

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 6:30pm

Call to Order

The Mayor called to order the regular Council meeting of December 9, 2025 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

Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse the absence of Mr. Biddlecombe.

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, Harris, Hagy, Dike, Artino, Tapp (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Mr. Biddlecombe's absence was excused.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Stuart Hamilton, Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert, Police Chief Terry Graham, Parks & Recreation Director Doug Steinwart, Water Superintendent Jack Evans, and Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council.

Approval of Minutes

Motion

Motion by Mr. Dike to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2025 regular meeting and September 23, 2025 work session and regular meeting of Council, as written.

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

YEAS: Dike, Artino, Tapp, Claus, Hagy (5)
ABSTAIN: Harris (1)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and the minutes of the September 9, 2025 and September 23, 2025 regular meetings and September 23, 2025 work session of Council were adopted.

Presentation

Jennifer Buch, Director of the Huron Public Library, provided an update on library services. She emphasized how the library provides important social connections for patrons of all ages, noting that

studies show people with strong social connections are happier, healthier, and live longer. Ms. Book highlighted various programs that foster community connections:

- Gaming programs including Euchre, Mahjong, Chess, and Scrabble
- Art Club where patrons create art together
- Stitch Niche for knitting and crocheting
- Discussion groups like Socrates Club and five monthly book discussions
- Lake Erie Writers Alliance and sign language group

Ms. Buch also mentioned recent successful events including their annual Trick-or-Reading in October and the annual holiday open house the previous weekend. She noted that the Friends of the Library Book Sale had raised enough funds to purchase the final AWE computer for the children's area.

Audience Comments

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

There were no citizens that addressed the Council at this meeting.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2025-31 (second reading)

Motion by Mr. Tapp that Ordinance No. 2025-31 (AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026) be placed on its second reading.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2025-31 was placed upon its second reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Phillips provided an overview of the 2026 Municipal Budget. The proposed budget totals \$53.9 million in appropriations, a \$1.1 million reduction from the 2025 budget of \$55 million. Phillips explained this reduction reflects efforts to save where possible, with a significant portion coming from changes in the health care plan that provides relief to all departments.

Mr. Phillips emphasized that this approach allows flexibility as the city responds to changes in revenue and expenses. He noted they are close to achieving a 5-year balance point, but two funds - fire and stormwater - continue to struggle with rising costs and stagnant revenue. To address these issues, the finance committee recommended increasing the stormwater management fee from \$5 per quarter to \$5 per month and placing an operating fire levy on an upcoming ballot.

During discussion, Councilmember Dike asked about the stormwater fee increase. Mr. Hamilton explained that the current stormwater fees bring in just over \$80,000 annually, which is insufficient for proper maintenance. The increased fee would allow for better maintenance of catch basins, jetting, and clearing ditch lines, as well as more accurate allocation of staff time to the appropriate department. Hamilton clarified that when the city took over the stormwater system from the county, the \$5 quarterly fee was established but has proven inadequate for system maintenance.

Council discussed challenges with ditch maintenance, including the difficulty of enforcing consistent standards among property owners. Hamilton mentioned ongoing discussions with the county about possibly extending their ditch maintenance into city limits, noting the county has the proper equipment and expertise.

Mr. Phillips noted a public hearing on the budget is scheduled for December 23rd before the regular council meeting.

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

Motion

Motion by Mr. Claus to affirm compliance with Section 7 of Ordinance No. 2022-50, with no changes.

Mr. Hamilton explained that in 2022, an ordinance was passed allowing the city manager to handle certain routine matters without requiring council approval, such as approving signs and signing off on certain processes. The ordinance included a provision requiring annual council review to confirm it was still working as intended. Hamilton noted that even with this authority, the city manager still brings significant items to council for approval and keeps council informed of all agreements through the city manager's report.

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, Harris, Hagy, Dike, Artino, Tapp (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed.

