



CITY OF HURON
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

September 19, 2025

Stuart Hamilton, Interim City Manager

DONATIONS

[Donation Description]: The City has received a donation from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$167,500 for the purchase of a new Marine Patrol boat. We would like to thank this donor on behalf of not just the City, but also all of our residents and visitors that this boat will keep safe in years to come!

ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ConAgra: As required by ORC, the City sent the required notice to Erie County with our intent to ultimately approve an Incentive District TIF on the site to pay for the costs of the seawall. The County did not formally object to the TIF and the TIF was approved by Council on April 8, 2025, and submitted to the Ohio Department of Development on April 9, 2025.

The City is finalizing the process with ODNR to formally dedicate a portion of the ODNR boat launch property as public right of way – the preliminary dedication plat has been sent to Erie County for review and will be legislated by Council and signed in the next few weeks. As part of the plat, the City is providing a temporary name for the new roadway for purposes of getting the plat recorded as possible – which will be simply “Access Street.” Ultimately, the new public roadway will need a permanent name, and the staff is proposing calling it River Road as a continuation of the existing River Road – south of Rt. 6 – similarly to how we treat Berlin Road.

The City is putting the finishing touches on a joint easement agreement with ODNR which will permit the City temporary construction easements outside of the formal roadway while also providing ODNR an access easement for the property that is being dedicated as public right of way to ensure people have perpetual access to the boat launch.

USACE issued the permit for the Seawall project. We are waiting for confirmation that ODNR does not have any additional requirements. KS will prioritize the design completion and approval process, so we are ready to issue it at the correct time.

The developer's plans were approved at the Planning Commission and Design Review Board meeting on June 18th 2025 and forwarded on to Council for approval. A public hearing was scheduled for the Council meeting August 12th. 2025. The development plan was passed by Council at this meeting.

Staff met with the developer last week to discuss the status of their due diligence. The conversation did not go as well as hoped. They have discovered that each unit would require footers tied into the bedrock at a depth of around 50ft, adding unexpected additional costs. These extra costs are not anything the City can cover (~\$3M), so the developer (Triban) are looking at options from their side. The builder (kHov) does not have this additional cost built into their formulas, so for now, this project is somewhat at a pause as the situation is assessed.

INFRASTRUCTURE/STREETS/UTILITIES/IT

Utilities Committee: We have an opening on our Utilities Committee. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in serving on this extremely interesting committee, please reach out to Terri Welkener at 419-433-500 x 1104.

East Side Sidewalks: Staff have recommended contracting with RMH Concrete for this project. The project is expected to be substantially completed in 2025.

It should be noted that the bid came in roughly 50% lower than projected – meaning the City has excess grant funds from ODOT and Erie County Regional Planning. Staff will soon be engaging each entity about the possibility of moving these funds to other relevant and eligible projects, but our only option is to return any unused monies.

The closing date for the RFQ for construction inspection and construction administration was June 3rd. We received a single RFQ, so the city will now enter into negotiations on pricing for these services.

The contracts for construction and for construction inspection have been awarded. A Pre-construction meeting was carried out on July 14th. A project schedule will be forthcoming.

This project is well underway and on schedule. Restoration has begun on the sidewalk areas. The RRFB's have been installed, and we are waiting for road striping. We expect this project to be fully wrapped up by the end of September.

Route 13 Crosswalks: Staff have recommended contracting with DL Smith for this project. The project is expected to be substantially completed in 2025.

The closing date for the RFQ for construction inspection and construction administration was June 3rd. We received a single RFQ, so the city will now enter into negotiations on pricing for these services.

The contracts for construction and for construction inspection have been awarded. A Pre-construction meeting was carried out on July 14th. A project schedule will be forthcoming.

We are waiting on some submittals and lead times on some items for this project. We still expect this project to be complete by the end of October.

South Main Street Streetscape Design and Engineering: The City has received updated cost estimates from OHM and is reviewing internally. Once reviewed by staff, Council will be briefed and a work session scheduled to determine if we desire to move forward with the project and if so, whether the proposed scope of work should be amended.

Stage 1 and Stage 2 (combined) plans were submitted to ODOT for review. Comments and clarifications were received back, addressed and resubmitted. Stage 3 plans are now underway.

Rt 6 Phase II: The City has received updated cost estimates from OHM and is reviewing internally. Once reviewed by staff, Council will be briefed and a work session scheduled to determine if we desire to move forward with the project and if so, whether the proposed scope of work should be amended.

