

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

The Mayor called the regular meeting of Council to order at 6:30pm on May 10, 2022 in Council Chambers at Huron City Hall. 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.

**Roll Call**

The Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll for regular meeting of Council. The following members of Council answered present: **William Biddlecombe, Mark Claus, Monty Tapp, Matt Grieves**. Council member attending via video conference: **Sam Artino**. Council members absent: **Joel Hagy and Joe Dike**.

**Motion by Mr. Claus to excuse Mr. Hagy's and Mr. Dike's absence from the meeting.**

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments regarding 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, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the motion passed and Mr. Hagy's and Mr. Dike's absences were excused.

Staff participating in the meeting: City Manager Matt Lasko, Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Assistant Law Director Gary Ebert, Finance Director Jeff Hall and Executive Administrative Assistant/Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to approve the minutes of the Council work session of March 22, 2022, and the regular Council meetings of April 12, 2022 and April 26, 2022, as written.**

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion on the matter. 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, Tapp, Grieves (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor, the motion was approved.

**Audience Comments**

The Mayor advised any audience members wishing to speak to approach the podium, state their name and address for the record, and they will have 3 minutes to address Council.

None.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

**Ordinance No. 2022-23**

**Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-23 (AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A LOT CONSOLIDATION OF A 0.7210 ACRE PORTION OF PPN 42-6127.000 AND A 10.5716 ACRE PORTION OF PPN 42-6127.001 LOCATED IN THE CITY OF HURON, ERIE COUNTY, OHIO, INTO ONE PARCEL, AS REQUESTED BY PROPERTY OWNER THE CITY OF HURON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) be placed upon its first reading.**

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion 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: Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-23 placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

**Motion by Mr. Grieves to place Ordinance 2022-23 as an emergency measure.**

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 Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five votes or more in favor, Ordinance 2022-23 was placed as an emergency measure.

Mr. Lasko stated that the City recently completed a land swap with ODNR related to the ConAgra property. The City was able to acquire some additional space on the southeast corner of our larger 10 acres on the north side of the peninsula in exchange for some additional land on the west side of the boat launch to ODNR. What this ordinance approves is the combination of the larger 10-acre parcel that the City has historically owned with the small parcel we have recently acquired from ODNR. This is a simple lot consolidation. Based on the simple nature of the process, it did not require Planning Commission approval, and the Planning Department has no issues with this recommendation and consolidation.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-23. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-23 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Ordinance No. 2022-25**

**Motion by Mr. Claus that the three-reading rule be suspended and Ordinance 2022-25 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2021-41, ADOPTED DECEMBER 14, 2021, TO PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES) be placed upon its first reading.**

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion 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, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five or more votes in favor, the three-reading rule was suspended and Ordinance 2022-25 placed on its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Lasko deferred to Mr. Hall for additional information regarding this resolution. Mr. Hall explained that this ordinance requests appropriation increases for payroll and benefit increases for our new Personnel Officer in the amount of \$11,000 and for an increase in compensation for our Prosecutor in the amount of \$10,000, both positing being held by Andrea Rocco. The third element of the appropriation increases relates to capital outlay for the fish cleaning station, to increase the total appropriation for that project to \$607,941. The overall net positive, due to the additional grant funds received from ODNR and Shores & Islands Ohio in the amount of \$94,000, is \$9,063 after the proposed grants are received.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, he directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Ordinance 2022-25. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Ordinance 2022-25 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Resolution 51-2022**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 51-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHM ADVISORS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES RELATED TO THE CLEVELAND ROAD EAST SIDEWALK EXTENSION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$53,300.00)) be placed upon its first reading.**

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

**YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Grieves (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 51-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko explained that this is the first step in a multi-phase process to extend the sidewalks from Gateway Boulevard within the city limits east to Huron Green in Huron Township. The proposal before Council is for \$53,300 with OHM Advisors to do the detailed design for this project. He was happy to report that Huron Township has committed \$25,000 to offset a portion of the costs. The remaining \$28,300 will be covered through grant funds the City has received through Erie County Regional Planning, and there is a resolution relating to that grant later in the agenda. They are looking forward to this first phase of this project and continuing their partnership with the Township.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 51-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Grieves (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 51-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

#### **Resolution 55-2022**

**Motion by Mr. Artino that the three-reading rule be waived and Resolution 55-2022 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HURON, WITH SEELEY, SAVIDGE, EBERT & GOURASH CO., LPA FOR THE PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR) be placed upon its first reading.**

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

**YEAS: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being five votes or more in favor, the motion to suspend the three-reading rule passed and Resolution 55-2022 was placed upon its first reading. The Assistant Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Lasko had foreshadowed legislation in one of the Manager's Reports a few meetings prior. They are looking to continue their relationship with SSEG, which they have been really satisfied with at the staff and administration level. The terms and conditions remain relatively identical to the last agreement. This agreement will be for \$150,000 annually, to be paid in monthly installments of \$12,500, which is no increase from the last contract and there is no limit on the hours provided to the City. This agreement is for an additional 12 months.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or discussion on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on the final adoption of Resolution 55-2022. Members of Council voted as follows:

**YEAS: Artino, Claus, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor of adoption, Resolution 55-2022 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

**Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Claus to set the public hearing on the proposed City Tax Budget for Fiscal year 2023 for Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 6:30pm.**

Mr. Hall said that he looks for to the initial Tax Budget implementation to be discussed in the annual procedure at the end of June for tax year 2023.

