



HURON THE LIGHT

Spring 2025

City Manager Matt Lasko Bids Farewell to Huron



After four plus years of service, Matt Lasko has announced his resignation as Huron's City Manager effective April 18, 2025.

Lasko's leadership, vision, and commitment to Huron have left a lasting impact on City Council, City staff and the community as a whole. His contributions have been significant and will not be forgotten.

During his tenure, Lasko played a pivotal role in several large-scale projects, such as the sale of the ConAgra property to a team of residential developers, reconstruction of Sawmill Parkway to bolster local business opportunities, and a major transformation of the Water Filtration Plant to dramatically increase water supply (to name just a few), all while earning the respect and admiration of City Council, City staff, and the Huron community. Lasko's ability to lead Huron in a great direction has set a high standard for the next chapter.

Other notable and large accomplishments under Lasko's leadership include:

- Largest local road reconstruction and curbing project in the City's history, a \$2.3M reconstruction of the concrete streets in Chaska, Old Homestead I, and Old Homestead II
- South Main Street water main replacement project, replacing 100% of roadway and curbing on Forest Hills, Valleyview Drive and Hickory Road
- Creation of the first ever Charter Review Commission, to modernize several sections of the City Charter to streamline certain operations
- Development and construction of the state-of-the-art Fish Cleaning Station at the Huron River Boat Ramp
- Reconstruction of the Tennis Courts to create a new court system consisting of 5 tennis courts and 6 regulation size pickle ball courts

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A Message from Mayor Tapp

First let me start by saying that it is always difficult for any employer to lose an employee that has been a positive asset throughout his or her tenure.

Matt Lasko was an employee, and colleague, but most of all, he is a friend. With that said, though difficult, I would never stop anyone who strives to better themselves, their career, or their future.

Matt's accomplishments were many during his time here and the city, the community, and the citizens have benefited greatly from his leadership.

The city is doing well and will continue to move forward. I am very proud to be a part of a great community and a city government that strives to exceed expectations.

As Mayor, one of my major concerns is making sure the transition to new leadership goes as smoothly as possible. I, the council, staff and city employees are all affected by change and continuity is paramount. Thankfully, Stu Hamilton, our current Service Director, will be taking over the reigns as interim City Manager beginning April 19th. Mr. Hamilton is professional, greatly respected by his peers, and since the start of his employment, has been deeply involved with all aspects of the city's day-to-day operations. I am very confident we will have a seamless change of guard and am grateful for Mr. Hamilton's continued support. Again, I am very proud of our council, the administrative staff, safety services and all of the city departments.

We will continue to make Huron a special place!





City Manager Bids Farewell

(continued)

- Purchase of 6.5 acres on Berlin Road, demolition and clean-up efforts were completed to transform the property into a park

Mr. Lasko is leaving the City having built a solid foundation to continue forward progress. Projects set for 2025 with design, engineering plans, and in most cases funding in place include:

- A secondary raw water intake from the Huron River
- 2M gallon elevated water tower
- Adoption of the South Main Street Master Plan
- US 6 Phase II Improvements
- East side sidewalks – a continuous off-road sidewalk connecting the eastern suburbs along Cleveland Road
- Two new South Main Street crosswalks to both Valleyview Drive and Forest Hills Drive

Lasko will be moving on to a new position with the Greater Sandusky Partnership (GSP). While Lasko's departure marks the end of a great era, it also signals the beginning of new opportunities.

Thank you, Matt, for your leadership, commitment and dedication to the Huron community!
Best wishes to you in your position at GSP!

Parks & Recreation Offers Summer Programs & Sports Camps

Huron Parks & Recreation is pleased to bring back their Youth Summer Programs and Sports Camps. The department is offering seven different Sports Camps, four Art Camps, three Summer FUN Camps, Safety Town and an Extended Safety Town program.

The Programs and Camps are held at various times, dates, locations and age groups. For the complete list of Programs and Camps and to register please visit: www.cityofhuron.org

These Programs and Camps are made possible by the help of Huron coaches and student athletes. The Safety Town Program, Extended Safety Town, and the Art Camps are under the instruction of a licensed teacher.

Beach Passes on Sale

Nickel Plate Beach Seasonal Passes – Now on Sale

Nickel Plate Beach Seasonal Parking Passes are now available online. Be beach ready, order your pass online today and it will be mailed to the address provided prior to opening season. The Nickel Plate Beach Parking Pass entitles the registered holder the ability to park one licensed vehicle at Nickel Plate Beach during beach hours (dawn to dusk), for the 2025 Season, Memorial Day through Labor Day.

A seasonal parking pass sells for \$25 for residents and \$40 for non-residents. A daily pass is also available at the entry gate for \$7 a vehicle per day. Season passes may be purchased at the gate as well.

No Refunds if the beach is closed due to unforeseen events. As a reminder, City Ordinance prohibits dogs on the beach or in the park from 10 AM until 6 PM Memorial Day through Labor Day. As always, there are no lifeguards on duty at Nickel Plate Beach. Please observe all safety tips printed on the back of your Nickel Plate Beach Parking Pass and those posted at the beach.



BREAKFAST with the
EASTER BUNNY & EGG HUNT

APRIL 12, 2025

Pancake Breakfast
8 AM to noon
First Presbyterian Church
Breakfast provided by Huron Lion's Club
Cash Donations Accepted

The Michael Mage Experience Magic Show
10 AM - During the Pancake Breakfast

EASTER EGG HUNT
1PM @ the Huron Boat Basin
Egg Hunt is for children ages 2-8
Canned Food Donations Accepted





Spring Things!

With temperatures on the rise and Spring in the air, it is the perfect time for a little spring cleaning! Huron Parks & Recreation have a couple of opportunities to Clean-Up and Clean Out!

