA, LLC FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PATROL VEHICLE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY-TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SIXTY AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$52,160.00)) 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: Dike, Grievess, Hagy, 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 26-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Chief Graham explained that this resolution authorizes the purchase of a new police SUV vehicle, which is a 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe from Ganley of Aurora for \$52,160. They were authorized by the 2024 budget to get one new SUV this year, which they were going to dedicate for the K-9 because it had to be specially outfitted. They usually use Statewide as their distributor, and they also put their vehicles together. It was readily apparent that it was going to be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to locate a vehicle. Statewide had no vehicles, Whiteside had no vehicles, he researched with Foster Chevrolet, Valley Ford (who has 12 dealerships), Montrose and Ganley in Aurora. Ganley in Aurora was the only dealership that had 2 vehicles left. The other thing hampering this purchase is the color silver. The color silver is not made as a stock item; those are specially made, and they don't just buy 10 of them and leave them on the lots because very few police departments have silver (most are black or white). This purchase is \$6,000 cheaper than what Whiteside had quoted. This vehicle will be specifically earmarked for the K-9 Unit. They must purchase special equipment for that, which is the insert. That will probably keep this vehicle from being deployed for about 3-4 months because that is how long it takes for that insert to come in.

The training company that they sent their K-9 officer to provide the Department with an alternative to get the K-9 on the road. They informed them that they have a retro kit they could allow them to use until they get their own. They are borrowing the equipment that is in the K-9 officer's vehicle. They helped them out so that they could get the K-9 unit up and rolling. They will have to give that back; they are not renting it to them, it is just part of the training. This is a black vehicle. He investigated what it would cost to paint it silver, which is right around \$8,000. He doesn't think it would be very responsible to spend that much money just because of a color. He was happy to hear that the price of the vehicle was \$6,000 less than what he was expecting. The Chevy Tahoe's state bid is less than the Ford Explorer. They are looking at cycling out the Dodge Chargers. The Chargers are safety issues in bad weather.

Mayor Tapp commended Chief Graham for checking with all those dealerships. That way, people know that an attempt was made to use a local dealership. Mr. Grievs asked if there are any special/specific options the vehicle must have – is that why it is so difficult to find? Chief Graham said that the vehicle must have a "police package." Ford, Dodge and Chevy all have police packages. It comes with everything. That's why used police cars are a pretty popular commodity – they have bigger everything, everything is beefed up (power train, radiator, coolant, and they are pursuit rated). Asked by Mr. Grievs how long it will take to retrofit the vehicle to be ready to use, besides the actual crate, Captain Graham answered that they are going to do everything that they can until they get that insert in. The price is just for the vehicle, not the retrofitting.

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. 26-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: **Dike, Grievs, Hagy, Artino, Claus, Tapp (6)**
NAYS: **None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 26-2024 was adopted. The Resolution 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 Development Update – We do anticipate starting interviews with those development firms this week and carry into the third or fourth week of March, as well, in hopes of bringing them into Council so that Council and the community can see those plans. We still want to vet them a little more in the upcoming weeks.

Oster's Mobile Home Park – As of today, we are still waiting for final gas and water hookups with our final tenant, who is still in temporary housing. Columbia Gas is scheduled to come out tomorrow to install the final service line and do their final pressure test. Assuming that is approved tomorrow, they will set the meter and then we can turn on the water, as well. We are still securing bids to undertake the final grading and seeding at the Oster's Mobile Home site.

Firelands Scientific Expansion – At the February Planning Commission meeting, plans were approved for two expansions at the Firelands Scientific facility. The first is about 15,000 sq. ft. of additional cultivation space which, based on the approval, will result in four smaller greenhouses being added and then an additional 3,000 sq. ft. is being added for increased lab space. We anticipate this is going to lead to significant job growth, as well, although we don't have final numbers from Firelands Scientific. We are very appreciative of their continued investment in the facility and their commitment to Huron.

Public Works/Streets – This is semi-related to the Main Street Water Line Project. As we advertised that project to the community, we started getting a lot of feedback about the desire for more formalized and beefed-up crosswalks at Valley View and Forest Hills. Fortunately, we were able to work with the Ohio Department of Transportation through their Systemic Safety Dollars Program, and they have awarded 90% of those costs to the City. We anticipate the project cost for those flashing beacons, crosswalks, and concrete work to be about \$134,000, of which ODOT would cover \$120,000. We don't necessarily know that that will be installed simultaneously because this is treated as a separate project, but we are pushing hard to get that complete when the Main Street Water Main Replacement Project is done. We are certainly appreciative of the community's feedback and request for that. I am very pleased that we were able to find a way to get it done and paid for predominantly by ODOT.

