

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 6:30pm**

**Call to Order**

The Vice-Mayor called to order the regular Council meeting of March 24, 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, Law Director Todd Schrader, 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 March 10, 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 March 10, 2026 regular Council meeting were adopted.

**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****Ordinance No. 2026-1 (second reading)**

**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 second 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 second reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

City Manager Stuart Hamilton provided context, noting that the rezoning application was approved by the Planning Commission in January and a public hearing was held at the March 10<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The rezoning is intended to bring the zoning designation of the parcel into alignment with the existing parcel into which it has been merged. No questions were raised, and the ordinance advanced on its second reading.

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

**Ordinance No. 2026-2 (second reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2026-2 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 901 (EXCAVATIONS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES. ) be placed on its second 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 second reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

City Manager Hamilton explained that the amendments address several long-standing gaps in the excavation ordinance. First, there was no mechanism for homeowners — as opposed to registered contractors — to provide surety bonds when performing work within the public right of way themselves. The amendment allows homeowners to submit a cash bond, check, or surety, giving the city recourse to complete or correct the work if it is not done properly. Second, the ordinance now creates the ability to

cite residents who carry out work within the right of way — such as drive aprons and sidewalks — without obtaining the required permits. City Manager Hamilton emphasized that permitting makes it easier to ensure work is done correctly and to address deficiencies after the fact. Finally, the amendment includes a modest \$5 increase to the application fee.

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

**Ordinance No. 2026-3 (second reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2026-3 (AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE HURON POLICE DEPARTMENT VIDEO POLICY ) be placed on its second 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 second reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Police Chief Terry Graham presented the second reading of the ordinance, which establishes a video and audio redaction policy for public records requests involving body camera and in-car cruiser footage. Chief Graham noted that redacting such footage typically takes two to three times longer than the underlying review, and the ordinance establishes a charge of \$75 per hour with a maximum of \$750 per incident, consistent with Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43 and standard industry practice.

In response to a question from Mr. Hagy about why unredacted footage could not simply be released, Chief Graham explained that there are numerous legal restrictions on what may be released, including images of juveniles, personal identification information such as Social Security and driver's license numbers, victim information protected under Marsy's Law, and graphic or sensitive content such as nudity.

Councilmember Claus asked for clarification on who would not be charged under the policy. Chief Graham confirmed that attorneys acting on behalf of their clients, individual citizens requesting their own records, and local and regional media outlets would not be subject to the fee. The charges are primarily aimed at commercial entities and content creators seeking large volumes of footage for non-personal use.

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

**New Business**

**Ordinance No. 2026-8**

**Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2026-8 (AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING ACCEPTANCE OF SIX (6) SEPARATE EASEMENTS TO THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO D/B/A HURON PUBLIC POWER, FOR THE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC CURRENT INCLUDING COMMUNICATION FACILITIES UPON, OVER, UNDER AND ACROSS PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF HURON IDENTIFIED AS: (1) PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 28 OF SECTION 2 OF HURON TOWNSHIP AND**

**BEING PART OF ERIE COUNTY PPN: 42-00309.000; (2) PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 27 OF SECTION 2 OF HURON TOWNSHIP AND BEING PART OF ERIE COUNTY PPN: 42-01952.001; (3) PART OF ORIGINAL LOTS 28 AND 32 OF HURON TOWNSHIP BEING PART OF ERIE COUNTY PPN: 42-01029.000; (4) PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 28 OF SECTION 2 OF HURON TOWNSHIP AND BEING PART OF ERIE COUNTY PPN: 42-02070.001; (5) PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 28 OF HURON TOWNSHIP BEING PART OF ERIE COUNTY PPN: 42-02069.000; AND (6) PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 31 OF HURON TOWNSHIP BEING PART OF ERIE COUNTY PPN: 42-04054.001; AND FURTHER RATIFYING THE RECORDATION OF SAID EASEMENTS WITH THE ERIE COUNTY, OHIO RECORDER ON MARCH 4, 2024, AND ON MARCH 16, 2026; 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. 2026-8 was placed on its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

#### **Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Harris to place Ordinance No. 2026-8 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. 2026-8 was placed as an emergency measure.