Phase 1-2 plan set was submitted to ODOT for review and some clarifying questions were asked of us. The City, Transystems and OHM conducted a meeting, and all questions/clarifications have been addressed and returned to ODOT.

Stage 3 plan set was submitted to ODOT 7/3/2025. We will await comments.

Electric Trail Connector: The city applied for and was awarded a grant from ODOT (TAP) funding of \$533,000. The project is still in its conceptual phase but will connect the Lake Erie Electric Trail to the soon to be constructed US6 Connectivity multi-use pathway that will run from BGSU to Sandusky and beyond. We thank ODOT for their continued support of our connectivity projects.

A PO has been issued to OHM Advisors to work with the City on the proposed route and ROW requirements to design this connector in the amount of \$12,550. Once this is complete, we will have enough information to start work on ROW acquisition and actual design.

Bike Lanes: The City plans to repaint the bike lanes from Berlin Road to Williams St. This will entail removing all existing paint, crack sealing, repainting the green paint in a new and reduced configuration, then restriping. We will be adding high vis paint on the bridge decks to ensure in inclement weather the lanes are still visible. Seal Master are painting the green portion for us, with the City only covering the actual cost of the paint. We thank them for their partnership.

ZONING/CODE/PLANNING

ConAgra Development: A second public hearing was held on June 18, 2025 before the Planning Commission to review Landscape, Lighting, Greenspace/Streetscape and Elevations. A recommendation was made to approve the site and design plans with modifications and forward recommendations to City Council. The recommendation report has been submitted to the Clerk of Council pursuant to the process outlined in Chapter 11227 MU-GD and Chapter 1139. This project is now at the City Council level.

A Public Hearing was held at the City Council level on August 12th, 2025. Following the hearing, City Council approved of the General Development Concept Plan by the adoption of Ordinance 2025-22.

513 Berlin Road: As approved earlier this evening, the city filed a petition to accept this property. It was listed for Sheriff's fire sale twice and failed to sell and would normally revert to the State for ownership. This would sit under State control, unmanaged, for years to come. By petitioning ownership, it puts the City in control to move this property on.

This petition has been approved by Erie County Court. We will wait for the deeds to transfer and then the City will be the legal owner.

Code Enforcement: There have been 115 cases year-to-date. New cases since our last report other than grass/weed complaints include: commercial banner signage, overgrown trees/bushes causing sightline issues, interior apartment condition complaints. We continue with repeat mowing several properties related to grass/weeds that are now at their 5th offense.

Cases at the Prosecutor/Municipal Court Level:

- Strowbridge Drive: property maintenance violations (exterior & repeat grass/weeds) which went to court. The owner is now working with Courts on time schedule for repairs.
- Pittsburgh Ave: Advertising and operating a transient rental without a certificate-Defendant's Plea- No Contest, fine paid.
- A property maintenance case on Wheeler Drive that had been initiated in 2022, appealed, taken to the Ohio Supreme Court, has now been remanded back to Huron Municipal Court with the case set for a Bench Trial in October.
- Oakwood Ave: June-Paving of two driveway areas without a permit, noncompliance with driveway regulations, paving over water meter pit. Owner has been advised of corrective action; required application not submitted. Case transferred to the Prosecutor.
- Ashland Ave: property maintenance violations (exterior, roofs, drainage, debris) Case opened in December 2024; extensions requested and provided with no substantial improvements made. Case transferred to the Prosecutor.

Code Amendments: Staff continue to document code sections that are antiquated, contradictory, absent and/or unclear as written and as time allows research and documentation into other municipal codes are compiled. The code sections we are presently drafting:

Grass/Weeds- Chapter 557 - formatting of sections, clarification and simplification of language, streamlined language pertaining to required noticing methods and number of notices per calendar year, increase in fees/higher fee for repeat offenders. Staff have submitted proposed

changes to Legal for review and edits, upon the final draft, this can be placed on an upcoming Council agenda. Legal has reviewed and provided their recommendations; this is being reviewed by staff and the draft amendment will be placed on an upcoming agenda.

Off-Street Parking Regulations -Chapter 1133- clarification of a Section which was to address the expansion, enlargement, additions, and increased occupancy of Commercial/Business Uses, but current language is not specific to this use, in fact, as currently stated would apply to residential uses as well. Knowing this, staff have not applied this section to any residential use, however, the code needs to be corrected. This amendment will be placed on the upcoming Planning Commission agenda for discussion and recommendation. This amendment will be placed on the October Planning Commission Agenda for discussion and recommendation.

