



CITY OF HURON
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

October 7, 2022

Matthew Lasko, City Manager

ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Firelands Scientific: Planning Commissioner recently approved revised site and façade plans for Firelands Scientific's proposed expansion. With these approvals in hand, the City Building Official and Zoning team are providing a final review of construction drawings in hopes of permitting the project shortly.

The Company has materials staged at the site in hopes of commencing construction as soon as the permit is issued.

USGS/Harbor Point Marina: The next phase of the Harbor North revitalization is underway. Crews are currently hard and fast at work constructing the approximate 2,500 square foot Harbor Master Building. The entire framing of the facility is completed at this point.

Buckeye Sports: The Company has officially broken ground on its new facility located at 309 Lake Erie Parkway. The approximate \$10.0M investment will be the company's second Ohio facility. To date, the structure for the marine storage facility has been erected as well as the shell of the marine repair and sales facility. We anticipate the marine storage facility to be completed first in advance of the winter storage season with the second building to come after.

South Shore Marine: The Company has commenced construction on the approximate \$1.6M heated indoor storage facility on its campus on Sawmill Parkway. The Company is moving very quickly in hopes to have the project completed in advance of the winter storage season.

ConAgra: The City has been working with the development team on revisions to the site plan. These proposed revisions will include a slightly lesser density, bigger units, moving to an all for-sale product and altering the location of the commercial use(s). Tweaks to the public green space are also being considered but will still ensure public access around the entire perimeter. We are envisioning the next steps being the consideration of the revised conceptual site plan at an upcoming planning commission meeting. Once a conceptual site plan is approved, developers and the City's engineering team can begin moving forward with detailed site plan and engineering plans.

The City issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for professional design services to engineer the required northern and eastern sea wall improvements. The RFQ resulted in the submission of a single company, KS & Associates, one of the foremost marine engineers in the Great Lakes region. The City held a kickoff meeting with the KS team on Tuesday September 20th to begin reviewing scope. KS will begin developing an engineering and due diligence proposal for the City's review. we should have that proposal in a few weeks for consideration.

Sawmill Creek: Erie County Commissioners unanimously have approved the final annexation petition from Cedar Fair. There is a sixty (60) day waiting prior to the City considering legislation to formally accept the parcels into the municipal limits. We expect to introduce legislation on October 11th formally accepting the parcels into the City of Huron. And prior to the end of the

year, the City will need to consider legislation approving the \$2 million construction subsidy, via a bond issuance, to Cedar Fair.

Additionally, staff and Bricker and Eckler are working on finalizing the DTA 24 form for submission to the County Auditor and Ohio Department of Taxation to formally recognize the TIF for tax and revenue collection purposes.

Finally, staff from the Regional Income Tax Agency have been in conversations with Cedar Fair regarding their upcoming obligation to withhold the 1% income tax from employees. Currently, at facility is employing 219 full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees with an average monthly payroll of approximately \$520,000. Based on these estimates, the City anticipates receiving between \$60,000 - \$65,000 annually in new income taxes from the facility, which is higher than our anticipated \$50,000 estimate. We hope to begin receiving these funds in either November or December of this year.

INFRASTRUCTURE/STREETS/UTILITIES/IT

Rye Beach Road/Cleveland Road Corridor: Based on the continued redevelopment of Sawmill Creek Resort and all the existing and growing investments along Rye Beach Road and industrial parks, the city has begun conversation with the Ohio Department of Transportation about safety and traffic control upgrades along Rye Beach Road – with major emphasis on the intersection of Rye Beach and Cleveland Roads. These upgrades include roundabouts on Rye Beach Road and the intersection of Rt. 6 and Camp Street, road widening in front of Sawmill Creek Resort, intersection upgrades at Perkins Avenue and Rt. 6, and the installation of a multi-use bike path connecting Huron to Sandusky. Recently, it was announced that the project was one of approximately 160 projects in the County to receive the highly competitive RAISE grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The \$24.5 million grant all but ensures the project's likelihood of moving forward. ODOT District 3, after carrying out some due diligence, discovered additional right-of-way work that would need to be carried out to be able to fully construct the proposed intersection improvements and multi-purpose pathway. ODOT District 3 has applied for an additional \$7.9M grant funding from ODOT Main Office's Transportation Review Advisory Council to cover these additional costs. Results of that funding request should be announced by the end of the year.

