

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 6:30pm

Call to Order Public Hearing

The Vice-Mayor called to order the Public Hearing on the Application of Holiday Harbor Marina to rezone 1.3698 acres of vacant land (PPN: 42-02091.000, which has been combined into PPN: 42-00710.000) from its current R-3 Multi-Family Residential District to B-3 General Business District at 6:30pm.

Roll Call

The Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll for the Public Hearing. The following members of Council answered present: Joe Dike, Sam Artino, William Biddlecombe, Mark Claus, Tom Harris and Joel Hagy. Member absent: Monty Tapp.

Swear in Witnesses

Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert swore in witnesses testifying at the Public Hearing. All members of Council and Interim City Manager Stuart Hamilton were sworn in.

Witness Testimony

Mr. Hamilton testified:

This public hearing is for the rezoning of approximately 1.3698 acres previously owned by Zion Lutheran Church (PPN: 42-02091.000), which was purchased by Holiday Harbor Marina and combined into their existing parcel (PPN: 42-00710.000). This parcel is currently zoned as R-3 (Multi-Family) and this application is to rezone to B-3 (General Business) to be the same as the rest of their property. This passed the Planning Commission in January 2026 and recommended to Council for consideration.

Mr. Dike confirmed that the Planning Commission has reviewed this request and it was recommended to Council for final approval.

Adjourn Public Meeting

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the Public Hearing.

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

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

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the Public Hearing was adjourned.

Call to Order Regular Meeting

The Vice-Mayor called to order the regular Council meeting of March 10, 2026 to order at 6:30pm. The Vice-Mayor called for a moment of silence. After the moment of silence, the Vice-Mayor led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

The Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll for the regular meeting of Council. The following members of Council answered present: **Joe Dike, Sam Artino, William Biddlecombe, Mark Claus, Tom Harris and Joel Hagy**. Council Member absent: **Monty Tapp**.

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

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

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

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the Mr. Tapp's absence was excused.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Stuart Hamilton, Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert, Fire Chief Kevin McGraw, Police Chief Terry Graham, Parks and 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 regular Council meeting of February 24, 2026, as written.

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

YEAS: Dike, Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus, Harris, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None.

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and the minutes of the February 24, 2026 regular Council meeting were adopted.

Presentation

Jennifer Buch, Director of the Huron Public library, provided Council with an update on the services available to the public at the library.

A January 2026 survey of Ohio votes found that libraries and townships rank among the most trusted and highest-value public services in the state. According to the research, 90% of Ohioans say public libraries are important to their local community and rank among the highest-rated local services. 69% recall a specific time their library helped them personally. 87% say they got their money's worth from library services for the taxes they pay. 71% believe libraries provide many of the most basic services people rely on every day. Nearly half of Ohio voters say they or a family member used a library service in the past month and nearly 2/3 have done so within the past few months. "Ohioans don't just appreciate their

libraries, they rely on them on a daily basis,” said Michelle Francis, Executive Director of the Ohio Library Council. “They are locally supported, widely used and deeply imbedded in their communities.” This research shows that people see real personal value in the services libraries provide. They understand that library funding isn’t abstract. As one Ohioan said, “Local libraries give my kids a safe place to study, borrow books and access Wi-Fi after school. I rely on the library as a neighborhood hub, with free Wi-Fi for job hunts and room for study groups.” Another added, “They helped me write a resume, print it and find jobs to send it to. They provide job counseling and job postings and ways to acquire materials.” Among the most trusted and widely used public institutions of the State, Ohio’s 251 public library systems are free welcoming hubs that support daily life at every stage. With some of the highest library usage rates in the nation, Ohio libraries log more than 48 million visits each year and 7.4 million Ohioans hold library cards, underscoring their central role in communities across the State. Independent economic analysis shows that every dollar invested in Ohio’s libraries returns more than \$4 in value, generating over \$3 billion in statewide economic impact.

Huron Public Library hopes to continue being that trusted and high-valued public service to the City and Township of Huron. One of the many ways we service the public is through technology. Computers are available for patrons to use in the adult area, the teen area and the children’s area. Four safe AWE computers for our youngest patrons are available with preloaded games and activities that promote pre-literacy skills. iPads for the after-school teens keep them occupied and engaged with safe gaming. Free Wi-Fi throughout the building and extended into the parking lot for after-hours usage is provided. Our memory lab allows patrons to save old memories by converting them into digital files using the equipment provided in the lab at no cost. Our media lab is a space for anyone to create, edit and view digital media using the technology and software provided in the lab at no cost. The Maker Studio is a collection of crafting technology available for anyone to complete projects at low cost. Currently, we have a Cricket, a 3-D printer and a Glow Forge, and are slowly building our Maker Studio with other maker equipment. Book-a-Librarian appointments are available for one-on-one technology assistance. Recent technology-based programs include CAD for beginners, anti-virus software, exploring Google Apps, introduction to AI, cloud storage, and our upcoming March technology program is iPhone privacy. Not only do we have technology programs for our patrons, but staff have also been busy doing technology training. Due to the new cybersecurity mandates for government agencies, all staff are going through OPCI training from the State on cybersecurity. They are on the lookout weekly for phishing emails and to improve their cyber mindfulness. AI training will start in April so staff will have an opportunity to understand how AI works and to be able to answer patron questions with more knowledge. Technology is changing so rapidly that keeping up with the emerging technology requires effort. We hope to continue being a source of new and emerging technologies to better help our patrons. Thank you, once again, for letting me talk about the Huron Public Library.

