

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
August 3, 2017

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the form prescribed by the General Rules of Council. President Hafford called the meeting to order. The following members answered roll call: Taylor, Knisely, Otte, Zilch, Ruiz, and Stout. Councilman Koebel was absent. Minutes from July 20th were approved. Councilman Otte made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3) to discuss pending court action with no Council Business to transpire thereafter. Councilman Zilch seconded. Motion carried 6 yea votes.

Third reading of an ordinance enacting a New Chapter 1521 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Fremont entitled “Registration of Vacant Commercial and Industrial Buildings”. Chief Foos addressed questions on the ordinances and answered questions from council. He shared statistics on similar ordinances in different cities and counties. He explained that property owners are given 90 days before action is truly taken. Chief Foos asked council to approve the ordinance and give the City they need to rid the nuisance properties. He also said that once this ordinance is approved, he will be coming before council to also include Residential Properties. Gerry Gonya addressed the council and said that he spoke with Chief Foos and had a better understanding of the ordinance. He will continue to work with him on the property that he owns that are vacant. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 6 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3863

Third reading of an ordinance approving an expanded and amended Community Reinvestment Area No. 1 for the City of Fremont, Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3735.65 ET Seq., making the necessary findings, and declaring an emergency. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Stout and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 6 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3864

First reading of an ordinance for the Safety Service Director to enter into an agreement with the Director of Transportation of ODOT for the sealing of various bridge decks within Sandusky County Including the State Route 53 Bridge over US 6 in the City of Fremont and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained this is no cost to the city. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 6 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 6 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3865

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to prepare, sign, and enter into contracts for submission to the Ohio Public Works Commission for State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) and Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP) Funding for 2018 and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost informed council that these are grant applications that the deadlines are approaching soon. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 6 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 6 yea votes. Res. 2017-2022

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within General Fund 101 and Probation Service Fund 232, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl explained that 3 components to ordinance – new full time bailiff who is entitled to benefits, Judge Brudzinski is bringing in a full time secretary which is a \$30,000 increase. The next component is the probation department who has had the Chief Probation Officer paid through grant monies. The grants used have not automatically been awarded to the city. The dollars needed to pay the position need to be paid from the General Fund to continue with the General Probation Chief. Mr. Grahl said that he has had discussion with the Mayor and the Probation Department along with Judge Brudzinski. The Ordinance will cover both departments until the end of the year. Mr. Grahl, Mayor Sanchez, and the Chief Probation Officer Reyes answered questions from council. Mayor Sanchez asked that the council suspend Rule 4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion failed 5 yea votes to 1 no vote.

Committee Reports

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Otte nothing to report.

Government and Economic Development Committee - Chairman Stout thanked council for approving expansion of CRA #1.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mrs. Ruiz stated that Rec. Department is accepting applications for Fall Sports Programs. Last day for the Pool is August 27th. The Tree and Beautification Department announced its July winners: First place, Bob and Betty Kusmer – 710 Third Ave. Second place Chuck and Pat Mowry - 535 Third Ave. Third place Kathy Stine – 428 St. Joseph Street. August nominations are due by August 26th. Please call Rick Heimbaugh at 419-307-8924 or Bev Rich at 419-334-9981.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely nothing this evening.

Utilities and Traffic Committee - Chairman Taylor discussed the stop signs at the railroads and hopes everyone pays attention.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Zilch nothing this evening.

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Kristy Bilger, Executive Director of Downtown Fremont, Inc. welcomed new businesses El Roys Deli Market downtown and Penelope's at 509 W. State Street and Renhill that located on Front Street. She stated that a car show will be held tomorrow from 4 to 10 p.m. On Saturday there will be the Dog Days of Summer Farmers Market from 9 to 1 p.m. She also stated that parking lots will be resealed and marked right after the market closes. The Dignity & Respect Event will be held Downtown on August 19th. The event is sponsored by Fremont City Schools, US Bank, and WSOS.

Department Heads

Mr. Frost spoke about the stop signs that have been placed at several railroad tracks. He stated that the City was not made aware before the signs were placed. He stated that the City has applied for exemptions at several of the crossing and is awaiting response from the State.

Chief Bliss nothing to report.

Chief Foos thanked council for passing the legislation that was presented tonight.

Elected Officials

Mayor Sanchez also thanked council for passing the New Chapter 1521. He welcomed Jon Detwiler, new Fremont City School Superintendent for attending tonight's meeting. Mayor Sanchez stated that he posted on Facebook the work that was done on the Linden Boulevard.

Mr. Grahl nothing to report.

Mr. Mayle nothing to report.

Council Comments

Mr. Taylor mentioned that he attended the Jeff (Joint Effort for Fellowship) Event at the Country Club. The event was used at a fund raiser and they presented the Fire Department with a check to help keep fire fighters safe. He also commented on Batch 209 Event that is held at the Garrison. The event is held every Tuesday in the month of August.

Mr. Zilch announced there will be a Laws, Rules, and Ordinance meeting on September 7th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss downtown skylines. He thanked Bill Guhn and the Street Department for giving a nice storage unit at the cemetery. He also thanked Chief Foos for all the work and effort he put into the ordinance.

Mrs. Stout stated that she appreciated the effort from the city workers for all the good work they do weekly. She also welcomed Jon and Melissa Detwiler for attending the council meeting.

Mr. Otte wished Mr. Detwiler the best of luck in his new position. He reminded everyone about the Dog Days of Summer Event Downtown this weekend. He asked Mayor Sanchez about the removal of the tree at the cemetery.

Mr. Knisely also welcomed Jon and Melissa Detwiler. He asked the citizens to keep lawns cut because you can be fined. He encourages everyone to keep shopping Fremont, Ohio.

Mrs. Ruiz thanked the Zoning Dick Cook for taking care of a problem for her. She stated that she and Mrs. Stout attended a TEAMACOG meeting.

Public Comments

Fred Reckenwald asked Mr. Grahl about the \$30,000 discussed earlier in the council meeting. He questioned the raising of the Probation and Court expenses.

Council entered into Executive Session.

Council re-entered back into regular session.

On motion to adjourn by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Mr. Taylor motion carried 6 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.