Rt 6 Phase II: OHM has completed the results of the traffic study for Route 6 Phase II. Results of this study are paramount for making final recommendations to the public/ODOT and Council on recommended designs for roadway and bike lane improvements for the second and final phase of the project. A scope meeting with ODOT District 3 was held on Monday September 26th to determine what traffic options ODOT will permit for RT. 6 Phase II. Based on that meeting, staff and OHM have been busy at work developing visuals of the options explored and denoting which options are permissible by ODOT and supported by the traffic study. Results and visuals will be presented to Council during a presentation on October 11. During the presentation, staff will

also display a preferred option for the second phase which includes the following: removing the traffic signal at Center Street, closing off Jim Campbell at Center Street to vehicular traffic, extending the bike lane from Williams Street westward to connect to the Lakeshore Electric Trail, and installation of a single-lane roundabout on Route 6 near the intersection of Jim Campbell and Liberty Drive. The benefits of this proposal will be explored and explained at the presentation on October 11.

Sawmill Parkway: As mentioned last meeting, the City has been notified that we have permission to bid the project from the Economic Development Administration. The city has since begun the public bidding and advertising process. A pre-construction meeting was held with potential contractors on September 8th. Completed bids were due to the City on September 26th. The City received five (5) bids from interested contractors which is a very good turnout. in October.

The submitted bids were reviewed and tabulated, the recommendation is to award the bid to Smith Paving & Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$2,874,449.52. This bid came in under the Engineers estimate by approximately 10%. The award will be on the agenda for the meeting on October 11th pending EDA approval.

Sidewalks: The City has executed the design contract with OHM Advisors to commence design work on the new sidewalk installation project which will travel from Gateway Boulevard inside the City limits to Huron Green subdivision in Huron Township. Design will take several months, and both the city and the Township will continue to explore funding opportunities to construct the approximate \$500,000 project. To date, the project has secured \$25,000 from Huron Township and just over \$120,000 from Erie County Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The City and Township staff walked this project with ODOT staff to help clarify the scope of the project on August 3rd, and to also identify any potential problem points that ODOT may see. This walk was very productive and the ODOT team were very excited to see this project move forward.

Additional scope for this project is being considered and assessed. Extending the sidewalks on the south side to Lincoln Ave to connect to the existing sidewalk, and an additional portion on the north side from Gateway Blvd to Anchorage Circle. The City has also met with Township who has given verbal approval of their intention to fund 50% of the project still and that they are accepting of the project moving forward regardless of whether additional funding subsidies are received. We are so appreciative of the continued partnership with the Township and their support of this effort to increase accessibility and safety in the City and Township.

Street Resurfacing: The City received two (2) bids for our 2022 street resurfacing program. Bids were due to the City on May 19, 2022 and were reviewed by OHM Advisors for completeness. Based on that review, OHM Advisors recommended contracting with Erie Blacktop as both the lowest and best bidder. Per the bid documents, streets anticipated to be resurfaced this year include:

- Gumwood
- Rose
- Vine
- Bruns
- Williams (Cleveland to Rt. 6)
- Williams (Rt. 6 to Standard)
- Stowe
- Woodside

All roads except for Woodside and a portion of William Street (between Standard and US6) have been completely resurfaced. Some additional base and curbing work are still required on those two street sections prior to finalizing complete asphalt replacement. Additionally, striping is still needed/required on all roadways. The project overall is intended to be substantially completed by the first week in October.

Remaining work to be completed:

- Williams St. (south of US 6) to Standard:
 - 100% curb removal and replacement and driveway apron repair (ongoing)
 - Top course asphalt installation
 - Sealants and striping
- Woodside Ave:
 - Install concrete curb and gutter at north end of street (ongoing)
 - Improve drainage channel and riprap at end of new curb and gutter to outlet at pond
- General (all streets):
 - Striping, stop lines, crosswalks as necessary at all streets that have been improved

Pavement Condition and 2023+ Resurfacing: OHM has completed the 2022 Pavement Condition Report. This bi-annual document rated the conditions of all public roadways in the City and will be the main informational guide for the City's future road resurfacing recommendation in 2023 and 2024. Based on this information, the city will quickly look to prioritize road resurfacing recommendations for 2023 during the fall of 2022. As mentioned in past reports, the City is looking to undertake a multi-year, multi-million road resurfacing effort beginning in 2023 based upon the City's available debt capacity.

