

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 6:30pm**

**Call to Order**

The Vice-Mayor called the Council meeting to order at 6:30pm. The 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: **William Biddlecombe, Sam Artino, Mark Claus, Joe Dike, Matt Grieves and Joel Hagy**. Member absent: **Monty Tapp**.

**Motion by Mr. Hagy to excuse the absence of Mayor Tapp from tonight's meeting.**

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, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike, Grieves (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Matt Lasko, Law Director Todd Schrader, Finance Director Cory Swaisgood, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Police Chief Terry Graham, Water Superintendent Jack Evans, Planning Director Erik Engle, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart and Terri Welkener, Clerk of Council.

**Approval of Minutes**

None.

**Audience Comments**

The Vice-Mayor directed members of the audience having comments to approach the podium, state their name and address to Council, and advised that they would have 3 minutes to make their comments.

None.

**Old Business**

**Ordinance No. 2023-50 (third and final reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-50 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 1313 (BUILDING PLAN REVIEW) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third 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, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-50 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained as staff proceeds with auditing the zoning code to better align their current processes, this particular ordinance separates out the planning processes and the building processes. They are establishing a new section under Section 1139.01 Planning Commission Review.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-50. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Claus, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2023-50 was adopted. The Ordinance was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days after its adoption.

**Ordinance No. 2023-53 (third and final reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-53 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 1139 (ZONING ADMINISTRATION) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third 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, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-53 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle stated that Chapter 1139 Zoning Administration is amended to establish a process for conditional use, as well as establish an expiration of 1 year for zoning certificates, which is in line with building permits. It also establishes an expiration for area variances.

Mr. Claus if there was ever any expiration date on the area variances. Mr. Engle answered that there was none.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-53. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Claus, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2023-53 was adopted. The Ordinance was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days after its adoption.

**Ordinance No. 2023-54 (third and final reading)**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that Ordinance No. 2023-54 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1126 (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF HURON, OHIO TO ESTABLISH A NEW SECTION 1126.19 (WIND ENERGY)) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third reading.**

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Claus, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (7)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-54 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle said that this section was previously housed under Zoning Administration. In order to clean up these sections, that particular section is moved into a new Special Provisions Section 1126.19. No content has changed in this revision, this is simple change of location.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-54. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Claus, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2023-53 was adopted. The Ordinance was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days after its adoption.

**Amended Ordinance No. 2023-14**

**Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be waived and Amended Ordinance No. 2023-14 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-14 TO CORRECT SCRIVINER'S ERRORS BY REPLACING ALL REFERENCES TO SECTION 521.14 TO SECTION 521.15, AS FOLLOWS:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 521 (HEALTH, SAFETY AND SANITATION) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW SECTION 521.15 (DUTY TO MAINTAIN TREES IN TREE LAWN); REPEALING, AMENDING AND RESTATING SECTION 521.06 (DUTY TO KEEP SIDEWALKS IN REPAIR AND CLEAN) OF CHAPTER 521 (HEALTH, SAFETY AND SANITATION) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES; AND FURTHER AMENDING CHAPTER 521 TO ADD RELATED CROSS REFERENCES.) 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: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe. Artino, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Ordinance No. 2023-14 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

The Vice-Mayor added that this legislation is not changing content, it is only changing numbering.

**Motion by Mr. Dike to place Amended Ordinance No. 2023-14 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: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe. Artino, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-14 was placed as an emergency measure.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Amended Ordinance No. 2023-14. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe. Artino, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Amended Ordinance No. 2023-14 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Amended Ordinance No. 2023-12**

**Motion by Mr. Dike that the three-reading rule be waived and Amended Ordinance No. 2023-12 (AN ORDINANCE CORRECTING SCRIVENER'S ERRORS IN ORDINANCE NO. 2023-12 TO REPLACE ALL REFERENCES TO SECTION 521.14 TO SECTION 521.15, AS FOLLOWS:**

**AN AMENDED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 909 (ASSESSMENTS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF HURON, OHIO TO ESTABLISH NEW SECTIONS 909.02 (CONSTRUCTION AND/OR REPAIR OF SIDEWALKS) AND 909.03 (MAINTENANCE, REMOVAL AND/OR REPLACEMENT OF TREES)) 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: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe. Artino, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Ordinance No. 2023-12 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Schrader suggested that this Amended Ordinance be passed as an emergency measure, as well, and went on to explain that these changes are necessitated because the outside company that helps us maintain the numbering and codify our ordinance had reserved one of the numbers that we used when we passed this. So when we passed it, they notified us that they had that reserved for other legislation.