New Business

Resolution No. 82-2025

Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 82-2025 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE HURON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE ALLOCATION OF PARTIAL FUNDING OF A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER POSITION WITHIN HURON CITY SCHOOLS FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR FROM JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027) 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: Harris, Hagy, Dike, Artino, Tapp, Claus (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived and Resolution No. 82-2025 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Chief Graham explained that this resolution authorizes a memorandum of agreement (MOU) with the Huron City School District regarding the School Resource Officer program. After the SRO attended basic training, it was recommended as a best practice to have a formal document outlining goals, roles, duties, and expectations for the program. The document was developed collaboratively between the city and school district and had already been unanimously approved by the school board. The MOU is for one year starting July 1, 2026, and will be reviewed annually.

School Superintendent Dr. Tatman was present and expressed appreciation for Chief Graham's leadership and collaboration. He noted that while they previously had an MOU for cost-sharing, this new agreement defines service expectations, establishing "the new normal" for operations moving forward.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 82-2025 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 87-2025

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 87-2025 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE BID AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THAYER POWER & COMMUNICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR INSTALLATION OF THE NEW 15 kV SWITCHGEAR SECTIONS AND CONNECTIONS, INCLUDING TESTING AND COMMISSIONING, RELATED TO THE HURON PUBLIC POWER SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$431,600.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 87-2025 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained this resolution is part of the third transformer project. The city had previously purchased the transformer and switch gear, and this agreement with Thayer Power & Communications will cover the cabling and electronics configuration. Hamilton reminded council that the city had issued \$2.5 million in bonds last year to pay for this project. The bid from Thayer at \$431,600 was the lowest of four bids received, with other bids ranging up to over \$2 million. The project is expected to be completed by May 2026.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 87-2025 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 88-2025

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 88-2025 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXPEND FUNDS TO KLEINFELDER GROUP INC. FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION AND SPECIALTY TANK INSPECTION SERVICES RELATED TO THE 2 MILLION GALLON ELEVATED TANK PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY-TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED NINETY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$82,490.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 88-2025 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans explained this resolution authorizes \$82,490 for construction observation and specialty tank inspection services by Kleinfelder Group for the new water tower project. This represents the second part of the engineering and design agreement with Kleinfelder, who has contracted Nelson Tank for specialty inspections. Evans reported that the foundation for the water tower has been poured and the next phase will be pedestal construction starting in the new year.

Mr. Hamilton added that anyone wishing to visit the construction site should access it through the back of the Ardagh building to avoid disrupting operations.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 88-2025 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 89-2025

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 89-2025 (A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO PLACE AN ADDITIONAL TAX LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, MECHANICAL RESUSCITATORS, UNDERWATER RESCUE AND RECOVERY EQUIPMENT, OR OTHER FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES, BUILDINGS AND SITES THEREFOR, OR SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY AND MATERIALS THEREFOR, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF FIRE-ALARM COMMUNICATIONS, FOR THE PAYMENT OF FIREFIGHTING COMPANIES OR PERMANENT, PART-TIME, OR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTING, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OR COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL TO OPERATE THE SAME, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF ANY EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL UNDER SECTION 145.48 OR 742.34 OF THE REVISED CODE, FOR THE PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT, FOR THE PROVISION OF AMBULANCE, PARAMEDIC, OR OTHER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OPERATED BY A FIRE DEPARTMENT OR FIREFIGHTING COMPANY AND REQUESTING THE ERIE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY THAT ADDITIONAL LEVY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 89-2025 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that the finance committee recommended pursuing an additional fire levy to address funding shortfalls. The Fire Fund currently requires over \$400,000 from the general fund, despite the intended annual commitment being \$200,000. Mr. Hamilton noted that fire department revenue has remained static while expenses continue to rise. The department is handling more runs with more equipment and greater activity than ever before.