Staff held a work session with Council and public prior to our September 27th Council meeting. At the work session, staff and engineers walked Council and the public through the analysis that was completed, costing, scopes of work and ultimately made a recommendation to Council to move forward with base repair and 100% asphalt roadway and curbing/gutter installations in Chaska, Old Homestead I and Old Homestead II. Since the work session, staff has been receiving and responding to resident questions, comments, and concerns in hopes of making one final recommendation at an upcoming Council meeting.

Main Street: The Erie Regional Planning Metropolitan Planning Organization held its combined Technical Advisory and Policy Committee meeting on June 23. At that meeting, the committee considered the funding recommendations for the 2025/2026 Surface Transportation funding. A reminder, Main Street was tentatively recommended to receive \$360,000 from the scoring committee. At the meeting on June 23, the committee voted to approve the \$360,000 award to the City of Huron for future Main Street enhancements. This is a significant funding award for the future overhaul of the corridor which will be informed by the currently underway Mainstreet/Downtown planning and visioning process – which is set to wrap up around the end of the year or very early 2023. Again, and big thank you to Erik Engle and his team and the folks at OHM Advisors.

Stormwater Management: Based upon positive Council feedback and an affirmative vote, the City is moving forward with the first phase of a stormwater management plan in partnership with OHM Advisors. The City continuously is engaged by residents related to stormwater issues they are facing across the City. The ultimate plan would be to undertake an exhaustive process to map the existing stormwater system throughout the City, undertake hydraulic modeling to determine capacities of the system, and then put together a capital improvements plan to systematically make upgrades to the system which will denote cost and priority.

The stormwater management plan phase 1 kickoff meeting was held with internal staff and the OHM Stormwater team. Everyone is excited to get this project rolling. The discovery phase will be very manual as staff will need to digitize old as built plans etc. This digitization needs done regardless, so this is a good means to prioritize this task. This project is expected to last eight (8) months to a year and will deliver a visual stormwater inventory to take us in to the future. During the time this project is active, you will see OHM staff around the city collecting data. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact Stuart Hamilton at 419-433-5000 x 1104 or email at stuart.hamilton@huronohio.us.

Body Worn Cameras: in 2022, the IT Department and the Police Department will begin exploring funding opportunities to acquire and begin implementation use of body worn cameras. These cameras are becoming prevalent in nearby police departments and our officers and sergeants have expressed interest in them as well. In addition to exploring funding opportunities, we will also begin getting a sense of the cost of purchase and understanding any additional IT upgrades to store the content. Departments have identified a funding possibility for the fall of 2022 – with implementation in 2023. Staff anticipates seeking Council approval to make a grant application in late summer of very early fall of 2022.

Staff have interviewed multiple providers, while also carrying out in-person demos of providers of Body Worn Cameras, in-car systems, remote activation systems and Digital Evidence Management Systems. This technology should be comprehensive and should be managed by a single point of activation. There is a grant opportunity upcoming in early September which we are getting ready to apply for.

Huron Police Department successfully submitted their grant request for body worn cameras on September 8. Results of the grant application are anticipated to be announced in October of

this year. It is our understanding that preference is given to forces/departments that do not currently have a body worn camera program – which will hopefully increase our likelihood of award. We will keep council apprised of the results of the award announcements.

Website: The City has budgeted \$50,000 for a revamp of the City's website in 2022. Although this work may extend into early 2023, the city desires to begin the process in the upcoming months. First, we are recommending issuing a Request for Proposal to IT/web development firms in September with hopes of presenting a preferred firm to Council for consideration shortly thereafter.

General: Reminder, there will be a lot of utility work over the summer months, and we wanted to alert our Residents. We will have two fiber internet providers starting to install their fiber for their "Fiber To The Home" (FTTH) offering. This is a wonderful expansion of service providers for the city giving Residents not only choice, but also hopefully driving down the cost. The two companies are OmniFiber and Frontier.