**Motion by Mr. Dike to place Amended Ordinance No. 2023-12 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: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe. Artino, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion passed and Ordinance No. 2023-12 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Engle wanted to give a shout out to Chris Gibboney in his office for catching these errors.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Amended Ordinance No. 2023-12. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe. Artino, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Amended Ordinance No. 2023-12 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Resolution No. 5-2024**

**Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Resolution No. 5-2024 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A 2-YEAR LICENSE/LEASE AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL RENTAL OPERATIONS AND RELATED ON-SITE STORAGE WITH THE PADDLESHACK, LLC TO USE CITY-LEASED PROPERTY LOCATED AT NICKEL PLATE BEACH BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND LABOR DAY FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2024 AND 2025 FOR THE COMBINED LICENSE FEE/LEASE PAYMENT OF FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$450.00) PER YEAR FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 2-YEAR**

**PERIOD, FOR AN AGGREGATED AMOUNT OF NINE HUNDRED AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$750.00) PER YEAR)) 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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS:               Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike (6)**  
**NAYS:               None (0)**

There being more than five votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 5-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

The Clerk advised the Vice-Mayor that there is also a lease charge of \$300.00, so we need to change some language on that. The Vice-Mayor agreed, saying the agenda states \$450.00 for the license fee and \$300 for storage. The Clerk said that work "combined" out to read "license fee of \$450.00 per year for each year of the 2-year period, and \$300 per year for the off-season storage. Mr. Schrader asked for a motion to amend to be consistent.

**Motion by Mr. Grieves by Resolution No. 5-2024 to state what Terri said (see above).**

The Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS:               Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike (6)**  
**NAYS:               None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Resolution No. 5-2024 was amended to read as follows:

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A 2-YEAR LICENSE/LEASE AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL RENTAL OPERATIONS AND RELATED ON-SITE STORAGE WITH THE PADDLESHACK, LLC TO USE CITY-LEASED PROPERTY LOCATED AT NICKEL PLATE BEACH BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND LABOR DAY FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2024 AND 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$450.00) PER YEAR FOR THE LICENSE FEE, AND THREE HUNDRED AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$300.00) PER YEAR FOR THE LEASE OF STORAGE SPACE, FOR AN AGGREGATED AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$750.00) PER YEAR FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS.**

Mr. Steinwart stated that this authorizes an agreement with The Paddle Shack LLC for operation at Nickel Plate Beach from Memorial Day through Labor Day. What Paddle Shack does is rent out non-motorized water sports, beach chairs, umbrellas, paddle boards, water mats, etc. They have been providing these services to our residents and our visitors for the last 7 years. They view this as a partnership as an extension of our oversight and communications. We do have someone on staff taking parking fees, but they are closer to the beach and give us some good feedback when the busy season hits on weekends. They utilize the front half of the building that's at Nickel Plate, and the Parks Department has the changing rooms on the back side of the building. This is a 2-year agreement at \$450 per year Memorial Day through Labor Day, and they can opt in to a \$300 charge for the off-season storage.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 5-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Grievés, Hagý, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 5-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Resolution No. 6-2024**

**Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 6-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – OHIOMEANSJOBS ERIE COUNTY FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING WAGE REIMBURSEMENT RELATING TO NEWLY-HIRED POLICE OFFICER ERIC RITTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$13,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$13,000.00), 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: Artino, Claus, Dike, Grievés, Hagý, Biddlecombe (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution No. 6-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Sergeant Orzech explained that this application was submitted to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and, if awarded, they will reimburse 50% of the salary for the recent hire, Officer Ritter, who is currently in the Police Academy. Once Officer Ritter completes the Police Academy, the City will receive a reimbursement of 50% of his salary up to \$15,000.