City Manager Hamilton explained that these six easements are part of the ongoing expansion of Huron Public Power (HPP) down Sawmill Parkway. He noted that Ms. Welkener has been contacting property owners and securing easements, and that once all easements along the corridor are in place, the city will begin running underground distribution lines to serve businesses along the parkway. He emphasized that HPP cannot solicit customers — businesses must come to the city — and that the city is committed to patient, self-funded growth of the enterprise.

Hamilton also explained that the city is shifting to legislating easements going forward so they are formally recorded and easy to locate, both for current staff and future administrators. These six represent the first half of approximately twelve easements needed to reach the full length of Sawmill Parkway.

In response to a question about which side of the road the lines would run, Hamilton explained that the route begins on the south side, transitions to the north side at a curve, and stays on the north side thereafter. This was necessitated by severe congestion of existing utilities within the standard easement

corridor. Critical road crossings were installed as part of a prior bore project so that the new road surface would not need to be disturbed.

Councilmember Claus raised a question about a potential future connection to Ardagh, noting it would be an entirely different undertaking. City Manager Hamilton agreed, indicating that Ardagh would require a dedicated distribution system and potentially the purchase or takeover of a substation.

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. 2026-8 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 19-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 19-2026 (A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ERIE COUNTY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL RELATING TO ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENTS AND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENTS) be placed on its first reading.**

The 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. 19-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

City Manager Hamilton explained that the TIRC conducts an annual review of all active tax abatements. The TIRC board, which holds advisory authority only, has recommended that all current agreements remain in place with one exception: the abatement for Breckenridge Central Ohio Paper. That company was required to reach 28 jobs within the first two years of the abatement, which began in 2015. After eleven years, the business has never met that threshold, reaching a maximum of 24 jobs. City staff are supporting TIRC's recommendation to terminate the abatement.

Hamilton expressed the city's position clearly: abatements exist to incentivize job creation, and if the jobs are not being created, continuing the abatement is difficult to justify. He also acknowledged that there is no mechanism to claw back abatement benefits from prior years. The business has been notified every year that it has not met its obligations, and Hamilton indicated that while he would personally contact them before any formal action, he did not expect the decision to come as a surprise.

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. 19-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 20-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 20-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. SENATOR BERNIE MORENO'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. 20-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Parks and Recreation Director Doug Steinwart noted that this is the city's third application to Senator Moreno's office for fiscal year 2027, consistent with the prior two submissions. The project scope includes a perimeter bulkhead riser system and concrete walkway around the boat basin. He reported that a field director from Senator Moreno's Northwest Ohio office visited the project site, which staff viewed as a positive sign of engagement.

A question was raised about whether the boat basin improvements had ever been priced out all the way to the pier, as contemplated in the Vision 2020 plan. Steinwart noted a ballpark figure had been included in that plan but that a detailed estimate had not been completed.

Discussion also briefly addressed the status of the dock project funded by a prior grant. Steinwart indicated that the city hopes to go out to bid within one to two weeks, but that the electrical component of the project is experiencing longer-than-expected lead times on components, pushing likely completion into the fall.

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. 20-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 21-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 21-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO OHIO STATE SENATOR THERESA GAVARONE'S 136<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2027/28 CAPITAL BUDGET COMMUNITY PROJECT RELATING TO THE HURON MUNICIPAL BOAT BASIN RENOVATION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,400,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,400,000.00), 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. 21-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Director Steinwart addressed Resolutions 21-2026 and 22-2026 together. Both are state-level community project applications through the Ohio General Assembly — Resolution 21 through Senator Gavarone and Resolution 22 through Representative Swearingen — each seeking \$2,400,000 for the same boat basin project scope: bulkhead risers, perimeter infrastructure, and waterfront recreational improvements intended to enhance public safety, regional tourism, and economic development. Steinwart acknowledged the assistance of OHM on the first three CDS applications.

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. 21-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 22-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 22-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE D. J. SWEARINGEN'S 136<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2027/28 CAPITAL BUDGET COMMUNITY PROJECT RELATING TO THE HURON MUNICIPAL BOAT BASIN RENOVATION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,400,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED**

**TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,400,000.00), 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. 22-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

No additional discussion was held beyond what was addressed under Resolution No. 21-2026.