Excavations- Chapter 901- incorporating language to identify any work within the city right of way (ROW); amending bond requirements to align with the bond requirements within the Contractor Registration Chapter, address the issue of owners performing work in the ROW themselves. Staff will be corresponding with Legal on this as research into other municipalities has not yielded results.

Vehicles/Vehicle Parking- there are sections in Residential, General Offenses, and the Parking Code that speak to where vehicles and watercraft can park and what type of surface is required. Most common vehicle/parking issues reported:

- Vehicles/watercraft parked on the grass in yards.
- Vehicles/watercraft anywhere on the premises that appear neglected or deteriorating
- No mention in our code of Construction Vehicles/Construction Equipment on residential property when no active construction project is taking place. Several municipalities have language to address this issue- we are researching at this time.

Additionally, "Junk Vehicles" are only addressed in General Offenses, while "Neglected or Deteriorating Watercraft and/or Vehicles" operable or non-operable are within the Zoning Code- under "Effects of Districting and General Regulations" which does not provide Zoning any means of enforcement efforts.

Sign Code- Chapter 1127- A Work session meeting of the Planning Commission/City Council was held on 9-11-25. City's consultant, Wendy Moeller, provided overview of case law, discussed recommendations for consideration and sought input/feedback from members. Ms. Moeller will be preparing a draft based on this discussion which will then be reviewed at the Planning Commission level until such time as the Commission makes a recommendation to City Council.

Transient Rentals: We presently have 11 applications on the Wait List. The database of registered properties and the wait list database are posted on the website.

Preliminary Reviews: Staff meets weekly with applicants contemplating new builds, substantial additions, rebuilds to review the code regulations relative to their parcel and zoning district. Recent reviews consisted of Commercial/Business reviews, addition of a second dwelling on an R-2 parcel, proposed demo/rebuild of a single-family home, lot split/lot combo reviews.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Transient Rental Dock Replacement Project: Our recent grant funding specified that it could be used to improve transient rental dock. So, this project is looking to replace and upgrade B and H piers, which comprises of approximately 26 docks. Once designed, the construction contract will return to Council for consideration.

Boat Basin: We are hosting the 3rd Annual Chris & Owen Kedas Memorial Fishing Derby on Saturday, September 27th. This event raises funds through donations and sponsorships that will help provide assistance for those navigating their own tragedies with support and contributions to other community projects in memory of Chris and Owen Kedas. A few spots remain for registration.

Huron Pumpkin Fest: Saturday, October 11, 11 AM to 5 PM at the Huron Boat Basin. This day is a fun-filled day of all things PUMPKIN! The Annual Pumpkin Drop will take place at 2:30 PM.

Oklahoma Park (Turtle Park): We are partnering with EHOVE Collision and Refinishing Program to bring the "Turtle" play apparatus back to life with new paint and a fresh new look for years of more fun.

Huron Pier: The Parks & Recreation Department has ordered six (6) new life ring cabinet stations and life rings to replace the existing equipment on the Huron Pier. These life ring stations are highly visible in case of an emergency and will bring added safety for residents and visitors.

US Fish & Wildlife Service Boating Infrastructure Grant: ODNr Parks & Watercraft has received notification from the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) that our project has been fully approved for selection of funding on the Boating Infrastructure Grant Tier II for \$300,000.

With this approval, the next step in the process will be to complete all required compliance measures. This includes NEPA, ESA, SHPO, a full ODNr environmental review, and final design submission. These items will be compiled over the next few months and submitted to USFWS for review. Please note that USFWS has up to 90 days to complete their review once all documentation is submitted to them.

After compliance approval is received from USFWS, then comes the agreement (contract) process, which typically takes approximately 2–4 weeks. Once the agreement is fully executed and all signatures are obtained, we will receive a formal Notice to Proceed, and the BIG portion of our project may begin.

The plan is to use the \$200,000 from the State of Ohio that we received from the Strategic Investment Funding that was issued last year as the match for a total of \$500,000 to go towards replacement of two dock piers. More info to come.