City-Wide Clean-Up – Saturday, May 3, 2025

The City-Wide Clean-Up will return this year on Saturday, May 3rd from 9 to 11 AM. Join the Huron Parks & Recreation team in an organized event to clean up our parks and public green spaces. The Clean Up event will kick off at 9 AM at the Parks & Recreation Building, 110 Wall Street in Huron. All are welcome, clean-up supplies are provided by the Erie County Solid Waste Green Bean Trailer. Refreshments will be served. Join the team and feel good about making a difference in Huron!

City-Wide Garage Sale – Saturday, May 17, 2025

Are you looking to buy, sell, or trade your treasures? Huron Parks & Recreation Department is pleased to announce registration for the City-Wide Garage Sale is now open. The large garage sale event will take place on Saturday, May 17 from 9 AM to 1 PM in the west parking lot of the Huron Boat Basin. All Garage Sale spots are \$15 with a maximum of two may be purchased. Spaces are limited and treated on a first registered basis. Pre-registration is required. When registering please specify your preferred set-up time (6:30 AM or 7:30 AM). Space assignments will be mailed out prior to the sale. This event is held rain or shine with no refund.

Safety Town Registration OPENS April 2



Huron Parks & Recreation is pleased to offer Safety Town to all local children entering Kindergarten in the fall. This program provides important safety lessons presented in a fun, memorable way, while helping to familiarize children with the school setting.

The two-week Safety Town Program will take place June 16-18 (Monday through Wednesday) and June 23-25 from 9 AM to 12 PM at Woodlands School. The cost of the program is \$50 for residents, \$55 for non-residents.

In addition, Huron Parks & Recreation is also offering the Extended Safety Town Camp. The camp takes place on the same days as Safety Town and is held from 12 PM to 2:30 PM.

While the Extended Safety Town is offered both weeks, registration is for one week only. In an effort to enroll more children, the program is duplicated in the second week. Registration for Safety Town, Safety Town Extended Camp and all of the HPRD Summer Camps & Programs opens on Wed. April 2, 2025.





Congratulations Sgt. John Orzech!

Sergeant Orzech recently graduated from the Police Executive Leadership College. The program consisted of three (3) weeks of intensive advanced leadership training.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Donates to K-9 Fund

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2529, graciously made a \$5,000 donation to the Huron Police K9 Program. The Police Department and the City of Huron would like to thank the VFW for their gracious donation and all veterans for their service.



Carolyn Boger

Planning & Zoning Secretary
Planning & Zoning Department

It is with great pleasure to introduce the newest member of the HURON team, Carolyn Boger.

Carolyn joins the Planning & Zoning Department as the P&Z Secretary. Carolyn brings a valuable skill set and positive energy to the position to help organize

and distribute the workload across the department.

Carolyn was attracted to the P&Z secretary position having worked previously with the Huron team pulling permits in her former job at Tusing Builders. In the short-term, Carolyn is excited to help balance out the department's demands, while in the long-term, she hopes to obtain her permit tech certification to add additional value to her role within the department.

Carolyn's primary responsibilities include support for zoning, building, engineering, right of way, code enforcement,

and the transient rental program. Additionally, she will work on the contractor registration data assemblage and entry and assist residents with their questions regarding zoning codes and regulations.

Outside of the office, Carolyn is a farm wife with two children. They enjoy spending time outdoors with their two dogs. Carolyn enjoys working in her flower bed and garden, taking her kids to Cedar Point, and watching her son's soccer games.

Next time you drop by City Hall, stop in to help us welcome Carolyn at the P&Z window!

Employee Milestones

Congratulations to the following employees for their milestone work anniversaries!

January

John Orzech – Police 10 years

August

Anthony Jones – Water 10 years

Congratulations!

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HURON
A GREAT LAKE PLACE

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City Partners with Private Developer on River Road Land

City leadership entered into a purchase agreement with Triban Investment late February after deciding to sell 42 acres on River Road. The property was originally purchased in 2022 as a potential place to relocate its service complex and possibly create a commercial/light industrial business park. The City purchased the land in 2022 for \$450,000 and sold the land in February of 2025 for \$700,000.

Triban Investment (a partnership between K. Hovnanian's Ohio division and Knez Homes) are the same developers that purchased the ConAgra property late in 2024. In addition to the approximate 94 townhomes on the ConAgra site, Triban envisions building anywhere from 170 to 220 single-family homes on the River Road property. This could potentially be the largest new housing project within the past two decades in Erie County. Currently, the

City is going through a re-zoning process to convert the land from industrial/governmental to residential. During this time the developers are performing their due diligence on the site in preparation to begin building later in 2025 or early in 2026.

The partnership appears to be win-win situation for both the City of Huron and the housing market. After the proposed income tax increase failed last November, the City immediately began looking for ways to further reduce expenses and generate additional revenue to offset future general budgets.

Huron's population of 6,700 could ultimately increase up to 10% with the increase of 170-220 homes when averaging approximately three people per household.

Projects Around Town

ConAgra Update

Triban Investment has done their due diligence in securing the final steps of the purchase agreement. The City has submitted the paperwork for the new seawall and that currently lies with the United States Army Corp of Engineers, while KS & Associates continue to work on the design portion of the project.

East side Sidewalks & South Main Street Crosswalk

Both the East side Sidewalk project and the South Main Street Crosswalk project went out to bid on February 25, 2025 with all bids due on March 20, 2025. RMH Concrete will be awarded the bid on April 8, 2025 as the lowest bid for the East side Sidewalk project and DL Smith was awarded the South Main Street Crosswalk project. The projects will then be added to their schedules.

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