

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

September 20, 2012

The regular meeting of Fremont City Council was called to order at 7:38 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 September 6, 2012 meeting were approved as written and received.

A motion to add a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment to Robison, Curphey & O'Connell LLC by Nalley, seconded by Root, was approved 7 yeas votes as Item #3A.

Third reading an ordinance amending Section 171.11 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Fremont, Ohio, regarding collection of unpaid taxes and refunds of overpayments for income tax. On motion to adopt by Root, seconded by Marker, motion carried 7 yeas votes. (Ord. 2012-3602)

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$283,500 to MWH, and declaring an emergency. On motion to suspend Rule 4 by Kreilick, seconded by Knisely, motion carried 6-1 with Nalley dissenting. On motion to adopt by Kreilick, seconded by Nalley, motion carried 7 yeas votes. (Res. 2012-1861)

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$3,247.73 to Robinson, Curphey & O'Connell, and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$2,468.80 to Sandusky County CVB, and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$75 to First Amer. Ins. (Castalia Road), and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$75 to First American Insurance Company (Sycamore Street), and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$75 to First American Insurance Company (N. Wayne St.), and declaring an emergency.

Second reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$80 to Central Exterminating (N. Wayne St.) and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance to authorize and direct the Safety Service Director to sign change order #2 in the amount not to exceed \$181,765 with Brown & Caldwell Ohio LLC for additional construction quality assurance services for the Fremont upland reservoir, and declaring an emergency. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Nalley, seconded by Ruiz, motion carried 7 yeas votes. On motion to adopt by Root, seconded by Marker, motion carried 6-1 with Kreilick abstaining.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the appropriation and transfer of funds from the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to the General Fund in the amount of \$20,000 to be used for economic development through the Big Fremont Plan, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor.

Regarding the liquor permit request for a stockholder change from Little Tavern on the Prairie, on motion by Root, seconded by Knisely, council voted 7-0 to show no objection to the request.

Regarding the liquor permit request from Terra State Community College, on motion by Root, seconded by Knisely, council voted 6-1 to record no objection to the request. Nalley abstained.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant for payment of \$4,522.76 to Robison, Curphey & O'Connell LLC, and declaring an emergency.

Paul Kern made a presentation requesting use of Walsh Park for Celebration of Battle of Fort Stephenson next year and permission to have a beer tent at the park showcasing several locally-brewed beers, which council will have to approve later.

Committee report

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Ruiz informed council about the Sept 11 Block Watch meeting on Sep 11 and announced the next meeting on Oct 9 where Lt. Brent Meredith of the Ohio State Patrol will be the guest speaker.

Knisely report that Fremont schools superintendent, Traci McCaudy, about the school levy renewal on November ballot.

Leake reported that he talked with EDC Director Mike Jay, who said that there's activity ongoing regarding area companies who may be hiring more employees.

Kreilick announced that the Utilities Committee met at 6:30 p.m. prior to the council meeting to discuss water rates. Fremont resident Joe Michels also made presentation that provided information on the dam and reservoir.

Council members' comments

Nalley asked mayor to explain a news article on the county's regional planning that included information on drainage in North SR53's development area that drains into Muskelunge Creek. He also asked about a Civil Service Commission news article. The mayor explained that the city was not in compliance with state law regarding the city's Civil Service Commission. He said his administration was not aware that city was not in compliance. So, the recent testing is now null and void. The administration will have to write a proposal to revise the rules and bring that to council for approval, then re-do the testing. This will be an additional cost to city. The mayor also reported that Joe Gottron has retired and that has created a vacancy on the commission that needs to be filled.

Nalley reported that the School of Hope won a state softball title and will be honored on Sept. 28 at the Ross High School home football game.

Leake commented about a letter from a Fremont resident, David Forgatsch, asking for resolution on getting big money donors out of election, saying he believes council should consider the request.

Auditor John Lauer said Financial Planner Steve Santos reported that the refinancing of the city's bonds has been approved, and the city received a good rate that saves the city about \$1,386,000.


Holly Elder, city treasurer, informed council of weatherization opportunities through Eagle Link for those homeowners who will find their budgets stretched due to the upcoming cold temperatures

The mayor updated council on the reservoir construction, saying that the liner is being installed now and that construction is going well. He said plans for a meeting on a new loan set for Sept. 27 looked good for approval. He added that the \$500K council approved has already been used by HM Miller; also that curbside brush collection will take place in the week of Sept. 23; that City Engineer Aaron Hunt resigned effective Sept. 28. He updated council on FEMA's requirement of the Fremont flood wall, saying that the Army Corps of Engineers may allow for a cheaper fix than one of concrete. He also said that he will bring a new set of personnel policies to council for approval explaining that he has a dispute with the auditor regarding the mayor's authority to offer vacation to new hires in the first year; reported that he has selected MWH Constructors as the construction manager for WPCC renovation.

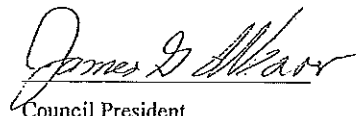
Public comments

Mike Koebel, 830 Morrison St., informed council that at last council meeting, which addressed cost overruns in reservoir construction he had referred questions to Jerry Okenka regarding Okenka's lack of experience that may have led to some of the problems with the reservoir. Weaver responded that Jerry is a city employee and he finds Koebel's comments unnecessary at a council meeting and Koebel should speak directly to the mayor about his concern.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion by Knisely, seconded by Marker, to adjourn, motion carried 7 yea votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Council President