

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

Call to Order

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

Motion by Mr. Artino to excuse the absences of Mr. Claus from tonight's meeting.

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: Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (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 (via Microsoft Teams), Service Director Stuart Hamilton, Police Sergeant John Orzech, Planning Director Erik Engle, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart; Fire Captain Kurt Schafer and Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

Approval of Minutes

None.

Audience Comments

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

None.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2024-7 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Tapp that Ordinance No. 2024-7 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING PARAGRAPH (a) OF SECTION 143.01 (CREATION AND COMPOSITION) OF CHAPTER 143 (FIRE DIVISION) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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 waiving the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino (6)

NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-7 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Captain Schafer explained that they needed more flexibility for their roster due to increasing needs for part-time firefighters to fill in for full-time officers when they are on leave or ill.

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

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-7 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

Ordinance No. 2024-8 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2024-8 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING PARAGRAPH (a) OF SECTION 311.02 (PARADES AND ASSEMBLAGES) OF CHAPTER 311 (STREET OBSTRUCTIONS AND SPECIAL USES) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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: Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-8 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that the change to this ordinance to include requiring a site plan. There is no fee for a parade permit.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-8. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-8 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

Ordinance No. 2024-9 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Artino that Ordinance No. 2024-9 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND CHAPTER 711 (PEDDLERS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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: Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-9 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that all peddlers (door-to-door sales) are required to register for a \$50 fee. The registration lasts for a 6-month period.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-9. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-9 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

Ordinance No. 2024-10 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Dike that Ordinance No. 2024-10 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 721 (TAXICABS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HURON) be placed on its third and final 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: Dike, Grieves, Hagy, Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-10 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle stated that, as far as they can tell, the City has had no registrations for a taxi cab business. There is no way to regulate Uber and Lyft, and it seems unlikely that a tax service would have an office in Huron. This ordinance will repeal all of Chapter 721.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-10. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-10 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

Ordinance No. 2024-11 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe that Ordinance No. 2024-11 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND CHAPTER 741 (HOME SALES) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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: Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp, Dike, Grieves, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-11 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that the name of this Chapter will be change to Garage Sales. A resident must pull a permit to hold a garage/yard sale. There is no charge for the permit (was \$2), and there a limit of 4 garage sales pe year per residence.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-11. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-11 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

Ordinance No. 2024-12 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Grieves that Ordinance No. 2024-12 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 731 (TEMPORARY STORES) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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: Grievés, Hagý, Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp, Dike (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-12 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained that this ordinance relates to pop-up stores, food trucks, etc. Permits are limited to 120 days.

Council indicated that they have some questions regarding food trucks. Mr. Artino thought that the food trucks operating at a City event, such as River Fest, should not have to obtain a permit. There were also questions about who is going to enforce this. Mr. Schrader suggested that this item could be removed from the agenda for further revision.

Motion by Mr. Hagý to remove Ordinance No. 2024-12 from the agenda.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on removal of Ordinance No. 2024-12 from the agenda. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-12 was removed from the agenda.

Ordinance No. 2024-13 (third and final reading)

Motion by Mr. Dike that Ordinance No. 2024-13 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 1323 (CONTRACTORS) OF THE HURON CODIFIED ORDINANCES) be placed on its third and final 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: Dike, Grievés, Hagý, Biddlecombe, Artino, Tapp (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being more than a majority in favor, the motion passed, and Ordinance No. 2024-13 was placed upon its third and final reading. The Law Director read the Ordinance by its title only.

Mr. Engle explained the various changes made to Chapter 1323 relating to contractor registration. There was some discussion regarding multiple-trade contractors. Council did not recommend any changes to the new language.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-13. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-13 was adopted. The Ordinance as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect in 30 days.

NEW BUSINESS

Amended Resolution No. 65-2023

Motion by Mr. Grieves that the three-reading rule be waived, and Amended Resolution No. 65-2023 (AN AMENDED RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE SUBRECIPIENT GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE CITY OF HURON AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION NO. 65-2023 ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 10, 2023, AS FOLLOWS:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE FUNDING AWARD FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COASTAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM RELATED TO THE LAKE FRONT BEACH – COASTAL PLANNING PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$35,000.00)) be placed on its first 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 suspending the three-reading rule. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being five or more votes in favor, the motion suspending the three-reading rule passed, and Amended Resolution 65-2023 was placed upon its first reading. The Law Director read the Resolution by its title only.

Mr. Hamilton explained that this amendment to Resolution No. 65-2023 does not change any terms of the agreement, other than to provide an extension of time to June 30, 2025.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions on the motion. There being none, the Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll on final adoption of Amended Resolution No. 65-2023. Members of Council voted as follows:

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

There being more than a majority in favor of adoption, Amended Resolution No. 65-2023 was adopted. The Resolution as adopted was signed by the Mayor and Clerk of Council and will take effect immediately.

