

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
July 6, 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, Stout, and Koebel. Minutes from June 1st were approved.

Before the regular readings, Mayor Sanchez presented the Mike Piero Employee of the Month to Jeremy Sprenger and Mitch Lochotzski both worked very hard in the month of June painting over 50 poles in Downtown Fremont. Their work ethics, leadership, and professionalism have not gone unnoticed. They work for the Street and Park Department.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and adopt a Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, and declaring an emergency. Councilman Koebel asked about the relocating a displaced resident. Amanda Sears explained that the resolution is a formality and required by the State for someone who may be displaced. To her knowledge we have never misplaced anyone. The resolution is requirement renewed every 5 years. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2017-2016

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application for submission to the Ohio Development Services Agency for Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) Downtown Revitalization Program and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Stout and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2017-2017

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application for submission to the Ohio Development Services Agency for Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) Program and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez explained that the grants that the city is applying for will be used to make improvements in the restrooms at Rodger Young Park. It also includes the dugouts, roofing, and possibly a new Shelter House. The Downtown Revitalization grant is allow business to apply for funding with matching funding to improve downtown Fremont. The Critical Infrastructure Grant is to improve Garrison Street Project. He wanted the public to be aware of what was being presented. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2017-2018

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application for submission to the Ohio Development Services Agency for Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) Critical Infrastructure Program and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Otte and seconded by Mr. Zilch. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2017-2019

First 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”. Mayor Sanchez explained for the viewer’s knowledge, there was a public hearing prior to the council meeting explaining this ordinance. Chief Foos ask that the council take their time and review the ordinance and contact him with any questions.

First reading of an ordinance to authorize and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with Universal Farms, LLC. for the storage and processing of asphalt grindings owned by the City of Fremont and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost explained that these are the byproducts of our streets being redone. He explained that all our waste is taken to Universal Farms and it is a win-win service for both. Mayor Sanchez recognized Bill Guhn, Superintendent of the Streets Department, who found this process would be beneficial for the City. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Zilch. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3858

First 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. Mr. Gross stated that there will be a presentation on July 20th that will explain the Tax Abatement Program.

First reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with R.A. Bores Excavating, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$328,972.50 for the 2017 McKinley and Chestnut Streets Waterline Improvements OPWC Project CE41U and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez this project is from Capital Improvement. He asked that council suspend Rule 4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Otte. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3859

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First reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with 7L Construction, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$311,872.50 for the 2017 Roadway Resurfacing of Chestnut, Thompson, and Miller Streets OPWC Project DEU04 in Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez explained this project will complete the second half of Miller. It will also cover Thompson and Chestnut Streets. He asked that the council suspend Rule 4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 7 yeas votes. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 7 yeas votes. Res. 2017-3860

First reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with the Dotson Company, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$43,601.00 for ADA Improvements to the Police Department, City Hall, and Recreation Center, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frost asked that council suspend Rule 4. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 7 yeas votes. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 7 yeas votes. Res. 2017-3861

Council voted 7 yeas votes to show no objections to the stock transfer from Jimmy G's.

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mrs. Ruiz that the Rec. Department under the supervision of Cody Bischoff is being enjoyed by many with the beautiful weather we have been having. She stated that for the month of June, numbers for several areas of the department had increased. Day passes increased by 759 visits from last year along with membership increase to 1,053, just to name a few. There has been much improvement at the center. Mrs. Ruiz also stated that the Parks Department is doing an excellent job. They have planted trees at Birchard Park and completed projects at East Side Park. The Beautification committee announced their June Winners. The Tucker residence at 1112 Birchard Ave., 716 Birchard Ave. - Chris Fiegl and Scott Phillips residence, and 707 Birchard Ave. – the Vandyne residence.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated that Steven Hilliard, Executive Director from Work Force at Terra State Community College will make a presentation at the next council meeting.

Utilities and Traffic Committee - Chairman Taylor nothing this evening.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinance Committee – Chairman Zilch stated that there was a meeting prior to the regular council meeting and thanked Chief Foos for his presentation. Anyone with concerns or questions please contact Chief Foos or the Mayor's office.

Citizen Service Committee - Chairman Koebel reported that Block Watch will try to kick off at the end of July and he will report on a specific date

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Otte nothing to report.

Government and Economic Development Committee - Chairman Stout as for a Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. to discuss receive a presentation from Mr. Gross and Auditor Grahl on the expansion of the Community Reinvestment Area 1.

