

THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO
Proceedings of the Huron City Council
Work Session Meeting Tuesday August 25, 2015 at 5:30p.m.

A work session meeting of the City Council of the City of Huron, Ohio was called to order by Mayor Brad Hartung on Tuesday August 25, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the small conference room of Huron City Hall, 417 Main Street, Huron, Ohio.

The following members of Council were present: Rodney Kilbury, Trey Hardy, Phyllis Wassner, Brad Hartung, Tom Solet, and Rick Schaffter. Members absent: Sam Artino.

City administration/staff present: City Manager Andy White, Law Director Laura Alkire, Interim Finance Director Cathy Ramey, Interim Assistant to the City Manager Mike Spafford, and Management Services Coordinator ~ Clerk of Council Christine Gibboney.

Old Business

Zoning Code Amendments (Ordinances 2015-7, 8, 9, & 10)

The Mayor referenced Ordinances 2015-7 through 10, noting that the Planning Commission has made a few changes from the initial drafts. Mr. Solet explained that the revised legislation incorporates these changes and was supported by the Planning Commission for adoption and recommendation to Council. Mr. Spafford explained that the changes have all been outlined in the executive summary. Mr. Spafford then reviewed the changes to each Chapter and addressed questions from Council members related to definitions and general clarifications. Items of note/significant discussion:

- Chapter 1129-Signage Regulations: It was noted that even with respect to the present code language there are numerous signage violations occurring. With respect to the implementation of the new Chapter language there will be signs currently properly in existence that will be non-compliant when the new ordinance takes effect, in this situation there will have to be a grandfathered allowance. As for signs in non-compliance now, which will still be non-compliant in the new code, these will need to be addressed for removal. Administration noted that a policy to address these issues is going to be needed.
- Chapter 1131-Landscape Requirements: It was noted by Mr. Solet that Section 1131.08 relating to Tree Preservation is not tied into the current Tree Ordinance. Administration noted that it is anticipated that amendments to the current tree ordinance will be presented.
- Mr. White noted the effective date of these ordinances are January 1, 2016 and explained that at this point with respect to code enforcement and a code enforcement operating budget, he is not sure the city will be ready to begin enforcement on January 1. He suggested that perhaps a moratorium, possibly until June 2016, will be needed. He further noted that discussion will be needed to: establish a policy with respect to illegal signage; finalize code enforcement operations (either internal or outside source) and establish an operating budget. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding internal or external code enforcement operations and January 1st implementation vs. setting a moratorium. In conclusion, administration was to secure outside proposals, secure a proposal from the Township, look at internal options, and provide findings and recommendations to Council. Following this action, administration to make a recommendation on a moratorium and policy with regard to illegal signage; and lastly have a defined budget ready for the first meeting in December.
- Members of Council asked the Law Director to review the current Building Official contract to confirm the notice period term within the agreement.

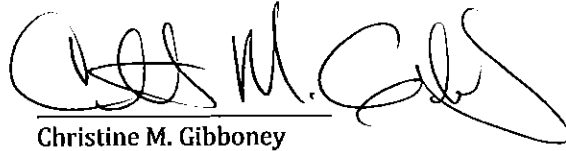
New Business

Items appearing on the regular agenda

The Mayor referenced Ordinance 2015-22, specifically the receipt of \$100,000 from Huron Township to the Huron Fire Department. Mr. White noted that this \$100,000 was anticipated, but not a term of any

agreement, therefore the revenue was not included in the budget. Mr. White noted that the city is statutorily required to deposit the check and noted the revenue entry on Exhibit "A" of the Ordinance. He then referred to the expense entries on Exhibit "A". Mr. White explained that year to date, the Fire Department budget is reflecting a \$158,000 deficit and that each of the expense line items reflected on the Exhibit are at or exceeding 80% of budget year to date. A discussion regarding the department budget ensued. The Mayor questioned if any specific use was outlined by the Township. Administration noted that per the Township, these funds are to go toward small equipment and training at the discretion of the Fire Chief. A discussion ensued regarding the language/action of the Township, the usage of these funds, and the current YTD Fire Budget. Mr. White suggested that while the check must be deposited, the city does not have to authorize the expense at this time if that is Council's desire.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the work session meeting of August 25, 2015 adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



Christine M. Gibboney
Clerk of Council