City Manager's Discussion

The City Manager spoke on several topics:

Oster's Mobile Home Park – Our initial work at Oster's Mobile Home Park is about 98% complete. I don't know if anyone has been over there lately, but it looks fantastic with the work that Barnes has done. We hope that will be completed in the next week or two, and then just wait for the grass to grow in.

Zoning Applications – The Planning Department let me know that the first two zoning applications for the first two homes to be constructed on Sheltered Brook were received. We approved that PUD sometime last year. We still must receive the building plans, but we are excited to see this project restart after a long hiatus.

Infrastructure and Streets – For anyone that was out east today, contractors mobilized to start putting in the north side sidewalk piece between Gateway and Anchorage. We are excited that they have mobilized, and we expect the sidewalks to be completed sometime in mid-May.

2023 Paving Project – Work continues, as well, in Chaska Beach, Old Homestead I and Old Homestead II with the concrete reconstruction. We were very pleased with the contractor's communication with the City and the residents. We know that the streets are very narrow, and they are working all over the place. Again, we have tried to remain in close contact with residents and the homeowners' associations to make sure we are addressing any questions or concerns as they come up. The plan is for that project to be completed no later than June 21st.

S. Main Street Water Main Replacement Project – Construction is expected to begin the week of April 29th on the S. Main Street Water Main Replacement Project. The important piece with this project is that there will have to be a road closure at the intersection of Mudbrook and Huron-Avery Road. We expect that closure to last 60 days. This, of course, will be open to emergency vehicles as necessary.

Stop Signs and Lines – As a follow-up to our last Council meeting, the stop signs and stop bars have been installed at the intersection of Wheeler and Riverside to now make that a 3-way stop. I appreciate our Streets Department for getting out there very quickly.

Parks & Recreation – REMINDER: There will be a dedication and ribbon cutting for the new tennis and pickleball courts at Fabens Park, which will be held on Wednesday, May 8th at 3pm. We will be finalizing an agenda this week and getting that out to Council and other interested groups and associations we would like to have there to celebrate with us.

Berlin Road Park – The visitor parking area has been completed. The gravel service has been installed and the entrance/exit has been widened for vehicles to safely maneuver in and out of the parking area. Last week, Mr. Steinwart moved ahead with the purchase of the floating dock system for the water feature in

the middle of that site. We expect that to be installed sometime in May. They are very happy with how quickly that is going to get delivered and installed for our community.

Fish Cleaning Station – The fish cleaning station opened last Wednesday, April 17th for public use. We are looking forward to our second season. Even with the weather today, I saw a lot of people down there. Thank you, Doug and your team for getting that up and operational so quickly.

City-Wide Clean-Up – I want to thank everyone who participated in the City-Wide Clean-Up, which was held this past Saturday. This was done in celebration of Earth Day, which was Monday, April 22nd.

Summer Camp – Parks & Recreation summer camp and program registration opened on April 10th. Within a few short days, program registrations exceeded 250. We are excited to welcome participants in the 2024 summer camps and programs. As a reminder, a full list of camps and programs can be found on the City's website along with the online registration portal.

Finance – As relates to our continued exploration of a potential income tax increase, we have held two of the now-scheduled four meetings. We were very pleased with the attendance, and more importantly, the questions that the City received during those meetings. We have a very inquisitive and interested public. We are very happy with how those have been going. We have two additional meetings scheduled on April 30th at 6:30pm at the Huron Library and on May 9th at 12pm at the Huron Yacht Club. We are always willing to meet with other groups, associations, churches, you name it, to solicit feedback over the next couple months.

Personnel – I wish Mr. Evans was here because this is tremendous news. Water Superintendent Jack Evans passed his Class IV Water Supply Examination through the Ohio EPA, which is the highest certification within the State of Ohio. Over the past 2 years, Jack has spent a great deal of time studying and completing his thesis for this certification. This is a huge achievement and is something he and the City should be very proud of. There is a remarkably limited number of professionals with this certification in the State of Ohio. This is very beneficial to the City, as this was a necessary step for the City to increase its output at the Water Filtration Plan through the rerating process with the EPA. Congratulations to Mr. Evans.

Upcoming Meetings – We have one more income tax presentation, which is Tuesday, April 30th at 6pm at the Huron Public Library; Utilities Committee meeting on Wednesday, May 1st at 5pm in the main conference room; HJRD meeting on Tuesday, May 7th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; last income tax presentation on Thursday, May 9th at noon at the Huron Yacht Club; Board of Zoning Appeals meeting on Monday, May 13th at 5:30pm in Council Chambers; Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 14th at 5:30pm in Council Chamber, which is followed by our first City Council meeting of the month on Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers; Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, May 22nd at 5pm in Council Chambers; and the second City Council meeting of the month on Tuesday, May 28th at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

REMINDER TO THE PUBLIC: Administrative offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

Mr. Biddlecombe asked about the road closure at Mudbrook Road and Huron-Avery Road for the waterline – is that both streets independently or will they both be closed at the same time? Mr. Lasko answered that they will send out a visual. It is going to close down traffic north and south on that entire stretch, but they will send an actual visual of where that closure is going to be to Council and the public.