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. 22-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Resolution No. 23-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 23-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST APPLICATION TO U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN MARCY KAPTUR FY27 INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING PROGRAM RELATING TO THE HURON RIVER RAW WATER ALTERNATE INTAKE AND SLUDGE LAGOON PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,875,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$1,875,000.00), 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: 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. 23-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Water Superintendent Jack Evans addressed Resolutions 23, 24, and 25 collectively, as they all relate to the Huron River Raw Water Alternate Intake project. He thanked OHM for their assistance in submitting the applications. Evans explained that the river intake project would involve a pump station on the boat basin property, a 36-inch intake extended into the Huron River, and a 20-inch force main running back to

the water treatment plant. The project is intended to address the chronic problem of frazzle ice, which has been a significant operational challenge — notably worse than usual in the current winter season.

Regarding the sludge lagoon component, Evans clarified that this refers to rehabilitation of the existing sludge lagoon at the plant, which has been in place since 1957, and is required to support the city's NPDES permit compliance. It is a separate but related project from the new intake.

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. 23-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Resolution No. 24-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 24-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO OHIO STATE SENATOR THERESA GAVARONE'S 136<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2027/28 CAPITAL BUDGET COMMUNITY PROJECT RELATING TO THE HURON RIVER RAW WATER ALTERNATE INTAKE PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,743,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,743,000.00), 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: 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. 24-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

No additional discussion was held beyond what was addressed under Resolution No. 23-2026.

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. 24-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 25-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 25-2026 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE D. J. SWEARINGEN'S 136<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2027/28 CAPITAL BUDGET COMMUNITY PROJECT RELATING TO THE HURON RIVER RAW WATER ALTERNATE INTAKE PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,743,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,743,000.00), 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: 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. 25-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

No additional discussion was held beyond what was addressed under Resolution No. 23-2026.

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. 25-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 26-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 26-2026 (A RESOLUTION AGREEING TO COOPERATE WITH THE ERIE METROPARKS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING OUTDOOR RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS) 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. 26-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Director Steinwart addressed Resolutions 26 and 27 together. Resolution 26 is the required resolution of cooperation with Erie MetroParks, which is a prerequisite for submitting the grant application under

Resolution 27. The Erie MetroParks Board of Commissioners authorized its largest-ever capital grant amount for this cycle.

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. 26-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 27-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 27-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO ERIE METROPARKS – 2026 LOCAL PARK CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM RELATING TO REPLACEMENT OF THE ROOFS ON TWO (2) PICNIC SHELTERS AT THE HURON MUNICIPAL BOAT BASIN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$9,425.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$9,425.00), 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. 27-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Director Steinwart explained that the grant would fund re-shingling of the two heavily used and highly visible picnic shelters at the boat basin at a cost of \$9,425 for both. The work would match a building completed approximately four to five years ago. This is a reimbursement grant with a quick turnaround; the city expects to know by mid-May whether the application is successful, with work targeted for summer. Steinwart also noted that the city is working with the Huron Lions Club to address the fascia and siding of the shelters separately.

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. 27-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution No. 28-2026**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 28-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A STATE OF OHIO WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE 2.0 MG ELEVATED WATER STORAGE TANK PROJECT TO AMEND THE WSRLA AGREEMENT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION NO. 43-2025 (ADOPTED BY HURON CITY COUNCIL ON JUNE 10, 2025) TO INCREASE THE ADJUSTED CONTRACT AMOUNT BY FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$56,605.00), BRINGING THE AGGREGATE CONTRACT AMOUNT TO EIGHT MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$8,469,605.00)) 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. 28-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Director Evans explained that at the prior Council meeting, two change orders were approved in connection with the water tower project. This resolution simply amends the city's WSRLA financing agreement with the State of Ohio and its contract with Landmark Structures to reflect the additional cost. He noted that the WSRLA loan carries a 0% interest rate.

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. 28-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**City Manager's Discussion**

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

**Donations** – We had a \$5,000 anonymous donation made to the K-9 Fund by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

**Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to accept the \$5,000.00 donation from the Veterans to Foreign Wars 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.

**Conagra Road Plat:** A final road plat with ODNR's signature has been received and will go before the Planning Commission on March 25 for final approval. City Manager Hamilton indicated this is the last significant paperwork step in what he described as a very lengthy process.

**Bike Lanes:** Repainting of the bike lanes is scheduled to begin approximately the third week of April, weather permitting.

