

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Tuesday January 24, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huron, Ohio was called to order by Mayor Brad Hartung on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall, 417 Main Street, Huron, Ohio.

The Mayor called for a moment of silence. After the moment of silence, the Mayor led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and then directed the Clerk to call the roll. The following members of Council answered present: **Rick Schaffter, Trey Hardy, Phyllis Wassner, Brad Hartung, Sam Artino and Glen Ginesi. Members absent: Joe Dike.**

Also present: City Manager Andy White, Law Director Laura Alkire, Assistant to the City Manager Mike Spafford, City Engineer Doug Green, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart and Management Services Coordinator ~ Clerk of Council Christine Gibboney.

**Motion by Mr. Schaffter to excuse Mr. Dike from the regular meeting of January 24, 2017.** The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Schaffter, Hardy, Wassner, Hartung, Artino, Ginesi (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five votes or more in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the motion passed and Mr. Dike excused.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Ms. Wassner that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 13, 2016, the work session and regular meeting of December 27, 2016, work session meeting of January 7, 2017, and the regular meeting of January 10, 2017 be approved as printed and received. The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Wassner, Hartung, Artino, Ginesi, Schaffter, Hardy (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the motion passed.

**Audience Comments**

- Jerry Weyer, 304 Bogart. Mr. Weyer referenced the traffic light at Center Street/US 6 stated that this area really gets backed up and commented that he thought a study had been done and this light was deemed unwarranted, stating that something needs to be done. He also referenced the Council meeting minutes of October 25, 2016 regarding the discussion having to do with his recommendations for the replacement of the railroad culvert and the adoption of the higher standard Flood Plain regulations. He noted that in reviewing the minutes, he wished to point out some corrections: Referencing the engineer's statement that the railroad culvert size is based on a 25 year storm, is not true. He stated that per ODNR, railroad culverts are supposed to be based on the area and the amount of water that flows into it. He referenced the study that was done for the

bypass and noted it stated they needed a 12' culvert there. In reference to adoption of the more rigorous Flood Plain Standard, he referenced Mr. White's comment that only a few municipalities have adopted the higher standards; he noted that this was not true as approximately 400 municipalities have adopted these. He asked that Council reconsider adopting the higher standards and referenced recent examples of debris in the culvert. He referenced and quoted language in Chapter 905 which gives the city the authority to determine if a culvert is undersized or in need of repair. He noted he discussed the matter with Ken Fortney of Erie County and he advised that in order to get the railroad to take action, the city will need to document and create a paper trail of notification and if that fails, then the city would need to go through the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. He recognized that this action is a long term process, but asked that Council support his recommendations.

### **New Business**

#### **Ordinance 2017-1**

**Motion by Mr. Schaffter that the three reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2017-1 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2016-32 ADOPTED DECEMBER 27, 2016 RELATING TO EXHIBIT "A" APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017) be placed upon its first reading.** The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the motion. The Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Schaffter, Hardy, Wassner, Hartung, Artino, Ginesi (6)**

**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five votes or more in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the motion passed on suspension of the rules. The Mayor directed the Law Director to read the Ordinance by its title only. The Mayor asked if there was any discussion. Mr. White referenced the summary and reviewed line item entries on Exhibit "A". He noted that following discussions and recommendation at the Finance Committee level, this appropriation will authorize \$1,000,000.00 to be moved from the General Fund balance into the following funds: \$700,000 to Economic Development, \$200,000 to the Capital Improvement Fund, and \$100,000 to the Employee Benefit Reserve and further noted that adoption of a policy for allocation of surplus funds remains a task to be completed by the Finance Committee and Council. He referenced the \$163,498.62 of revenue which is the reimbursement from OPWC for the Rye Beach Water Tower Painting Project. Mr. White also noted the expense of \$15,000 and recognized Mr. Steinwart in attendance. Mr. Steinwart explained that this expense will be used for updates to the interior of the Huron Boat Basin facility which includes painting and flooring. The Mayor noted that he would like to set aside some of the \$1,000,000.00 to be used for the Code Enforcement budget that was discussed at the work session. Mr. White noted that some funds are available in the General Fund and suggested waiting until administration can provide a staff report on funds available and budget needed for anticipated code enforcement actions and advised that a transfer can be done in the future from these funds if needed. The Mayor recognized the growth of the budget over the years and the surplus reflected and the need for a defined policy from the Finance Committee of what needs to be kept in the General Fund; commenting the recommendation of Moody's is 10%-15%.

Mr. Artino inquired about the Economic Development Committee; asking what was going on with the committee and who was on the committee. He referenced the \$700,000 being allocated to the Economic Development Fund and stated that he hadn't heard of this board meeting for some time. The Mayor noted that the oversight of the funds would be an action of the Finance Committee. Mr. Artino asked if this committee needs to meet, or should this committee be dissolved. The Mayor noted that there hasn't been an actual need to meet. Mr. White noted that this inquiry has come up before and explained that the

committee is a Council sub-committee, so the recommendation from staff would be to set an agenda and call a meeting. He added that he could not remember the last time the board met. He also explained that he believed there were discussions about changing the makeup of the members of the board and since the board was established by ordinance, any change would require legislative action. Ms. Alkire advised this committee was established by Ordinance in 2001, referencing Chapter 175 of the Codified Ordinances. Mr. Ginesi noted that this has been a source of frustration for Mr. Dike, suggesting that perhaps Council review the ordinance and think about a revised structure and noted he believes it should be a working board. The Mayor noted that Mr. Dike, Mr. Ginesi and Ms. Wassner comprise the Council members that sit on this board; Mr. Parkison, Mr. Stierhoff and Ms. Hinton are the citizen members. The Mayor noted that there is no chairperson designation. The Mayor suggested that perhaps the Council members on this board discuss the matter. Mr. Ginesi stated that he would start working on it. There being no further discussion, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2017-1. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Schaffter, Hardy, Wassner, Hartung, Artino, Ginesi (6)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, the Mayor declared that Ordinance 2017-1 had been adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