We will also see our OHM partners throughout the city for the remainder of the year collecting our Stormwater asset inventory.

If you have any questions regarding ongoing Utility work in your neighborhood, please reach out to Stuart Hamilton at 419-433-5000 x1104 or email stuart.hamilton@huronohio.us.

ZONING/CODE/PLANNING

Tree Assessment: Similar to the sidewalk assessment program, the City is exploring a tree assessment program for property owners who need to remove dead, dying or diseased trees from their property. The cost of removing a tree can be very expensive. Through the assessment program, property owners would have the option of, in essence, financing the removal through an assessment on their real estate taxes. Additionally, we are proposing to amend the code to ensure the services of a certified arborist are engaged to determine the health of trees being removed. Additionally, it may be worth considering a requirement be included to replant a new tree in its place to ensure long term health of the City's tree canopy. Staff and the law department have been finalizing this code update and hope to present to the planning commission at an upcoming meeting.

Signage Code: The City is also undertaking a comprehensive review of our signage code – related to both permanent and temporary signage. This review is aimed at simplifying our code for greater clarity while also taking into consideration some recent court rulings at the state level regarding enforcement capabilities. We hope to have a draft for consideration in fall of 2022.

Main Street Corridor Plan: Staff and the OHM team have so far held two (2) steering committee meetings. The first meeting was meant to be a kickoff meeting to review reason for the plan and timeline and the second meeting was to talk through potential idea/needs for the corridor and downtown and uses. The plan will be moving into the public outreach portion of the plan which

will include a joint steering committee / public meeting, a joint planning commission / council meeting, a public meeting to likely coincide with the pumpkin festival and an online survey. The goal will be to solicit feedback from the groups into terms of what is missing or desired on the corridor and downtown related to amenities, land uses, etc....

On Friday October 7th, Planning Staff officially released a public survey for folks to provide feedback related to the current conditions of downtown/mainstreet along with opportunities to stress amenities or land uses they would like to see in the future – whether that be private improvements or public infrastructure upgrades. There are links to the survey on the City's facebook page, flyers have been developed with a scannable QR code to take folks directly to the survey or individuals can access the survey by visiting ohmplanning.typeform.com/huronmainst. We hope to secure as much feedback as possible and plan to keep the survey open until minimally the end of October.

Staff was also present at Pumpkin Fest on Saturday to solicit similar feedback from individuals and families who came out to the event. A big thank you to Erik Engle, our planning department, the team at OHM for their efforts and those that have taken time thus far to provide feedback.

Transient Rentals: The City has officially reached its maximum of 165 permitted/licensed transient rental units. The City has made efforts to ensure the public is aware of this cap being hit and what are the procedures to ensure property owners renew their license in a timely manner to not lose it and what is the process for securing a spot on the waiting list. As of September 23, there also existed five (5) properties on the waiting list to secure a transient rental certificate.

Permitting: Staff from multiple departments have begun meeting internally regarding the idea of centralizing all permitting from an intake standpoint. The goal is to create one central location for residents and contractors to go for ALL permits regardless of department. Currently, depending on the type of permit, folks may have to go to multiple facilities across the city. For efficiencies, we do envision moving all permitting to City Hall and through the planning and zoning department. We are currently working on the internal structure of this change and will provide press releases and other media messages to ensure the public is aware of this change and when it goes live.

Solar Panels: Staff has been presenting alterations to the zoning code to address both roof mounted and free-standing solar structures. Two planning commission meetings have been held to discuss with further meetings to occur based on the complexities of the matter and the need to review the entire accessory structure component of the code. At present roof installations are subject to electrical plan submission and structural analysis, but generally permitted anywhere in the city. Free standing structures also have generally been permitted anywhere in the city and treated as an accessory structure required only to meet setback, height, and lot coverage requirements – but no concern beyond that. Staff is proposing to permit roof mounted structures in all districts subject to electrical and structural review but to only permit freestanding structures

as a conditional use in residential and commercial districts and therefore subject to a greater degree of scrutiny.