Department Heads

Mr. Frost reported that the Police Department hired a new officer Samantha Lewis and a formal introduction will be made at the next council meeting

Chief Bliss stated that the department will be hiring test on August 9th and 12th to take physical fitness and written test for the Police Department. He also thanked the Parks Department and Ty Stout for bagging a tree that was planted for in memory of Beth Lewis.

Chief Foos encourage the public if any question about the presentation today; take advantage of Dan Henning's taping of the event. He also encouraged the public to call him with additional questions.

Kristy Bilger, Executive Director of Downtown Fremont, Inc. thanked everyone for passing the block grants tonight. She thanked everyone who participated in the first Farmers Market and Car Show, it was very successful. Next Farmers Market will be on July 15th, sponsored by Crown Battery. Mrs. Ruiz asked if businesses are staying open longer for the events downtown. Ms. Bilger reported that she couldn't report that 100% are staying open, but the tides are changing and more business are choosing to participate in the events being held downtown.

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Elected Officials

Mr. Melle nothing to report.

Mayor Sanchez thanked the council for passing the ordinance and resolutions tonight. He mentioned the incident at the fireworks on the 4th of July. He commended the Police Department and he stated that the city will be making changes next year for the positive. He thanked the first responders for the incident at the parade. He reported there is a basketball tournament at Rodger Young Park, the first tournament on the new courts. He asked anyone interested to attend.

Mr. Grahl thanked the contributors and sponsor for the firework event. He thanked Ken Dumminger and his crew for their work. Mr. Otte asked how citizens could donate to the fireworks; Mr. Grahl said that they should contact Mr. Dumminger.

Council Comments

Mr. Knisely thanked the Rec. Department for organizing the parade on the 4th of July. He thanked the Police, Fire, and first responders for doing a terrific job during the emergency at the parade. He expressed his thoughts and prayers for those injured and shaken by the incident. He stated the parks are looking good and keep shopping and supporting Fremont, Ohio. He thanked the Mayor for his leadership and dedication to Fremont.

Mr. Zilch thanked the street department for putting in the grindings in the alley. He mentioned the Whittlesey cemetery and thanked Mr. Otte and Mrs. Ruiz for watering the flowers that are there.

Mrs. Stout stated that she appreciated the effort from the City Departments. She recalled that someone had taken a lawn chair from her home and was found at the neighbors by a window. She called the Police Department and reported it with such a quick response. She advised residence to keep doors and windows locked.

Mr. Otte stated that the fundraiser for the Sandusky County Positive People will take place at the Yacht Club tomorrow at 8:00 p.m. He stated that the cemetery is looking very nice and he spotted deer at the cemetery. He thanked Chief Foos, Bob Ward from the Water Department, and Fireman Dywer, Lowes, Rural King and Universal Farms, Rick and Cindy Zilch and several others for their efforts at the cemetery. He also reported that the Birchard Historic Association is taking membership applications for \$40.00. July 21st will be their block party.

Mrs. Ruiz congratulated the employees of the month. She thanked the police department. She commented on the 4th of July parade and how people helping people shows that you are in a great community.

Mr. Koebel she thanked Mrs. Ruiz for her report on the Rec. Department. He reported on the State Street paving and he received a compliment on how well it is going. He stated that Walsh Park has a free Frisbee Golf Course. He encouraged the public to go down and use it. He thanked the donors of the fireworks and complimented the city on a great job. He and Mr. Otte discussed the brick street under the pavement on State Street.

Mr. Taylor stated he had a great time at the parade and the fireworks. He congratulated the Police Department on their quick response to the incident at the park. He congratulated Office Bob Karr on his upcoming retirement. He mentioned that there will be a "Beat the Heat" event at the Fairgrounds. The event is sponsored by the Dog Warden Department. This event will raise awareness for small children and pets on the danger of being in a hot locked car.

Mrs. Hafford congratulated Mr. Dumminger and his crew on the amazing firework display.

Public Comments

Joanne Langley - 702 Morrison Street. Mrs. Langley was wondering if the city is responsible for finishing the fence and separating the park from her property. Mrs. Langley said she spoke with Councilman Koebel and the Mayor concerning the property. The Mayor said that the city would be looking into what they could do.

On motion to adjourn by Mrs. Ruiz, seconded by Mr. Knisely motion carried 7 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.