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

- Addressed Mr. Weyer- clarifying that his statement in the meeting of October 25 regarding the adoption of the standards- he was looking at the document that was provided Council that highlighted the four agencies that had adopted the full scale recommendation.
- Referenced discussion at the last meeting regarding the Main Street Streetscape Project and the consideration of options that were presented for altering the approved plans. He referenced the numerous meetings with Dr. Kisil related to his concerns over parking. He noted that Council appeared to be leaning toward not varying from the original plan layout and noted that Administration was now looking for the formal directive in order to advise engineering and the contractor. Mr. Green then provided a repeat of the options provided at the previous meeting, timeline of the project, and noted that since the meeting Mr. White has asked him to look into a budget and parking options for the Showboat site. Mr. White explained that the city currently has a proposal for the lease of a portion of this property explaining that right now a portion of the property that is being used for parking would be consumed by the described lease, so he asked Mr. Green to provide budget information for grading off the surface area, potentially removing the fence and installing asphalt to control the dust and provide an improved parking area. Mr. Artino stated that he thought there was an attempt to talk to Dr. Kisil about moving the driveway and asked if the city spoke with him about this. Mr. Green stated he had not spoken to Dr. Kisil since the meeting, but stated Dr. Kisil had no interest in a previous conversation. Ms. Wassner inquired about the Showboat site asking why the fencing would be removed. Mr. White explained that the fencing that is in place was temporary fencing and designed to be removed when development occurs. Mr. White noted this is just a concept that administration is looking into at this point. The Mayor questioned Mr. Green on whether or not the city would have to submit alternate plans to ODOT if Council made changes to the plans. Mr. Green replied that the city would have to do so as any significant change would have to have ODOT approval. The Mayor referenced meetings he held with Engineering (Mr. Green and Mr. Lewis) in which he reviewed the plan options Mr. Lewis prepared, but noted he had made some comments and recommended some changes, stating that these were not included in the packets for Council consideration. Mr. Green stated these are the only plan options that he has from Mr. Lewis. The Mayor then explained the recommendations that he made to engineering that are not reflected in

the options. Mr. Green stated that he would be glad to meet again if that is what the Mayor wanted. The Mayor acknowledged that the options presented must have been the engineering recommendations. He noted that for the future he feels the more parking options in this area the better. Mr. Ginesi referenced the lengthy discussion at the last meeting, stating that he didn't know why this matter was being discussed again; adding that he thought Council gave direction at the last meeting as no one made a motion to change the original design. He explained that he is not in favor of changing an approved design for a person who has plenty of parking area that can be used. The Mayor explained that he left the last meeting prior to the discussion of this topic and wanted to state his views/comments on the matter. Mr. Artino mentioned that his only issue was that there was no effort made to contact business owners and get input from them.

- Municipal Building maintenance issues- Mr. White noted he would like to forward with getting the system analysis started and would do so if there were no objections. No objections were voiced.
- In response to Mr. Artino's comment regarding notification; Mr. White noted that the standard for public noticing at the state level was met with open public meetings and advertisement of the project. He added that Engineering did go door to door before construction began, but agreed that in future projects like this, he would like to increase outreach to the public.

#### **Mayor's Discussion**

- Requested that a meeting of the Fire Committee be organized. Clerk to send out notice.
- Referenced correspondence from OML and information on the North Coast Urban Forestry Conference.
- Referenced recent articles in the Sandusky Register on various projects. The Mayor asked if the additional grant funding request that the city was waiting on relative to the permeable pavement walkway at Lake Front Park had been granted. Mr. White and Mr. Green confirmed that the city had received the additional funding.

#### **For the Good of the Order**

- Mr. Ginesi reported on the Scott Cemetery Board, noting that the board is currently reviewing the rate structure and asked that if members had any input to contact him.

#### **Executive Session**

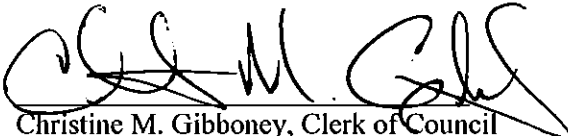
**Motion by Ms. Wassner that the regular meeting of January 24, 2017 be recessed for the purpose of holding an executive session to discuss purchase or sale of real estate.** The Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the motion. Members of the Council voted as follows:

**YEAS:** Wassner, Hartung, Artino, Ginesi, Schaffter, Hardy (6)

**NAYS:** None (0)

There being a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the motion passed and the executive session to order at 7:14 p.m. The Council, City Manager and the Law Director discussed issues with regard to the sale or purchase of property. The Mayor noted the discussion had concluded and declared the regular meeting of January 24, 2017, reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the regular meeting adjourned at 7:55p.m.

  
Christine M. Gibboney, Clerk of Council