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 6-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Artino, Claus, Dike, Grievés, Hagý, Biddlecombe (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 6-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Resolution No. 7-2024**

**Motion by Mr. Hagy that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution No. 7-2024 (A RESOLUTION RATIFYING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT – WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM FY 2024-2025 RELATING TO THE HURON RIVER ALTERNATE RAW WATER INTAKE AND SLUDGE LAGOON SEWER PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION THREE HUNDRED ELEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,311,700.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION THREE HUNDRED ELEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$2,311,700.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL) be placed on its first reading.**

There being more than five votes in favor, the motion passed waiving the three-reading rule and Resolution 7-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

**YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike, Grieves (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than five votes in favor, the motion to pass the three-reading rule passed, and Resolution 7-2024 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Evans stated that this grant will be used to help offset the cost of the raw water emergency intake, which is estimated at just over \$3 Million. The emergency raw water intake involves installing an intake in the Huron River, and a pump station at the Huron Boat Basin with a 20" force main to the shore wall at the water plant to assist us in treatment should the Lake Erie intake ever be inoperable due to frazzle ice or any other conditions.

Mr. Grieves asked if the Water Department had any issued this past week. Mr. Evans answered that they did not. They were on alert, but they did okay. Mr. Claus asked about the depth out at the intake. Mr. Evans answered that they did drop several feet (approximately 4').

The Vice-Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Vice-Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Resolution No. 7-2024. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike, Grieves (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 7-2024 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Vice-Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Motion**

**Motion by Vice-Mayor Claus to revoke Sam Artino's appointment as Council representative for the Huron Chamber of Commerce; and to appoint Matt Grieves as Council's representative to the Huron Chamber of Commerce for a term ending 11/30/2025.**

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, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)  
**NAYS:** None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed.

### **City Manager's Discussion**

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

**Demolition of Lime Plant** – Recently, City staff along with representatives from the Township, EPA, etc. held a meeting to discuss the future demolition of the lime plant. That process has started, at least from a planning standpoint. The primary contractor, per the agreement with Carmeuse, has to have the site cleared by the end of their lease, which expires on April 30, 2024. We will continue to keep Council and the community updated as the demolition commences and progresses. There is going to be, as part of the demolition, a bit of a detonation of part of the property. This won't be significant, but we will make sure that the community is aware of when that will be occurring.

**Oster's Mobile Home Park** – As we sit here this evening, all 27 households have physically relocated. 25 of those have permanently relocated to households or are temporarily relocated. We believe those placements will be permanent in the next 5 to 10 days. We have completed virtually all demolition and site clearance activities to date – in total, 24 mobile homes and a 2-family home were demolished. We will return back in the spring to additional cleanup work, final grading, seeding, hardscape removal, and potential utility pole removal throughout the site. In working with Mr. Schrader and Hartung Title, we anticipate that the closing will likely occur, barring a setback, late next week in terms of the real estate transfer.

**Service** – A big shout-out to Mr. Hamilton and all of our crews over the last week and a half. They were battling snowstorms, ice storms, and a lot of folks were working through the evening. Again, great job by all involved in keeping our roads as safe as possible.

**Quiet Zone** – We have received the final updated Quiet Zone Study from our consultant. Based on the amount of data in this report, I believe Mr. Hamilton emailed that out to all members of Council last week. We do plan to hold a work session for Council and all interested folks from the public on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:45pm to review those results and cost estimates. The public is encouraged to attend at that informational work session.

**Zoning and Planning** – The demolition contractor commenced demolition activities at 531 Berlin Road. I believe the house is completely demolished, and most of the debris has been removed. We anticipate there will be some site clearance activities over the next couple of days, and they will probably have to return back in the spring to do final grading and seeding.

