

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

April 18, 2013

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.

Weaver welcomed Bob Gross to council. Gross replaces Root who resigned in March.

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

With only three members of council being present for a meeting on April 4, 2013, that meeting was not official.

The minutes of the March 21 and April 4 meeting were approved as written and received. Law Director Jim Melle pointed out that Root's seat was not filled as of April 4 and that may have led to not enough council members present to have a quorum.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$19,364.00 to Ohio Water Development Authority, and declaring an emergency. . On motion to suspend rule 4 by Nalley, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Kreilick, seconded by Knisely, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Res. 2013-1887)

First reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$11,194.00 to Etna Supply, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Volunteer Energy to obtain natural gas services for the city, state of Ohio, and declaring an emergency. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Kreilick, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Knisely, seconded by Leake, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Ord. 2013-3631)

First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into a grant agreement with OSS Solid Waste District, 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 ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$52.50 per ton for a maximum of 1,200 tons of salt for the 2013-14 winter season, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance repealing Ordinance # 2012-3612, and abolishing registration of all contractors with the city Tax Department, and declaring an emergency. Melle explained that past ordinance was incorrectly put in a zoning chapter of the zoning laws, so it has to be repealed. Current internal procedures can take care of the registering of contractors working in city. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Knisely, seconded by marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Ord. 2013-3632)

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. for an amount not to exceed \$108,360.00 for 2013 Spent Lime Lagoon cleaning, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the mayor and the safety service director to enter into a guaranteed maximum price amendment with the construction firm MWH Constructors Inc. to allocate a portion of the \$57 million designated in Ord. 2012-3605 for an amount not to exceed \$4,831,433.00 for Phase I improvements to the Fremont Water Pollution Control Center in Fremont, state of Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Mayor Jim Ellis asked council to suspend rule 4 because the city need to complete concrete work before next winter. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Ruiz, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Knisley, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yea votes. (Ord. 2013-3633)

Regarding a liquor license transfer from Rite Aid, on motion to show no objection by Marker seconded by Leake, motion carried 7 yea votes.

Regarding a liquor license transfer for Well Rum Corp., which operates North End Marathon on Oak Harbor Road and West End Drive-Thru on Hayes Avenue, on motion to show no objection by Marker, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes.

Weaver also addressed a liquor license request from Terra State Community College explaining that the current license the college had was not transferred when the new college president was installed. He also asked police Chief Tim Wiersma about all city liquor licenses in city, which all must renew permits. Wiersma explained that the problem with Tailgators was addressed when the bar closed, and that the problem with Last Call was addressed when new owners took over. However, Paisan's has become problematic with several recent complaints from neighbors.

Weaver also announced that all documents regarding the annexation request for 5 acres in Sean Drive area are in folder in the mayor's office. A public hearing on the request will be at 7 p.m. prior to the council meeting on June 20.

Committee reports

Knisely read a report from Tim Cullen of Bishop Hoffman schools that the high school seniors participated in a focus groups sponsored by Mayor Jim Ellis. The report included updates of activities in that school system. He also read a report from Dr. Tracie McCaudy that updated council on activities in the school district.

Weaver announced that Gross will be the new chairperson of council's Laws Rules & Ordinance committee.

Council Comments

Nalley apologized for missing last meeting due to family events and reported that the Fremont Tree & Beautification Committee will meet next on May 7 at 7 p.m. at the Rec center. He said the committee is planning an Arbor Day ceremony at the Fremont Middle School. He added that his thoughts and prayers go to Boston and Texas due to their crises, and he welcomed Gross to council. Then he challenged council members to share one positive activity in the city. He also encouraged support of the NAMI Walk on April 27 and the Kiwanis Pancake Festival on April 17, then congratulated the Asst. Fire Chief Schneider who judged the Dancing w/ the Stars effort that raised funds for children.

Marker echoed Nalley's comments regarding the tragedies the nation suffered in Boston and Texas.

Ruiz commented that everyone has to be vigilant to prevent incidents such as Boston tragedy.

All council members, Melle and Treasurer Holly Elder welcomed Gross to council. Then, Gross thanked everyone for their wishes and their help.

Kreilick congratulated Nalley on his new grandson and thanked him for comments about being positive.

Leake sent condolences to the Overmyer and Jay families and the Graham family on recent loss of loved ones.

Melle sent condolences to Boston on their tragedy. He said that locally about 40 people met at Ross track and ran a mile in honor of those affected directly by the tragedy.

Safety Service Director Robert Ward said the reservoir is open and the public is enjoying it, but he'd like visitors to pick up after themselves and their pets; hydrant flushing is next Wed in Rodger Young area; repaving of Fifth Street will begin about May 6; yearly brush drop-off at Universal Farms is set for May 10 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and May 11 from 8 a.m. - noon. All the information is on the city's website.

Elder encouraged everyone to participate in all the city's summer activities including the 1812 War's celebration.

Mayor echoed condolences to Izola Graham's family saying she will be missed, and he gave a shout-out to The News-Mess for its positive news articles and pictures.

Tim Weirsma reported that he had recent complimentary reports from residents regarding police officers.


Public comments

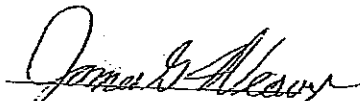
Don Neitz, 835 Wolfe Ave., complained about Paisan's where a patron totaled his car leaving the bar. He said residents don't know the channels to report the problems that patrons create. Mayor Ellis and Weirsma said they are now aware of the problem and will work with the Police Department and neighbors to resolve the issue.

Jesse Ester, who lives above Paisan's, 1526 W. State St. Apt 1, also reported annoyances by Paisan's patrons.

Joe Michles, 1614 Birchard Ave., apologized for providing incorrect information on city's water usage. He said while Fremont's rates are modest, it still affects those less able to pay adversely. AMP's rates are disproportionate to city residents. Ruiz asked for Michles' recommendation to fix problem. Former City Auditor Fred Reichenwald responded outlining the positive aspects of the AMP agreement made to the city.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion to adjourn by Marker, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yea votes. Meeting adjourned at 9: 27 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Council President