

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 6:30pm

Call to Order

Vice-Mayor William Biddlecombe called the regular Council meeting of June 9, 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: **Sam Artino, William Biddlecombe, Mark Claus, Tom Harris and Joel Hagy**. Councilmembers absent: **Joe Dike and Monty Tapp**.

Motion

Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse the absences of Mr. Dike and 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, Artino, Biddlecombe (5)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and the absences of Mr. Dike and Mr. Tapp were excused.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Stuart Hamilton, Finance Director Isaac Phillips, Police Chief Terry Graham, Parks and Recreation Director Doug Steinwart, Water Superintendent Jack Evans and Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Hagy to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of May 26, 2026.

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: Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus, Harris (4)
ABSTAIN: Hagy (1)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and the minutes of the May 26, 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.

No members of the public came forward to address Council.

Old Business**Ordinance No. 2026-11 (third and final reading)**

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2026-11 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PARAGRAPH 331.37(a) OF SECTION 331.37 (DRIVING UPON SIDEWALKS, STREET LAWNS OR CURBS) OF CHAPTER 331 (OPERATION GENERALLY) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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 (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-11 was placed on its third and final reading. The Clerk of Council read the Ordinance by its title only.

City Manager Hamilton introduced this item, noting that during previous discussions regarding motorized e-bikes, scooters, and similar devices, staff identified a conflict within the Huron Codified Ordinances. Two sections of Huron code directly contradict one another — one provision permits low-speed micromobility devices (such as electric kids' scooters) on sidewalks, while another prohibits it. Additionally, the prohibition conflicts with the Ohio Revised Code, which permits such devices on sidewalks. This amendment resolves the internal contradiction and aligns the city's ordinances with state law. Council elected to allow this item to proceed through all three readings rather than waive that rule, given that it constitutes an ordinance change.

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: Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus, Harris, Hagy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Ordinance No. 2026-11 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

New Business**Ordinance No. 2026-13**

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived and Ordinance No. 2026-13 (AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) 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, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Ordinance No. 2026-13 was placed upon its first reading. The Clerk of Council read the Ordinance by its title only.

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to place Ordinance No. 2026-13 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, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, motion passed and Ordinance No. 2026-13 was placed as an emergency measure.

City Manager Hamilton explained that the Ohio Revised Code has been expanding its cybersecurity requirements in recent years, and while the City already maintains internal security policies and infrastructure, ORC now mandates the standardized reporting of cybersecurity incidents. Critically, the new state requirements also require that the legislative body approve any payment of a ransom before it is made.

City Manager Hamilton described the practical implications: in the event of a ransomware attack, Council members would be called in for an emergency meeting to deliberate and decide whether to pay. He cited the example of Atlanta, which suffered the loss of all emergency services for nearly two months after a cyberattack and chose not to pay the requested \$5 million ransom, ultimately rebuilding its systems from the ground up at far greater cost and disruption.

Councilman Hagy sought clarification that Council would retain discretion over whether to pay a ransom, and City Manager Hamilton confirmed that the city retains full authority — the ordinance simply codifies the reporting and approval process as now required by the state.

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, Artino (7)
NAYS: None (0)

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

Resolution No. 48-2026

Motion by Mr. Harris that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 48-2026 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE QUOTE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH D.L. SMITH CONCRETE LLC FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES RELATING TO CONCRETE DRIVEWAY DEMOLITION AND INSTALLATION TO BE COMPLETED AT 429 WILLIAMS STREET IN THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$29,795.00)) 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, Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 48-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Clerk of Council read the Resolution by its title only.

City Manager Hamilton explained that the property at 429 Williams Street was originally included in the US Route 6 Phase 2 project, but complications arising from ODOT right-of-way requirements led staff to remove the driveway work from that project and handle it independently. As part of the Route 6 project, Van Rensalaer Street is being closed to vehicular traffic; the existing driveway for the property is located on Van Rensalaer. The resolution authorizes the construction of a new driveway on William Street — the property's addressed street — along with the demolition of the existing rear concrete slab to accommodate the planned bike path and boulevard treatment in that corridor. City Manager Hamilton noted the property owners have been cooperative throughout the process and that work was expected to begin promptly upon Council approval.

Council members discussed the scope of the work. Councilman Harris inquired about the size of the new driveway; City Manager Hamilton described a 22-foot apron at the right-of-way, a 24-foot driveway to the side of the house, and a 13-foot driveway along the side, with the concrete poured at six inches. Councilman Harris noted the cost was understandable given the extent of demolition involved. Councilman Claus confirmed that tree removal previously performed at the site was handled separately under the main project and was not included in the \$29,795 figure.

Councilman Hagy also inquired about a neighboring property; City Manager Hamilton indicated that property also required driveway work but fell below the \$25,000 threshold requiring Council authorization and was handled administratively.

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, Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 48-2026 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

Resolution No. 50-2026

Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 50-2026 (A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE REPAIR OF THE PUBLIC SIDEWALKS ABUTTING CERTAIN PREMISES IN THE CITY OF HURON) 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: Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus, Harris, Hagy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was waived, and Resolution No. 50-2026 was placed upon its first reading. The Clerk of Council read the Resolution by its title only.

City Manager Hamilton explained that as part of the ongoing trees and sidewalk program, the Clerk of Council identified one property that had been inadvertently omitted from a previous round of repair notifications. This resolution adds that single property to the program at a total cost of \$2,250.

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: Artino, Biddlecombe, Claus, Harris, Hagy (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor, Resolution No. 50-2026 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 — Hometown Heroes Project: The Huron Lions Club donated 42 American flags and \$850 toward the Hometown Heroes banners project. Grant Bauer, a local high school student who spearheaded the project, donated \$1,502.