Urban Renewal Code: The City's existing zoning code includes a section pertaining to Urban Renewal. It particularly pertained to the City's desire to undertake widespread blight removal and redevelopment in the 1950's and 1960's in line with the Federal Government's Urban Renewal Program. Since urban renewal has long been over for many decades, staff will be recommending repealing this code section in its entirety. This will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting which will now be in October.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Fish Cleaning Station: Construction continues at the Fish Cleaning Station. As of September 12, the grease interceptor has been installed, sanitary sewer/water/and electrical conduit have been installed to the shelter's concrete pad. The concrete pad has also now been poured and crews are working on sidewalks and site repair. The shelter structure itself is currently to be delivered by October 31 – this is the key item dictating the completion of the project.

Tennis Courts: OHM has completed its cost estimates and scopes of work for upgrades to the tennis courts. The City was looking at two (2) options. First includes a rehabilitation of the five courts which would repair underlying cracks and install a brand-new playing surface on all five (5) courts. This option also includes possible allowances for new drainage and new fencing. A second option includes the full reconstruction of all five (5) courts and includes the installation of a single pickle ball court (as well as new drainage and fencing). These options were presented to the Huron Joint Recreation District (HJRD) at their September 6th meeting. At that meeting the HJRD made a motion (1) reaffirming their desire to contribute approximately \$95,000 to the project and (2) preferring the complete the less expensive rehabilitation of the courts including new drainage and fencing. The City is also in ongoing conversation with Huron Township about their ability to directly contribute to the construction cost for the chosen option. Currently, the City is taking boring samples to further understand the subsurface condition to verify whether rehabilitation is truly a prudent option to consider.

After additional deliberation and consideration, staff is recommending moving forward with the rehabilitation option versus complete reconstruction. Funding for the project will be from a combination of HJRD, Huron Township likely, and the City of Huron. We believe strongly that the combination of cost, level of extensive rehabilitation undertaken and our high level of ongoing maintenance, makes this option the preferred path over full reconstruction. We hope to present Council with a proposal for design services in the upcoming weeks to permit the project to be designed in the fall and bid in the winter. Staff has subsequently met with representatives of the School District to talk through potential impacts on either the Spring 2023 or Fall 2023 seasons to ensure the school is provided significant notice of needing to locate alternative facilities for practices and matches. Based on design and bidding timelines along with the construction season, the project is most likely to impact the Fall 2023 tennis season.

At the HJRD meeting on Monday night, the Township committed to donate \$50,000 toward this project. As always, we are appreciative of our local partners.

Boat Basin: The City has solicited a proposal from KS and Associates to update the capital needs assessment for the Boat Basin and related facilities/improvements. The previous report was completed in 2015 and in need of updating the project costs and to take into consideration both improvements that have been completed since then and determining if any further deterioration has occurred. The city is hoping to utilize this report as we undertake an aggressive fundraising effort to completely modernize and rehabilitate the facility in addition to making a capital request through the State’s next capital budget bill. The draft report has been received and is currently being reviewed internally.

Cameras on Lighthouse: Parks and Recreation and the Service Departments are in process of pricing out cameras for the lighthouse. Once installed, these cameras will be streamed on the City’s website or other streaming service 24/7. The cameras will be able to show conditions both down the river to the south but also conditions on the lake. The hope is that they will be able to show weather and wave conditions for potential beachgoers and boaters. We will keep Council apprised as this project progresses with potential timelines.

624 Berlin Road: On September 9, the City received two (2) proposals for asbestos abatement and demolition services from registered contractors. The City has determined Ed Burdue and Co., to be the lowest and best bidder and will be presenting a contract to Council on September 27th to undertake asbestos abatement, demolition, tree removal, trash removal, site grading and seeding work. Reminder that all costs associated with the work will be paid for by the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation.

During the week of September 19th, the City also officially closed and took title to the .2-acre triangular parcel on the north side of the property owned by Tom Billman. With all real estate now under City ownership, the City will be exploring third party facilitators to help guide a masterplanning process for the site with the public and relevant stakeholder to be undertaken this winter and early 2023.