**Parks and Recreation** – The ice-skating rink is opened under Shelter 2 at Fabens Park versus being located on the brand-new tennis and pickleball courts. It was usable beginning Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. As we know,

it is going to be weather-dependent, and with the rising temperatures, I am sure we will lose usage this week. Any day that we can open it, we absolutely will and get that notification out to the community and those looking to use the ice-skating rink.

Solar Eclipse – Departments have met, and will continuously meet, to plan for the April 8<sup>th</sup> solar eclipse. Parks and Recreation staff is meeting with the Huron Chamber and the Huron Public Library next week to seek out partnerships in event planning for the April 8<sup>th</sup> solar eclipse. There will be a host of communications coming from the City, which will be everything from safety communications, traffic and logistics communication, and we also anticipate having some events around the eclipse. As soon as those are planned, we will get those out and made public.

Personnel and Administration – I want to note that the Police Department has accepted the voluntary resignation of Dylan Rohrbaugh, who will be transferring to the Erie County Sheriff's Office. He and his family were looking for 12-hour shifts, which he will be able to get at the Erie County Sheriff's Office, so we are happy for him to be able to achieve that. We are in the process of selecting a replacement, and have several qualified and credentialed candidates, so I envision that spot will be filled pretty quickly.

Water Filtration Department – The Water Filtration Department has recently hired Kyle Capodice as a Maintenance III Worker in the plant. He started on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. We welcome Kyle and wish him all the success moving forward. This was to replace the departure of Brandon Brown in December.

Charter Review Commission – We put out another blast on social media before the meeting that we are still looking for 1 or 2 Charter Review Commission members. Again, I think we would like to have those identified by the next meeting, if possible. It could bleed into the second meeting in February, if necessary, but we will continue to do everything on our end to get the word out to interested applicants. Certainly, if Council has anyone that have spoken to, please forward them on to Ms. Welkener and we will make sure they fill out a simple application as we look to identify a few more folks for that important commission.

Projects Out for Bid – This list is continuously growing. It is going to be a really, really busy 2024. The Cleveland Rd. East and North Sidewalk Project was advertised on December 18<sup>th</sup>, and those bids are due to the City on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

We issued a Request for Qualifications for design and bidding services for Phase II of Route 6. That was advertised on January 10<sup>th</sup>, and bids for qualifications are due on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

The 2023 Repaving Program bids, which includes Chaska, Old Homestead I and Old Homestead II, are due to the City this week, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding ConAgra, the deadline for submission of qualifications was Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. We have received three responses for qualifications and development concepts and are currently vetting those to make sure they are complete and consistent, per the RFQ.

Bids for the Huron Public Power Expansion Project, which will take Huron Public Power north down Rye Beach Road and under the railroad tracks to the entrance at Sawmill Park, also close this week, on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

The South Main Street Water Main Replacement Project bids are due on February 15, 2024.

Upcoming Meetings – Looking into February, the Huron Joint Recreation District will meet on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm; the Utilities Commission will meet on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in the main conference room; the Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers; the first City Council meeting of the month will be held on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the County Chambers; there will be a Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers; our second City Council meeting and work session will be Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. The work session starts at 5:45pm in the Council Chambers, followed by the regular meeting at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

REMINDER: The administrative offices will be closed on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of President's Day.

Mr. Hagy asked if the Carmeuse demolition includes everything. Mr. Hamilton answered that, as far as they know right now, it is going to entail taking everything down. Norfolk Southern has yet to deliver the final list of what they expect, so it's not guaranteed yet. That is the intent, as of now.

### Mayor's Discussion

Vice-Mayor Claus said:

I don't have much – Monty didn't send me an updated from Hawaii, so I will keep it brief. I do want to give a shout out and thanks to the Streets Department for their hard during this weather snap. I am sure the Water Department had some things to deal with all of this weather, as well as Safety Services. We really appreciate everybody's efforts – Police, Fire and all the departments that have to work out in this weather and take care of the citizens. We appreciate all of the work.