Council thanked Ms. Buch for coming to the meeting.

Audience Comments

The Vice-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

None.

New Business**Ordinance No. 2026-1**

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2026-1 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF HURON TO REFLECT THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 1.3698 +/- ACRES OF VACANT LAND OWNED BY HOLIDAY HARBOR MARINA INC. LOCATED IN THE CITY OF HURON, ERIE COUNTY, OHIO (FORMERLY KNOWN AS ERIE COUNTY, OHIO PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 42-02091.000 AND NOW PART OF ERIE COUNTY, OHIO PARCEL NO. 42-00710.000), FROM THE CURRENT R-3 (MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO B-3 (GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-1 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton had nothing to add outside of his testimony during the public hearing.

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

Ordinance No. 2026-2

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2026-2 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 901 (EXCAVATIONS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-2 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that Planning Department has been looking at this ordinance for quite a while. This section deals with excavations, and in particular, work performed within the right-of-way. The provision revisions try to bring this section in line with Chapter 1323 (Contractor Registration and Work within the Right-of-Way). They are trying to address issues outside of contractor work, e.g., if someone wants to work within the right-of-way themselves. When this is the case, the City doesn't currently have the same rules and regulations and processes in place to manage that. This will bring the surety bonds or cash deposits in line with the contractor's portion. If the homeowner doesn't complete the project to the satisfaction of the City or fails the final inspection and fails to rectify it, that surety money allows the City to go back and complete that work on their behalf. It also brings in line the process of pulling a permit and

pay the same permit fee to carry out the same work within the right-of-way because they are doing the same work. This will also address the penalties for not pulling a permit for working within the right-of-way. They find this a lot with driveway aprons – people want to replace their driveway and they want to spread/change the apron and they don't pull permits. This allows the City to go back and charge a penalty for the work without a permit. Lastly, there is a \$5 increase to the application fee. That fee hasn't been updated in a very long time and this increase will bring it in line with the other permits for right-of-way work.

Mr. Dike asked what the procedure would be to tear out and replace an existing driveway. He hears too many times that people come in and the process is very confusing. Mr. Hamilton answered that the process is simple. If you want to redo your driveway, you are free to do it. However, as soon as you leave your property and enter the right-of-way (the apron), you need to pull a permit. For that permit, all you need is a simple drawing with the measurements on it. The City doesn't care how it is constructed, they just need to know that it is going to be within the 24' and you are not changing your existing driveway. If you change your existing driveway, you must make sure it comes into compliance with Planning & Zoning. For replacement within the current footprint, all the City cares about is if you stop out into the apron within the right-of-way. The cost for the bond is \$10 per sq. ft. of surface area affected with a maximum of \$1,000 (only relates to the area located within the right-of-way).

Mr. Harris asked if contractors doing repairs, such as concrete grinding, how does this change affect them? The charge for that work is relatively inexpensive, but to add that charge will make it a little bit more expensive. Mr. Hamilton said that if you are working within the right-of-way, you have to pull a permit because those are the only controls the City has. If a person is patching an apron, a permit would be required, but if you are only patching the driveway not in the right-of-way, a permit is not required. Mr. Hamilton explained that the surety bond is refundable, they only hold that to be sure the job is done correctly.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

Ordinance No. 2026-3

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2026-3 (AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE HURON POLICE DEPARTMENT VIDEO POLICY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-3 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Chief Graham stated that the proposed ordinance is on its first reading to establish a video policy, specifically to comply with redactions to public records. The Police Department has seen a substantial increase in the number of public records requests relating to body-worn cameras and in-car cruiser camera videos. To properly provide appropriate and legal video and audio redactions, it usually takes

between 2-3 times the length of the recordings to provide this service. In short, a significant amount of time has been dedicated to providing these public records. Just to give an example, if they get a public records request for one call that takes for 30 minutes, and if there are 3 officers on the scene, that's 30 min. (x3) of their bodycam review, which takes him 3 hours to redact. Add to that the in-car front camera for another 30 minutes (x3) and rear cameras for another 30 min (x3) taking another 6 hours for redaction. That one 30-minute call can take 9 hours to comply with that public records request. H.B. 425 changed part of Ohio public records law, in section 149.43(B)(1), and the law significantly restricts the general rule that in-car camera and body-worn camera recordings are public records. It also declares that restricted portions of the recordings are not public, including victim, juveniles, protected health information, etc. There is a long list of not only audio, but also video, redactions. This law provides for local governments to charge the requestors of these records up to \$75/hour, not to exceed \$750 total for one incident. There are some exemptions to these charges, such as Huron residents, individuals named in the report or traditional news media (local Sandusky, Cleveland news stations or national news stations). This will apply to body-cam television shows, YouTubers – people who are making a significant amount of money from our videos that comes at a tremendous number of man hours. He doesn't have an administrative assistant – he is the one doing the redactions. Sometimes he gets 5-10 of these a week.