Fish Sculpture at Huron River Boating Access Facility: The Parks & Recreation Department has been working with the Fish Huron Ohio group as they would like to donate a hanging fish sculpture to be located at the Huron River Boating Access Facility. This public art piece will provide fishermen with the ability to show off their catch and take pictures while promoting Huron as a fishing destination. The donation will be made to ODNR and through the terms of the existing MOU, the City will be responsible for managing and maintaining the donation. The art installation would be a stainless-steel sculpture with a concrete base and will be located north of the existing fish cleaning station.

The concrete pad has been poured in preparation for the sculpture delivery, which is expected mid-month.

State Capital Budget: The city has informally been told that we will be receiving \$200,000 from the State of Ohio as part of the first \$350M in one-time Strategic Investment funding. There will be another \$350M announced shortly which is on top of the state capital funding bill. The \$700M is from a one-time allocation of surplus operating funds from the state of Ohio. These funds will be used to offset part of the necessary capital improvements needed at the Boat Basin site. We will keep Council up to date as we get more formal information about this funding.

Dancing Waters Park: At the final Council meeting in January, it was decided the greenspace on Berlin Road would be renamed Dancing Waters Park – as a bit of an acknowledgement to the family that was responsible for developing the man-made lake on-site. The new sign for the park has been installed by Brady Signs.

SAFETY SERVICES

Fire Chief: Our Fire Department has operated with the three Captains as a combined Chief. The understanding was always when one got ready to retire that we would move back to operating with a full time Fire Chief. This time has finally come. We would like to thank our Captains for stepping up and operating out of position and filling this gap, this has saved the City a huge amount of money over the years. With this said, we will hold a work session on this topic prior to the next meeting to discuss and set the selections committee and walk Council through the hiring process.

Marine Patrol Boat: The Police department has been given a anonymous donation to purchase a new Marine Patrol boat in the amount of \$167,500!! Legislation for the purchase will be presented to Council at the upcoming Council meeting. Funds will not be expended until we have the donation. We are so very excited, and appreciative of our anonymous donor! This donation has been received, and the boat has now been purchased. We will work with the supplier to have

the boat wrapped and installed with lights, sirens, radios etc. Depending on lead times on these items will depend on if this boat enters service this year, or spring of 2026.

Jacob Eck: Ofc. Jacob Eck will be ceremonial sworn-in at the 09/23/2025 council Meeting. Ofc. Eck is a Huron High School and EHOVE police academy graduate. Ofc. Eck was All-Ohio in track. He has a bachelor's degree in criminology with a minor in homeland security from Ashland University. Ofc. Eck resides in Huron. He is completing his field training and will eventually be assigned to squad 3 which is night shift on the front half of the week.

It should be known that Ofc. Eck's great-grandfather, Fred Klein, retired as the Chief of Police of the Huron Police Department in 1953. His successor was Ofc. Carl Kramp. Chief Klein became the head of the department in 1938. At that time, the position was that of Village Marshall to which he was successively elected until 1942. In 1942, through state legislative action, the position was changed to the present Chief of Police and became a civil service appointive position. Later that year, Mayor Frank McQuillen appointed him to fill the job through action of the Village Council. In 1938, Chief Klein relieved Jim Sommer as Marshall. The Marshall was the lone law officer of the community and was on call twenty-four hours of a day. Not until mid-1938 was the first patrol provided for the Marshall's use. During the years that followed, the department made great strides with four full-time officers and three part-time officers for emergencies.

School Resource Officer: School Resource Officer Brian Clayman graduated on 09/19/2025 from Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) training after two weeks of intensive training.

FLOCK Camera Installation: Our last remaining FLOCK camera was finally installed on US6 at the walkover bridge monitoring west bound traffic. Our FLOCK camera program continues to be extremely valuable with investigations and it has increased our solvability rate with crimes and investigations exponentially. Currently, the FLOCK cameras have over 800,000 plate reads per month.

FINANCE

Income Tax: Through August, income tax receipts still are trending positively and are 11.2% higher than this time in 2024. Through the end of August, receipts total \$2.93M. We will continue to monitor receipts and keep Council updated.

Real Estate Taxes: The City's received its second half tax settlement payment on August 18th, total property tax revenue was approximately \$15,400 higher than budget and \$123,800 (11%) higher than 2024 receipts. This increase is due to Erie County's re-evaluation process. The City will anticipate 2% growth in property tax revenue for 2026, allowing for a conservative budget as well as reflecting the growth anticipated now that the re-evaluation process has concluded.