I also want to thank Mr. Lasko for all of his hard work on the Oster's project. We are truly in the final stretch with just 2 residents ready to move into their final new locations. He really appreciates all of the efforts that Matt and a lot of local organizations have put in to help these citizens. We will continue to be talking in the future about what could happen on that site, and that will be on the upcoming work sessions and we will get some dialog going with the citizens.

He asked Mr. Lasko if we now have 5 applicants of 7 needed for the Charter Review Commission. Mr. Lasko answered yes, he believes they have five, but they minimally need 7. More than 7 is also adequate, as well, and each Councilmember would appoint or recommend from the applicant pool. Minimally, we do need 7. We will continue to do everything we can on social media, etc. If anyone knows or talks to anyone over the next couple of days or week or two, we certainly encourage them to contact Ms. Welkener. I know it may not be the most exciting of our boards and commission, but it is, without question, one of the most important. We know it is a huge time commitment, but hopefully the fact that it is only for 3 or 4 months, we can hopefully track down a few more folks that want to be involved.

**For the Good of the Order**

**William Biddlecombe** – As always, thank you staff for all of your hard work, especially those who are out working in the latest storms. I would like to welcome Mr. Capodice to the Water Department. I would also like to announce that there is a Dine to Donate tonight at the Huron Dominoes that supports the PTO. Mr. Riggle is sitting in the audience – I would like to thank you, as well, because I did see you out there shoveling snow on the sidewalks over the last week, so I appreciate that and thank you for it. Last night, the School Board had a meeting. Some takeaways from that... They did recognize some All-Ohio Athletes, Chris Heidel for soccer, Jayden Towns for Cross-Country, and Cam Manor for football. They also announced the retirement of long-time Athletic Director Steve Camella. They then had the presentation on their facilities assessment that they had conducted. I have asked for a copy, but it hadn't been sent yet. They will also be putting it up on their website, eventually, but some highlights were... they did assessments on all 3 buildings, and they were evaluated for recommendations to bring them not only up to the State recommendations for how a school should be, but also to current code. They really only focused on the high school in the presentation that was given last night in any detail. An all-in estimate for everything that would need to be done to bring it up to what the State says, as well as to code, is about \$30.8 Million. That's if they did everything at once (right now). If they were to just rebuild the exact building now as it sits, it would cost \$36 Million. They then went in and presented some options. They spent the most time on the first option, which was a campus-style pre-K through 12 building, and assuming that there is no added cost for purchasing land and it was an essentially bare bonds, no extras, that estimate is about \$77 Million. They got into some discussions, because right now we have 3 schools, 3 gyms. This school would only have 1 gym, so what would happen if they needed multiple gyms. That would all just get tacked on – if you build more gyms, you add more money. They did discuss some other options. One was 2 brand-new buildings or 1 new building and then renovating Woodlands. When I get the presentation, I will send it on to the rest of Council so can really see... there was a lot of in-depth cost breakdowns and things like that. They will be holding a Special Meeting to discuss the financing portion. That is scheduled right now for February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. It was noted that the State will only fund 5-6% of this, so the rest of that funding, whether they go with building all new or renovations of the current buildings, they would need to get funding for that. After the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, they have their next regular meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. I would like to congratulate former Tiger Aubrey Steinmetz – she got to dot the “I” while playing her sousaphone with the Ohio State Band at the Cavs game back on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Some home games coming up: Girls' Basketball on January 26<sup>th</sup> and February 3<sup>rd</sup>; Boys' Basketball on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>; and Wrestling on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Please come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes, and Go Tigers!

**Sam Artino** – I would like to thank all of the employees for all of their hard work and efforts in this kind of weather, and be safe out there.

**Joe Dike** – I would like to say thank you to everybody on your efforts over the past several days, and that's all I have.

**Matt Grieves** – I would like to say thanks all of the City employees – everyone getting the roads cleared, all the long hours – I really appreciate it.

**Joel Hagy** - No sir, nothing good for the order.

**Executive Session**

None.

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the regular meeting of Council.**

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of January 23, 2024 was adjourned at 7:10pm.

Adopted: 12 MAR 2024

  
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Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council