These requests would be handled in the following manner: (1) the request would come in; (2) public records tracking number is established; (3) response to requestor with statement of the length of video length and related cost asking if they are still interested; (4) City would prepare an invoice and forward it to them, and once paid, they would comply with the public records request. Many departments are enacting this policy, this is not something new.

Mr. Hagy asked how a resident or someone else on the exclusion list who has started getting into this starts asking for an inordinate amount of footage would be handled. Chief Graham answered that the law says that they may charge, so they could take that on a case-by-case basis. He hasn't received any of those kinds of requests yet.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

Ordinance No. 2026-4

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2026-4 (AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF BONDS IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$2,500,000 TO PAY COSTS OF IMPROVING A PORTION OF US-6 LOCATED IN THE CITY BY CONSTRUCTING, RECONSTRUCTING, RESURFACING, PAVING, GRADING, DRAINING AND MAKING OTHER IMPROVEMENTS AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CONSTRUCTING AND RECONSTRUCTING, AS NECESSARY, ONE OR MORE ROUNDABOUTS, CURBS, GUTTERS, SIDEWALKS, CONCRETE APRONS, STORM SEWERS, CATCH BASINS AND RELATED DRAINAGE FACILITIES, AND REPLACING OR ADDING SIGNAGE, LIGHTING AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS, TOGETHER WITH ALL NECESSARY RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THERETO, ALL AS DESIGNATED IN THE PLANS APPROVED OR TO BE APPROVED BY COUNCIL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived and Ordinance No. 2026-4 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to place Ordinance No. 2026-4 as an emergency measure.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-4 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Phillips explained that the US 6 Phase II is coming up quickly and they have been working to get this bond issuance in place. The total projected cost of the project is \$2.2 Million. Bond counsel has advised they anticipate at 3.5% interest rate, which is substantially lower than they were budgeting, partly to the high credit rating and this being a tax-exempt project. The average annual payment would be \$162,000 over a 20-year term. They were budgeting for a \$210,000 payment, which makes the savings over the 20-year term of roughly \$600,000 in interest. They will have a more firm number in the coming weeks, but they are pretty confident the rate will be close to the estimate.

Mr. Artino asked if the City is going after grants. Mr. Phillips answered that this is the amount needed after taking grant funds into consideration. Mr. Hamilton reminded Council that the City secured just over \$1 Million in grant funding for this project, which has made it possible.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2026-4 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2026-5

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2026-5 (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND ESCROW INSTRUCTIONS DATED FEBRUARY 7, 2025, BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF HURON AND TRIBAN INVESTMENT LLC, AS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY HURON CITY COUNCIL IN ORDINANCE NO. 2025-2 ADOPTED ON JANUARY 14, 2025, RELATING TO THE MANNER OF SALE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF HURON, LOCATED ON THE FORMER CONAGRA PROPERTY, ERIE COUNTY

PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 42-61270.001; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived and Ordinance No. 2026-5 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Hagy to place Ordinance No. 2026-5 as an emergency measure.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance no. 2026-5 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hamilton stated that Triban Investment LLC started their due diligence period and has used up all extensions available pursuant to the agreement due to multiple factors along the way. They now find themselves at a point where Triban has requested another extension which would expire on August 3, 2026. This site is very complex – there are a lot of issues going on. Every time they think they are done, something else shows its head. Staff supports this extension and only sees downsides to not granting this final extension. This would be the final extension and Triban has been clearly advised that this will be the final extension if Council so decides to pass this. Mr. Hamilton invited Rick Lundstrom, Land Development Manager for Triban, to give Council an update from the developer's point of view.

Mr. Lundstrom said while they have had some time for due diligence, every time they take a step forward, they uncover some more items that take some time to work through. With a national builder such as K. Hovnanian Homes, they have a very stringent palate for how they need to receive property, which makes it hard to get everything over the finish line. They have been working very hard and diligently. They have conducted geo reports and there was an NFA on the entire site. In that time, they found a few things that didn't work 100%. The prior geo reports were accurate, but not 100%. They find that they must have in excess of \$2.7 million hardship for foundation support, so they are sound. We worked with KHov to see how we can absorb this amount of money into the project, which he believes has found a way to overcome this. Along with that, they also found that there is an issue with FEMA, meaning that the northeast corner of the property is in a flood plain according to FEMA maps. As he is sure Council is aware, loans will not be issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, etc. in those areas, which hinders a lot of loan possibilities. They had to step back to determine how to get that area out of the FEMA area. They have some experience with this, as they were successful in removing 10 acres from the flood plain in their Perry, Ohio project