FINANCE

2023 Budgetary Meetings: The Fall schedule for 2023 budgetary meetings has been slightly modified. Below is the tentative schedule of meetings for the fall. All meetings will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Finance Committee Schedule @ 4 pm:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Monday, October 24, 2022 | Services - Street/Water/Utilities(Refuse/Electric/Storm Water) |
| Monday, October 31, 2022 | Community Development - Parks&Rec/Economic Development/Building&Zoning |
| Monday, November 7, 2022 | Public Safety - Police/Fire/Court & Administration |
| Monday, November 14, 2022 | Debt/Capital/Reserves |
| Monday, November 21, 2022 | Carryover (If Needed) |

Additionally, the team at Sudsina & Associates is currently updating the debt analysis and capital financing plan for the November 14th meeting for projects the City would desire to bond out. This is a follow up to the plan that was drafted in February of 2022 but updated with more accurate construction numbers.

Monthly Financial Reports: The issues in OpenGov are resolved and the September 2022 Financial Report will be sent to Council by mid-October.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Recent Activity:

- Budget. Submitted 2023 budget in OpenGov.
- Water Meters. Second round Neptune reading transmitters are being installed.
- East Water Tower. Power wash with algacide on the East Side Water Tower has been completed.
- Hydrant Flushing. Began 2022 system hydrant flushing east of the Huron River
- Valve Exercising. Began 2022 valve exercising program east of the Huron River
- Wholesale Water Agreement. Generated new wholesale agreement draft between City/County
- Water Rates. Generated new water rate tables: 2023 through 2032
- Water Plant Re-Rating. Submitted plant re-rating documentation to OEPA.
- Grant. GIS grant application near completion via OEPA Lead Service Identification Grant (up to \$50,000 with no local match).
- OWDA Loan Application. Actively working with OHM on OWDA water main replacement loan application.
- Erie County Wholesale Contract. Amending and editing contract with Erie County.
- Flocculator #3. Flocculator #3 has been repaired and placed in service.
- OEPA Onsite Survey. Completed OEPA annual onsite survey and walkthrough of assets.
- Tube Settler Project. Complete final walkthrough of the tube settler construction.

Active Project Updates:

- Sludge Lagoon – Ohio EPA NPDES. Poggemeyer is completing its study of comprehensive options and alternatives, draft report overdue.
- Alternate Intake. Awaiting full engineering proposal from Poggemeyer and preparing to bid engineering.
- Boilers. Two of the three WTP boilers have failed. Wilkes quote: \$53,262.00; Gundlach quote: \$63,000.00; and a third quote from Hartland Heating & Cooling came in at \$128,500. Bids received and opened: Dimech Services \$74,500; Boiler Specialists \$142,779.

- Tube Settler Expansion. Awaiting documentation, but will have a change order for two additions to the project, one for machining in the approximate amount of \$10,000, with no cost estimate received on the second change order relating to curb wall.
- Primary Intake. The annual intake crib inspection was completed on August 10th. During inspection, the diving crew noted that just inside the intake and past the riser, the intake was ½ full of debris. A bucket of this debris was brought to shore and was found to be a mix of small rocks, seashells, and sand. Lake Erie Diving has provided a quote for three days' labor to remove 100 feet of debris and inspect further in the intake with a remotely operated vehicle. Should additional groups of debris be located, cleaning of the entire intake would be considered. Because the intake is rated at 15 million gallons per day and daily production averages only 2.5 million gallons per day, they do not have sufficient flow velocity for the intake to self-scour/self-clean. Despite this fact, the intake has remained fairly clean in prior inspections and has not needed a full-length cleaning since the late 1990's. A purchase order has been entered for three days of cleaning.

Water Rates: The City has presented the results of the water rate study to both the Finance Committee and Utility Committee with both groups providing recommendations to Council. Staff held a work session of Council to review the result of the report and understand staff recommendations. The City anticipates introducing legislation on October 11 that would increase water rates across all internal customers at a rate of 5% per year for ten (10) years. The staff also will commit to comprehensively review these rates every three (3) years to determine if they should be increased, decreased, or remain stagnant based on updated capital planning and funding of capital projects. The City is also in conversations with our lone high-volume customer (Erie County) about an increase as well, which must be handled separately due to a pre-existing contract.

