

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO
Journal of Council
April 20, 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, Ruiz, Stout, and Taylor. Councilmen Koebel and Otte were absent.

Before the regular meeting began, Sara Saturnino, 711 Birchard Ave. addressed the council as a concerned citizen, and representing Sierr Prime to oppose the granting of the building permit for storage units to be placed adjacent to 102 Pinnacle Drive. She stated that the former economic development director, former mayor, and former county commissioners assured them that the land was to be deemed a professional office development. She believes that the storage units proposed for construction is in direct violation of what was promised to them when purchasing the land. Mrs. Saturnino understands that although the land is zoned B-2 and that a storage unit is permissible she strongly objects to the granting of the building permit.

Next, John Halm also agreed that by placing storage units on the said property will devalue his property. He also stated he was assured by past officials that the area was a professional office development. He is there was any way to stop the building permit from being submitted. Mr. Fredericksen addressed the council and stated that there was a Planning Commission meeting on the project and it was okayed by the Commission. He stated that as long as the developer conforms to the rules, standards and codes, the units are permitted use. Since the owners were not assured of the professional office development in writing, it was suggested that an attorney be retained to see what could be done to stop the developer from proceeding with his plans of storage units. Mayor Sanchez stated that he is willing to sit down and try to mediate between the two parties. Mr. Myers stated that the two speakers were correct in their perception of the properties intent years ago, and although he may not agree with the placing of storage units on the property, he was unsure of what could be legally done.

Mr. Zilch mad a motion that the council go into Executive Session at the end of the regular council meeting, the motion was seconded by Mr. Knisely. Motion carried 5 yea votes.

Third 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. On a motion to adopt by Mr. Knisely and seconded by Mrs. Ruiz. Motion carried 5 yea votes. Res. 2017-3847

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within Capital Improvement Fund 410, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl stated that the ordinance is in conjunction with the improvements that will be made to the city's basketball courts in Rodger Young Park.

First 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 \$100,800. 00 for 2017 spent Lime Lagoon Cleaning, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to amend Chapter 1157 Zoning Certificat4es 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.

First reading of an ordinance amending appropriations within Probation Services Fund 232, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Grahl stated that this amendment is from a part time employee to become a full time employee.

Committee Reports

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

Community Partnership Committee - Chairman Knisely stated that a representative from Terra will be at a May meeting.

Utilities and Traffic Committee - Chairman Taylor reminded the public to make sure that clippings from mowing should not go into the street.

Parks and Recreation Committee –Chairman Ruiz state that the Rec. Department will be hosting the Phil Huss Memorial Boxing Tournament tomorrow beginning at 6:30 p.m. On April 29th the youth team will be having a parade and a celebration to the beginning of the season event. She also stated that brush should not be put on the curbs. A brush drop off will be from May 8th through May 12th at Universal Farms on Stahl Road.

Government and Economic Development Committee - Chairman Stout stated that she attending the progress of the Italian Restaurant and Deli downtown.

Elected Officials

Mr. Melle encouraged everyone to support the two levies on the ballot May 2nd. He then stated that tonight was Ken Myers last official council meeting as Safety Service Director. He praised and thanked Ken for all his knowledge and all that he has done for the City of Fremont.

Mayor Sanchez also thanked Mr. Myers for his service and presented him with a plaque. Mr. Myers was thankful and stated that it had been a pleasure working the last 16 months with the current staff. He praised his successor, Mr. Frost and stated that he looks forward to reading about what council is doing.

Mr. Grahl echoed Mr. Melle sentiments on the school levy and the drug task force levy. He also thanked Ken Myers for his service and is looking forward to working with new Safety Service Director Ken Frost.

Mrs. Elder thanked Mrs. Saturnino and Mr. Halm for their information that they shared. She hoped that a conversation will be held that whatever happens with the parcels be in the best interest of the city.

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Department Heads

Chief Foos wished Mr. Myers well in his retirement

Mr. Fredericksen stated the work on West State Street will be beginning soon. Notices will be going out the business that the project may affect. He also stated he had much appreciation for Ken Myers and his services. Mr. Myers stated that due to the absence of two council members it may be necessary to hold a special meeting to adopt several ordinances that are pressing concerning salt purchase and an ordinance for purchasing a new roller. He understands the councils thought process on three readings and stated that it may be necessary to suspend Rule #4 on these items.

Kristy Bilger Downtown Fremont thanked everyone for attending the Downtown update. She reminded everyone of the First Annual Fremont Fishing and Outdoor Festival to be held Saturday, April 29th. She encouraged everyone to attend. She stated that Birchard Library will be hosting a meet the local author day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. She introduced Melissa Puente who is the driving force for the Cinco De Mayo Festival on May 6th downtown.

Council Comments

Mrs. Stout thanked Ken Myers for all of his good work and hope he enjoys his second retirement.

Mrs. Ruiz encouraged people to be careful and observant for our children out in community. She encouraged people to vote for the school levy and also thanked Mr. Myers for help. She also welcomed Mr. Frost to the team.

Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. Myers for everything. He encouraged the citizens to please vote for the two levies for the betterment of the community.

Mr. Knisely he thanked Mr. Myers for his return to the city and for all the help he did. He encouraged everyone to vote for the school levy. He thanked all of the city employees and encouraged everyone to keep shopping Fremont.

Mr. Zilch welcomed the youth who attended the council meeting from Mommas House. He thanked Ms. Mullin for all she does. He encouraged everyone to vote for the levy. He stated that Whittlesey cemetery will be cleaned by the council on this Saturday and asked if anyone was willing to help they would be out there. He asked about the permit from the Army Corp of Engineers and if we had received it yet.

Mr. Myers stated that the Invalidated 404 was received by the city. Once the document is reviewed it is returned and a Validated 404 will be received.

Mrs. Hafford stated that early voting is now available at the election board. She is asking everyone to support both levies that were discussed this evening.

Public Comments

Scott Miller congratulated Mr. Myers on his retirement and welcomed Mr. Frost to the team. He also encouraged everyone to vote for both levies on the ballot.

Alycia Baumgartner recapped her request to bringing a pro boxing event to Fremont. She passed out information concerning the show and what the promoter could do. Melissa Puente 620 May Street addressed the concerns of selling alcohol at the event and how much the event will help the community with increase in retail throughout the community. Discussion was held amongst the council members concerning her request.

Mr. Orndorff stated that he was concerned on the counsel's discussion on the alcohol issue and splitting hairs to get it passed.

Tom Kerns encouraged everyone to vote on the school levy and thanked Mr. Myers for his service.

Mrs. Orndorff stated that we are examples for our children and was concerned about the alcohol.

Council entered into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio revised Code 121.22(G) (4) preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment with no Council business to transpire thereafter..

Upon return from Executive Session on a motion to adjourn by Mr. Taylor seconded by Mr. Knisely motion carried 5 yes votes. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.