Three (3) separate motions were made by Vice-Mayor Biddlecombe to accept the above-referenced donations. Council voted to accept all three donations unanimously.

South Main Street Streetscape Project: City Manager Hamilton reported that the project was awarded to D.L. Smith Concrete LLC in the amount of \$2,154,476 following an emergency meeting the prior week. Approximately \$750,000 in grant funding is applied to the project.

Route 6 Phase 2: Route 6 is now closed as construction is underway. Alternate routes are via Cleveland Road West to Rye Beach Road and Bogart Road to Rye Beach Road. City Manager Hamilton encouraged residents to utilize the Bogart Road option, as Cleveland Road West has seen heavy use. Staff are coordinating traffic management plans for upcoming tournaments at Fabens Park, including making

certain streets one-way during event weekends, and are also working with River Fest and the Lions Club on adjusted parade and 5K routes.

Code Enforcement: The spring and summer months have brought an increase in code enforcement activity. In the absence of the City's zoning inspector, the Huron Police Department has been assisting with inspections and photographic documentation. City Manager Hamilton thanked the Police Chief and his department for their support.

Sign Code Amendments / Building & Zoning Fee Schedule: A work session on proposed sign code amendments to Chapter 1321 of the Codified Ordinances is scheduled for June 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Staff are also undertaking a comprehensive review of building and zoning fee schedules to consolidate all fee references into a single location within the code and to benchmark the City's fees against those of surrounding municipalities. The updated fee schedule will go through Planning Commission before returning to Council for approval. Councilman Claus noted that a similar consolidation effort had been initiated during his time on the Planning Commission but had not been completed.

Transient Rentals: The Fire Department has assumed responsibility for all transient rental property inspections previously handled by code enforcement. Fire personnel conduct the inspections and return paperwork to zoning staff, who continue to manage the remainder of the compliance process.

Parks & Recreation — Boppin' on the Basin: The first concert of the summer series is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, featuring Swamps of Jersey, a Bruce Springsteen tribute band. City Manager Hamilton also praised the success of the prior Saturday's Lakefront Market, highlighting the community engagement it generated, and expressed the City's intention to continue working with GSP (Greater Sandusky Partnership) on similar events.

Safety Services — Fire Department: The City's new-to-us ladder truck entered full service during the week of the meeting. The Fire Department will participate in a joint emergency boat operators' course with Lorain Fire and Border Patrol on June 24.

Income Tax Receipts: Receipts through the end of May totaled \$1.68 million, trailing 2025 by approximately 10%, though May figures were on pace with the prior year.

Stormwater: Staff are investigating storm drainage issues on the west end of the City, including a situation in the Wexford area where a storm line runs through private property, as well as catch basin concerns near Pittsburgh Avenue. City Manager Hamilton noted that the infrastructure connections in the area do not tie together as previously understood, and staff are actively working to trace and resolve the issues.

Streets — Hometown Heroes Flags: All 42 flagpole mounts for the Hometown Heroes project have been received from Latanick. City Manager Hamilton noted that Rick from Latanick donated all staff labor for fabrication of the custom mounts, charging only for materials, and expressed the City's gratitude for that contribution.

Streets Staffing: City Manager Hamilton advised that the Streets Department will be operating under significantly reduced staffing for approximately one month due to medical circumstances, with only one streets employee available during that period.

Personnel: A part-time zoning inspector position (approximately 24 hours per week) remains open. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit the City's website.

Property Sale: The City closed on a property on Berlin Road for \$25,450 plus closing costs. City Manager Hamilton expressed enthusiasm about the property returning to the tax roll.

Boat Basin Floating Dock Replacement: The project has gone out to bid, with bids due by July 8. Approximately \$500,000 in grant funding is available for the project.

Upcoming Meetings/Administrative Office Closure:

- Planning Commission Meeting: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m., Council Chambers
- City Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers
- Administrative offices will be closed Friday, June 19, 2026 in observance of Juneteenth.

Mayor's Discussion

In the absence of Mayor Tapp, Vice-Mayor Biddlecombe offered the following remarks.

He thanked City staff, Latanick, the Lions Club, and Grant Bauer for their contributions to the Hometown Heroes project. He noted the next school board meeting is June 29 at 6:00 p.m. at the Woodlands cafeteria. He congratulated the City's state track athletes, including the 4x800 meter relay team of Rylie Towns, Andrea Lesnak, Laney Schlessman, and Claire Putman, who won the Division IV State Championship while also breaking the school record by 9 seconds. The girls track team finished as state runner-up. Vice-Mayor Biddlecombe listed upcoming boat basin events and encouraged residents to attend.

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

For the Good of the Order

Councilman Claus echoed thanks to Grant Bauer, the Lions Club, and Latanick for their work on the Hometown Heroes project, calling it a meaningful community initiative. He also addressed the ongoing issue of e-bike safety, urging parents to remind children of applicable rules and laws as summer activity increases. He noted that many residents remain unaware that legislation has been passed on the subject, and expressed support for the SRO program's role in educating young riders. Councilman Harris likewise commended the appearance of the Hometown Heroes banners. Councilmen Artino and Hagy had no additional comments.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Claus 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:

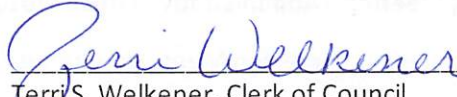
YEAS: Claus, Harris, Hagy, Artino, Biddlecombe (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of June 6, 2026, was adjourned at 7:02pm.

Adopted: _____

23 JUN 2026


Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council