2026 Budget: The Finance Department has held 1st round of departmental budget meetings, the finance team is working diligently to incorporate anticipated challenges, requested modifications, and updated assumptions based on performance through this point in 2025. Finance staff will hold additional meetings with department leaders to finalize departmental operating plans before Finance Committee review. The tentative financial planning schedule is below.

Finance Committee Schedule @ 5PM	
Tuesday, August 12, 2025	Q2 Results & Budget Schedule Presentation
Monday, October 20, 2025	Budget Meeting- Community Development (Parks & Rec, Building & Zoning, Economic Development)
Monday, October 27, 2025	Budget Meeting - Services (Street / Water / Refuse, Electric, Storm Water)
Monday, November 3, 2025	Budget Meeting - Public Safety (Police, Fire, Court & Administration)
Monday November 10, 2025	Q3 Results & Budget Meeting (Debt / Capital / Reserves / Carryover) - Committee Approval
Tuesday November 25, 2025 (Council Meeting)	Council Meeting - 1st Reading of Appropriations
Tuesday, December 9, 2025	(If needed)
Departmental Schedules	
Police	August 13th @ 9:00 AM
Water	August 15th @ 10:00 AM
Streets	August 14th @ 8:00 AM
Admin / Electric / CIP / Economic Dvlp	August 26th @ 10:00 AM
Parks & Rec	August 19th @ 9:00 AM
Building & Zoning	August 19th @ 2:00 PM
Court	August 18th @ 2:00 PM
Fire	August 25th @ 8:00 AM
IT	August 21st @ 10:00 AM

Monthly Financials (August): <https://stories.opengov.com/huronoh/published/1xKR-x3fS>

WATER DEPARTMENT

Recent Activity:

- Lake Erie Diving Inc. inspected and cleaned the intake crib on 9/10/25. All components are in good condition.
- Hydrant flushing has been completed for 2025;
- Staff met on 8/6/25 to evaluate the water rates for the next 3 years. All capital projects, assets and planning are being reevaluated as part of this process.

Active Project Updates:

Alternate Intake/Sludge Lagoon: The design and engineering for this project have been sent to the Ohio EPA for approval. A response from the OEPA was received on 4/4/25 with numerous questions and comments. The largest concern is that the OEPA is requesting 12-months of water quality data from the Huron River. The Water Superintendent inquired with Kleinfelder numerous times over the past 2 years if the city should be collecting water samples for analysis.

The city was assured that this was not necessary as this intake is to only be used in an emergency and will not be a permanent source. Staff is currently obtaining quotes for water sampling analysis of the Huron River. These samples are required by the OEPA, but will not delay the project. Kleinfelder is drafting a response to the OEPA that was received on 4/4/25. This project was also nominated for interest-free funding through WSRLA and was approved by City Council on 6/10/25.

West Side Water Tower:

A pre-construction meeting was held on 8/7/25. This meeting included city staff, Kleinfelder Engineering, Landmark Structures, and staff from Ohio EPA DEFA. This meeting included a review of the project established processes moving forward including timelines. A construction site visit was held after the meeting.

The City officially closed on the property from Ardagh on 9/12/25. Kleinfelder and Landmark were notified and construction of the foundation will begin soon. The contractor has been made fully aware of the schedule and the funding deadlines for the city. The site title opinion was issued to DEFA for the loan for the remaining balance of this project. The city was notified from DEFA that this loan will be awarded a 0% interest rate. This is fantastic news for this city and will save approximately \$2.8M over the life of the loan. As always, the city truly appreciates our funding partners!

Landmark Structures had the lowest and best bid in the amount of \$8,413,000.00 and this was legislated at council on 5/27/25. Funding requests for WSRLA through DEFA were approved by City Council on 6/10/25. The loan through WSRLA will be used to fund the remaining balance of the project. An extension was applied for the \$5M grant from the Department of Development was submitted on 6/26/25. Contracts with Landmark Structures were finalized on 6/23/25 and a purchase order was procured by the City, which has committed these funds. Construction must be completed by 8/1/26 and Kleinfelder estimated the project will be completed by 5/31/26.

Plant Re-Rating: A response was received from the OEPA on 4/17/25. The Water Superintendent is navigating a response and will accurately provide the information requested by the OEPA. A professional engineer will be needed to sign off on the project for final approval and this will be provided by Kleinfelder. The City issued a response to the Ohio EPA on 8/26/2025. The city is hopeful that this will be the final response and the rerating will be issued soon. However, past responses from the Ohio EPA have taken 6-9 months to be received. The Water Superintendent will be in direct and constant contact with the EPA until this is resolved.