**Transient Rentals:** The city is transitioning transient rental inspections from the Planning and Zoning Department to the Fire Department, which brings specialized life safety expertise to the process. Notification letters will be sent to all transient rental operators once the transition details are finalized. Some code changes may result from this process. Councilmember Claus noted his support for the change, and City Manager Hamilton confirmed that the administrative processing of permits will remain with Planning and Zoning.

**Sustainable Communities Tour:** A community sustainability tour sponsored by Old Woman's Creek Reserve, Erie Conservation District, and the Ohio Clean Marinas Program is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31. More than 35 participants are expected to visit the Lake Front Park, Huron Pier, Huron Boat Basin, and Gathering Grounds Coffee House. City Manager Hamilton thanked Parks and Recreation Director Doug Steinwart for coordinating the event.

**Red, White and Blues Festival:** The city will host its traditional Fourth of July celebration, but will not hold fireworks this year. The decision reflects scheduling conflicts with Riverfest and the desire to consolidate fireworks into one regional event during the nation's 250th anniversary year. City Manager Hamilton encouraged residents to attend and enjoy the bands and festivities.

**Safety Services:** Both the Police and Fire Departments are sponsoring youth baseball teams, with registration costs donated by department members.

**Ladder Truck:** The city is expected to take possession of the new-to-the-city ladder truck on March 27. Staff will travel to retrieve it and immediately begin equipping it for service.

**Trees and Sidewalks:** Spring inspections are resuming. The city is re-inspecting previously reviewed zones to issue final letters and conducting a first inspection of Zone 1. The process involves an initial courtesy letter, a follow-up inspection in late summer or early fall, and a citation if deficiencies remain. Property owners who do not complete repairs within 60 days may have the work carried out by the city, with the cost invoiced and assessed on their property taxes if unpaid.

**Water and Sewer Regionalization:** A kickoff meeting was held with representatives from Erie County, the cities of Vermilion, Milan, and Sandusky. City Manager Hamilton described it as a candid, constructive conversation to establish expectations and surface concerns. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for March 30 to begin discussing substantive possibilities. He reiterated that the city's position is that any arrangement must have no negative impact on Huron residents.

Councilmember Artino raised constituent concerns about rising electricity bills and asked whether the city would revisit electricity aggregation and whether HPP could be extended to residential customers. City Manager Hamilton responded that the city continuously monitors the spread between aggregator rates and First Energy's rates. Currently that gap is minimal, and locking into aggregation prematurely could prevent residents from benefiting if rates diverge further. The city will aggregate when doing so would produce meaningful savings.

On the question of HPP expansion to residences, City Manager Hamilton affirmed that supplying all city residents is the long-term goal of HPP, but that expansion must be entirely self-funded as an enterprise fund. The current strategy is to continue expanding HPP's commercial customer base along Sawmill Parkway, then extend across to the school and other properties, growing revenue sufficiently to eventually support residential service.

Councilmember Claus noted an upcoming Joint Port Authority meeting on April 1 at the Township Hall. He also asked about the timeline for the new marine patrol boat. Police Chief Graham indicated the last part arrived that day, that buoys would need to be placed, and that the goal is to have the new boat in full patrol service by Memorial Day. The prior boat will not be returned to service.

#### **Vice-Mayor's Discussion**

Vice-Mayor Biddlecombe said:

Vice Mayor Biddlecombe, presiding in the Mayor's absence, thanked staff for their hard work and thanked the VFW Post for their donation to the canine fund. He noted the following upcoming community events: the Lions Club pancake breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, March 28 from 8:00 AM to noon, and an Easter Egg Hunt at 1:00 PM at the boat basin. Youth summer program registration opens April 6. Upcoming home athletic events were announced including track and field, boys tennis, baseball, and softball, with an encouragement to support student athletes.

Please come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes, and GO TIGERS!

#### **For the Good of the Order**

**Sam Artino** – Thanks to the VFW for their generous donation to the K-9 Fund.

**Mark Claus** – Thanks to the VFW for their generous donation to the K-9 Fund.

**Tom Harris** – No additional comments.

**Joe Dike** – Thanked everyone for their hard work and expressed anticipation for the summer season.

**Joel Hagy** – No additional comments.

#### **Executive Session**

No executive session was held.

**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 24, 2026, was adjourned at \_\_\_\_ pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 1 2 MAY 2026