

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Special Meeting Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.**

The Mayor called the special meeting of Huron City Council to order at 5:30pm on Thursday, May 21, 2020 via Webex teleconference. 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.

The Mayor directed the Clerk to call the roll. The following members of Council answered present: **Christine Crawford, Mark Claus, Monty Tapp, Sam Artino, Joe Dike, Trey Hardy and Joel Hagy.**

Trey Hardy was having audio problems, and was initially unable to respond, but did respond present at 5:32m.

Staff participating in the Webex teleconference: Interim City Manager Mike Spafford, Law Director Benjamin Chojnacki and Executive Administrative Assistant and Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

**Executive Session**

The Mayor said there will be an executive session, and that Council may take action afterward.

**Motion by Mr. Tapp to enter into executive session for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel regarding a pending or imminent court action; and to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, and inviting Mr. Spafford and Mr. Chojnacki to the meeting.**

Mr. Chojnacki said that there are three matters to be the subject of the executive session that Council will be discussing, and he will not be involved in two of those sessions due to previously discussed conflicts of interest. He asks that Council discuss those matters first, and when they are done, ask whoever is monitoring the Webex call invite him to join the third part of the meeting regarding the employment of the Law Director.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions 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: Tapp, Artino, Dike, Hardy, Hagy, Crawford, Claus (7)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being a majority in favor of adoption, the motion passed.

Mr. Chojnacki said that not knowing what the scope of Council's conversations have been thus far, to the extend there is going to be a discussion regarding pending or imminent legal action, since he is not going to be there and for the purposes of this matter, Council is not going to be consulting with legal counsel. Council should not discuss the pending or imminent court action; their conversation should be limited to hiring and appointment of public officials. Since Council doesn't have legal counsel, that provision does not apply. Council is going to discuss the appointment of potential legal counsel, and he might be a part of that. Mr. Chojnacki asked the Clerk to take him out, and then put him back in once Council has discussed those issues.

Council moved into executive session at 5:38pm.

**Return to Regular Session**

Council returned to regular session at 6:20pm.

**Motion by Mr. Tapp to direct the City Manager to enter into negotiations to provide legal services with Seeley Savidge Ebert Gourash Co., LPA.**

**YEAS: Tapp, Artino, Dike, Hardy, Hagy, Claus (6)**  
**NAYS: Crawford (1)**

With a majority of Council voting in favor of the motion, the motion passed.

**Adjournment**

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

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: Dike, Hardy, Hagy, Crawford, Claus, Tapp, Artino (7)**  
**NAYS: None (0)**

There being more than a majority voting in favor of the motion, the Mayor declared the meeting of May 21, 2020 adjourned at 6:24pm.

  
Terri S. Welkener, Clerk of Council

Adopted: 09 JUN 2020

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