River Alternate Intake and Sludge Lagoon: The design and engineering for this project have been sent to the Ohio EPA for approval. A response from the OEPA was received on 4/4/25 with numerous questions and comments. The largest concern is that the OEPA is requesting 12-months of water quality data from the Huron River. The Water Superintendent inquired with Kleinfelder numerous times over the past 2 years if the city should be collecting water samples for analysis. The city was assured that this was not necessary as this intake is to only be used in

an emergency and will not be a permanent source. The Wate Superintendent is awaiting a response from Kleinfelder. Once approved by the OEPA, the project may go out to bid. This project was also nominated for interest-free funding through WSRLA and was approved by City Council on 6/10/25.

STREETS DEPARTMENT

The Street Department has finished another round of street sweeping of the city streets.

Projects: Current Projects:

- South McKinley Ave resurfacing (Legislated).
- Oakhurst Ct concrete repair (Legislation)
- Nickelplate Drive Entrance storm, raising and resurfacing (collecting quotes).
- Nickelplate Drive resurfacing within the park (collecting quotes).

Crack Sealing: The Streets Department continues with crack sealing of roadways.

Catch Basin Lowered: The catch basin located at the intersection of A Street and Berlin Road has been lowered.

Inspection and Cleaning of Storm Lines: The Streets Department, in collaboration with Franklin Sanitation, continue to jet and camera storm lines. The storm lines on Worthington, Berkshire, Westport, Wickford and Windsor all jetted cleanly. Chatham had a few roots that were cut out to clear the line.

Tree Program – District 3: Resident responses to the tree maintenance letters mailed earlier this spring are picking up now that the weather has improved. There has been a lot of activity by both homeowners and contractors removing and/or trimming trees in the Old Plat neighborhood.

Sidewalk Program – District 4: Thirty-nine (39) Courtesy sidewalk maintenance letters were mailed to residents on Friday, June 6th.

HURON PUBLIC POWER (HPP)

Residents Questions: Some residents have asked why their tax dollars are supporting our electric utility while they struggle with their electric costs. We just wanted to assure our residents that Huron Public Power is a fully self-sustaining utility, and that no tax dollars go to supporting this utility.

Distribution Rate Study: This has been progressing for several months. With the increasing costs of maintenance and the additional debt being borne from the purchase and installation of the new third transformer, a rate increase is required. This went before the Utilities Committee for initial review on February 5th and was presented to the Utilities Committee one final time on May 7th for consideration. The Committee recommended the proposed rate increase, and legislation will be drafted and brought before Council for consideration for three readings in June.

3rd Transformer: The City participated in a bond ratings call with Moody's during the week of March 31st as a leadup to the bond issuance for the 3rd transformer. A follow up call was held on April 9th to understand our current bond rating (which we anticipate remaining the same – which is a good thing) prior to us going out to the market for bids. Given the limited number of customers on HPP and the fact that they are all private entities, the bonds are expected to be taxable versus tax-exempt, meaning higher interest rates.

These bonds were sold on April 17, 2025 at a rate of 5.55% over a 15-year period. Our excellent Moody's rating helped keep this rate down.

We have had to postpone the expected delivery of the third transformer due to problems with compaction on the substation site. AMPT are working through these issues and once remediated, we will be able to reschedule delivery.

We finally managed to get the pad for the transformer poured last week. The pad has a 30 day cure period, Once this has finished curing and passes all inspections, we can schedule the delivery of the transformer.

Our 28-day concrete testing for the transformer foundation passed with flying colors. We are working on the schedule to deliver the third transformer.

Switch Gear Delivered: The switch gear that will connect the new transformer to our existing infrastructure was delivered on May 7th. Council previously approved the switch gear purchase from PEPCO in January of 2025 in the amount of \$710,780.

Expansion Under the Tracks: This project is progressing well. Electrical cable is still to be pulled, along with dome final restoration work to be completed. This will allow HPP to provide electric service to Sawmill Parkway, with our first new customer expected to join HPP in May of this year.

We completed the final connections and testing on the expansion project. Our contractor will ensure restoration work is completed prior to demobilizing. This is an exciting time for this Utility.

