

THE CITY OF FREMONT, OHIO

Journal of Council

November 15, 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, Ruiz, and Root. Knisely was absent due to health issues.

The minutes of the November 1, 2012 meeting were approved as written and received.

President Jim Weaver recognized Police Chief Tim Wiersma who, together with Ohio State Patrol Lt. Meredith honored Police Officers Bush and Kingsborough and Trooper Weasner for their work in preventing a local woman from committing suicide in the city recently.

Third reading of a resolution authorizing the approval and issuance of a warrant of payment of \$6,396.88 to American Arbitration Association, and declaring an emergency. On motion by Root, seconded by Marker, motion carried 6 yea votes. (Res. 2012-1871)

Third reading of an ordinance to authorize the expenditure and direct the Safety Service Director to enter into a change order with the engineering firm MWH Americas Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$3.04 million for the improvements to the Fremont Water Pollution Control Center in Fremont, State of Ohio, and declaring an emergency. On motion by Root, seconded by Nalley, motion carried 6 yea votes. (Ord. 2012-3609)

Second reading of a resolution authorizing City Council of Fremont to establish a position that corporations should not receive the same legal rights as natural persons, that money is not speech, and that independent expenditures should be regulated, and declaring an emergency. Nalley requested a committee hearing on this resolution. Leake responded he is not inclined to have a meeting. City Law Director Jim Melle added that Nalley is basically tabling the resolution. Nalley made a motion, seconded by Ruiz, to table the resolution, and motion carried 4-2 votes. Leake and Root voted no. Leake said he hopes council use same considerations for similar issues.

First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to prepare an application to the board of commissioners of the Sandusky County Park District for the 2013 local park capital improvement grant program, and declaring an emergency. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Root, seconded by Marker, motion carried 6 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Marker, seconded by Root, motion carried 6 yea votes. (Res. 2012-1872)

First reading of an ordinance to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for public fishing at the Fremont reservoir, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of an ordinance amending the pay scale for all part-time, intermittent, temporary, seasonal, and interim employees, and boards and commissions of the City of Fremont, and declaring an emergency.

First reading of a resolution approving certain line item transfers within departments, and declaring an emergency. Leake requested auditor explain what this resolution means. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Root, seconded by Marker, motion carried 6 year votes. On motion to adopt by Marker, seconded by Root, motion carried 6 yea votes. (Ord. 2012-3610)

First reading of an ordinance increasing appropriations from the General fund, Public Recreation Fund, Police Pension fund, Fire Pension funds, Sewer Fund, Walsh Trust Fund, and Unclaimed Monies Fund, and declaring an emergency. On motion to suspend rule 4 by Root, second by Ruiz, motion carried 6 yea votes. On motion to adopt by Ruiz, seconded by Marker, motion carried 6 yea votes.

President Jim Weaver called on Sandusky County Democratic Party Chairperson John Elder who announced that the local Dem Committee chose Paul Grahl to replace retired Auditor John Lauer.

Then Weaver called on Fremont Attorney Joe Albrechta address council. Albrechta said he represented the Players Club/Marvin Dabish during the January 2012 raid of the premises. Said the club is now doing well and is a participating member of the community. Referring to agreement between the city and the club, Albrechta said certain circumstances occurred at the end of the negotiations of the agreement because this club seemed to have been punished more than the others. He explained that three (3) parties were charged equally and one (1) party stepped up to work with the city but bore extra costs. This is not fair, he said, so he is asking council to note his proposed ordinance and to place this ordinance on council's agenda.

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Mayor Jim Ellis responded that Dabish was treated fairly. Dabish agreed to the terms of the negotiations and what Dabish is asking means that council must take money from the General Fund. He said he believes Albrechta's proposed ordinance would set a bad precedent.

Committee reports

Ruiz reported that the next Block Watch meeting will be in December.

Nalley reported that his committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. on December 6 to discuss the city's 2013 budget and future financial needs of the city.

Leake reported that he will schedule a meeting of the Government & Economic Development Committee to discuss agenda item #3 at 6:30 December 20.

Marker reported that the Rec Dept's board met on November 12 and discussed the progress of the dog park.

Council members' comments

Marker wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ruiz also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and also congratulated the officers who were honored at the beginning of the meeting.

Kreilick welcomed newly appointed auditor, Paul Grahl and reminded residents of the Christmas parade set for Dec. 1 at 4 p.m. in downtown Fremont.

Leake congratulated Fremont resident, Josie Setzler who was honored by NAMI for the work she does to help the organization. He also thanked residents for their participation in the recent electoral process and congratulated officials of the School of Hope and Fremont City School for the success of the levies the two groups had on the November ballot.

The mayor shared that the Rec Department staff saved a life by using CPR when a participant at the center collapsed. He said that paving will take place at Fifth Street this week. Fifth street residents can get their yard waste and leaves picked up in alleys and he thanked those residents for their patience during the construction process. He also updated council on the reservoir saying the work is on target and a walking path is being installed now. He said the contractor will re-pave the area in spring and that the pumps are working well. He also explained that the waste water treatment plant work is going well. He said that a value engineering session took place that week where the engineers brainstormed ideas to save money. He congratulated the SJCC school on its football playoff opportunity. He reminded residents that Small Business Saturday is set for November 24 and encouraged residents to participate and patronize the small businesses in the community. He also said that the Tree lighting ceremony at city's fire station was set for November 28.

Interim Auditor Fred Recktenwald welcomed the newly appointed auditor saying the city will benefit from having him as the auditor.

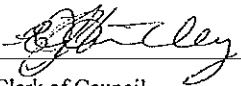
Treasurer Holly Elder also congratulated Grahl on his appointment and she thanked Recktenwald for coming out of retirement to help the city.

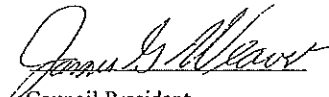
Public comments

Dave Forgatsch, 1703 Croghan St., said he authored the resolution, #3 on agenda, and explained that it mirrors the resolution from the US Council of Mayors. He said these resolutions are being approved in councils across the nation. Dennis Stetzler, 918 Cleveland Ave., speaking in support of the resolution said this resolution affects many city residents but he will save more of his comment for the December 20 hearing of the proposed resolution.

Dave Pasch of 504 Napoleon Rd also addressed council in support of the resolution.

There being nothing further to come before council, on motion by Root, seconded by Marker, to adjourn, motion carried 6 yeas votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Council President