

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
January 15, 2015

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 of Council Dallas Leake called the meeting to order.

The following members answered roll call: Ruiz, Stout, Gross, Knisely, Koebel, Kreilick, and Michles.

The minutes for council meeting held on December 18th were approved.

Second reading of an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and the Safety Service Director to enter into an extension to the Sanitary Sewage Collection and Treatment Agreement between the City and the County through June 30, 2015 and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to amend the position Classification Plan and the Employee Compensation Plan for non-union employees to include the position of Foreman at the Water Treatment Plant and declaring an emergency. Mr. Ward explained that the position has always been there but has not been implemented. With the new water treatment plant they felt now was the time to fill the foreman position.

First reading of an ordinance adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to re-zone parcel 34-60-00-0431-02 in the City of Fremont from "i-1" Light Industrial District to "b-2" General Commercial District.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$3,000.00 to WSOS, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl stated that the resolution is for invoices that were towards the end of the year and would like to have Rule #4 suspended so payment could be made. On a motion to suspend Rule #4 by Ruiz, seconded by Knisely. Motion carried 7 yes votes. On a motion to adopt by Ruiz, seconded by Knisely. Motion carried 7 yes votes. (Res. 2015-1945)

First reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$5,275.95 to CASS Information Systems, and declaring an emergency. On a motion to suspend Rule #4 by Knisely, seconded by Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yes votes. On a motion to adopt by Gross, seconded by Stout. Motion carried 7 yes votes. (Res. 2015-1946)

Mr. Gross made a motion to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 7 yes votes. Council retired for executive session.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply to the Natural Resource Assistant Council for a Green Space Conservation Grant in an amount up to \$825,000.00 from the Clean Ohio Fund and declaring an emergency.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the Safety Service Director to enter into a purchase agreement with River Cliff Golf Course and Lodge, LLC to purchase the River Cliff Golf Course and Lodge and declaring an emergency.

Committee Reports

Citizens Service Committee – Chairman Ruiz nothing to report this evening.

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated that the Superintendent of Vanguard will be at the next meeting to speak.

Finance and Labor Committee – Chairman Michles thanked Mr. Grahl for his presentation at the committee meeting. Government and Economic Development Committee – Chairman Stout nothing to report this evening.

Laws, Rules, and Ordinances Committee – Chairman Gross will be reporting on the Traffic Safety Committee meeting to be held on January 28th at the next council meeting.

Recreation Committee – Chairman Koebel reported that skating rink is still open. January 31st there will be a Frozen Skate from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Also the recreation department is offering health classes for Home Schooled students.

Utilities and Traffic Committee – Chairman Kreilick nothing to report this evening.

Council Comments

Mr. Koebel suggested that the Safety Service Director and the Mayor think about getting priority phones. He also read a letter from the nuns at Our Lady of Pines thanking council and street department for the pavement of Canfield St. He congratulated the Lytle family for Rob Lytle's induction into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Stout thanked Mr. Ward and city crews for removing the snow in the alleys in her district. Go Bucks

Mrs. Ruiz stated that the presentation about the nursing home construction brought memories back to her real estate license career and her involvement with the June Street property.

Mr. Gross stated he is a member of the Downtown Fremont Inc. group and he is excited to see what is in the works to improve the downtown area. He also thanked the Fire and Police Departments for their contributions to the city during this winter season.

Mr. Knisely also congratulated the Lytle Family, and thanked Mr. Kerns for his work downtown and the Fire and Police Departments.

Mrs. Kreilick echoed sentiments to the Lytle Family and congratulated the Ohio State Buckeyes.

Mr. Michles thanked all the Fremont City employees for their contributions to the city and working during this winter weather. He made a suggestion that citizens be aware of elderly neighbors and check on them from time to time. He also suggested that we should consider a Fremont Hall of Fame for the Arts. He stated we had very talented people in the city and that they should be recognized as well as athletes. Anyone with suggestions please contact him.

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Elected Officials Comments

Mr. Melle presented a summary of the lawsuits against the city and their status as required by law at the first meeting in January.

Mr. Grahl commented on the letter from the Sisters at the Lady of Our Pines and also thanked the city employees for the great work they had been doing this winter season.

Mayor Ellis thanked Mr. Kerns for his effort to bring Santa to the downtown town 560 children attended the event. He spoke about the Pro Medica has a Cancer Care Program. He also complimented the Lytle Family on the induction of Mr. Lytle to the College Football Hall of Fame.

Department Heads

Mr. Fredericksen nothing to report this evening.

Mr. Smith introduced Mr. Kerns to speak about the Holiday Celebration downtown. Downtown Fremont Inc. initiated Santa downtown and he thought it brought the community together with the tree, music, and Santa. He is looking forward to making the downtown area great. Mr. Smith reported that he has been working on developing the website for economic development. He is excited about the Charrette on February 20th and 21st. The session is more of a stop by and comment, the community is not being asked to sit for 4 to 8 hours. They are just looking for input and ideas to make the community better. The Sandusky County Workforce Alliance will be having a meeting on May 5th and is open to the public. Oral Arguments will be held on September 16th in Fremont. This is a chance for high school students to hear a court case, meet actual attorney, and ask question. He looks at this as an opportunity to showcase Sandusky County and Fremont.

Chief Wiersma nothing to report.

Assistant Chief Schneider nothing to report.

Mr. Ward asked the council if they had any questions on the Snow Removal handout he passed out. He wanted the council to know that not only does the street department work to remove snow or respond to city emergencies, but other departments pitch in too. He announced that there will be some job posting opening up soon.

Public Comments

Andy Brandon 247 St. Thomas Drive. He stated that he sponsored a Santa in 2013 for the downtown area and was planning on doing the same thing this year. He was surprised when he saw that another Santa would be downtown. He stated that he contacted Mrs. Kerns and they worked it out that a sign was put up and directed all the Santa traffic to their location at DeVincci's on the date specified. He greatly appreciated the Kerns effort to work together and want to give a public thank you.

President Leake congratulated the Lytle Family and stated it was a great accomplishment and for the City of Fremont. He thanked the Council Clerk for her effort tonight and hopes she feels better soon. The NAACP will be hosting a MLK Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on January 19th. It will be followed by the annual march to the Municipal Court Building. The event will take place at the First Presbyterian Church on Park Ave. The public is invited. He then congratulated the Ohio State Buckeyes and the fans.

Mr. Kerns commented on the opportunity with the River Cliff Golf Course, he believed that over the long run it would be a great investment for the city.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion to adjourn by Knisely seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7yea votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.