

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
February 4, 2016

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, Koebel, Otte, Zilch, Ruiz, and Stout. The minutes for council meeting held on January 21st were approved with corrections.

Third reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$62,463.00 to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., and declaring an emergency. Mr. Koebel asked that Mr. Grahl explain why we still have a bill from Stantec. Mr. Grahl stated that there were insufficient funds to cover since an estimated amount for the purchase order was placed by the previous administration. On motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 6 yea votes to 1 no vote. (Res. 2016-1968)

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$4,140.18 to Mississippi Lime Company, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl asked that council suspend Rule 4 due to a last order of lime. On motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Mrs. Stout and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 7 yea votes. (Res. 2016-1969)

First reading of an ordinance amending Sections 1.04, 4.03, 5.02, 5.11, and 6.07 of the Rules and Regulations for Civil Service Commission of the City of Fremont, and declaring an emergency. On motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Koebel and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 7 yea votes. (Ord. 2016-3799)

Committee Reports

Park and Recreation Committee - Chairman Koebel reported that the First Responders Public Skate was a huge success. He thanked Fred Recktenwald and his wife for sponsoring the event. He also reported a "Skate with your Date" to be held at the Rec Center on February 13th. Model Train Show Swap Meet on February 28th, and Little League and spring soccer sign ups start February 1st.

Government and Economic Development Committee - Chairman Stout nothing to report. She stated that she had met with Mayor Sanchez and hopes to have report at next meeting.

Citizen Service Committee - Chairman Ruiz reported that Fremont Block Watch will be held on February 8th at the Pontifex beginning at 7:00 p.m. with Detective Jason Kiddey.

Utilities and Traffic Committee - Chairman Taylor nothing to report.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely introduced Dr. Traci McCaudy superintendent of Fremont City Schools. Dr. McCaudy spoke to the council about a community engagement process the school district was implementing. The district is holding Facility Coffee Meetings to discuss the condition of existing school buildings and how those conditions are impacting teaching and learning. The district hope is to hold 100 Coffee Meetings. The district will be hosting a community meeting on March 31st to discuss the results from the Coffee feedback forms and discuss how to proceed.

Finance and Labor Committee - Chairman Otte nothing to report.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinances Committee - Chairman Zilch reported there was a Finance and Labor committee meeting to discuss internet café prior to the regular council meeting.

Department Heads

Mr. Myers thanked the council for taking care of the civil service amendments.

Chief White commented on the skate and encouraged everyone to attend the Block Watch Meeting.

Kristy Bilger Downtown Fremont Executive Director 315 Garrison St. announced that February 25th is collaborating with WSOS and will do a Downtown Fremont Update and announcing those plans. She also announced that the apartments that are in downtown Fremont are finished. There are 5 apartments for rent. She also gave a shout out to Down Thyme Cafe and they are having Valentine Day specials.

Elected Officials

Mr. Melle nothing to report.

Mayor Sanchez stated that he has been working closely with Chief White concerning a proactive approach to the drug problems in Fremont. He wanted the public to know that if there are traffic stops in the city please be aware that the question will be asked of them if they have drugs in their vehicles. He hopes that no one is offended if questioned. He stated in reference to the article in the News Messenger concerning Economic Development. He mentioned there are changes in the works and he is working with Mr. Kerns, Dr. McCaudy and hopes to put together an Economic Advisory Committee together to collaborate with the Sandusky County Economic Development Department and Kay Reiter. He would like to be the face for Economic Development for the city. He stated that he spoke with Pastor C.J. Burel and are collecting water for the crisis in Flint, MI.

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He was amazed by the collaboration with Dr. McCaudy and Fremont City Schools. By 1:00 p.m. there was a press release that stated free admission to Fridays Fremont Ross Basketball game with a case of water. He announced that Woleslagel Moving Company would be transporting the water to Flint. The Mayor asked anyone interested in donating please drop off at Ebenezer Church of God & Christ.

Mr. Grahl thanked council for passing the two warrants for payment. He also asked that everyone keep the family and friends of Ralph Mills in their prayers with his passing last night.

Council Comments

Mr. Koebel congratulated Chief Foos and his department for the nice article in the department. He stated he had stopped in the Mayor's office and was informed of what Pastor Burel and Fremont City Schools were planning on doing. He quickly contacted Pub 400 and American Auto Sales. These two businesses will be also collecting water. He reminded citizens that the Hayes Presidential Center will begin celebrating their centennial in May and to keep those events in mind.

Mrs. Stout also congratulated Chief Foos and the department's accomplishments.

Mrs. Ruiz also complimented the Fire Department and Chief Foos. She stated that with the crisis in Flint we should be thankful for good water in Fremont. She also that the city would still receive the 2 million dollar grant extension from ODNR.

Mr. Taylor also congratulated Chief Foos. He liked the Mayors address and all the positive things that are going on in the city with the leadership.

Mr. Knisely again thanked Dr. McCaudy for coming again to the meeting. He also asked everyone to support Downtown Fremont and also congratulated Chief Foos.

Mr. Otte also congratulated Chief Foos and thanked Tom Kerns for all he was doing for Downtown Fremont.

Mr. Zilch thanked the Fire Department and Chief Foos.

Public Comments

Pastor C.J. Burel thanked the Mayor, Bob Gross, Dr. McCaudy and everyone who came together on the collection of water for Flint, MI. He was so surprised how the idea went forward and everyone began pitching in. He stated that there is a sister church in Flint - Greater Holiness Temple of Christ is one of the hub churches

for distributing water. He thanked everyone for participating in the project. He is very proud of how the city is coming together.

On motion to adjourn by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President