

March 15, 2012

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order at 7:40 p.m. in the form prescribed by the General Rules of Council, with President James Weaver presiding.

The following members answered roll call: Knisely, Kreilick, Leake, Marker, Nalley, Root and Ruiz.

The minutes of the March 1, 2012 meeting were approved as written and received. President Weaver also informed council that the meetings of all committees will be added to the Journal of City Council Minutes. Minutes of the January 19, 2012 work session and the public hearing from AEP on February 12, 2012 were approved as written and received.

On motion to amend the agenda and remove the first item by Nalley and seconded by Knisely - the third reading of the city's 2012 budget – motion carried 7 yea votes.

On motion to remove the second item on the agenda – the third reading of fund transfers for 2012 – by Nalley and seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes.

Second 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.

Second 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.

First 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. On motion by Root to suspend Rule 4, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion by Nalley and seconded by Marker to adopt by, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Ord. 2012-3575)

First reading of an ordinance authorizing 2012 fund transfers of the City of Fremont, State of Ohio, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, and declaring an emergency. On motion by Root to suspend Rule 4 and seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Marker and seconded by Root, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Ord. 2012-3576)

Council appointed Angie Ruiz as the representative to the Community Re-investment Housing Council on motion by Root seconded by Marker, 7 yea votes.

#### Committee reports

Citizens Service Chairman Ruiz reported that the March 6 countywide Block Watch meeting was well attended and that the future meetings will be the second Tuesday of each month at the Rec Center at 7:00 p.m.

Community Partnership Chairman Knisely reported that his meetings with the superintendents of Bishop Hoffman High School and Fremont Ross High School went well with both superintendents saying everything was flowing smoothly at their institutions.

Finance Chairman Nalley reported that he had received February's financial report and that he would be reviewing it.

Economic Development Chairman Leake reported that he had met the city's Economic Development Director Mike Jay and they will decide which council meeting in May, Mr. Jay will submit a report.

Utilities Chair Kreilick reported that her committee met before the regular council meeting where MWH Engineering provided a presentation on the proposed expansion of the Water Pollution Control Center. Many questions were submitted and answered at that meeting.

#### Comments

Law Director Jim Melle reported that the local Danish Pastries bakery has been sold and will re-open as Jimmy G's BBQ. He also requested that council go into executive session at the conclusion of the agenda items to discuss legal action. On motion by Root and seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes.

Councilman Knisley said he followed FSI, the city's trash-hauler, around for a while, and found that they were lax in replacing homeowner's trash containers.

Councilman Root said he had concerns regarding the market choice gas and electric providers but would wait until after the opt out date to decide how to proceed,

Councilman Marker remarked that he regretted that Physicians' Choice Hospital had to close and lose 50 jobs.

Councilman Nalley informed council of a meeting of the Beautification Committee on April 6 at 7 p.m. at city hall. He also noted that the city had received a letter stating it had been awarded Tree City USA 2012 status as well as letter from Downtown Fremont director that reported the Farmers' Markets are heading in the right direction.

Safety Service Director Marc Glotzbecker reported that he's streamlining the Parks and Recreation Dept. to have a recreation superintendent and a parks superintendent. At this time, a Paul Hrupcho was promoted to be the parks superintendent while advertisements are being sent out to recruit a recreation superintendent. The intention is hire someone by mid-May. He also commended Ross High School Senior Malcolm Leake, son of Councilman Leake, who organized other Ross seniors to clean up the city parks.

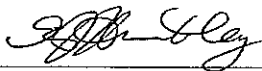
Mayor Ellis reported that he and Glotzbecker are researching how to consolidate the 40 separate electric bills the city currently receives into one. This has a potential savings of up to \$100,000 a year. He also reported that Kim Kocher has resigned from the city's Zoning Board of Appeals and city council will have to appoint a replacement. In addition, he said a letter the city received from the Ohio Historical Society indicates the city has to secure a permit from that body before it can begin removal of the Ballville Dam, and before the society will consider issuing that permit, it has to conduct its own research. This information means that removal of the dam will be delayed which could mean the city will incur more costs. Ellis reported that he believes that some changes in insurance coverage may save the city some money. He also promised that the next budget process will start earlier.

In public comments, Mark Trucho of Trucho Construction, addressed the council regarding its position on the contract it had with the city, but on advice of City Law Director Jim Melle, there was no response since the issue is in litigation.

Joe Michaels of 1414 Birchard Park also addressed the council regarding the \$5million grant the city received from ODNR for the dam removal, asking the city look into it since he believes there may be a conflict of interest with the bonding company and the grant's funding source. The law director said he would do that.

The council then went into executive session. Upon returning to regular session, and on motion by Ruiz and seconded by Knisely, adopted a resolution that authorized the law director to resolve pending litigation with Miller Bros regarding the disputed wall on South Front Street. A settlement will be presented to the full council at a later date for approval.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion by Marker seconded by Leake to adjourn. Motion carried 7 yea votes. Adjournment at 9:10 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Council President