with KHov. This also adjusted the project cost – another hardship. Along with that, there was an NFA on the entire site and there was a portion of the original parcel traded with ODNR on the southeast corner of the property. They found that there were potential oil/gas tanks, so they moved forward with a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment. That Phase II indicated that the tanks were removed, but there are soils that must be remediated (moved offsite and disposed of). The City has been great to work with on this. Through all of this, they have spent more than \$80,000 in due diligence to find all the answers they need to move forward with this project. That number is still growing. They have been onsite as last Friday doing a couple of pilings to make sure they can get lock-up and torque for the helical piers – they did have success. They are working through the areas with possibilities of other items onsite to make sure they have all the answers when they start the project to avoid further hardships. He, along with Triban and K. Hovnanian Homes, is very excited about the project. KHov will hold a group where they talk to their inner circle of people on March 23, 2026, and will then move on to the corporate team in New Jersey on March 27th where the owner of KHov and his team will give the final yes or no to the project. It is very important that they do their due diligence to bring everything forward to the corporate team so that they know how the costs are handled. At the end of the day, the projects need to be cost-controlled so they know what they have invested in each building. They are very confident that they have found every item they think will hinder the cost and anything of that sort.

Mr. Hagy asked how confident they are that they will not need another extension. Mr. Lundstrom answered, 100%.

Mr. Artino said they have had almost 2 years to do due diligence. The flood plain should have been easy to find. He asked what the starting price points will be on these homes. Mr. Lundstrom said he can't speak 100% on that because he is not the builder, but through all the hardships he estimates pricing somewhere in the range of \$450,000-\$550,000. Mr. Artino asked if KHov is currently working on a project in Vermilion. Mr. Lundstrom said that is correct. Mr. Artino said this is ridiculous – the timeline Mr. Lundstrom just told them about the next couple of months with going to corporate, why do you need to go to August? Mr. Lundstrom answered that when they go back to corporate at the end of the month and if for some reason corporate said they would like to see some adjustments to something, they will set yet another meeting. They are not planning to have that happen with the time they have taken ahead of time, as he believes KHov will have all of the items in hand to know whether it is a viable project. Three months could be enough, but they don't want to have to come back to say they need 1 more week or 1 more day. They understand the timeline. A big part of taking this to the corporate team is sale pace in the area. When they wanted to do this last year, as they were uncovering some of these things the market was a little soft. That wasn't the best time to take the project to corporate. The market has since turned and everything is doing very well. He has projects with KHov in Bowling Green where they have sold over 20 units in the 3 months. Another project they are finishing up in Lake County is about on the same pace. Mr. Artino is concerned that they just keep screwing around and will miss opportunities with other developers. He can't see another extension. A lot of the information you say you are uncovering now was already there. I am not for another extension. Maybe K. Hovnanian is stretched a little too thin – something's going on.

Mr. Harris said that, from his experience in construction, that would be throwing away 5 years of work... Mr. Artino interrupted Mr. Harris, saying, we have been screwing around with this project for 5 years with one excuse after another. I think our residents/taxpayers deserve something to happen here. I've got \$10 that in August they will cancel out or ask for another extension. Mr. Harris continued, that might be, but

the reality is that if we don't give it to them they leave right now. Mr. Artino said, that's alright, it gives us time to start talking to somebody else. Mr. Harris asked the value of the project. Mr. Lundstrom answered, in excess of \$10 million. Mr. Artino said, we have developers that want this property. Mr. Harris said they should give them the extension to see if they can get this pushed over the finish line. There has been so much time put into it... Mr. Artino said, you vote your way, I'm going to vote my way – I am taking into consideration how badly this is affecting our taxpayers. Mr. Harris added, if we don't the houses built, it will affect the City more. Mr. Artino said if we wait another year and miss another developer, then what?

Mr. Hamilton reiterated that there is not another extension on the table. Mr. Artino said this is the third one. Mr. Hamilton said this is the only extension outside of the original contract. Mr. Lundstrom said, to make things clear on their timeline, if everything goes as planned and they have to be aggressive to do this, they would intend to pave roads this year and you would see houses starting just as the new year turns (as long as they don't have a winter like we just had). Paving would be down before the snow flies and they would be starting the models. It is detrimental to the project for sales that you open in the fall – no one is looking for homes on the water when the ice is on the river. Mr. Artino said, that's right – we should have said no six months ago.

Mr. Claus said the extension they are looking to vote on today will be through August 3rd, but could potentially be earlier if everything goes as planned. They are looking for a buffer in case something happens because another extension will not be granted. Mr. Lundstrom assured Council that the moment they knew something would not be moving forward, they would let the City know. Asked if the FEMA issues would affect the number of units, Mr. Lundstrom explained that as they did their due diligence and shot the site with grades, the land elevation is high enough to remove it from the flood plan. It is just recorded incorrectly on the map, which should take no more than 90 days to correct once they submit to FEMA. There will be no change to the unit count.