Sewer Shutoff's: The City has been approached by Erie County for aid in assisting with handling customers within the city limits who are delinquent with their sewer bills. Currently, the County does not have a means to shut-off water use or sewer usage for significantly delinquent sewer customers. The request is that City water department personnel would be utilized to shut off water service at severely delinquent addresses to ensure delinquent accounts are addressed. City personnel would be compensated for our staff time and a portion of the delinquent billing. The city is currently doing more research on this request to better understand the additional manpower that would be needed to aid the County in this request.

South Main Street Watermain Replacement: Staff held an initial meeting with OHM to generate a proposal for the South Main Street watermain replacement program. This asset management-based program involves ongoing replacement of aged underground infrastructure. The current project headed to engineering involves the replacement of the below and was selected due to criticality, age, and number of failures (water main breaks) as outlined in the asset management report:

- Portions of South Main (south of Valleyview) approx. 775'
- Portions of Huron Avery from the Mudbrook to city limits, approximately 1300'

- Portions of Mudbrook Road approx. 650'
- Full replacement on Forest Hills, Valleyview, and Hickory Drive – approximately 2332'
- Full replacement on Mill Street approx. 342'
- Partial replacement on Huron Street approx. 605'

The City will also be exploring whether any road resurfacing should be included in this project as well and under the same contract to secure efficiencies in work and potential cost savings.

Staff and OHM personnel have submitted one funding application already and are in process of completing one additional funding application for imminent submittal.

PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION

City Hall Lighting: Beginning the week of October 10, crews are onsite in City Hall completing a 100% replacement of our lighting systems. We will begin converting all lighting in City Hall to LED lighting which will both reduce maintenance and reduce long term energy costs. The work will include replacements with the Fire Department, Police Department, Court, administrative areas, common areas and meeting rooms and exterior lighting.

Police Chief: Police Chief Bob Lippert will officially be retiring from the Huron Police Department on February 1, 2023. The current employment agreement with Chief Lippert is set to expire on December 31, 2022, however Chief Lippert will be extending employment with the city until February 1, 2023, in part to aid in the transition to a new Police Chief. We want to thank Chief Lippert for his nearly eleven (11) years of service to the City of Huron and prior service with the Erie County Sheriff's Department.

The city will be posting the position in the next few days and has developed an advisory body to aid in the search process for the new Police Chief. Members of the advisory body include Council Members Joe Dike and Matt Greives along with community members Scott Slocum, Dr. Stephanie Walls, and Kelly Bodkin. This body will be charged with conducting initial interviews with prospective candidates and providing feedback and recommendations to the administration. We want to thank all members in advance for their time and participation.

Fall Newsletter: Staff has begun work on the Fall 2022 newsletter. Jen Kilbury in the Parks and Recreation Department will be taking the lead in partnership with several department heads. We are hoping the newsletter to be ready for delivery in late October or very early November.

CONTRACTS

Agreements/contracts that will expire in 2022/early 2023 include:

- OHM Advisors (Engineering) – expires 12/31/22
- Erie Soil and Water Conservation District (Engineering) - **COMPLETED**
- Republic Services – expires 06/30/23
- HJRD Annual Agreement (Recreation) –expires 12/31/22
- Dispatch Agreement – Erie County Sheriff – expires 12/31/22
- Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash Co., LLP (Law) – **COMPLETED**
- Dynegy Energy Services – Electric Aggregation Program – expires 10/31/22 **Will let expire due to price of supply.**
- Bricker & Eckler – HPP Legal Services (Law) – **COMPLETED**
- Police Chief Employment Agreement – Expires 2/1/22
- Erie County Cablevision, Inc. (Buckeye Cable) Franchise Agreement – Expires 12/30/22 **Franchise will be renewed at the State level and not locally.**
- City Prosecutor Employment Agreement – expires 12/31/22
- Personnel Officer Employment Agreement – expires 12/31/22

UPCOMING MEETINGS

October

- City Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:30 in the Council Chambers
- City Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:30 in the Council Chambers
- Records Commission – Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 9:00am in the main conference room
- Planning Commission – Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 5:00 in the Council Chambers