Electric Aggregation: The City aggregation program expires in July. Due to the market, we are unable to provide meaningful aggregation pricing and will, therefore, let the program expire. We will continue to monitor the electric market and will aggregate again when pricing makes this beneficial. Residents will be automatically returned to Ohio Edison upon expiration of the program and will not need to take any action. However, we suggest they shop around on their own to find competitive pricing. Sites like Energy Choice Ohio Apple to Apples ([Energy Choice Ohio - Apples to Apples](#)) will present options for Residents to sign up on their own.

PERSONNEL

Union Negotiations: The healthcare contract re-openers have been concluded and the amended contracts are expected to be presented to Council at the next meeting. All three Unions agreed to the same terms:

- A 3% wage increase in 2026 and a 3.25% increase in 2027.
- Agreed to the new terms of the Healthcare offered by the City.

ADMINISTRATION

Regional Water and Sewer: The Erie County Commissioners sent the City a letter asking us to participate in a regional water and sewer study. There was no accompanying information clarifying or explaining the scope or intent of this study, so after internal discussions, the City politely declined at this point in time.

In an attempt to start the conversation and to gain insight into the County Commissioners' plans, The City of Sandusky called a Regional Water Agreement Board meeting (Sandusky, Huron and Erie County) for Monday September 15th at 5PM in the Sandusky Commission Chamber. We feel this is the best place to investigate this request further and have some open dialogue.

I do find it disappointing that there has been no direct conversation on this topic, outside of a letter from the Commissioners and their address to Council tonight. To be a collaborative endeavor takes open communication, upfront clarification of intent and teamwork. There has been no scope or intent discussed, no plan nor vision, no feedback requested or explanation given.

Our job is to make the best decision for the residents of Huron, to keep their interest at the very fore and to protect them at all times. And that is what we will do.

City representation attended the regional water agreement board and each entity reported out. There was an opportunity for open discussion in the hopes that the County would provide further details on scope and intent, but none were forthcoming.

AGREEMENTS/CITY MANAGER APPROVALS

LPA Federal Local-Let Project Agreement US 6 Phase 2 Project: The Interim City Manager executed the LPA Agreement for the US 6 Phase 2 Project, which agreement sets forth the requirements regarding administration of design, qualification of bidders, competitive bid letting, construction, inspection and acceptance of any projects administered by ODOT.

PROJECTS OUT FOR BID

CONTRACTS

- Emergency Services Agreement with Huron Township (Res 85-2024) – **Expires 12/31/25.**
- OHM Advisors (Res 95-2024 Engineering) – **Expires 12/31/25.**
- HJRD Annual Agreement (Res 9-2025) – **Expires 12/31/25.**
- Erie Soil and Water Conservation District (Res 8-2025) – **Expires 1/31/26.**
- Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash Co., LLP (Res 35-2025) – **Expires 6/3/26.**
- Building Official – Service Agreement (Res 43-2021) - **Expires 7/25/26.**
- School Resource Officer (Res 32–2024 & Res 33-2024) – **Expires 8/31/26.**
- Republic Services (Res 44-2023) – **Expires 12/31/26.**
- City Prosecutor Employment Agreement (Res 79-2024)– expires **12/31/26.**
- Personnel Officer Employment Agreement (Res 78-2024) – expires **12/31/26.**
- Dispatch Agreement – Erie County Sheriff (Res 101-2024) – **Expires 12/31/26.**
- Dynegy Electric Standard Large Stable Service Agreement – **Expires 08/31/27.**
- FOP-Sergeants Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 100-2024) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- FOP – Patrol Officers Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 99-2024) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- AFSCME Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 102-2024) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreement (Res 7-2025) – **Expires 12/31/27.**
- Charles E. Harris & Associates GAPP Conversion (Res 10-2025) – **Expires 12/31/27.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September Meetings:

- City Council Work Session – Tuesday, September 23rd at 5:30 in Council Chambers.
- City Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 23rd at 6:30 in Council Chambers.
- Huron Joint Port Authority Meeting – September 24th at 6:00 in the Township Building.

October Meetings:

- Utilities Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 1st at 5:00pm in Council Chambers;
- HJRD Meeting – Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers;
- BZA Meeting – Monday, October 13th at 5:30pm in Council Chambers;
- City Council Meeting – Tuesday, October 14th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers;
- Planning Commission Meeting – Wednesday, October 15th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers;

- Finance Committee Budget Meeting – Monday, October 20th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers;
- Records Commission Meeting – Thursday, October 23rd at 9:00am in Council Chambers;
- Finance Committee Budget Meeting – Monday, October 27th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers;
- City Council Meeting – Tuesday, October 28th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.