Mr. Harris said the most detrimental finding is that the soil is bad. What they really need is the time to get the addition cost okayed by the financiers. Is that where we are at? Mr. Lundstrom answered that they already have numbers in place, it is now just a matter of taking it to the corporate team and them vetting the project knowing there's a FEMA issue, the helical cost, the Phase II with the soil cleanup, etc. They look at everything and it will be presented with how everything will be handled and addressed. That has been his task – to make sure everything is 100% black and white for the corporate team. Stating he used to work for an engineering firm, Mr. Harris said his job was to deal with soils and compaction for subgrade preparation, so he does know that you have to get that right. Mr. Lundstrom said the prior borings they had were 100% accurate. Along with that, a national team will not take a set of borings prepared by someone else because it's not their work and their team. If they had gone off of what they had, they would have run into issues. Mr. Harris added that if they rely on somebody else's work and not your own, you can be held liable.

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

YEAS: Hagy, Dike, Biddlecombe, Claus, Harris (5)

NAYS: Artino (1)

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2026-5 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2026-6

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2026-6 (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ONE OR MORE AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE NO. 2010-37 IN ORDER TO REMOVE CERTAIN AREAS OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY FROM COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA II AND DESCRIBING THE REVISED BOUNDARIES OF COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA II; AUTHORIZING CERTAIN TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS RELATED THERETO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived and Ordinance No. 2026-6 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Hagy to place Ordinance No. 2026-6 as an emergency measure.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance no. 2026-6 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hamilton reminded Council that the ConAgra TIF was created in early 2025. That was put in place to fund the sea wall construction, which must be done regardless of what is being done on the site, apart from making it a dog park. As we went through that, we determined that we had a Community Reinvestment Area all the way up River Road, which also covered the ConAgra site. That is problematic because what that did is make the TIF subordinate to the CRA, so the CRA would award abatements to the homeowners and then there would be no property taxes to pay against the TIF. Staff talked to legal and they said it is a simple process to remove that site from the CRA. However, because the City was already under contract with Triban at that time, SSEG created an Estoppel Certificate for them to sign so they can't come back at the City at a later date.

Triban signed the Estoppel Certificate and return it to the City. This Ordinance will remove the ConAgra site from the CRA II boundary. The CRA will still be in place on River Road and the Norfolk Southern site – they are just removing the ConAgra site from the CRA. That will make the TIF the primary legislation on

that property and the City will be able to collect the tax dollars to pay for the seawall reconstruction, should the deal move forward.

Mr. Hagy wanted to address Mr. Artino's concern, because he has the same concern. This was one of the big reasons that he is amiable to the additional extension. Triban really could have jammed us up with this. He doesn't know specifically how much this CRA issue caused from a delay standpoint, but I can't imagine it was simple. That is one of the reasons he voted to give them the extension.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2026-6 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Ordinance No. 2026-7

Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2026-7 (AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived and Ordinance No. 2026-7 was placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Harris to place Ordinance No. 2026-7 as an emergency measure.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-7 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Hamilton stated that this legislation accepts and authorizes the replacement of pages with Walter Drane to update our codified ordinances for anything Council has passed, along with anything ORC has passed that need to be superseded, added or deleted. This is routine legislation and there is no financial

implication, although we do pay for this service. Anyone who has paper copies or saved electronic copies of our ordinances will need to update them after we carry out these updates.

Mr. Biddlecombe said he noticed that there was legislation passed regarding the electric bikes and scooters and knows there have been a lot of residents complaining about that. Mr. Hamilton said that while this updates our codified ordinances online, anything Council is immediately in effect as the effective date – it just isn't updated online until they update these pages. Everything passed by Council through the end of 2025 is in effect.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2026-7 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 12-2026

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 12-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHM ADVISORS FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION SERVICES RELATING TO US 6 PHASE II PROJECT (ERI-US 6-16.27; PID 107223) IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY AND XX/100 (\$226,180.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 12-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton advised that they put out an RFQ for construction inspection, construction administration and construction engineering for the US 6 Phase II Project, which Council passed the bonds for earlier in the meeting. This expense is covered by that bond issuance. They received 3 responses to the RFQ, which were scored on past projects, project teams and past performance with the City. OHM Advisors was marked as the highest scorer, although not by a wide margin, due to their past City experience. This is a not-to-exceed amount for this project. Therefore, this \$226,180 is the most we will pay. Our contracts with OHM Advisors, since Mr. Hamilton has been with the City, are time and materials contracts. Whatever they do, they bill us for and when the project is completed, they don't get to bill out the rest of the money. Each one of the projects they have seen with them since they have moved over to this process has reflected significant savings. They are hopeful this will be the same.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 12-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 13-2026