US-6 Connectivity Corridor Project – This is the very large ODOT sponsored project that will go from Rye Beach Road westward to the Sandusky limits and will address several improvements at major intersections along the corridor. I want to note to the public and interested stakeholders that there is an in person public information open house on March 28th from 6-8pm at BGSU Firelands Cedar Point Center Auditorium. This is for folks to learn more about the project and ask questions. Additionally, there is a 30-day virtual option for individuals to learn about the project. That virtual option will open on March 28th and be available through April 28th. If folks are interested in that option, they are encouraged to visit www.publicinput.com/usr6.

Parks and Recreation – The City is partnering with the Huron Lions Club, Horvath Roofing and Akzo Nobel to present the Annual Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt. Breakfast will be served at 8am at First Presbyterian Church, and a magic show will follow at 10am. Finally, after the magic show, the egg hunt will take place at the Boat Basin at 1pm.

Boat Basin Dredging – Mr. Steinwart highlighted the ongoing dredging at the Boat Basin. They started that work on February 26th, and we believe they are making good progress, and we are hoping for them to be completed in the next couple of weeks, weather permitting.

Flock Safety Camera Update – As of last week, and he knows this number has grown significantly, we have over 250,000 license plate reads because of those cameras, and as mentioned, it has been used in several situations with positive results. We will continue to monitor those reads and provide updates to the public and Council to understand the importance of that system for enhanced safety throughout the community.

Personnel and Administration – I want to provide a few updates, specifically regarding the Boat Basin Facility Manager. After interviewing several applicants, Mr. Steinwart offered that position to a local resident, Mr. Bryan Edwards, who started with us yesterday. Bryan comes to us with 10+ years of managerial experience and an extensive background in marketing, public relations, and event planning through his work at both Cedar Point and Lake Erie Shores & Islands. We are happy to have him onboard.

We have a lot of opportunities for seasonal positions with Huron Parks & Recreation. These part-time seasonal positions include Nickle Plate Beach parking attendants, youth program assistants, parks maintenance crew and Huron Boat Basin dockhands. To apply for those positions, please visit www.cityofhuron.org or look at our social media channels for more information.

New Patrol Officer – After a lengthy search 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 officer with our Department for 3 years. We are happy to have him back. He will start on March 27th and will be officially sworn in at our March 26th Council meeting.

Agreements – Agreements that I have signed that didn't need councilmatic approval include the 2 easements mentioned by Mr. Hamilton earlier in the meeting relating to the expansion of Huron Public Power. There were too many existing underground utilities in the right-of-way, which lead to the City exploring burying our conduit on private property. Those agreements were entered into with 5 Crooks LLC and Bradley Francis, individually.

Upcoming Meetings – We have a Records Commission meeting on Wednesday, March 13th at 9:00am in the main conference room; Charter Review Commission on Thursday, March 14th at 5pm in the Council Chambers; Planning Commission on Wednesday, March 20th at 5pm in the Council Chambers; second City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 26th at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers; second Charter Review Commission on Thursday, March 28th in the Council Chamber.

REMINDER: Administrative offices will be closed at noon on Friday, March 29th in observance of Good Friday.

Jeff Fantozzi – Unfortunately, we lost one of our own, Jeff Fantozzi. He passed away on Sunday, March 3rd. He was our Zoning Inspector and passed away suddenly due to a short illness. He was a wonderful colleague, a great person and will certainly be missed. We extend our condolences to his family. To anyone that was able to go to the service last Friday, it was amazingly overwhelming. Hundreds upon hundreds of people attended, which I think is a testament to Jeff's life and how many people he impacted. He will be missed.

Mr. Dike asked when Council voted to allow them to put in roundabouts. Mr. Lasko answered that this Council did not vote. This is an ODOT at the State level managed project. Ultimately, the political jurisdictions that they are going to be installing those in, which is Huron, Sandusky, Perkins and Huron Township, are not voted on by the political jurisdictions. Mr. Dike stressed that Huron's Council did not have an opportunity to say yea or nay, correct? Mr. Lasko answered, that is correct.

Mr. Dike asked if there is going to be sweeping of the bike lane areas on a consistent basis? There is a lot of debris there and a lot of people use those, and it looks pretty ratty. If we are going to upkeep the painting, we should upkeep with street sweeping, as well. Mr. Lasko answered that the City does sweep those, but he deferred to Mr. Hamilton if it is on a schedule, and if not, to consider putting it on a regular schedule.

Mr. Dike said that he was at the Donut Shoppe this past week and an individual, Mr. Tony Munafo, said he has some Omni tubing that is still sticking out of the ground at 803 Glenview. Mr. Munafo asked how he can get this resolved. Mr. Hamilton answered that he should call him at extension 1104. The first step should be, if they know who the fiber company is, to call the company. If they don't get any rectification through that call, then can then call the City. Mr. Dike said that he couldn't get in touch with anyone at Omni.

