

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
May 4, 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: Knisely, Zilch, Stout, and Taylor. Councilmen Koebel, Otte, and Ruiz were absent. Minutes from April 20th and April 23rd were approved.

Before the regular meeting began, Mayor Sanchez swore in three new fire fighters for the City of Fremont. Along with Chief Foos, Mayor Sanchez welcomed Anthony Mazzaro, Peter Mauric, and Adam Shearn and presented them with their badges.

Second reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with Mid-Ohio Sludge Management, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$00,800.00 for 2017 Spent Lime Lagoon Cleaning, and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of an ordinance adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to amend Chapter 1157, Zoning Certificates and Permits; Section 1157.03, Agreement ensuring payment of City Income Tax and Chapter 1163, Violations, Notices, Nuisance Abatement and Penalty; Section 1163.99 (A) (2), Penalty of the Codified Ordinances.

Second reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within Probation Services Fund 232, and declaring an emergency.

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 \$61,822.55 for services to improve and renovate the Rodger Young Basketball Courts in Fremont, State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mayor Sanchez stated that at the next council meeting he would like to suspend Rule 4 so this project can move forward. There is a basketball tournament the first week in July that they would like to have the improvements made by.

First reading of a resolution suspending Sections 941.03 (D) and (I) Prohibition of Alcohol in a Public Park subject to the State Permit Regulations from July 15th thru July 16th, 2017 for the purpose of a charity fundraiser solely at Rodger Young Park in honor of former Fremont Employee Mike Piero and declaring an emergency. Mr. Joe Frazier has reached out to the City to again have this resolution approved to move forward with the fundraiser. Mayor Sanchez stated he thought it was a major success and that there were no incidents reported with the fundraiser. Mr. Frazier was questioned by the council on the success of last year's event, and he stated that with the proceeds the organization was able to give scholarships to students at Fremont Ross, St. Joe, and the Fremont Rec. Department.

Committee Reports

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

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated that a representative from Vanguard, Angie Morelock will be at the May 18th meeting.

Utilities and Traffic Committee - Chairman Taylor reminded the public to make sure that clippings from mowing should not go into the street. Discussion was held amongst council that stated that there is an ordinance relating to the subject pertaining to littering.

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

Elected Officials

Mr. Melle stated he was glad that both levies passed.

Mayor Sanchez stated that the week was bittersweet. He introduced Chief Bliss to speak who informed the crowd that fellow employee Beth Lewis passed away. Beth was a 24 year veteran to the police department and her current position was that of Clerk/Dispatcher. He explained that she was much more than a clerk/dispatcher. She was twice named Civilian of the year. He encouraged everyone to attend one of her services. He stated that from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. the police department will be closed that the entire department may attend her funeral.

Mr. Grahl echoed Mr. Melle sentiments on the school levy and the drug task force levy. He offered his condolences to the police department and the Lewis family. He welcomed the new Fire Fighters. He announced he will not be in attendance at the next meeting.

Department Heads

Chief Foos thanked council for the time to swear in the new fire fighters.

Chief Bliss also welcomed the new fire fighters to the second best department in the city.

Mr. Frost stated there was a preconstruction meeting for the West State Street project. Construction is slated to begin May 24th. Notices have been sent out to those businesses and citizens this may affect. He hopes that the project will be completed in a timely manner. He also stated that the Mayle building demolition will begin on May 8th.

Kristy Bilger Downtown Fremont, Inc. Ms. Bilger stated that the first every Cinco De Mayo Festival will take place this Saturday from noon until 7:00 p.m. on the south block of Front St. She thanked everyone who made the Fishing and Outdoor Festival a success. She stated over 1,000 attended. Councilwoman Stout said the only negative she heard was that there was no fish on the street. Ms. Bilger stated that fish was sold at the Garrison.

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Council Comments

Mr. Taylor stated that the Fishing and Outdoor Festival was a great event. He is also looking forward to the Cinco De Mayo Festival, welcomed the new firemen, and his condolences to the Lewis Family.

Mr. Zilch also gave condolences to the Lewis Family and also welcomed the new firemen. He thanked everyone who participated in the vote on Tuesday. He stated that the council did their first round at the Whittlesey cemetery. Their next step is trying to get the fence together.

Mr. Knisely stated he was saddened by the death of Ms. Lewis. He wished everyone a Happy Cinco De Mayo weekend. He also welcomed the new firemen. He asked that we keep shopping Fremont, Ohio.

Mrs. Stout echoed everyone's sentiments about the firemen. She also gave condolences to the Lewis Family. She also thanked everyone for supporting both the levies.

Public Comments

Tom Kerns, 1520 Finefrock. Mr. Kerns thanked everyone who voted for the School levy. He believes that it will help the city out a great deal.

Dr. Mary Bower 1619 Hayes stated that she loves the city of Fremont. She stated that she owns property at 147 River Road and is disappointed on the proposal to put storage units on Pinnacle Drive. She believes it undermines the property value and economic development in Fremont. She stated when they first bought their property they were sold on a vision of Professional Development in the area. She hopes that the zoning is looked at and that they deny the permit. Mayor Sanchez thanked Dr. Bower for her comments. He stated that the city was not involved in the deal when the area was sold. He and his office are looking into ways to resolve the problem and to coordinate the efforts of both parties. He believes that if a covenant had been put in place, the two parties would not be at this stand still now.

Sara Saturnino, 711 Birchard Ave. addressed the council as a concerned citizen, and representing Sierrro Prime to oppose the granting of the building permit for storage units to be placed adjacent to 102 Pinnacle Drive. She asked that the council to deny the building permit for the storage units and that city council amend the zoning in the area. Mr. Gross stated that he has met with Mr. Paradiso and his investment group. He stated that he would be sitting down with both parties next week. Some different options have been discussed and they will continue to discuss the situation.

On motion to adjourn by Mr. Knisely, seconded by Mr. Zilch motion carried 4 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Council President