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 13-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. SENATOR JOHN HUSTED'S FY27 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING (CDS) RELATING TO THE HURON MUNICIPAL BOAT BASIN RENOVATION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,900,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,900,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 13-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Steinwart said that he would be addressing both Resolution No. 13-2026 and Resolution No. 14-2026. This legislation relates to Congressionally Directed Spending, one for Senator John Husted and one for Congresswoman Marcy Kapur. Both relate to the Boat Basin Project in the amount of \$2,900,000. That \$2,900,000 is broken down as the retaining walls, concrete walkways and bulkhead caps (risers) from Yacht Club all the way round the bowl, down the river and in front of the hotel to Harbor House. They applied for these CDS funds 2 years ago and learned a lot from that process. They got ahead of things earlier this time by reaching out to both offices. They had good electronic communications and Senator Husted sent an Aide up to the property. They gave her a tour and that really helped her to be our eyes and ears during the submittal process. They also received letters of support from Councilman Claus on behalf of HJRD, both Police and Fire Chiefs, and Superintendent Tatman. This is a ratification because these applications were submitted yesterday.

Mr. Claus said the funds are being requested for the same project – is there any possibility of receiving funds from both? Mr. Steinwart said that would also be applying to Senator Bernie Merino's CDS, and there is also a State request due at the end of the month for something separate. All indications were to try to go for these three. There is not way that they would be receiving the full amount from both

applications. Mr. Hamilton added that once this gets down to Columbus into the Budget Committee, they would soon spot it.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 13-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 14-2026

Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 14-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN MARCY KAPTUR'S FY27 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING (CDS) RELATING TO THE HURON MUNICIPAL BOAT BASIN RENOVATION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,900,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,900,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 14-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 14-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 15-2026

Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 15-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE HURON FIRE DEPARTMENT TO THE OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SAFETY INTERVENTION GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE AND 36/100 DOLLARS (\$16,631.36); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE GRANT AWARD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO

EXCEED SIXTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE AND 36/100 DOLLARS (\$16,631.36) AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SAFETY INTERVENTION GRANT PROGRAM, SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 15-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Captain McGraw said that the Fire Department would like to apply for a Safety Intervention Grant from the Bureau of Workers' Compensation. This grant allow the City to purchase up to \$40,000 with a 4:1 local match. The you would like to purchase a second LUCAS CPR Machine. They currently have one, which is located at Station 1. Depending on where an emergency is where a cardiac arrest occurs, it has to be run out there to that location. One of his first goals after coming to the City is to have two (2) of these devices so that there could be one (1) on each ambulance at all times. This piece of equipment becomes a person, and one of the most important things in CPR is the correct rate and depth, with no interruptions. This is one of the most important pieces of equipment introduced to the fire and EMS industries in a long time. They need to take advantage of this opportunity to procure another unit to add to the City's fleet.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 15-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 16-2026

Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 16-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FROM LANDMARK STRUCTURES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN INTERIOR INSPECTION RAIL RELATING TO THE 2.0 MG ELEVATED WATER TANK PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$35,000.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 16-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans stated that he would be speaking about both Resolution Nos. 16-2026 and 17-2026. There are two change orders from Landmark Structures relating to the 2.0 MG Elevated Water Tank Project. They have nearly \$1.6 million in contingency funds available for this project as part of the interest-free loan. These are the first change orders that have come, so far, for this project and they have made it through design and engineering and started construction with no changes.

CO #1 is for a rigging rail to be mounted on the interior of the stem in the dry portion of the tower. When the east side tower was being painted, they had their buggy on the outside mounted to the top rail. This would be a similar situation, but this would be for interior maintenance. This would provide a cost savings in the future for O&M. Should this rail not be installed, they would have to rent specialized lifts to fit inside the tower and then raise them up 80'-100'. This also will allow them 360° access on the interior. This is not necessary right now, but in 10/15/20 years and beyond when they start to need maintenance on this tower, this will aid in those maintenance costs.

CO #2 relates to installation of a cable climb system. Per Landmark's specifications, anytime they build a tower they install a rail system. The City's other towers are both outfitted with a cable system. They feel they are safer, although they are a bit more expensive. During construction, Landmark will install their system, and the City will then remove that and install the preferred cable climb system. Converting to this system will make all of the City's uniform in how those are set up.

Mr. Claus asked if the structure currently holding the crane in the center will stay after construction is completed. Mr. Evans answered that it will not remain. The interior will have a ladder-to-platform setup. That structure will be removed once they have completed the concrete pour.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 16-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 17-2026

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 17-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FROM LANDMARK STRUCTURES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN INTERIOR INSPECTION RAIL RELATING TO THE 2.0 MG ELEVATED WATER TANK PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIVE DOLLARS (\$21,605.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 17-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 17-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 18-2026

Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 18-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE SIX (6) LARGE WATER METERS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FROM NECO WATER FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$29,766.00)) be placed on its first reading.

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

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 18-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans stated that this legislation relates to the purchase of their larger water meters. Several of the current large meters are very old and cannot be outfitted with their meter reading software. They are decades old and staff must manually read these meters. In addition, some of these meters are in vaults and their employees must enter the vaults to get the readings. They have no data to track other than quarterly readings, so they cannot provide a usage report or leak detection like they do for a lot of their customers. This purchase is budgeted for this year. The meters are 3", 4" and 6". All of the residential meters have been replaced.