The resolution would seek an additional 1.5 mill levy, keeping the existing levy in place. Hamilton stated that this would cost property owners \$52.50 per \$100,000 of property value. He also noted that Huron Township is planning to pursue their own levy, though the two levies are independent of each other and would help each entity pay their share of fire service costs.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 89-2025 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 90-2025

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 90-2025 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS FOR THE ANNUAL SOFTWARE SUPPORT CONTRACT FOR VISUAL INTELLIGENCE SOFTWARE AND PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED THERETO AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR AND 90/100 DOLLARS (\$25,174.90)) 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, Harris, Hagy, Dike, Artino, Tapp (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 90-2025 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Phillips explained this resolution authorizes an agreement with Software Solutions for the annual contract for Visual Intelligence software at \$25,174.90. Phillips noted the city has used this accounting system for about five years to handle utility billing, procurement, and general ledger functions. The contract previously had been under the \$25,000 threshold for council approval, but recent price increases now require council action.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 90-2025 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2025-32

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule is waived and Ordinance No. 2025-32 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 161.04 (A), EXHIBIT "A" POSITION AND SALARY SCHEDULE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-32 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Claus to place Ordinance No. 2025-32 as an emergency measure.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2025-32 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Phillips explained that both Ordinance No. 2025-32 and Ordinance No. 2025-33 represent annual updates to the city's salary schedules. Ordinance 2025-32 addresses the general position and salary schedule, while Ordinance 2025-33 covers chartered positions. The only changes were title clarifications and ensuring all positions remained within appropriate pay bands considering the upcoming 3% cost of living increase.

Mr. Hamilton added that one material change was the removal of the IT Manager position from the supplemental portion of the schedule.

During discussion, Councilmember Harris asked if any changes were made to the Fire Chief position, since it is currently vacant. Hamilton explained that the salary schedules include all positions, both filled and unfilled, for which job descriptions exist, and the Fire Chief position had been maintained in the schedules.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-32 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2025-33

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2025-33 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 161.04.01 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-33 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Claus to place Ordinance No. 2025-33 as an emergency measure.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2025-33 was placed as an emergency measure.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-33 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2025-34

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2025-34 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A CERTAIN PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT DATED FEBRUARY 1, 2021, BY AND BETWEEN AMP TRANSMISSION, LLC AND THE CITY OF HURON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-34 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Hagy to place Ordinance No. 2025-34 as an emergency measure.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2025-34 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hamilton explained that when AMP (American Municipal Power) created their transmission division (AMP-T), they purchased the city's substation on Rye Beach Road, except for the transformers. As part of the sale agreement, AMP-T was supposed to supply a second source of electricity by December 31, 2025. This delivery has been delayed until April or May 2026, so the ordinance amends the agreement to extend the deadline to December 31, 2026.

In response to questions from Councilmember Hagy about whether this delay leaves the city vulnerable, Hamilton explained that the city has always operated with just one source, and the second source is being added for reliability. The city's three transformers are capable of receiving power from multiple sources, and the city is not being directly billed for the second source as costs are distributed across AMP's entire membership based on kilowatt usage.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-34 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2025-35

Motion by Mr. Tapp that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2025-35 (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH STUART HAMILTON, CITY MANAGER, FOR A FIVE-(5)-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2030; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-35 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Tapp to place Ordinance No. 2025-35 as an emergency measure.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2025-35 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Ebert explained that this ordinance authorizes an amended and restated employment agreement with City Manager Stuart Hamilton for a five-year term from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2025-35 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

City Manager's Discussion

City Manager Hamilton reported on several items:

- The city still has an opening on the Utilities Committee and encouraged interested residents to contact the city.
- The Mylander Foundation awarded a \$2,000 grant to purchase equipment for Movies by the River at the Boat Basin.
- The boat basin project is progressing but requires temperatures above 40 degrees to continue backfilling behind the sheet pile wall. Approximately two more weeks of work remain, and crews will remobilize when temperatures allow.
- Staff are setting up the outdoor ice rink at Fabens Park, with updates on availability to be shared on social media.
- Winter Fest was held the previous Saturday. Hamilton thanked GSP, all sponsors, and the fire and police departments for their support of the event.
- Officer Joe England retired on December 1 after 23 years with the city.
- The fire department's ladder truck has been out of service due to obsolete parts that cannot be replaced or fabricated. The department located a 2007 100-foot ladder truck (to replace their 1990 model) that has been fully serviced by the manufacturer and comes with a potential one-

year warranty. The estimated cost is \$475,000, significantly less than the \$2.5 million for a new truck. The Township would cover 50% of the cost as a capital purchase.

Motion by Mr. Artino to authorize the City Manager and staff to continue with the process of looking into the ladder truck.

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, Tapp, Claus, Harris, Hagy, Dike (6)

NAYS: None (0)

- Regarding the Fire Chief position, the advisory committee conducted interviews and forwarded two candidates to the City Manager, with a hiring decision expected in early 2026.
- The city will begin passing on a 3% transaction cost for all credit card transactions starting January 1, 2026.
- The city has an opening for a Technology Manager position, with information available on the city website.
- US6 Phase 2 went out to bid on December 1, with a pre-bid meeting scheduled for December 15 and bids due January 15.
- Upcoming meetings include a Huron Joint Port Authority meeting on December 10, Planning Commission on December 17, and the public hearing for the 2026 budget followed by the regular Council meeting on December 23.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp welcomed the recently sworn in council members, particularly new Councilmember Harris. He congratulated Officer England on his retirement and thanked the finance committee and staff for their work on the budget. The Mayor also expressed appreciation to the fire department for their extensive efforts in finding a solution for the ladder truck. He concluded by congratulating City Manager Hamilton on his contract extension.

For the Good of the Order

Sam Artino – I also would like to welcome Tom Harris. As you said, you have been involved for the last couple of years with different committees and I think I speak for most of Council when I say we really appreciate your involvement and dedication to the city. I would like to congratulate Mr. Hamilton. We had to make a decision and for me, it was an easy one. Congratulations – we are happy to have you for five years. Congratulations to Mr. England – he is a good person and is very dedicated to our community – I wish him all the best.

Tom Harris – It is my first meeting; I have been here watching all of you for a couple of years. About a year before I started showing up I was watching on YouTube. It is nice to finally sit up here as a Councilmember. I am kind of used to it already from being on the BZA and the Charter Review Commission. It is nice to have already sat up here so it doesn't feel weird. I am excited to work on the progress of the city.

Congratulations, Mr. Hamilton – 5 years. I kept asking you for a couple months now if you were going to stay, now you are going to stay. With regard to the fire truck, Dan Haddam from Medina who runs a parts business – you never know.

Joel Hagy – We had a big game this weekend – Ohio State vs. Michigan – strong feelings on both sides and it didn't go the way a lot of us wanted it to, but as we all know, that is nothing more than a warmup for the Army-Navy game coming up. In the words of our newly minted Vice-Mayor, come out, support your troops, Go Army – beat Navy.

Joe Dike – Welcome, Tom. Congratulations, Stu. Congratulations, Officer England. Thanks again for all of your efforts.

Mark Claus – I also want to thank Doug Steinwart, his team and all of the city departments on all of their work on Winter Fest this past weekend. It's a great event and it's really nice to have something going on in the winter when we are known as a summer destination. We actually had winter this year, it was cold and we had a little snow on the ground. We saw the horses pulling Santa in the parade... and you always get Mike Stout to show up in an old fire truck or a Blues Brothers mobile. I want to welcome Tom Harris to Council and congratulations to Mr. Hamilton.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Claus 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: Claus, Harris, Hagy, Dike, Artino, Tapp (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of December 9, 2025, was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Adopted: _____

23 DEC 2025


Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council