Mr. Biddlecombe said that he had forwarded a comment to Mr. Lasko from the Talk of Huron about garbage back in Old Homestead. There was an additional comment about Chaska. Is there any way we could put something out there on social media with the number of who to call for whatever reason, construction-related or their garbage gets missed? Mr. Lasko answered, absolutely. They typically put out both Republic's number and the City's number, as well. Unfortunately, there are going to be missed pickups. We are very pleased with Republic's ability to come back that same day or the next day. We understand that's a frustration, so we are happy to put out that contact information on social media.

Mr. Hagy said that he knows it is an objective for staff to meet with local residents around the former Oster's Mobile Home Park regarding the future of that lot. He is wondering if the City has started those discussions yet, or are they done with those discussion? What kind of feedback did you get? Mr. Lasko answered that they reached out to the current Board President to see if they would host or organize a meeting where the City would come and solicit feedback. We also offered to host them here, if that made sense, or even taking space at Lemmy's. Initial feedback, as much as that neighborhood is thrilled and grateful... they did not take us up yet on a formal meeting. What the Board did instead is send a survey out to their email list and the Board President has sent us that list with a lot of ideas, as you can imagine. He would still like to push for another venue to actually get in front of folks that may, for whatever reason, not be on that email list. As of now, we have started getting some pretty significant feedback through the Board and their email server to their association members. We would still like to do more. Mr. Hagy recapped that they are getting feedback, but no decision has been made.

Mr. Hagy asked where the southern edge of the closure on Mudbrook will fall – will it go all the way to Route 2 or does it fall short of Riverside? Mr. Lasko answered that it will fall short of Riverside, but he doesn't want to misspeak without Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Evans or OHM here. He will get a visual for everyone.

Mayor Tapp asked if the City has reached out to the businesses regarding the closures on Main Street. He had contacted one that didn't know about exact dates, and it does affect them. There is another business that it is really going to impact. One of them has another entrance on another road, but the one has only way in. Mr. Lasko answered that there is a transportation plan, both with rerouting and to make sure access to all properties. We are happy to circulate that, as well, and to get that to businesses. As you can imagine, this was a huge issue when they did Sawmill Parkway, for example. They have been very pleased with how our contractors and OHM have partnered with the local businesses. They will make sure, and he will reiterate.... The work will start on the 29th, but they are only mobilizing. Mayor Tapp thinks they need to be contacted sooner, rather than later.

Mr. Biddlecome added the Turnpike Commission has the Route 13 bridge closed until October, so a lot of people have been using Huron-Avery Road as an alternate. There are a few businesses that will be affected there to the north and south.

Mr. Hagy asked if Huron-Avery is going to be closed, or is it just Mudbrook? Monty said at some point Main Street will be closed, so you wouldn't be able to get to Huron-Avery Road. It is north of the split. Mr. Lasko answered that the point it well taken about their communication to businesses and homeowners, as well. OHM, Mr. Hamilton and our contractors are usually very good at this. He will deliver the message.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Tapp said:

I want to thank Doug Steinwart for the fish cleaning station. It's great and people have been using it since it was opened. I drove by, and they are in there already. People love it and they are keeping it clean. Congratulations to Jack Evans on passing that class. Thanks to staff. Thanks to Council. There is a lot of stuff going on in the City and he appreciates all of the hard work that everybody does.

For the Good of the Order

Sam Artino – I have nothing, thank you.

Joe Dike – Congratulations to Jack Evans. Thank you everybody, and have a great week.

Joel Hagy – No sir, I have nothing for the good of the order.

William Biddlecombe – I would like to thank staff for all of their hard work and congratulate Mr. Evans. Some takeaways from the last School Board meeting – he wasn't able to attend, but he was able to find out that their survey closed and the public is most interested in refurbishing Woodlands and then building a new 6-12 building right next to it. Right now, they are still awaiting the site feasibility study. That should be presented at their main meeting. We have a Scott Union Cemetery Board meeting on April 29th at 5pm at Huron Township Hall. I apologize if I miss any, because I base this off of what's on the School's website, and it kind of drops off after a certain point in May.

Some home games coming up: Track on May 4th and Softball and Baseball on April 25th. Please come out and support our local events, programs and student athletes, and Go Tigers!

Matt Grieves – Nothing for the good of the order.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

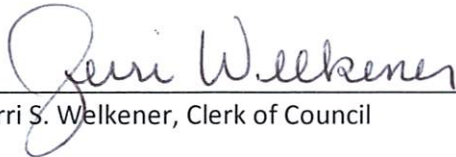
Motion by Mr. Biddlecombe to adjourn the regular meeting of Council.

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, Tapp, Dike, Grieve, Hagy (6)
NAYS: None (0)

There being a majority in favor of the motion, the regular Council meeting of April 23, 2024 was adjourned at 7:13pm.

Adopted: 28 MAY 2024



Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council