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

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

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 18-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to appoint Michael Hamrock as a member of the Utilities Committee, effective immediately.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Mr. Hamrock was appointed to the Utilities Committee.

City Manager's Discussion

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

Donations – We had a donation of \$5,543 by Great Lakes Event Works, LLC to the Huron Fire Department to support the purchase of a LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to accept the \$5,543 donation by Great Lakes Event Works, LLC to the Huron Fire Department to support the purchase of a LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed.

We had a \$20 anonymous donation made to the K-9 Fund.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to accept an anonymous \$20.00 donation to the K-9 Fund.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed.

US 6 Phase II – A preconstruction meeting has been scheduled for March 18th. Once we get through this preconstruction meeting, we should start to hammer down some dates of when we are going to start digging, when the closure is going to happen, etc. All local stakeholders have been invited, so it should be a busy meeting. There is a lot of interest in this project.

Bike Lanes – We have the repainting of the bike lanes coming up. We tried to get it done last year but couldn't get it coordinated. It is tentatively scheduled to take place in April of this year. We will strip off all of the existing paint and restructure how we paint them with less green paint – there will only be green paint on either side of intersections. We are going to put high-visibility paint across the bridge decks; we have all driven across the bridge in the rain and it's just a dark void. Hopefully, we will now be able to see where we are going and not hit people in the bike lanes. This is weather-dependent, so there is no promise that this will be completed in April.

Transient Rentals – We have had lots of discussions about S.B. 104 and Columbus' desire to get rid of home rule, it seems. The great news is that they are not going anywhere with that. Thank you to Council for sending letters, and Councilman Hagy for taking the point in public meetings. Staff have sat in on numerous meetings with the transient rental companies and legislators. It has been a group effort, and the main leaders in getting this postponed, at best, were all of the local entities. We are the ones outside of Hocking Hills who have the majority and density in transient rentals, so we were by far the most vocal. We are excited to see that pushed out and hopefully gone. We have dodged the bullet for another year, at least.

Parks & Recreation – The Huron Boat Basin Marina is proud to announce that we have been awarded Platinum Status through the Ohio Clean Marina Program. That is the highest-level environmental certification a marina can get in Ohio. That's pretty impressive for our small town. The Ohio Clean Marinas Program, administered in partnership with Ohio Sea Grant and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, recognizes marinas that go above and beyond in implementing best management practices designed to protect Ohio's waterways. Premium status is reserved for facilities that demonstrate exemplary performance in pollution prevention, waste management, stormwater control, boater education and environmental leadership. To Doug and Bryan, who I know took a great lead in this – this is impressive. Thank you for your hard work. This is a huge thing and you have worked hard for this.

Huron Joint Recreation District – After conversations with the both the Township and the Schools, we held an HJRD meeting earlier this month. The staff led a conversation regarding the future of HJRD. Our auditors are asking questions, and we just got our management letter today for the district with questions of why we are doing this, or that. As a reminder, the district was supposed to be set up as a fully independent organization, self-funded, self-managed, self-financed, etc. It has always functioned as a city department. The question is, what do we do now? We are either going to have to move out and be a district, which comes with its own insurance, bonding, finance officer and Board with full budgetary control outside of the City, or it becomes an internal City parks board. The conversation went around with those present and the consensus was to move toward a city parks board. The representative from the Schools couldn't make that meeting, which was unfortunately. They will continue having conversations. We have already started this year, so we are going to end up with another audit this year, so we are not in a rush to charge forward and make quick decisions just because we can. We will keep having conversations, but this is the year it either needs to disband or become what it was originally designed to do. To do that, it would have to start with a Parks levy, and I don't think anyone in this room believes that

that would pass, and that's no disrespect to the District or to how much people feel about parks, it's just that I don't think it would go anywhere, and they we are back to where we are now. Something has to change. We will keep you posted and if we go to a park board, we told the current members of the district that they would be invited to move over to carry out the transition and make sure that any City board is set up the way it should be. They are the people with the experience – there are lot of years of experience on that board. It would be nice to bring them with us if we did transition.

Transient Rental Dock Project – We have learned that the electric that powers the transient docks has been there since the day the Boat Basin was constructed. They were not designed for the loads of boats we get nowadays. We worked with Fresch Electric and did a lot of testing on capacity and a lot of the aging equipment and conduits will not work. We figured out what we must do and we are looking in the range of \$300,000 to replace the power at the Boat Basin. This is one of the times that we punt a project due to cost, but we cannot. We have \$500,000 in grant funding to replace these docks, and to leave them without power is not an option. We are working through figuring out the best way to pay for this. Mr. Phillips has been busy on his abacus in the back room trying to figure out how we will do it. We will figure it out and pull it off. Doing this project will power the Boat Basin for the future and provide enough capacity available so as we replace the other docks, we can just keep feeding off this. We will keep you posted on this one.