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

**YEAS: Claus, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor, the motion passed.

**Motion**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe amending Resolution No. 20-2022 to reflect the actual grant funds awarded in the amount of \$120,414.00 by the Erie County Regional Planning Commission Metropolitan Planning Organization (“ERPC MPO”) Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (“CRRSAA”) Transportation Alternative (“TA”) Project Grant relating to the Cleveland Road East Sidewalk Extension Project.**

Mr. Lasko added that he is appreciative to the ERPC MCO for the additional grant funds for this project. The initial application was made in the amount of \$93,000, but due to the lack of applicants, the ERPC MCO split additional funds between the City of Huron and City of Sandusky. This resolution will right-size the previous resolution brought to Council to reflect the exact amount of grant funds the City will be receiving.

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

**YEAS: Biddlecombe, Artino, Claus, Tapp, Dike, Grieves (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority vote in favor, the motion passed.

**City Manager’s Discussion**

**Mr. Lasko excused himself from the meeting due to illness, and asked Mr. Hamilton to handle the City Manager’s Discussion in his absence. Mr. Lasko left the meeting at 6:44pm.**

Mr. Hamilton spoke on several topics:

- Buckeye Sports – Buckeye Sports has broken ground on their new \$10 Million facility located at 309 Lake Erie Parkway. This investment will include sales and repair center, as well as indoor heated storage. This is the company’s second Ohio facility, and plans are to open in the fall of 2022 for the winter storage season.
- South Shore Marine – All administrative approvals are now complete for tax abatement. The company is seeking to construct an approximately \$1.6 Million indoor heated storage facility on its Sawmill Parkway campus. The company was awarded a 15-year 100% tax abatement.

- 2022 Street Resurfacing Project – The City is currently out to bid for the 2022 Street Resurfacing Program. The City is currently has a \$500,000 budget set aside for street resurfacing work this year. Bids are due on May 19<sup>th</sup>, and we hope to present a contract to Council either in late May or in early June, with the lowest and best bidder. This is anticipated to cover Gumwood, Rose, Vine, Bruns and two stretches of Williams. Alternatives include Stowe and Woodside.
- Parks and Recreation/Fish Cleaning Station – The City’s contract has a fully executed contract for this approximately \$600,000 project. They anticipate the project to start shortly, and they may have a kick-off meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. They will keep Council apprised of all developments.
- Lake Front Park Revetment Project – Work is currently underway at Lake Front Park to revet along the shoreline.
- Tennis Courts – The City has asked OHM to update costs estimates to renew the tennis courts at Fabens Park, and as soon as they is received, staff will bring this back to Council.
- Upcoming Meetings – City Council meeting on May 24, 2022 at 6:30pm in Council Chamber, and Planning Commission on May 25, 2022 at 5:00pm in Council Chambers.

### Mayor’s Discussion

Mayor Tapp thanked SSEG – working with them has been a pleasure and Council appreciates all of their hard work. There are a lot of things going in the City – a lot of new development and he thinks we are working well with our stakeholders. He thanked the staff again for everything they do – they are working together and doing a great job.

### For the Good of the Order

- **Mr. Biddlecombe** – Thanked staff for their hard work, as well. He is looking forward to continuing to work with SSEG for our Law Director services. He was excited to be asked to be a part of the Main Street Corridor Planning Initiative steering committee, and he looks forward to participating as they move forward with the planning. If any members of the public have any comments or concerns regarding the South Main Street overhaul, he asked them to contact him. The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting is Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. At that meeting, they will officially hire Paul DeMarco as the new Treasurer. There has been an uptick online with comments about a desire for a traffic light at the River Road intersection, especially now that boat traffic has increased. If there any inkling that we might be able to do this, the residents would appreciate it. Huron High School home games coming up: Girls Softball on May 17<sup>th</sup>, and Boys Baseball on May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>. Please go out and support our student athletes, and Go Tigers!
- **Mr. Artino** – Thanked SSEG for their ongoing support – he thinks that have been around with them for a while know that they are available when they need them, and they really appreciate them being cost-conscious for the taxpayers. Thanks to Gary, Todd and the whole crew.
- **Mr. Claus** – Thanked Mr. Ebert and Mr. Schrader for all of their hard work keeping them on track, and he looks forward to another year, at least. It is looking like summer, the river is opening up and boats are in the water. He is looking forward to having a good summer here in Huron.
- **Mr. Grieves** – Thank you to SSEG. This is his favorite time of year when you start seeing everything opening back up in Huron, with people out and about. He sees down at the Boat Basin what a great job they did cleaning that area up and getting it looking good – they are staining the docks. It is exciting seeing everyone out there using everything. He looks forward to a great summer in Huron.

**Executive Session**

Mayor Tapp said that they will be having an executive session, and there may or may not be action taken following the executive session.

**Motion by Mr. Claus to enter into executive session to consult with legal counsel regarding pending or imminent litigation, and to invite, Mr. Ebert, Mr. Lasko, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Moeller (via phone) and Mr. Hall.**

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, Tapp, Grieves, Biddlecombe, Artino (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

With more than five votes in favor of the motion, Council moved into executive session at 6:52pm.

**NOTE: Mr. Lasko did not attend the executive session due to illness.**

**Return to Regular Session**

Council returned to regular session at 7:15pm.

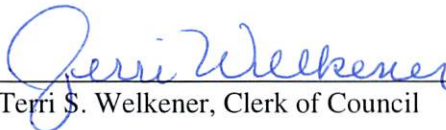
**Adjournment**

**Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the meeting.**

The Mayor asked if there was any discussion 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, Tapp, Grieves (5)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the meeting of May 10, 2022 adjourned at 7:16pm.

  
Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 24 MAY 2022

*Upon approval by the City Council, the official written summary of the meeting minutes will become a permanent record, and the official minutes may also consist of a permanent video and/or audio recording, excluding executive sessions, in accordance with Section 121.01(III) of the Administrative Code.*