

March 1, 2012

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, with President James Weaver presiding.

The following members answered roll call: Kreilick, Leake, Marker, Nalley, and Ruiz. Council President James Weaver explained that Councilman Knisely had a prior commitment and Councilman Root was called out to a gas explosion in Republic and was unable to attend the meeting.

The minutes of the February 16, 2012 meeting were approved as written and received.

Third reading of an ordinance authorizing the use of and a limitation on blanket purchase orders of \$5,000 quarterly. On motion by Marker and seconded by Ruiz to adopt, motion carried 5 yea votes. (Ord.2012-3574)

Third reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$11,500 to Al Bauman Chevrolet-Buick Inc., and declaring an emergency. On motion by Marker and seconded by Ruiz to adopt, motion carried 5 yea votes. (Res. 2012-1841)

Second reading of an ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fremont, State of Ohio, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing 2012 fund transfers of the City of Fremont, State of Ohio, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$11,702.74 to Midwest Compost Inc., and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to advertise for bids for the purchase of equipment, construction projects, street and bridge materials and repairs, and yearly supplies and services, and declaring an emergency.

Committee reports

Citizens Service Chairman Ruiz reminded county residents of the March 6 countywide Block Watch meeting being held at the Rec Center at 7:00 p.m.

Parks & Rec Chairman Marker reminded everyone of the Parks Advisory Board meeting on March 12 at the Rec Center.

Finance Chairman Nalley advised Councilwoman Ruiz that, in the past, the date of the Block Watch meeting conflicted with that of the Beautification committee so she should check the date. He reported that the presence of the city's department heads at the committee meeting on February 23 was very helpful since they were able to share information that was necessary to the committee's work. He mentioned the loss of revenue coming from the state will impact the city's operations and departments will have to do more with less. Nalley's report required the fire chief and water pollution control superintendent to explain some of their needs. He also said that several line items in the budget will have to be changed by the next council meeting when the ordinance gets its third and final reading.

Economic Development Chairman Leake had no report but plans to set up a meeting with the city's Economic Development Director Mike Jay when he returns from vacation.

Utilities Chairman Kreilick thanked the water pollution control staff and engineering group for the successful tour and presentation on February 20.

Comments

Councilman Nalley informed council of a meeting of the Beautification Committee on March 6 at 7 p.m. at city hall. He also noted that there are still efforts afoot by the governor and the Ohio Legislature to change the way income taxes are currently collected so that the state will be responsible for the collection, which could impact how and when the city gets its tax revenues. He urged residents to call or write their legislators encouraging them to not change the rules.

Councilman Marker reminded others again of the Rec board meeting on March 12. He also reminded residents to vote on March 6 and to attend the Block Watch meeting.

Councilwoman Ruiz had no other comments.

Councilwoman Kreilick thanked the large audience for attending the meeting and encouraged them to always attend and let council members hear of their concerns.

Councilman Leake extended thanks to those who supported the recent NAACP scholarship dinner and encouraged residents to attend Rep. Rex Damschroder's meeting at Terra Community College on March 8 to address Internet Cafes.

Council President Jim Weaver informed council that starting this year, there will be minutes of all committee meetings and minutes of those meetings will be kept with council minutes.

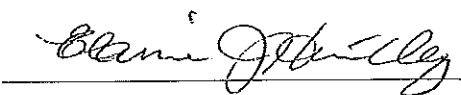
Law Director Jim Melle encouraged all to vote and support the mental health levy on the March 6 ballot.

Mayor Jim Ellis commended former firefighter Doug Berger who retired recently from the department as well as Chief Foos for the breakfast he had for the staff. He also reported that the first meeting of the Community Relations Team was very successful. The team spent the time discussing procedures. He also requested that council change the rules to add an ex-officio member from council. In addition, he reported that he had a meeting with the engineering consultants regarding the dam removal and suggested that the utilities committee call a public meeting so that the engineers can provide information to the public regarding what is required for the process. The mayor also informed council that the Water Pollution Control Superintendent suggests that the city 'backs down the contract' for renovations of the plant to a 30% of completion design and bid. This will allow them to have better control of when and how things happen during the renovations. Utility Committee Chair Kreilick asked for the meeting to be in April.

The mayor then announced the appointment of Aaron Hunt as the new City Engineer. He said Hunt, who is a former employee of Arcadis, is a 1992 graduate of Fremont Ross High School with a Professional Engineers (PE) certificate as well as being trained as a structural engineer. He also announced the appointment of Recreation Department Director Marc Glotzbecker as the new Safety Service Director. He said he is looking at the vacancies of the Rec Director's position and the Zoning Inspectors' position as opportunities to save money, so he's not sure if the positions will be filled.

In other comments, former Auditor Fred Recktenwald, who was in the audience, suggested the mayor and city council approach the tight economic times carefully. He said that layoffs are not always money-savers, so he cautioned them to tread carefully. Council President Weaver reported that he will be resigning from the Community Housing Reinvestment Board and council will need to appoint someone else. He also encouraged residents to attend the Health Summit set for March 9 at Grace Community Church and conducted by the Sandusky County Health Partners.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion by Marker seconded by Leake to adjourn. Motion carried 5 yea votes. Adjournment at 8:43 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Council President