

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

March 16, 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: Ruiz, Stout, Taylor, Knisely, Koebel, Otte, and Zilch. Before the readings, Mayor Sanchez presented Tony Hinetz with the Employee of the Month Award. Tony is an employee at the Water Reclamation Department. He then swore in Wade Huddleston as an official officer of the Fremont Police Department. Chief Bliss then presented Officer Huddleston with his badge number 683.

The minutes for council meeting held on March 2nd were approved.

Second reading of an ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director pursuant to Revised Code §721.01 to advertise for bids (with a minimum established amount of \$3,500.00 annually), to negotiate terms, and enter into a lease agreement for property not needed for a municipal purpose adjacent to 209 Garrison Street, Fremont, Ohio of approximately 2,125 sq. ft. and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3843

Second reading of an ordinance to make appropriations in the amount of \$52,264,329.00 for expenses and expenditures for the 2017 fiscal year January 1 thru December 31 for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mr. Otte made a motion to amend the amount of the expenses and expenditures to \$52,379,600.00, Mr. Zilch seconded. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mr. Zilch. Motion failed 3 yea votes to 4 no votes. Mayor called for a special council meeting on Monday, March 27th at 5:00 p.m.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a joint cooperating agreement with Sandusky County, the City of Clyde, and the City of Bellevue in applying for the Community Development Housing Impact and Preservation (“CHIP”) Grant for the 2017 Funding Cycle and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mrs. Stout. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2017-2007

First reading of an ordinance authorizing funds transfers in the amount of \$14,895,298.00 for fiscal year 2017, for the City of Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Sandusky County Commissioners for obtaining Information Technology (IT) Services in an amount not to exceed \$101,144.14 and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez asked that the council consider suspending Rule 4 so that the partnership with the County could move forward. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mrs. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 6 yea votes to 1 no vote. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Ord. 2017-3844

First reading of a resolution approving and supporting the development of State and U.S. Bicycle Routes. On a motion to suspend Rule 4 by Mr. Koebel and seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 7 yea votes. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Res. 2017-2008

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee –Chairman Ruiz reported that two full time positions have been filled at the Rec. Department. Ethan Binger and Nate Kerr will be working with sports programs. The ice rink will be coming to a close on Sunday, March 19th. She also recognized the Ice Wolf Hockey Programs for their successful seasons. On Saturday, March 18th, the Elite Runners Club is hosting The Melt the Ice 5K. The Phil Huss Memorial Boxing Show will be held Friday, April 21st at the Rec. Department. She also announced that Cody Bishoff will be at the next council meeting to address the council and update the developments at the department. The Beautification and Tree Commission is still looking for new members.

Citizen Service Committee - Chairman Koebel nothing to report.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely announced he will have a committee meeting on April 6th at 7:00 p.m. with the guest speaker being representatives of Fremont City Schools to discuss the levy.

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

Utilities and Traffic Committee - Chairman Taylor nothing this evening.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Otte stated that the council is still reading over the City’s Budget and hopes that it is all ironed out at the next meeting.

Government and Economic Development Committee - Chairman Stout nothing to report.

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Elected Officials

Mr. Melle reported he will not be in attendance at the next council meeting.

Mayor Sanchez welcomed the new officer and the new Safety Service Director, Ken Frost to the meeting. He wanted the citizens to know that the city has been in negotiations and thus the reasoning behind the budget seeming as if it was not presented in a timely fashion. He requested that the Special Council Meeting time be changed to 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Grahl stated that if anyone had questions concerning income tax to please contact Income Tax Office. Details are forthcoming for appointments.

Department Heads

Chief Bliss stated that our new officer will begin a 4-month Field Training beginning this Saturday.

Chief Foss announced that a contractor had been chosen for demolition of the building downtown.

Kristy Bilger Downtown Fremont announced that there was a Ribbon Cutting today for Polters Real Estate took place. On April 13th, Downtown Fremont will be holding its Membership Update beginning at 4 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be at his house from 11 to 2 p.m. the day before Easter. Also, a Cinco De Mayo Festival will be held May 6th downtown.

Mr. Frederickson nothing to report.

Council Comments

Mr. Zilch announced that the Humane Society is having a Fundraiser Event on March 25th and March 26th at the Yacht Club. Donations are appreciated.

Mr. Otte stated he spoke to Mr. Stotz about closing the Dog Park to get some good grass seeding going. He also reminded the citizens to pick up after their dogs. He wished everyone a happy St. Patty's Day.

Mr. Knisely congratulated the new officer on this position and Tony on becoming the employee of the Month. He encourages everyone to continue to support the downtown area and Fremont, Ohio. He also thanked those working on the City's budget and all the city employees.

Mr. Taylor congratulated Tony and the new officers. He stated that he attended the ribbon cutting ceremony and welcomed the new business to the downtown area. He stated his band will be at Grates tomorrow. He also welcomed the new Safety Service Director.

Mrs. Ruiz echoed sentiments about the new officer, Safety Service Director, and Employee of the Month. She also thanked the Fire Department for helping one of the citizens when she requested their assistance.

Mrs. Stout wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick Day and wished her Aunt Lois Williams a Happy 100th Birthday. She also echoed the sentiment of the new employees.

Mr. Koebel also wished congratulations to new employee s and employee of the year. He wished Ray Rendon, Carl Koebel and Carol Biehler a Happy Birthday on St. Patrick Day and his niece. He encouraged everyone to attend the Wreckers Boxing Show on the 21st. He encourages everyone to come out on April 3rd to the Town Hall Meeting concerning the Drug Task Force Levy at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Hafford

On motion to adjourn by Mrs. Ruiz, seconded by Mr. Otte motion carried 7 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.