Mr. Dike asked when the new website will be launched. Mr. Hamilton answered that they have just finished their meeting on the site plan and the actual design of the pages, and they are currently working through the migration and the setting up of the site. They expect it to be up this year, and once they actually have the site fully built out, they will have a better idea of the date.

Mr. Dike said that he has a neighbor that has put in a security light that is rather bright when somebody walks by. He knows that several years ago they went through extensive and exhaustive research regarding light pollution with Mucci Farms. Is there anything a resident can do? He was told that there is nothing a resident can do. Is that true? Mr. Hamilton answered that it is his understanding that the answer he received is correct, but he will check. Mr. Dike said, if he gets a light and shines it directly into his neighbor's window, is there nothing they can do? Mr. Hamilton answered that that is more of a zoning question, and he will get a definitive answer for him. Mr. Schrader added that their office did research on this. This question was posited, and he will send the research to Mr. Dike. He doesn't want to guess, but he thinks the result was that the City is powerless to do something, but from a nuisance standpoint, the

neighboring property owner may be able to do something. Mr. Hagy suggested that this may be the same person that they discussed a few months ago regarding the exact same matter.

Mayor Tapp asked if Firelands Scientific is a customer of HPP. Mr. Hamilton answered that they are currently the second-largest customer using HPP power.

Mr. Dike asked about the tree/foliage clearing – is that on public property? Mr. Lasko answered that the City did Route 6 at the guardrails, which is ODOT right-of-way. They also have done them on the bridge as you are heading east out of town. Candidly, that is Norfolk Southern property, and they are never going to do it themselves. They try to do it as a courtesy for pedestrians who are walking by. They also recently did the walk path that heads from Woodlands to Cleveland Road. While some people may think that may be a sidewalk affiliated with the schools, that is public right-of-way. The City predominantly, with exception of the Norfolk Southern property, have done the clearing on City or ODOT right-of-way.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp said:

First and foremost, I would like to give my condolences to Jeff Fantozzi's family and friends. As Mr. Lasko said, almost every staff member attended the funeral at the church in Sandusky, and it was overwhelming with the number of people who were there. Jeff did a lot for Huron High School as the strength and conditioning coach. He knew Jeff before he got hired here – not really well, but in passing. He will be missed, and it was a quick passing. Again, my condolences to his family and friends.

The dredging was long-overdue. Hopefully, this is the start of getting the Boat Basin moving forward, and its renewal.

Mr. Evans, there is a lot going on and you will be busy this summer. I will give Mr. Evans props; we had a leak off Sawmill Parkway and I did stop out there a couple of times, and he was in the trench with a tshirt on, and he was moving better than Mr. Ochs. He got in there and got dirty, so congratulations. We do have a lot going on with the waterline going in.

For the public's knowledge, we are still looking in a quiet zone. That is an ongoing process, and we are getting more information on that. I will reiterate what Mr. Dike said, we did not vote on those roundabouts. That's all I have.

For the Good of the Order

Joe Dike – I would also like to give my condolences to Jeff Fantozzi and his family. I would also like to give my condolences to the Rosemary Reece family. They are a great family, and they lost Rosemary. I am very sorry for that loss. There is one other thing – I would also like to welcome Bryan Edwards and Zachary Blair to the City of Huron, and I will be out of town on March 26th (the next meeting), so I wanted to give the Mayor notice of that. He will be out of town. Lastly, thank you for answering all the questions, and he has one more question. Last night, there was a BZA meeting. He knows that there were several different items on the agenda. What were the outcomes on those? I know that there were some emails circulated,

and he hadn't had a chance to ask or find out. Mr. Lasko answered that it is his understanding, although he hasn't seen anything in writing, that he believes all of those were approved last night.

Sam Artino – Also, I would like to express my condolences to the Fantozzi family and the Reece family. That's all I have.

Mark Claus – I want to express my condolences to the Jeff Fantozzi family, as well. As many people have said, he was far too young, and it was far too quick. This is a tragic loss of a great community member and employee of the City. That's all I have.

Joel Hagy – I just want to express my condolences to Mr. Fantozzi's family. That's far too young, and may his memory be a blessing to them. Happy Birthday, Jack. That's all I have.

Matt Grieves – My condolences to the Fantozzi family. Jeff did a lot for me, and also a lot of the student athletes. He will be missed.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Artino 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:

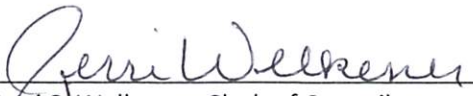
YEAS: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of March 12, 2024 was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Adopted: _____

14 MAY 2024



Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council