Red, White and Blues – The City will be hosting their usual night of fun, food and music on the 4th of July, however, this year the City will not be doing fireworks. One of the driving reasons is the availability of fireworks professionals. There are so many events this year with the 250th Anniversary that our little \$10,000 fireworks display doesn't rank very highly anywhere else. In working with Mr. Steinwart, this is the year we want to look at transitioning the fireworks to the River Fest weekend to take that conflict away. There are three weekends in a row that have fireworks and by the time we get to River Fest, everyone is partied out. What we will try to do is have our fun family night on the 4th of July and try to bring back the big weekend of River Fest. We can give some of our fireworks money to them to make it a bigger, better event, while still saving some money for the City. We will keep you posted on that as we move forward and work through River Fest to see if this is a viable option.

Water Department – We have had 7 main breaks so far this year, actually in the last 5 weeks. We only had 5 breaks last year. That shows you how busy our guys have been, and we haven't seen the last of them because we are going through this freeze-thaw-freeze-thaw cycle. If we don't double that number by the time we hit spring, I will be very surprised. Our guys are working hard, and they are doing their best to keep traffic moving. Luckily, most of these have been on our smaller mains and we have been able to put belly bands on to fix them without shutting the water off, boil alerts, etc. Thank you to the guys for keeping us running and keeping our residents online.

Streets Department - It is springtime, so they are out filling potholes, getting the street sweeper out to try to clean the roads and bike lane up after winter. They are trying to repair some of the plow damage that occurred over the winter. It has a been year, so be patient with them. We have lots of reports and we try to get through them all as best we can. If you see them out there working, please give them a little bit of space.

Technology Manager – Sean Berendt started with us yesterday. We are excited to have him. He brings with him many years of differing IT experience. We are excited to get him up to speed and get him settled in. We believe he will be a strong asset to the City to keep us moving forward on the technology front.

Upcoming Meetings – Planning Commission on Wednesday, March 25th at 5pm in Council Chambers; City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 24th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; Records Commission meeting on Thursday, March 26th at 9am in Council Chambers.

Mr. Hagy asked if HJRD were to become a department of the City, was there any discussion in that meeting of the funding that we currently get outside of the City going away? Mr. Hamilton answered that Huron Township has committed to continue funding the parks department, however it ends up being structured. I know their preference would be to move towards a parks department and parks board. They are working through what that would look like, who would be on it, how it would be represented. It would be an advisory board similar to the Utilities Committee. Unfortunately, the Schools representation couldn't be at the meeting. In talking with Administration, there may be a little more interest than there was in the past. We will work through that.

Vice-Mayor's Discussion

Vice-Mayor Biddlecombe said:

I would like to thank Great Lakes Event Works and our anonymous donor for their donations. Thank you, Mr. Hamrock, for stepping up with our Utilities Committee. Thank you, staff for your hard work. Thanks to Jennifer Buch for coming in to give us the library presentation. Congratulations to the Boat Basin and Doug's team on their Platinum Status.

The School Board will hold a work session at 6pm at Woodlands on March 19th, which is a Thursday. They will have their regular meeting on Monday, March 23rd at 6pm and depending on how the work session goes and how they like meeting at Woodlands, they may move future Board meetings to that location. Dr. Tatman will be at the Tea Bubble on the west side of town for Community Connections this Saturday, March 14th at 9:30am. I would like to congratulate freshman Hadley Barkmont, who placed 11th at the OHSAA Division 2 State Diving Meet, and congratulations to Sam Cox, who was 2-2 at the District Wrestling Meet. Please come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes, and GO TIGERS!

For the Good of the Order

Sam Artino – Thanks, Michael, and also the folks who donated to some really good causes. Congratulations to Doug and Bryan – I think that marina has always been a beautiful facility for our community. Thanks for what you guys are doing there. Thanks to our Street and Water Departments – those guys have been working hard this year.

Mark Claus – Sorry for making you wait the entire meeting, Mike. We appreciate it. To Doug, Bryan and his entire team, you guys always do well and we appreciate the recognition for the community.

Tom Harris – Bryan and Doug, you have done great at the Boat Basin. I think Bryan really gets overlooked – he really is topnotch – he is always out there working on stuff. Doug was shoveling grass the other night – that was something, too. Congratulations on the Platinum Status. Mike, we look forward to seeing you on the Utilities Committee – it's the best thing you will do each month.

Joe Dike – I also want to say thank you to everybody that has been mentioned. There are a lot of great things going on in this community. I know people have strong opinions on different things, but that’s alright. I hope that we do stay focused on the ConAgra property, and I hope that something great comes of that – it has been a long time in the making. There have been a lot of issues, but I hope we can make that happen. I think it is a gem in our community. Thank you for all of your efforts.

Joel Hagy – I want to say thanks to Mr. Hamrock. Our Utility meetings are much shorter than this. Congratulations to Doug and Bryan and the entire team on reaching Platinum Status – that’s really impressive.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

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

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of March 10, 2026, was adjourned at 7:59pm.



Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

24 MAR 2026

Adopted: _____

